



# WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

## NEWSLETTER



26th March 2021

It seems incredible that it has been over a year now that we have been in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Thankfully we have been fully reopened now for three weeks and things have gone well. The children have been very resilient in adapting back to school life and hopefully you will be able to enjoy the benefits of things opening up a bit further with them over the Easter holidays. We hope for a better Summer term and to be able to carry out some of our usual events during this period but this will be dependent on government advice as we go forward and we will of course keep you updated with all developments.



### Easter Egg Hunt



Although we haven't been able to hold our traditional Friend's of Woolgrove Easter Egg hunt this year, all the children were still able to enjoy the fun with their individual classes. Clues were given as to where to find hidden objects and all the children had the chance to find them and were each given a prize at the end. We were fortunate that our local MP, Sir Oliver Heald, had also donated some eggs to the school and it was lovely for the children to be back doing fun activities with their classmates.

### Outside Space Improvement

The opportunity for our children to enjoy the outside space in the school is always a really important part of their experience at Woolgrove and even more so in the current climate. We are continually making efforts to improve our outdoor environment and during the Easter period a brand new wooden climbing frame is being installed in the sensory garden area at the back of the school, which is currently used by Triangle, Star and Diamond classes. Hopefully the weather in the Summer Term will allow the children to get the most from this high quality equipment.

### Comic Relief



A very big thank you for your generosity in supporting Red Nose Day so enthusiastically this year. Some of the children's outfits were wonderful and we managed to raise an impressive £142.70 for the charity which is a tremendous effort, particularly in these difficult times, thank you.

**Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead**  
**Richard Pritchard**  
**01462 622422**

### **Free School Meals**

If you are entitled to Free School Meals and have been receiving the meal vouchers during the pandemic this will continue over the Easter holidays. You will receive an email from a company called Edenred and the process of downloading your voucher will be explained within. You should receive vouchers to the value of £45.00 (£30.00 for the two week Easter break and £15.00 for the May half term). If you have any problems please contact the office.

### **Happy Birthday Beau!**



Little Beau, our school dog, celebrated his first birthday earlier this week. Beau has become an integral part of the Woolgrove family and takes regular walks around the school (on a lead and supervised at all times!) to visit the children in their classes or on the playground. The children (and staff) have grown very fond of Beau and some of them even made cards for him on his big day! We look forward to many more birthdays with him as Beau grows up! Please look at his section on the website where the latest video shows his not-so-enthusiastic response to his birthday celebrations!!

### **Online Safety**

It is likely during the holiday period that your child will spend more time using electronic devices. Mr Pritchard has recently circulated a letter containing advice around safe use of the internet and the link on the school website (below) has some useful information on the very relevant and important topic of internet safety. <https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/about-us/e-safety/> . The 'Net Aware' link on the 'Quick Links' section of the website also gives an insight into some of the most commonly used apps and games.

Please also see below some important information we have been asked by to forward to you by Hertfordshire County Council:

### **Coronavirus lateral flow test kits**

A reminder that rapid lateral flow test kits are available for the parents / carers of all school aged children (Primary school aged children are not recommended to be lateral flow Tested). Please click on the link below which will take you the relevant pages of the Government website giving details of how to obtain the kits.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

In the unfortunate event that your child returns a positive Covid 19 test result over the holiday period please email the school to inform us on [admin@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk) . Please ensure that any coronavirus related information is passed on quickly that we are fully aware of the circumstances before we come back on Monday April 12th.

**Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead**  
**Richard Pritchard**  
**01462 622422**

A reminder of the upcoming changes to the Government Guidelines:

From Monday 29 March, you can;

- Meet up outside (including in private gardens) with six other people, or as two households
- Take part in formally organised outdoor sports with any number of people (outdoor sports venues and facilities will be able to reopen)
- Childcare and supervised activities will be allowed outdoors for all children

You and your family can continue to keep yourselves and others safe by:

- Washing your hands regularly, for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water or using an antibacterial hand sanitiser if soap and water isn't available
- Keeping socially distanced, staying at least 2 metres away from those not in your immediate household
- Wearing a face-covering where required and when it is difficult to socially distance
- Self-isolating and getting tested if you develop symptoms or receive a positive lateral flow test (LFT) result
- Not socialising indoors with anyone who isn't in your immediate household. You're not allowed to have sleepovers or playdates, even if your child is in a school bubble
- Not sending children back to school ill or with symptoms of Covid-19 after the Easter break – if your child is sick, please keep them at home

Thank you again for playing your part and helping to keep our schools safe and open for face to face learning.

### **Test and Trace support payment for parents and carers**

We understand that it creates real difficulties when we have to inform parents and carers that their child needs to self isolate. Please be aware that parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, which is administered by district and unitary local authorities in England, ensures that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities. Please click on the link above for full details and to see if you are eligible.

### **Return to school**

Thank you once again for your support in making the return to school as smooth as possible and I hope you have time to enjoy the Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the **children back to school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April.**

Kind regards,



**Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Richard Pritchard  
01462 622422**

Lisa Hall  
Head Teacher

## 2020 - 2021 TERM and INSET Dates

<b>SPRING</b>	Term ends	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
<b>SUMMER</b>	Term starts	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
	Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
	Term ends	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021
	INSET DAY	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2021

## 2021 - 2022 TERM and INSET Dates

<b>AUTUMN</b>	INSET	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2021
	Phased Pupils start	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021
	Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
	INSET day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
	Term ends	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2021
<b>SPRING</b>	INSET	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
	Pupils start	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
	Half Term	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
	Term ends	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022

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<b>SUMMER</b>	<b>Pupils start</b>	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April
	<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022
	<b>INSET</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
	<b>Pupils start</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
	<b>Term ends</b>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022
	<b>INSET day</b>	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022

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