



Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 1

Welcome!

It has been lovely to welcome our new children and parents to Woolgrove and to say hello again to some familiar faces. As I have been walking around the school I have been really struck by the excellent learning and calm atmosphere that I have witnessed. The children have settled in really well despite the hot weather and we look forward to a fun and productive remainder of the autumn term!

We welcome Kate Chiddy to Woolgrove this term as our Star Class Teacher and would also like to share the lovely news that Emily (Yellow Class Teaching Assistant last year) recently gave birth to a baby boy, Ronnie.

Safeguarding at Woolgrove

Everyone has a responsibility for safeguarding children and young people. Keeping children safe at Woolgrove is a priority for our school community. At Woolgrove we hope to create a proactive and positive culture of Safeguarding through our policies, practice and school curriculum. Woolgrove Safeguarding contact:

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Richard Pritchard. He can be contacted on 01462 622422 – dsl@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk

More information about Safeguarding at Woolgrove can be found on our website:

<https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/about-us/safeguarding/>

Clothing

So that that we are able to keep all the children's uniform and clothing safe, please ensure that all their clothing and equipment (including coats with a hood, wellies, hats

etc) are clearly labelled. This includes a water bottle that can be kept in school.

The children should have waterproof coats and wellies in school as we make extensive use of our outside areas and our weather is notoriously unpredictable!



If your child wears a dress / skirt to school please could they wear cycling shorts underneath to protect their modesty when climbing / sitting etc.

Parent Mail

Hopefully everyone has managed to sign up to parent mail. If you are reading the hard copy of this newsletter and haven't been receiving emails from parent mail, please call the office on 01462 622422 or put a message in the home / school book. Most of our communication is via parent mail, so we want to ensure that everyone has access.

'Marvellous Me' joining codes have also been sent out so please ensure that you download the app and join to make sure you receive important information from your child's class team.

School Meals

School Meals are provided at a cost of £3.20 per day, payable via Parent Mail. Infant Children (Reception / Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Should you feel that, due to your financial circumstances, you may be entitled to free school meals, whether Infant or Year 3 and above and you haven't yet applied, you will need to do so.

You can do this easily via the link on the school website (Drop down menu on the right of the homepage) or you can ring the office and John can assist you. You will need your National Insurance number available.

Should the amount owing on your child's account go above £12.00 we will ask you to provide a packed lunch until the account is settled. If we can assist in any way please phone the office.

Dates

This is a busy and exciting term and there will be a number of events taking place as we settle into the school year, including our parent / carer consultation evenings after half term. We will be publishing important diary dates in the near future to give you as much notice as possible.

Contact Details

It is vital that we have up to date and accurate contact details for all of our children. If any of your phone numbers / address / email address change, please let us know as soon as possible so that we are able to contact you if necessary.

Outside Areas

The summer holiday period saw the continuation of our commitment to improve our outside areas. The climbing frame below was installed in the main playground area and it has already become a firm favourite with the children. The area outside Triangle class has been resurfaced to ensure that the children can use the space regardless of the weather and new equipment in the EYFS playground is being installed this weekend.



Attendance

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of our policies regarding attendance. We expect our children to be in school every day and aim for children to attain 100% attendance. We realise that with medical appointments and illness this is not always possible. Should you wish to request a leave of absence for your child for another reason please obtain a form from the school office. We ask that you give as much notice as possible prior to the date requested and in any case at least two weeks, prior to any proposed absence. As a school we have a responsibility to ensure our children are in school meaning that, whilst each case is considered on its merits, absences will only be authorised in 'exceptional circumstances'. You can find the School Attendance Policy on the school website via the link:

<https://woolgrove.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Woolgrove-attendance-policy-Feb-2023.pdf>

Have a lovely weekend – let's enjoy the sunny weather while it lasts!

Lisa Hall,
Head Teacher