



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

NEWSLETTER

30th November 2018



I would like to start by saying a big thank you to all of our parents and carers. This is such a busy time at school and we do try to involve the children in some exciting activities and events and we realise that this also puts demands on you. Whether it is providing clothes for the 'Phil the Bag' collection, buying raffle and performance tickets or making donations to the Class Hampers or Winter Disco the support we receive is always fantastic. Without your involvement these events would not be the successes they invariably are and we really do appreciate everything you do.

Farewell

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to one of our longest serving and most senior members of staff. Deputy Head, Michelle Swift, is leaving Woolgrove as she feels the time is right for her to pursue other personal and professional ambitions. Michelle has worked at Woolgrove since 2006 and has been Deputy Head since 2012, whilst maintaining her responsibilities as safeguarding lead since 2014. Michelle has always had the best interests of Woolgrove pupils at the forefront of her thinking and her expertise and knowledge will be greatly missed. I know you will join all of us here at Woolgrove in wishing Michelle every success and happiness in her post Woolgrove adventures.



Also leaving us before the end of term is Kaylee Rose, one of our Teaching Assistants in Blue Class. Kaylee has been with us for nearly three years, working with our reception and year 1 children in Blue Class and leaves us to take up a position at a local residential children's care home. Children and staff alike will miss Kaylee and wish her success in the future. We are in the process of finding a permanent replacement for Kaylee in Blue Class and we will update parents as soon as we have made an appointment.

Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome Ricky Payne to the Woolgrove team. Ricky has recently joined us as a Teaching Assistant across the Year 5 and 6 classes and is settling in well to live at Woolgrove.

Congratulations

In more staffing news we would like to congratulate two of our Teaching Assistants who are pregnant, Becky Bonnet from Green class and Leanna Wilson from Cone class. Becky and Leanna will still be with us after Christmas and we will be making provisions for their maternity leave in due course and will keep parents from the relevant classes updated.

Busy Busy Bethlehem

The first of our Christmas Productions has already taken place. 'Busy, Busy Bethlehem', performed by our Year 3 children, was a lovely musical version of the Christmas story. The children were wonderful and parents and families really seemed to enjoy it. The music teachers and class staff have all worked really hard across all the different events this year and we really appreciate all their efforts. One down, four more performances to go!

Phil the Bag and Children in Need

Thank you so much to everyone who donated clothes and shoes to our Phil the Bag collection. We had a magnificent response and dozens of bags were collected from us. The amount the school raise is dependent on the weight of the donations and we will learn in a few days how much exactly it will be. I will let you know the amount as soon as we are aware.

We also raised £111.50 for Children in Need from our non uniform 'wear something spotty' event. The money has already been forwarded to the appeal and thank you on their behalf for your continued generosity.

Severe weather

Although the weather has been relatively kind to us so far no doubt some harsh conditions will be upon us at some point. As well as sending texts via Parent Mail we also use Hertfordshire County Councils Schools' Closure Notification System and we are encouraging parents and carers to sign up to the system so that you will receive all messages that we send.



To sign up, please visit:

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>

This link will direct you to the sign up page. Click on the 'Sign up' button on the top right hand side of the screen and follow the instructions. You can add two devices for each communication type enabling you to include the mobile numbers of a partner or Grandparent. They will then receive messages relating to school closures. If you have children at more than one school you can register for those schools too simply by selecting them. By registering for the Schools' Notification System you will automatically receive any notification. This may be either that the school is open or closed.

If you have not registered information regarding school closures will be found on the HCC website at:

<http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk>

Occasional Day

A reminder that **school is closed on Friday 7th December** for an occasional Day. There will be no children or staff on site.

Key Dates

We hope to see lots of you at the various upcoming events. 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.

Friday 30th	Woolgrove Disco (6.00 pm)
December	
Tuesday 4th	Junior (Years 4, 5 & 6) Christmas Play (afternoon)
Wednesday 5th	Junior (Years 4, 5 & 6) Christmas Play (afternoon)
Thursday 6th	Junior (Years 4, 5 & 6) Christmas Play (evening)
Friday 7th	Occasional Day (no children in school)
Friday 14th	Infant Nativity Play 2.00pm
Monday 17th	Father Christmas 1.00pm (Christmas Jumper Day)
Wednesday 19th	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 19th	Christmas Bazaar 2.00pm (Details to follow)
Friday 21st	TERM ENDS 1.45pm Finish



Mrs Lisa Hall
Head Teacher

2018 - 2019 TERM and INSET Dates

Term Dates 2018 / 2019		
AUTUMN	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*******

2019 - 2020 TERM and INSET Dates

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