



Woolgrove School – Newsletter No. 2

19th September 2025



More than two weeks in already, the children have all been settling in well to their new environments and we are enjoying this last spot of summer sunshine. We have some exciting updates and developments to tell you all about. Please find below all the information that I hope you will find useful. As always, please feel free to contact the school office if you would like to speak to us further.

Health & Safety

Safety Drills



As you know, health and safety is of utmost priority at our school. At Woolgrove we have procedures in place in case of an unexpected event to ensure that everyone knows what to

do. We have termly fire drills (evacuation) with both children and adults. We also have procedures for invacuations/lockdowns which are practised termly by the adults, but not the children.

I am aware that there has been recent publicity around Martyn's Law and I wanted to reassure you that, as with all schools, we have procedures in place to maintain safety in case of emergency. We have been informed that new updated guidance will be shared in the months ahead and we will of course implement that once received. Any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Flu Vaccinations

The School Nursing Team came on September 15th & 17th to administer the flu vaccinations. The children managed this very well with patience, support and gentle encouragement from all involved.



Please read the attached letter from the Director of Public Health at Hertfordshire County Council about vaccinations and important public health advice.

Transport and the School Run

We have seen an uplift in the number of vehicles arriving on site this year and the safety of our children is paramount. All staff in the Transport Team are there to help a smooth transition and are wearing pink Hi-Vis so that you can identify them easily. If you are dropping/collecting your child, please be guided by the transport team and direct any questions to them.

Please adhere to the following

✓ **Strict 5mph speed limit at ALL TIMES**
including when entering and leaving the site

✓ **No mobile phones while driving**

This is both extremely dangerous and against the law

✓ **Beware the Greenway Right of Way**

Pedestrians and cyclists can suddenly appear just before the school entrance – please slow down!

✓ **Beware the zebra crossing**

Slow down and stop around the first bend and allow pedestrians to cross

✓ **Please stay in your vehicle with your child**

When parked on the playground or main car park – the class teams will come to you. Blue Class Parents may park in the layby and walk children to the gate.

✓ **Close all pedestrian gates behind you**

Please keep the paths safe for others when walking in, or down from the overflow car park

✓ **Staff are directed to empty car park vehicles first**
followed by the playground and reception area. This enables the traffic to move from the car park

✓ **Gates close by 9am and 3pm (2pm Friday)**

Ensure you arrive promptly ahead of the gates closing, thus reducing back log and congestion on Pryor Way

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



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DSPL 1 Weekly Information



Please find a link [here](#) to the latest information for Parents/Carers.

Parents' Consultation Evenings

Our Parents' Evenings will take place on

**Tuesday 4th and
Wednesday 5th
November.**

Details of how to sign up will be shared with you in the coming weeks.



Friends of Woolgrove (FoW)

Our first FoW meeting of this year will be held in the Meeting Room at

Woolgrove, Wednesday 8th October at 9.30am.

The Friends are an excellent way to meet other Parents/Carers, as well as raising important funds for the school. If you are able to offer your help, or require

further information we would be delighted to see you at the Meeting. We have super biscuits and enough tea to sink a ship, so please come along!



Safeguarding Partnership



Woolgrove School is part of Operation Encompass. Operation Encompass is a national police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people who experience Domestic Violence and Abuse and which is in place in every police force in England and Wales. Children were recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right in the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act. Operation Encompass means that the police will share information with a **key adult** at our school about all police attended Domestic Abuse incidents which involve any of our children PRIOR to the start of the next school day.

The key adult for Woolgrove School is:
**Richard Pritchard, Deputy headteacher, DSL
(Designated Safeguarding Lead)**

Events for the term

Please see a list of events and activities coming up this term. You will be given more information about each event in due course. Watch this space! Please note the Inset Day on Monday 3rd November, school will be closed on that day.



Kind regards,

Lisa Hall,
Head Teacher

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Event Dates Autumn Term 2025

October

Wednesday 8 th	Friends of Woolgrove Meeting: 9.30am
Tuesday 14 th	Year 5 Parents Secondary Transition Evening: 7pm
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st	Half Term: SCHOOL CLOSED

November

Monday 3 rd	Inset Day: SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 4 th	Back to School
	Parents Evening: 4-7pm
Wednesday 5 th	Parent Evening: 4-7pm
Monday 10 th – Friday 14 th	Anti-Bullying Week
Friday 28 th	Occasional Day: SCHOOL CLOSED



2025 - 2026 TERM and INSET Dates

AUTUMN	INSET	Wednesday 3rd 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 - Friday 31 st October 2025
	INSET	Monday 3 rd November
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 28 th November
	Term ends	Friday 19 th December
SPRING	Pupils start	Monday 5 th January 2026
	INSET DAY	Monday 2 nd February
	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	Monday 1 st June
	Term ends	Wednesday 22 nd July
	INSET	Thursday 23 rd July 2026



2026 - 2027

TERM and INSET Dates

AUTUMN	INSET	Tuesday 1 st September
	INSET	Wednesday 2 nd September
	Phased Pupils start	Thursday 3 rd September
	Phased Pupils start	Friday 4 th September
	All Pupils start	Monday 7 th September
	Half Term	Monday 26 th to Friday 30 th October
	Pupils start	Monday 2 nd November
	OCCASIONAL DAY (no pupils)	Friday 27 th November
	Term ends	Friday 18 th December (Pupils finish at 1.15pm)
SPRING	Pupils start	Monday 4 th January
	Half Term	Monday 15 th to Friday 19 th February
	INSET DAY	Monday 22 nd February
	Pupils start	Tuesday 23 rd February
	Term ends	Thursday 25 th March (Pupils finish at 1.15pm)
SUMMER	Pupils start	Monday 12 th April
	Pupils finish	Thursday 28 th May
	INSET DAY	Friday 28 th May
	Half Term	Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June
	Pupils start	Monday 7 th June
	Term ends	Wednesday 21 st July (Pupils finish at 1.15pm)
	INSET	Thursday 22 nd July

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Director of Public Health
Sarah Perman



Hertfordshire County
Council
Farnham House, Six Hills
Way, Stevenage, SG1
2FQ.
Postal Point: SFAR23

Date: 15th September 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

Back to school vaccination reminder & important public health advice.

As you begin the autumn term, we would like to remind you of some important things you can do for your children to protect them and others from illness this winter.

- If you have children starting school this September and they have missed their pre-school booster vaccinations, please speak to your GP surgery to arrange an appointment. It's not too late to catch up! Vaccines remain our best defence against serious and life-threatening diseases; they are safe and are free on the NHS.
- Teach your children to wash their hands using soap and water. Especially encourage this after they have used the toilet and before they eat. This will help to prevent them from getting sickness and diarrhoea bugs and stop them spreading illnesses to others. Remember if they do get the sickness and diarrhoea bug they must not go back to school until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
- Please take up your child's offer of a flu vaccination this year and complete the consent form when it is sent out. Flu can be serious for children of all ages but particularly for those under 5. Vaccination helps protect against complications like pneumonia and painful ear infections as well as reducing the risk of needing to go to hospital. Vaccinating your child also helps protect others in your family like grandparents or those with long-term health conditions.

Thank you for taking these small steps to keep your child and everyone around you healthy this winter. If you would like to know more please visit:

<https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/parentscarers/keeping-your-child-safe-and-healthy>

Yours sincerely

Sarah Perman
Director of Public Health

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

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Co-parenting with Care programme for parents with children with SEN.

This 6-week online programme offers a structured approach to help you navigate your unique challenges, improve your relationship, and create a more supportive environment for your SEN child/ren .

The programme covers themes including:

- Understanding SEN and its impact on children and family dynamics
- Effective Communication Skills
- Managing Emotions & Stress
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Building a Supportive Network
- Creating a Unified Parenting Approach

These 2 courses will be delivered via MS Teams, over 6 sessions on the following dates/times:

Date: Wednesday 15, 22 October and 5, 12, 19 & 26 November

Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Date: Thursday 16, 23 October and 6, 13, 20 & 27 November

Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk



@FamilyLivesHertsandBeds



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Drop-in fair from 2pm

Explore stalls from local
support and information
services

 **SEND**
0-25 years
Hertfordshire's Local Offer

 **SPACE**

Author talk with Cathy Reay: How to be Disabled and Proud

Wednesday 1 October, 5pm

Welwyn Garden City Library

Suitable for parents and carers

Book your free ticket in the library

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries100



Hertfordshire Music Service Inclusive Choir (Soundabout associate member choir)

An inclusive contemporary style choir in association with the music charity Soundabout.

- For anyone Year 5, 6 and secondary age, through to 25, with a focus on giving a voice to those with SEN and complex needs.
- Sessions are three times each half-term; twice online, and one in-person at Mid Herts Centre for Music & Arts.
- £38 per term

soundabout
make music change lives

Scan the QR
code to see
Soundabout's
music videos.



Date	Time	Location
Friday 19 September	5pm - 6pm	Online
Friday 3 October		
Saturday 18 October	1pm - 2pm	Mid Herts Music Centre
Friday 7 November	5pm - 6pm	Online
Friday 21 November		
Saturday 6 December	1pm - 2pm	Mid Herts Music Centre



Scan me to register
your interest



01438 844851



www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk



**Hertfordshire
Music Service**

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Looking for healthy after-school snack ideas?

We've got you covered!

Our free, Beezee Families healthy lifestyle programme can help your family make healthy habits.

Tuck into these healthy snacks:

- Two wholegrain crackers and tzatziki
- Rice cakes or corn cakes
- Two crackers with a spread of low-fat cream cheese and cherry tomatoes
- Plain or Greek yoghurt and fruit
- 150ml homemade fruit smoothie
- Vegetable sticks (carrot/pepper/cucumber) with hummus
- Fruit kebabs
- Wholegrain toast with a thin layer of peanut butter
- Breadsticks
- Ayran (yoghurt-based drink)
- Baked plantain
- Sebze kebab (grilled vegetable skewers)
- Homemade fruit ice lollies
- Handful of homemade popcorn
- Apple slices with peanut butter.

Want more healthy lifestyle support?

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.*

Scan here or Click the link



hrt.maximusuk.co.uk

*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up

Beezee
FAMILIES

FREE Healthy Lifestyle support for families in Hertfordshire

Our FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes start on week commencing 22nd September 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
BOREHAMWOOD Aberford Park Community Centre, WD6 1PN 4:30 - 6:30pm	WATFORD Holywell Community Centre Chaffinch Lane, WD18 9QD 5:30 - 7:30pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:30 - 7:30pm	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:00 - 7:00pm
CHESHUNT Andrews Lane Primary School, EN7 6LB 4:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **	HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm	** NO SESSION **
ONLINE (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **



Sign up today!

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648

Hertfordshire

Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight, see our website for more information.

DSL Safeguarding Lead: Richard Pritchard

dsl@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk



We're here to help your family
make healthy habits fun

Join our **FREE**, 12-week healthy lifestyle programme to help your family build habits around food and physical activity. Our in-person group sessions start on:

Date: Wednesday 24 Sept 2025 **Time:** 5:30 - 7:30pm

Venue: The Oval Community Centre, Vardon Road, Stevenage, SG1 5RD

Or you can join us online!



Sign up for your
FREE PLACE today

@ BZBinfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648



Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight, see our website for more information. 24-0814



Family Lives Free Autumn Term Parenting Groups

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group
Friday 26th September to 7 November 9.45am to 11.45am OR

Tuesday 14 October to 25 November 7.00pm to 9.00pm

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our free online group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Thursday 2 October to 13 November 9.30am to 11.30am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Dads Together (6 weeks) Online group

Wednesday 5 November to 10 December 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Calling all Dads - join our free online group, come along and receive support from other dads and learn how to change the way you communicate with your child, respond better and feel more in control.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop
Autumn term dates to be confirmed

Reducing Conflict Online Workshop
Autumn term dates to be confirmed

Sibling Rivalry Online Workshop
Autumn term dates to be confirmed



SCAN ME!

For more information, please contact Louise on **0204 522 8700/8701**, or email **services@familylives.org.uk**. Please scan our QR code for our referral form.



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Dear Colleagues

We have three online and one in-person Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours courses starting soon with places available daytime and evening. Places are fully funded (free) by HCC for parents and carers across Hertfordshire who may need some additional support:

- Online for Dads and male carers: Wednesdays 8 Oct – 3 Dec 7.00pm – 9.00pm [click here for the poster....](#)
- Online for Mums, Dads & Carers: Thursdays 9 Oct – 3 Dec 9.30am – 11.30am [click here for the poster....](#)
- Online for Mums, Dads & Carers: Thursdays 9 Oct – 3 Dec 7.00pm – 9.00pm [click here for poster...](#)
- Hoddesdon for Mums, Dads & Carers: Thursdays - 25 Sept - 27 Nov 9.30am -11.30am [click here for the poster](#)

This is an evidence-based course for parents & carers to help build skills to create a calmer, safer family life and:

- Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together
- Understand what may be influencing their child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication to build better relationships
- Build on their own and their child's strengths
- Learn strategies to help them and their child/ren feel safe

For all online enquiries and to make a referral, please email enquiries@familiesfeeling-safe.co.uk or call 07850 518216. For the Hoddesdon course, please call 01992 303331 Opt. 5

[Please click here for the parent registration form....](#)

Please would you kindly promote the courses to your colleagues, local networks and families.

With thanks and kind regards

Fiona