



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL
Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

NEWSLETTER

1st May 2018



We are fully in the swing now for the Summer Term. We have included as much information as we can about upcoming events at the end of this newsletter so please make a note in your diaries so that you don't miss out! Please note that all diary dates and term dates are also available on our school website, www.woolgrove.herts.sch.uk, together with electronic copies of all this year's newsletters and lots of other information. Please do check our website regularly as it's a great way of keeping up with what is going on at school.

Update from one of our Governors

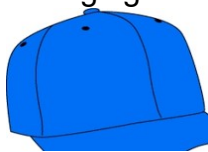
"Hi my name is Zoe Rayner. I have a son in Year 4 and I am a parent governor. I'm on the Curriculum Committee with responsibility for overseeing English. Recently I spent some time with Sharon Knight, the school's English Coordinator, and this involved visiting each class looking at what was being taught as regards to literacy and observing some of this taking place.

It was so lovely to have an insight into the working day of the school. All the classrooms were very calm and the children were working so hard looking at books, letters, writing, reading and all sorts of other activities that are on offer to support literacy. I saw that lessons involved not just your conventional sitting and writing and how this is supported in class. There were lots of imaginative ways for the children to visit activities that supported a particular book that the class was looking at rather than just reading it. I observed the children sitting working in groups, as well as doing work by themselves, and seeing the differentiation that occurs to support each child.

This visit gave me a wonderful insight into our children's school day and I really wanted to share this with you all and the hard work the staff and children really do."

Sun Protection

We are very conscious in school of the need for our children to be protected from the damaging effect of the sun on their skin. We encourage outdoor activity as much as possible and would ask that you help us protect your children during any warm weather. Please apply sun cream to your child before school and ensure that they have a named sun hat with



them in school. Staff are happy to re-apply sun cream during the day should it be necessary but please provide named sun cream. There are a number of products which now offer 10 hours or more protection with a single application. One example can be found at <http://www.p20.co.uk/> but there are numerous examples.





As the British weather is so variable please can I also remind you to ensure that your child has a named waterproof coat/jacket with a hood in school every day too. Many thanks.

Summer Building Improvements

I am delighted to inform you that the school has been successful in our bid for funds to carry out some essential improvements to our premises. The Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) is an annual bidding round which takes place in December allowing academies to apply for funding from Central Government to address significant 'condition need' to keep academies safe and in good working order. We have been fortunate enough to secure £506,673 to renew our entire heating system and to replace our hot and cold water services. This is excellent news for the school and is clearly a significant amount of work which will be carried out over the summer holiday period.

Class Topics

Listed below are this term's topics for each class. The children will be focusing on these throughout the term and linking their learning to the themes. The Parent Information Maps that you have recently received will provide more curriculum detail and will also give you with some ideas on how you can support your child's learning at home. You can also find the Parent Information Maps on the school website at: <http://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/about-us/curriculum/>

Class	Topic
Blue / Red / Purple	Nursery Rhymes / Journeys and Transport
Yellow / Green	Transport
Diamond / Star / Triangle / Hexagon	Giants around the world
Cube / Cone / Sphere / Pyramid	Important people

Sports Days



This year will follow the same format as last year with parents of the infant classes being invited in to see a P.E. lesson (more details to follow) and the juniors having a traditional style sports day. The date for the Junior Sports day is Wednesday 4th July from 9.45am to 11.45am with a reserve date of Wednesday 11th July should the weather be unkind to us.

Sporting Fixtures

During the Summer Term there are a number of sporting events and fixtures including football, cricket and athletics festivals for various ages of children. You will receive notification individually if your child is taking part and please see below for the dates of the events.

Special Schools' Music Festival

On the morning of Tuesday 5th June Woolgrove will be hosting this year's Special Schools Music Festival. The theme this year is animals. Some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be singing songs together with the visiting schools and then each school will give a presentation of a piece they have prepared for the event. Our preparations have already begun and it promises to be a lovely event.

Year 6 Fishing Trip



Last week six of our Year 6s attended an event run by the Masonic Fishing Charity. Mr Wild, Pauline and Lorna took Izzy, Megan, Maxine, Dhillon, Ankit and Damien to a venue near Ware. Each of the children had an individual experienced fisherman with them and set about trying to catch some fish. The children had a great day including a barbeque lunch and plenty of fresh air! Each child received a certificate at the end of the day for their efforts and special mention must go to Damien, who caught the most fish, Maxine who landed the biggest catch of the day and Izzy... who landed the tiddler of the day!

Marvellous Me

I am delighted to say that we now have 100% of children with at least one parent / carer signed up for communication via Marvellous Me. This is fantastic news as it allows us to improve positive communication between home and school so thank you to everyone who has responded to our 'sign up' requests.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

On the 25th May 2018, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into force in the UK. These are new regulations built upon the Data Protection Act of 1998. We take data protection very seriously at Woolgrove. In line with GDPR requirements, we have already appointed a DPO (Data Protection Officer) and DPO Governor to oversee our approach to data management and protection. Further details will follow in due course.



Mrs Lisa Hall
Head Teacher

Upcoming Events 2018	
May	
Friday 4th	Football Tournament KS2
Friday 11th	Football Festival KS2
Monday 21 st - Friday 25 th	Year 6 Wymondley Woods Trip (Pyramid Class)
Wednesday 23 rd	Blue / Red / Purple class assembly 2.45pm
Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st June	Half Term break
June	
Monday 4th	Children back in school – no Inset Day
Monday 4th	Cricket Festival KS2
Monday 4th	Wymondley Woods Assembly (Pyramid Class) 2.40pm
Tuesday 5 th	Special Schools' Music Festival (Years 5/6)
Tuesday 12th	Whole School Open Evening 4.00pm – 6.00pm
Friday 15th	Treasure Hunt KS1
Monday 18th	Start of 'Art Weeks'
Friday 29th	Art Exhibition 2.00pm (it will also be open at the summer fair)
Saturday 30th	Summer Fair 11.00am – 2.00pm
July	
Wednesday 4th	Junior Sports Day 9.45am – 11.45am
Friday 6 th July	Athletics Festival KS1
Wednesday 11th	Junior Sports Day (Reserve) 9.45am – 11.45am
Thursday 12th	Transition Morning
Monday 16th	Whole School Trip (more details to follow)
Tuesday 17th	School Reports home
Thursday 19th	Year 6 'Leavers' assembly 2.30pm
Friday 20th	End of Summer Term - school ends 1.45pm
September	
Monday 3 rd	Inset Day – no children
Tuesday 4 th	Inset Day – no children
Wednesday 5th	Children back in school – beginning of Autumn term

2017 - 2018 TERM and INSET Dates

Term Dates 2017 / 2018		
	Half term	Monday 28 th May – Fri 1 st June
	Term ends	Friday 20 th July
	INSET DAY	Monday 23 rd

2018 - 2019 TERM and INSET Dates

Term Dates 2018 / 2019		
AUTUMN	INSET DAY	Monday 3rd September 2018
	INSET DAY	Tuesday 4th September 2018
	Children start back	Wednesday 5 th September 2018
	Half Term	Monday 29 th October – Friday 2 nd November 2018
	INSET DAY	Monday 5th November
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 7th December
	Term ends	Friday 21 st December
SPRING	INSET DAY	Monday 7th January 2019
	Children start back	Tuesday 8 th January 2019
	Half Term	Monday 18 th February – Friday 22 nd February
	Term ends	Friday 5 th April
SUMMER	INSET DAY	Tuesday 23rd April 2019
	Children start back	Wednesday 24 th April 2019
	Half Term	Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May
	Term ends	Wednesday 24 th July 2019