



Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 8

10th February 2023

Amazingly we have reached the half-way point of the school year. Although this has been a short half term it has been really busy with some fantastic work taking place right throughout the school. An equally busy second half to the term awaits with lots of opportunities to get involved in activities and events. I hope you manage to enjoy time with your family over half term next week and we will see the children back in school on Monday 20th February.

The Woolgrove 50 / 50 Club

The Friends of Woolgrove have revived the 50 / 50 club in order to raise funds for the school and give participants the chance to win a cash prize each month! For £1.00 a month you will be entered into a draw and claim 50% of the cash prize with the other half going to the school. Clearly the more people that take part the bigger the prize and the more money raised for equipment and resources for school. You can purchase as many entries as you wish for friends and family via parent mail, up until the 21st February. The cost is £11.00 for the remainder of the year.

Woolgrove Spring Ball



To celebrate the beginning of the end of the long cold evenings, we are holding a Spring Ball on Friday 24th February at the school between 6.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. There will be refreshments available,

along with the very best party music from our very own DJ, Andrew and dancing led by Mr P! This promises to be a really fun night for the children and tickets (Family £5.00, individual adult £1.00 or individual child £2.00) can be purchased via parentmail. It would be wonderful to see as many of the children and their siblings there as possible to support the Friends of Woolgrove in their efforts to bring people together and raise funds. Just a reminder that children must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the Ball.

World Book Day

Although most schools celebrate World Book Day the day before, Woolgrove will be celebrating **World Book Day this year on Friday 3rd**

March. This is a non uniform day for the children and we would encourage them to come dressed



as a character from a favourite book of theirs. There will be an opportunity for the children to buy a book from school on the day. We would ask, if you would like your child to have the chance to buy a book, that you send cash (any sum to a maximum of £5.00) in with them on the day. Please make sure that it is clearly marked with their name.

School Improvements

We are constantly striving to improve the facilities at the school and I am pleased to say that, over the half term break, we are having fencing put up around the new

Hexagon and Star class outside areas as well as around the car park. We are also improving the outside area in Triangle Class by having an all weather surface installed. Outside learning is a really important feature of Woolgrove school and these changes will have a positive impact on the ability of staff to maximise the benefits of our outdoor spaces.

Live, Laugh, Learn award

A reminder that the Woolgrove Live, Laugh, Learn award is now in full swing. The award has been designed by Woolgrove Staff to promote the development of skills and knowledge of our pupils. I am delighted to say that we have 3 children who have already achieved their Bronze awards and are now working towards their Silver. 12 other children are on their way to the Bronze award. The half- term break is the ideal opportunity to work towards the elements of the award so if you are interested in getting involved with your child, visit the Live, Laugh, Learn award page of our website at: <https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/about-us/live-laugh-learn-award/>

Coffee Mornings

The Friends of Woolgrove are holding a coffee morning at the school at 9.30 a.m. on **Tuesday 21st February**. This is to inform parents about the work that the Friends do and to promote the sale of 'pre loved uniform' items.

Anne, our Family Support Worker, is holding another, similar event on **Tuesday 21st March**. This will give you an opportunity to meet with other parents and have a chat and get to know each

other and share experiences. These are very informal gatherings and it would be lovely to see lots of parents at both of them.

Feeling Good Week

This week was Feeling Good Week, which is a Hertfordshire-wide event that encourages schools and the wider community to promote children and young people's emotional wellbeing by raising awareness of mental health and showing where support can be accessed within the community. The theme of the week was "Be kind and connect".

At school we have been promoting the importance of being kind and having positive friendships and talking about the "Five ways to wellbeing"; 5 simple steps to promote and value your wellbeing.

[Five Ways to Wellbeing](#)

You can find out more about ways to keep active by clicking here:

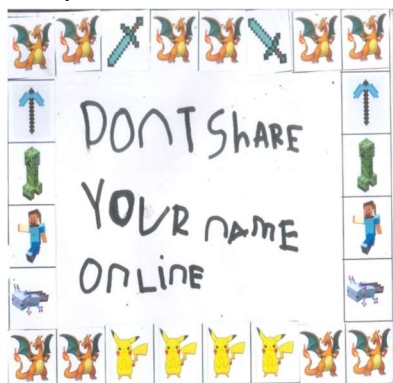
[Keep Active Herts](#)



Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February we celebrated Safer Internet Day, along with over 1700 schools and colleges around the country <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2021/supporters>

On this day we thought about all the amazing things we can engage with on different electronic platforms. Here at Woolgrove children from each of the pathways shared what they enjoy playing and importantly what they should do if they ever feel worried, scared, nervous or



they receive requests from people they do not know. We have a range of different posters from each of the classes which will be displayed around the school and uploaded to our school website. Alongside the amazing work that was taking place in school we held an adult workshop to discuss the importance of online safety and encouraged parents/carers to bring in devices for support with uploading parental controls on home devices. At home please can we encourage the children to share all their experiences with adults so we can support them with their online adventures in a safe way.

Parent / Carer consultation evenings

This term's consultation evenings will take place in school on **Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th March**. Appointments will

be bookable on Parent Mail in the coming days and will be between 4.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. on both days. Further information will be provided after half term.

Attendance

We have recently updated our attendance policy. It is available on our website at <https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Woolgrove-attendance-policy-Feb-2023.pdf> so please do have a read. We aim for children to have 100% attendance but understand that with illness and medical appointments this is not always possible. It is vital therefore that the children are in school whenever possible and an absence from school will only be authorised in wholly 'exceptional circumstance' as detailed in the policy. Please ensure you let us know by 9.30 a.m. at the latest if your child is not going to be in school. Please also ensure that you check our school term dates (attached with news letter) before booking any holiday as any request for absence for a holiday term time is unlikely to be authorised.

Have a good half term and hopefully enjoy some Spring sunshine!

Kind regards,

Lisa Hall, Head Teacher