



# WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy

## NEWSLETTER

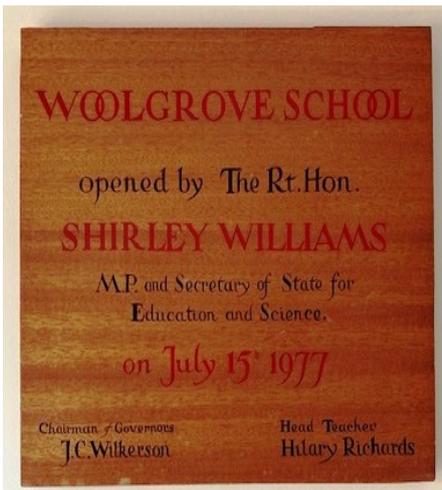


16th April 2021

### Welcome back!

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school for the summer term and I hope you managed to enjoy the Easter break with your families. It seemed to sum up the last few months when I arrived at school on Monday for the start of the summer term with snowflakes gently falling! Hopefully the warmer weather will soon be upon us and we can make take advantage of the easing of restrictions to enjoy more activities. We are continuing to utilise our lovely outdoor spaces as much as possible and the dry weather is making that more and more possible. There will be details of significant dates during the summer term following in the coming weeks as we plan what is possible in the current circumstances. As the roadmap out of lockdown continues I am looking forward to a fun and productive term ahead.

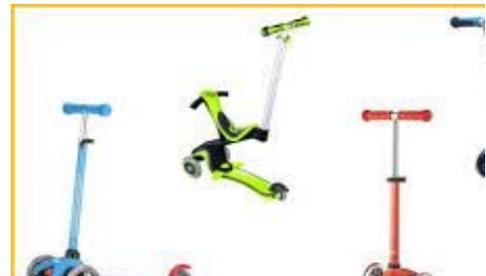
### Sad news



It was with sadness earlier this week that we learned of the death of Baroness Shirley Williams. Whilst serving as Secretary of State for Education, it was Baroness Williams who formally opened Woolgrove School on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 1977. Shirley was elected as Member of Parliament for Hitchin in 1964 and remained a prominent local figure throughout her career with a particular passion for education. She was made a life peer in 1993 and continued an active role in politics. The plaque pictured opposite is on display above the entrance lobby of the school and serves as a reminder of how far the school has come in the 44 years since it was opened.

### A request

We are updating our playground equipment and wondered if you could help. Scooters are always popular so if you have a scooter that is safe to use and surplus to your requirements the children would love to be able to use it in school. Likewise, any 'action' figures (superheroes / teletubbies etc.) or any kitchen 'pouring' utensils (funnels, jugs) that are in good condition would be really useful. If you do have any of these items to donate please contact the school office.



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

## Outdoor learning



We are really lucky at Woolgrove to have the wonderful expanse of the environment area for the children to enjoy. This provides the children with lots of opportunity for outdoor learning and seeing nature at work first hand. This year in particular the children have enjoyed seeing the vast amount of frogspawn in the pond. Some classes have even had tadpoles successfully hatch in tanks in their classrooms.

## New outdoor equipment

There were audible gasps and high excitement from the children on Monday when they saw the new climbing frame which was erected in the sensory garden area over the Easter break. The benefit to the children's physical and mental wellbeing of having interesting and challenging equipment is well proven and we continue to strive to improve all of our outdoor spaces. We anticipate that the new addition will get a lot of use during the summer term and beyond!



The EYFS playground has had a new 'digging area' installed. This has been a huge hit, with the children really enjoying the opportunity to use tools and have fun in a safe, mud-free environment. It's amazing what can be done with some old tyres and a few bags of bark chippings!

Please see overleaf the term dates for the rest of this year and 2021 – 2022 which are also available on the school website. Have a good weekend.

Kind regards,

Lisa Hall  
Head Teacher

# **2020 - 2021 TERM and INSET Dates**

Woolgrove School Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Richard Pritchard  
01462 622422

<b>SUMMER</b>	Bank Holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
	Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
	Term ends	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021
	<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021</b>

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

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