



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

NEWSLETTER

26th October 2018



It has been a long and busy first half term of the year for the children and staff and everyone definitely needs a holiday. I hope that you all have a lovely break and return ready for the build up to Christmas and all that goes with it!.You will have no doubt been aware that our half term break is a week later than it usually is and differs from many other local authorities and schools. Whilst this can create logistical difficulties it should mean that local attractions and amenities will be less busy than during most school holidays and it may be an ideal opportunity to take advantage of that. The differing school holidays is becoming more regular so please ensure you look well in advance for the dates when planning holidays.

A reminder that Monday 5th November is an INSET day and **the children return to school on Tuesday 6th.**

Farewell

We would like to say a big thank you to Julie Brunton, one of our long standing Teaching Assistants, who has left us recently. Julie has been a smiling presence in various Upper School classes over the years and she leaves with our very best wishes for the future.

Colder weather



Now that the colder weather is upon us I would like to remind you to ensure that your child has suitable warm, named clothing in school. We do try to allow the children to play outside unless the conditions are very inclement so please help us by making sure they will be warm and dry whilst outside. Please, please make sure that every item of clothing and footwear is named clearly. It can be difficult to reunite the children with mislaid items if they are not named.

Assessment Information Meetings

Thank you to all of our parents who attended the assessment information sessions. We had a tremendous turnout and I hope that you found the information useful. It is my hope that by sharing more details about the system with parents we will be able to work together to help the children achieve the targets that have been set and that parents and carers will be able to see the rationale behind them. For those of you who were unable to attend we will be sending home a copy of the Power Point presentation used on the night. Hopefully this will give you a clearer understanding of the system, however, if you have any questions regarding the assessment of your child please speak to their class teacher, Vicky Litchfield (Deputy Head) or myself.

Woolgrove Disco

Thanks to an excellent response to our request for parent helpers we can confirm that there will be a Woolgrove Disco on the evening of **Friday 30th November**. We will provide further information nearer to the event date but pencil it in the diary as these occasions are always great fun for the children (and the adults!). If you haven't yet put your name down to help and would be available to do so, please let the office know and we will add you to the list.



Friends of Woolgrove (FoW)

Hopefully by now you will have seen the separate letter sent to parents/carers regarding the Friends of Woolgrove. As those of you who have been here for a while will know that the Friends of Woolgrove, have done a great job of fundraising over the years. This extra income has allowed us to fund numerous activities and equipment for the children which we would otherwise not have been able to afford. Recently, due to long term committee members moving on, the FoW has been inactive and we are very keen to rekindle the group and add some fresh ideas and momentum to make sure the children don't miss out. If you weren't at either of the assessment events and have not registered your interest in becoming involved then please speak to the office staff. We have had a good response so far but the more ideas and impetus we can gather to re-launch with a bang the better it will be.

Absences and Term Dates

Please note that the term dates for this school year and the following one (2019/20) are included at the bottom of this newsletter and on our website. Please be mindful that, as mentioned earlier, it is becoming more common for holiday dates (particularly half term breaks) to vary considerably from school to school. Please take note of this when booking holidays etc. as absences for holidays taken during term time will not be authorised if care has not been taken to access this information. It is vitally important for our children that they are in school as frequently as possible hence the publication of our school holiday dates up to 18 months in advance .

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Parents' Evenings

By now you should have received your appointment preference letter for parents' evening. Please ensure that you book a time to speak to your child's class teacher as it is very important after the first few weeks of settling into their new class for us to get the opportunity to speak with you about your child's progress. It will also give you an opportunity to look at some of their work in school and discuss ways in which you may be able to support their learning. The Parents' Evenings are on Tuesday 13th November and Wednesday 21st November between 4.00pm and 7.00pm.

Key Dates

Below is a list of key dates for the term ahead. We appreciate that many parents and carers work and need as much notice as possible to attend events in school time and child care is an issue for everyone. The dates shown are all correct at this time although the specific timing of some events will be confirmed nearer the time.

Monday 29 th – 2 nd November	HALF TERM WEEK
November	
Monday 5 th	INSET DAY (no children in school)
Tuesday 13 th	Year 6 trip to Cinema 9.00am – 10.30am
“	The Valley Open Morning 9.00am – 1.30pm
“	Parents Evening 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Wednesday 21 st	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Wednesday 28 th	Year 3 Christmas Performance (afternoon)
Friday 30 th	Woolgrove Disco (Time tbc)
December	
Wednesday 5 th	Junior (Years 4, 5 & 6) Christmas Play (afternoon)
Thursday 6 th	Junior (Years 4, 5 & 6) Christmas Play (evening)
Friday 7 th	Occasional Day (no children in school)
Friday 14 th	Infant Nativity Play 2.00pm
Monday 17 th	Father Christmas 1.00pm (Christmas Jumper Day)
Wednesday 19 th	Christmas Lunch
Friday 21 st	TERM ENDS 1.45pm Finish



Mrs Lisa Hall
Head Teacher

Term Dates 2018 / 2019		
AUTUMN	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

*******PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ARE FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR*******

AUTUMN	INSET	Monday 2nd September 2019
	Pupils start	Tuesday 3rd September 2019
	Half Term	Monday 28 th – Friday 1 st November 2019
	INSET day	Monday 4th November 2019
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 6th December 2019
	Term ends	Friday 20 th December 2019
SPRING	INSET	Monday 6th January 2020
	Pupils start	Tuesday 7th January 2020
	Half Term	Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 2020
	Term ends	Friday 3 rd April 2020
SUMMER	Pupils start	Monday 20th April 2020
	Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2020
	Term ends	Friday 17 th July
	INSET day	Monday 20th July 2020