



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy



NEWSLETTER

20th July 2018

I can't believe that the summer holidays are here already! We've had another action-packed year at Woolgrove and this will continue over the summer break with the building work being carried out as well as other alterations to the school premises. We are looking forward to returning to a more comfortable and effective working environment for everyone in September.

Farewells

There are always a lot of goodbyes at this time of year and I would like to say a big thank you to all our pupils and staff who are leaving us for making a big contribution to the history of Woolgrove. Our Year 6s – Aaliyah, Selen, Mark, Oliver B, Oliver S, Megan, Damien, Izzy, Leyland, Samuel, Kane, Ankit, Umayeer, Dhillon, Alfie, Maxine, Cara, Ben, Oliver T, Nina and Vinnie are all off to secondary school and we wish them all the very best. We also say goodbye to Aidan, Ben, Sky and Adshayan all of whom are moving to other schools and we hope they settle in well and enjoy their new settings.



There are several staff members leaving too. Vic (Purple Class) and Emily (Green) leave as their temporary posts have come to an end. Tom (Diamond) leaves to take up a teaching post, Katrina (Infants) is going to work closer to home and Gill P (Cube) leaves us after 6 years in her second stint at Woolgrove. I truly appreciate all the hard work and dedication shown by our staff and I am sure you would like to join me in wishing each and every one of our leavers a very happy and fulfilling future.

Stars of the Year

At the end of each year our class staff nominate a 'Star of the Year' from their pupils. This award is given to the child who has worked well, tried hard and had a positive and kind attitude to their peers and staff. The decision is always a difficult one as all of our children are stars in their own way but congratulations to this year's winners who are..

Blue Class	Harrison	Triangle Class	Lewis
Red Class	Jessica	Hexagon Class	Dexter
Purple Class	Jacob	Cube Class	Harvey
Yellow Class	Ezra	Cone Class	Cody
Green Class	Sinead	Sphere Class	Vinnie
Diamond Class	Numan	Pyramid Class	Samuel
Star Class	Taylor		

Whole school Trip

On Monday we all went to spend the day at Aldenham Country Park. It was a very hot day but we all had fun trekking around the Hundred Acre Wood looking for Winnie the Pooh and his friends! We saw lots of small farm animals too and had a play in the lovely adventure playground. The children behaved so well bearing in mind the conditions and I was very proud of them all. A huge thank you too to our staff who had a long and tiring day in the heat but ensured that our children were safe and had fun.

Thank You



We are very fortunate to be so well supported by local businesses and individuals. Recently the Rotary Club of Hitchin – Tilehouse sent a team of people to us on a Saturday morning to tidy up and rejuvenate our main Sensory Garden area. It was a very hot day and everyone worked really hard to make the area much more useable and attractive for the children and we send them our sincere thanks.

Matt Farnborough, our IT technician, recently ran a 'Tough Mudder' event and donated £100 from his sponsorship money to Woolgrove. It was a terrific effort to complete the event and a big thank you to Matt for thinking of the school. We ensure that all donations to the school go towards providing resources that directly improve the learning environment for our children and we appreciate each and every one.

Congratulations

Mr Wild has become a daddy for the first time! Baby Arlo is doing well, and weighed in at a healthy 7.12 pounds. We all wish him and the family all the best for the future.

Governors

Brian Frederick has decided to step down from the Woolgrove Board of Governors after 25 years. We all wish Brian the very best in the future and John Hayes, the current Chair of Governors, would like to pass on this message concerning Brian's service to the school:

On behalf of the Governors may I congratulate Brian Frederick on his retirement as a Governor and wish him well. Brian has had a long association with Woolgrove stretching back 43 years..Over the years he developed and encouraged strong leadership at the School and was responsible with the other governors at the time in the School becoming an Academy. During his last year Brian has been someone we could turn to for advice and we have appreciated that. We wish Brian well and hope to see him from time to time.

Brian too has written a farewell note:

At the last meeting of the Governors this term Woolgrove said goodbye to me as I retired as a governor. There was a nominal 25th Anniversary celebration with a marvellous send off as a card was presented to me signed by every pupil as well as a gift.

I have in fact had a unique experience being associated with Woolgrove for as many as 43 years. I was the Education Officer for North Herts from the opening of Woolgrove and on retirement as Education Officer served as Chairman of Governors from 1993-2017.

I have always been proud to be associated with the many achievements of Woolgrove as a Beacon School with very good Ofsted Inspections. Woolgrove was the first school to set up the Outreach Scheme to support pupils in primary schools and provide for children on the autistic spectrum. I have no regrets in helping to establish Woolgrove as the First Academy for Special Needs in Hertfordshire. All this success has been due to the strong leadership of the Head Teachers with the support of a very active Governing Body. Pupils have been given a wide ranging curriculum with excellent support from parents and Friends. Not forgetting support from charities and local businesses.

Woolgrove has always been a happy place to work in.

Best wishes to all for every success in the future.

Brian Frederick

New Uniform

You will by now hopefully be fully aware of the uniform changes which are being phased in from September. If you need any further information or wish to make orders please let the office know. I would like to reiterate once more that we fully expect a cross over period during which children will be using the old red uniform while it still fits. Can I also ask that children bring as labelled water bottle into school from September.

Finally on behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your kind words, cards and gifts. I hope you all have a happy and relaxing summer break. Let's hope this glorious weather continues (although we could do with a little rain!) and a reminder that the children return to school on **Wednesday 5th September.**



Mrs Lisa Hall
Head Teacher

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		
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		
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