



Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 8

10th January 2025

Welcome back everyone to a brand New Year and a brand new term, the children have settled back in well. I hope you all had a restful break as we swing into 2025.

Weather Warning

You will be aware that we have had several weather warnings up and down the country including an AMBER cold health alert for the East of England in place until this weekend.



There is guidance here on staying safe in cold weather: [Cold-Health Alert action card for the voluntary and community sector - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/cold-health-alert-action-card-for-the-voluntary-and-community-sector)

The Council has detailed cost of living support available here: [Help to manage the cost of living | Hertfordshire County Council](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/adult-social-services/news-and-campaigns/community-spaces.aspx#findacomspace) and a directory of 'warm spaces' available in the county here: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/adult-social-services/news-and-campaigns/community-spaces.aspx#findacomspace>

Suitable Clothing

With the above in mind, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for all weather including hats, gloves, warm layers, waterproof coat and wellies. Woolgrove children access regular trips and outings, long walks in the wildlife area and we always encourage outdoor play. Please ensure



that all items are **clearly named** so that we can reunite them with their owners.

Holidays and Attendance



Please find attached term dates for both this academic year and 2025/26.

I hope this will help you to plan ahead and make bookings while adhering to our attendance guidelines.

The Government have updated their attendance guidance with a more strict approach and I would like to make you aware of our policy – the full version can be found [here](#).

Our School aims to maximise attendance rates in order to ensure that all pupils are able to take fullest advantage of the learning experiences available to them. I personally monitor absence for individuals and will take the necessary action to understand each case and take steps to ensure good attendance.

If time off is needed due to **exceptional circumstances**, an Absence Request Form must be filled out in advance and sent to the school office for my attention. Please ensure that you check the term dates before booking any holidays.

In addition, to eliminate safeguarding risks, if we have children absent from school with no contact from home by 9.30am we will be making calls to Parents/Carers and anyone else listed as a contact for your child. If we are still unable to ascertain where your child is, we will take further action to ensure they are safe.

If you change any of your contact details, including email, telephone number, address or emergency contacts please let the office know as soon as possible



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Snack and Milk

All Key Stage 1 (Years R, 1 and 2) children are offered a piece of fruit for snack. Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) children may bring a piece of fruit or vegetable into school, alternatively we can provide this for your child at a cost of £1.50 per week, paid via Parentmail. If you would like your child to be offered Milk in the morning at a cost of £1.50 per week, please order through Parentmail.



Event Dates



Please see attached a list of events and activities.

You will be given more

information about each event in due course. This half term, we are looking forward to Cultural Diversity week and Safer Internet Day. World Book Day is celebrated at Woolgrove on Friday 7th March – this may be different to other schools in the area. This is to ensure the classes swimming that week get to enjoy the day and often, events work better for our children when held at the end of the week. This will be covered in more detail as we approach the date, watch this space!

Friends of Woolgrove (FoW) AGM



The FoW will be holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Meeting Room on **Friday 7th February**. In this meeting we will report on fundraising for the

previous year and look forward to the events throughout the coming year. All are welcome at 9.30am for a 10am start. Please come along and listen, give your feedback or find out more about the Friends over a cuppa and a biscuit.

Parent Information Maps

Please look out for Parent Information Maps sent out by our class teams detailing the curriculum and topics that will be covered this term. All maps will be available shortly on the school website.

Cultural Diversity Week



We are very excited to be giving the children the opportunity to take part in our cultural diversity week to learn

about each other and for the children to share all about themselves and their homes with their classes. This will take place on the week beginning the 27th January 2025. During this week we will be learning about different countries related to the children and their families in each class. Some activities may include, wearing clothing, cooking or eating food, having a celebration, doing a traditional dance and looking at pictures from a particular country. If you have any recipes, foods, traditional clothing or photographs you would be willing to send in and share with the class, these would be greatly appreciated. We would like to encourage visitors during the week, so if you would be willing to come in and talk or show something from your culture with your child's class please let your child's class teacher know or email admin. In addition, we are thrilled to share with you that we will have an African Drumming experience at the school for all the children to enjoy!



Lisa Hall, Head Teacher



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January	
Monday 27 th	Cultural Diversity Week
February	
Friday 7 th	Friends of Woolgrove AGM
Tuesday 11 th	Safer Internet Day
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st	Half Term: SCHOOL CLOSED
March	
Friday 7 th	World Book Day (Dress up as book character)
Monday 10 th	Arts Fortnight (Until 21 st March)
Tuesday 12 th	Parent / Carer Consultation Evenings (4pm – 7pm)
Wednesday 13 th	
Friday 21 st	Comic Relief (Non-Uniform)
Tuesday 25 th	Arts Day / Exhibition
April	
Friday 4 th	End of Term 1.15pm

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SPRING	INSET day	Monday 6 th January 2025
	Pupils start	Tuesday 7 th January
	Half Term	Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 2025
	Term ends	Friday 4 th April
SUMMER	Pupils start	Tuesday 22 nd April
	Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May
	Half Term	Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May 2025
	INSET	Monday 2 nd June 2025
	Pupils back	Tuesday 3 rd June
	Term ends	Tuesday 22 nd July
	INSET	Wednesday 23 rd July 2025

2025 - 2026 TERM and INSET Dates

AUTUMN	INSET	Wednesday 3 rd September
	Phased Pupils start	Thursday 4 th September
	Phased Pupils start	Friday 5 th September
	All Pupils start	Monday 8 th September
	Half Term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025
	INSET day	Monday 3 rd November
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 28 th November
	Term ends	Friday 19 th December
SPRING	INSET day	Monday 5 th January 2026
	Pupils start	Tuesday 6 th January
	Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February 2026
	Term ends	Friday 27 th March
SUMMER	INSET day	Monday 13 th April
	Pupils start	Tuesday 14 th April
	Half Term	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2026
	Pupils back	Tuesday 3 rd June
	Term ends	Wednesday 22 nd July
	INSET	Thursday 23 rd July 2026