



Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 3

Friday 16th November 2023

A busy time!

The past few weeks have seen the children engaged in a wide variety of activities, some of which are highlighted below. The run up to the Christmas period will see lots more events and I thought it was important to give you some more detail about what we have planned. A full list of events is attached with the Newsletter.

Fire station Halloween visit



We were lucky enough to be invited to Royston Fire Station in the lead up to Halloween to enable the children to enjoy the brilliant decorations and 'experience' that the fire fighters had arranged. This was a lovely, community motivated event and the children really enjoyed their trip through the spooky maze and their encounters with a variety



of characters. We send our thanks to all the staff at the fire station and look forward to the Christmas version that they have promised in the coming weeks!

Mini Police Project

Last week saw a number of our classes complete their Mini-Police project, during which they have learned about many aspects of police work including road safety, and keeping safe online. The interactive sessions have been really positive and the children were awarded certificates for successfully completing the sessions.



Hungry Caterpillar

Our EYFS children took part in a promoting 'healthy food' activity organised by our catering providers, Herts Catering. It was based on the Hungry Caterpillar book and involved the children helping to prepare and sample a variety of

healthy snacks. This is one of a number of planned initiatives aimed at providing the children with fun activities which allow them to explore healthy food alternatives.

Expressive Art and Design Update

This term we have been fortunate to have John Lavelle from Hertfordshire Music Service in to work with a group of our children. This has given them the opportunity to explore and begin to learn the basics of how to play the tenor horn. The singers from our Formal classes started rehearsing in October and are busy preparing songs ready for performances near the end of term. Our other singing groups have now started rehearsing on a Thursday morning and are bringing together a number of children from different classes. We have been pleased to see the lovely art work this week that the children have created to enter into the Hertfordshire Heroes Christmas Art competition.

Jack and the Beanstalk

A number of our classes were treated to a wonderful performance of Jack and the Beanstalk. The production was put on by



M&M productions and this was funded by the Happy Days charity which uses a variety of donors. We had over 66 pupils watch

the show and so many of them loved it. The laughter could be heard from well beyond our school hall. Throughout the day children were talking about the show and sharing their thoughts, highlighting its value in providing both fun and a perfect opportunity to promote communication, one of our learning priorities.

Christmas Bazaar

On Thursday 14th December in the afternoon we will be holding a Christmas Bazaar at school. Each class will have their own stall with the children deciding what they will sell or have on their stall.

The idea of this venture is to develop enterprise skills among the children in an exciting way and to learn whilst having *fun*! Any money made from each stall will go straight back to each class. The children will then decide what to spend the money on for their class.

Parents and carers will be invited to come in to school on this afternoon and further details will be forwarded nearer the day.

We hope to make this a really fun family event and we would love to see as many of you there as possible to help us get the festive period underway and to support the children's efforts.

If you are unable to attend you can send in some money, clearly marked with your child's name, to enable them to make some purchases on the day.

Children's Christmas Performances

The children are already beginning to work on their Christmas performances. We will be inviting parents in to see them on the dates below. Further details will be

circulated soon regarding ticket availability:

Performance Timetable 1

Wednesday 6th Dec 1.30 p.m. and
Thursday 7th Dec 1.30 p.m. (Pyramid, Hexagon, Star, Cone, Cube, Sphere, Triangle classes)

Performance Timetable 2

Monday 11th December 1.30 p.m. and
Tuesday 12th December 1.30 p.m. (Blue, Red, Yellow, Green, Purple classes).

Bag2school collection

Our latest Bag2school collection is taking place on Monday 20th November. Please bring in any good condition second-hand clothing you may have on the day. The more we collect the more money is raised for the school, so please have a look in the wardrobes and see if there is anything that you are able to donate. Please don't bring in any items to school until Friday 17th November as we do not have space to store it.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming weeks.

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>

Stop Press: Children in Need

Thank you to all of you who donated money today for Children in Need – We raised a total of **£152** which will be forwarded to the charity. Thank you for your continued support for our chosen charities.

A reminder that the school is closed for an occasional day on Friday 8th December and term ends on Wednesday 20th December at 1.15p.m.

Lisa Hall,
Head Teacher