



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

NEWSLETTER



17th December 2020

This has been another very challenging term for everyone involved with the school, not least the children. Making sure that children and staff are kept as safe as possible and following all the new guidelines, whilst continuing with the school curriculum has ensured that staff have been even busier than usual. With so many things having changed we tried very hard to keep our traditional seasonal events going this year even if there had to be a few tweaks!

Leavers

As is often the case at the end of term we sadly have a few members of staff leaving us this week. Chloe in Red class will be starting a new job in January as a special constable development support officer. Libby (TA) and Serena (MSA) have come to the end of their contracts with us. We wish each of them the very best of luck in their future ventures.



We are also saying goodbye to Sue who has worked in the kitchen for many years. The children and staff wish Sue all the best and hope to see her at future school events here at Woolgrove.

Christmas Performances



I was lucky enough to see the Christmas performances that each of the classes in the school worked so hard on. I was really impressed with the children and how they really got into the spirit of the occasion. It is of course a shame that parents and carers weren't able to come into school and see the performances but those of you that have purchased a DVD of your child's bubble will be able to see just how well they did. A big thank you too for all the hard work of the staff in preparing the costumes and working with the children to practice their songs... it was a really uplifting experience just when we all needed a boost!

Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead
Richard Pritchard
01462 622422

Father Christmas and story time

The children were also treated to a visit from a very special guest and his helper earlier in the week... high excitement for everyone as they delivered presents to the children! If you feel like a festive story as read by Father Christmas (pictured opposite!) he has taken time out of his very hectic schedule and is appearing on the Woolgrove website as he reads a story a day until Christmas day! There are several festive favourites and these are available from Monday 21st December <https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/>



Christmas Events.....Thank you

The Friends of Woolgrove, staff and parents have worked very hard to organise the usual events running up to Christmas. Thanks to your donations we were able to run our toy / book sale within each bubble. This provided a positive learning experience for the children along with the opportunity to take a new toy or book home. The event raised £129 which was really pleasing. We also raised the wonderful sum of £511 pounds through ticket sales for the Christmas Hamper raffle. Due to your generosity with donating items we were able to provide 6 hampers and the lucky winners have all been notified.

Internet Safety



During the Christmas break your child may be spending more time on line. Please ensure that they are being supervised and accessing appropriate content. For more information please refer to the e-safety fact sheet on our website at: <http://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Parent-Factsheet-on-Screen-Time.pdf>

Coronavirus Christmas Period protocols

In the unfortunate event that your child returns a positive Covid 19 test result over the Christmas period please email the school to inform us on admin@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk . This is essential for dates up to and including 24th December when the school has responsibility for contacting other children / staff who may have been in contact with the positive case. We all have a responsibility to keep each other safe so please ensure that any information is passed on quickly to allow staff to make the necessary arrangements. From the 25th December (inclusive) the school no longer has responsibility for contact and trace procedures for its children and staff but please do email if there are any issues relating to coronavirus so that we are fully aware of the circumstances before we come back on Monday January 4th.

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Nut free School

As we have a number of children and staff members who have allergies relating to nuts I would like to remind you that we are a nut free school. This means that snacks and packed lunches should not contain any nut products including chocolate bars, spreads or any other items that contain any form of nut product. This is to ensure the safety and well being of everyone at the school. Thank you for your understanding.

Absences

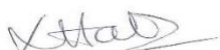
Through no fault of parents and carers, the children's learning has been disrupted over the last few months because of the effects of the pandemic. It is therefore more important than ever that children are in school, accessing the curriculum, at every opportunity. The term dates for next academic year are included at the end of this newsletter and I would urge you to take these into account before booking any holidays or absences in the coming months. Absences will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and whilst every case is decided on its merits, with plenty of notice being given of term dates, I will have to take this into account when deciding whether to authorise any absence requests.

Term dates are also published on the school website.

A reminder that the children return to school on Monday 4th January 2021.

Thank you to you all for your support over the past year and I look forward to a gradual return to more usual circumstances over the coming months. On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you for your gifts, cards and kind words. Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Here's to a brighter 2021!

Kind regards,



Mrs Lisa Hall,
Head Teacher

**Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead
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2020 - 2021 TERM and INSET Dates

AUTUMN	Term ends	Thursday 17th December 2020
	INSET DAY	Friday 18th December 2020
SPRING	Pupils start	Monday 4th January 2021
	Half Term	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February 2021
	Term ends	Friday 26 th March 2021
SUMMER	Term starts	Monday 12th April 2021
	Half Term	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2021
	Term ends	Tuesday 20 th July 2021
	INSET DAY	Wednesday 21st July 2021

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2021 - 2022 TERM and INSET Dates

AUTUMN	INSET	Wednesday 1st September 2021
	Phased Pupils start	Thursday 2 nd and Friday 3 rd September 2021
	Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October 2021
	INSET day	Monday 1 st November 2021
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 10 th December 2021
	Term ends	Tuesday 21 st December 2021
SPRING	INSET	Wednesday 5th January 2022
	Pupils start	Thursday 6 th January 2022
	Half Term	Monday 14 th February – Friday 18 th February 2022
	Term ends	Friday 1 st April 2022
SUMMER	Pupils start	Tuesday 19 th April
	Half Term	Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June 2022
	INSET	Monday 6 th June 2022
	Pupils start	Tuesday 7 th June 2022
	Term ends	Thursday 21 st July 2022
	INSET day	Friday 22 nd July 2022

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