WOOLGROVE SCHOOL,
SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY
PARENTS AND CARERS
HANDBOOK

We view Parents and Carers as our Partners in Learning
Dear Parents and Carers

On behalf of everyone at Woolgrove, I would like to welcome you and your family to our school.

My colleagues and I believe the relationship that exists between home and school is the vital linchpin in ensuring that your child’s time spent at Woolgrove is a happy and rewarding one. Together, we are partners in learning. We endeavour, at all times, to make sure your child is happy and secure and is given the opportunity to work in a stimulating environment where they can experience success and realise their potential.

Our School Aims, ‘ASPIRE’ lie at the heart of all that we as a whole school community believe in and strive to work towards.

- To raise people’s self-esteem, so that they are able to make the most of their Abilities and talents.
- To foster a sense of curiosity and love of learning, so that all will develop a determination to achieve and Succeed.
- To work in Partnership with parents, other schools and the wider community, to promote a more inclusive education system and a sense of citizenship.
- To promote Independence and encourage intellectual, emotional, spiritual and healthy growth, so that everyone can become lifelong learners.
- To work together in an atmosphere of trust and mutual Respect, so that all feel equally safe and valued.
- To provide a challenging and Enriching curriculum which addresses individual needs.

Woolgrove prides itself on being an extremely caring and supportive school which is highly responsive to pupils’ needs. The ‘voice’ of your child, and you as the parent or carer, very much influences how we do this. By working together, we can help each and every child to grow in confidence, nurture their self-esteem and guide them towards maturity, which will enable them to make significant strides in their personal development.

I very much look forward to us all working together to ensure your child enjoys and benefits from all the wonderful things that Woolgrove School has to offer.

Yours sincerely

Susan Selley
Headteacher
If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the staff in the school office on the above number and they will be more than happy to assist you with your call.

Mrs Maureen Flower  :  Office Manager  
Mrs Jo Pomroy  :  Secretary  
Mrs Sally Boakes  :  Business Manager

Woolgrove School is very fortunate in that our Family Link Worker, Mrs Anne Linnell, is permanently based at the school. Mrs Linnell plays an important part in the relationship between home and school in supporting families on a wide variety of issues. She works closely with a child’s teacher, colleagues and outside agencies to understand children’s needs as well as those of parents and carers. If you would like to contact her with any concerns you may have, you can do so on 01462 622422 or via email anne.linnell@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk. Further information about her role can be found on the parents’ page of our website as detailed above.
Transport

Transport arrangements are made by the Admissions & Transport Team. The enquiry telephone number is 0300 123 4043.

Uniform

The schools’ colours are red, grey and white. School sweatshirts, t-shirts, polo shirts, cardigans and baseball caps can be ordered from the office. Boys generally wear grey trousers, or shorts in the summer, with a plain red or grey top. Girls either wear grey skirts, or trousers and in the summer red and white dresses (either checked or striped). For PE, plimsolls are needed for indoors as well as a white top and red shorts. Jewellery (other than for religious or medical reasons) should NOT be worn for safety reasons.

Please remember to: Label your child’s clothing. If an item of clothing goes astray, it is very difficult to return it to its rightful owner without a name. Provide appropriate clothing for your child to wear to school according to the weather and time of year.

Snacks, Milk and Lunch

In the Infant Department and Year 3 classes, your child will be provided with a drink and snack during the morning and afternoon sessions. We would be grateful if you could send in a voluntary contribution per week towards the costs of these items, as well as other sundries such as cooking ingredients for Design and Technology lessons. Teaching staff will write to you at the beginning of the term regarding this. In Years 4, 5 and 6 snack is not usually provided. However, parents may send in a small snack for their child if they wish to. This can be eaten at morning playtime and should consist of something healthy, such as a piece of fruit. Crisps and sweets are not allowed as snack items.

Milk is available for the infant children. The office can let you know the cost of this as well as school dinners. Although pupils may bring a packed lunch, most of the children prefer to have school dinners. Lunch is provided by Shire Catering from a three week rolling multi-choice menu which changes seasonally. There is a varied range of meal choices available and children who have food allergies or specific dietary requirements are always catered for. Lunch menus are seasonal and can be viewed on the Hertfordshire Catering website, www.herts.direct.org/catering. For those pupils who prefer to bring a packed lunch, they can opt to have a lunch on Friday which is usually a fun day meal such as pizza or fish fingers. The school office will be able to advise as to the cost involved.

Midday Supervisory Assistants and members of staff sit with the children so lunchtime is a pleasant and social occasion.
ABSENCES

If your child feels unwell, please let the school know and do not send him/her to school. If your child has been sick they are required to stay at home for **48 hours (2 days) after their last bout of sickness**. If you send your child in before 48 hours have lapsed, for health and safety reasons, we will have to contact you to ask you to come and take your child back home.

MEDICINES AT SCHOOL

Although the school is under no obligation to give medication to pupils, staff are prepared to help in this way. This is provided we have written and signed instructions from a child’s parent/carer. The required forms to be completed are:

◊ **Form 3B & 4 Parental Agreement for School/Setting to Administer Medicine**
  These permission forms need to be completed by the parent/carer before staff can administer medication;

◊ **Handling Medication Form**
  To ensure medication travels from home to school safely, this permission slip needs to be signed by the parent/carer, transport staff (if relevant) and then passed to a member of Woolgrove staff;

◊ **RD1 Form**
  This form needs to be signed by a GP/Consultant if a pupil has epilepsy and requires either Buccal Midazolam or Rectal Diazepam to be administered.

Copies of these forms are available on the pre-visit to Woolgrove School. They can also be downloaded from the school website or by asking your child’s teaching staff or the school office.

HEALTH

The School's Medical Officer and School Nurse, Karen Johnston, both visit on a regular basis.

The School Dentist is willing to be contacted by parents at The Dental Clinic, Health Centre, Nevells Road, Letchworth. The telephone number is 01462 682016.

HOLIDAYS IN SCHOOL TIME

It is important that, if possible, pupils do not miss school by going away on a family holiday during the school term. This is disruptive to a child’s formal education. Under extreme circumstances, if you do have to take your child out of school for this purpose, please ask the office for a Holiday Request Form, giving **one month’s notice**. Permission then has to be given by the Head Teacher for this to take place.
As my role as Family Link /Parent Support Worker I will play an important part in the relationship between home and school in supporting families on a wide variety of issues. I work closely with all the class teachers, colleagues and outside agencies to help others to understand children’s needs as well as those of parents/carers.

The aims of my work as a Family Link Worker are ~

- To engage and build good working relationships with parents, children and colleagues working in school and other agencies;
- To work holistically and effectively with parents in ways that will improve their children's well-being;
- To provide relevant information about, and access to appropriate support services and opportunities that enable parents to improve their skills;
- To plan, deliver and offer parenting support courses for groups and one-to-one support.

In addition to this, I will help facilitate a 10 week Nurture Group Programme which takes place at school. The course offers support and advice on a range of typical issues about parenting. It also gives parents the opportunity to meet and shares ideas and strategies with each other. The course is free to parents/carers and is run once a year.

If you would like to contact me about any questions or concerns you may have, you can do so on 01462 622422 or send me an email to anne.linnell@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk
At Woolgrove School, Special Needs Academy we see ‘Parents and Carers as our Partners in Learning’. We recognise how important it is for us to work together, to ensure your child, and you as a family, benefit as much as possible from your time spent at our school.

There are many ways in which we communicate with you, so you are kept fully informed and up-to-date on your child’s progress and also on current news and events that occur at Woolgrove and in the local community.

All children have a School-Home Link Book which teachers and parents/carers can write in to relate any news or matters that may arise. In addition to this, there are a variety of other ways in which we keep in touch with you. These are through:

◊ Anne Linnell our Family Link Worker. Her contact details are at the front of the handbook;
◊ Our website, www.woolgrove.herts.sch.uk is very informative for both adults and children. Any current news or information is posted on our Notice board on the home page, such as courses or events being held in the area, which we receive from Hertfordshire Extended Schools. The parents’ page contains all relevant information such as policies, medical forms, holiday dates and copies of newsletters. There are various presentations to see of school trips, events and class activities;
◊ Regular newsletters— the Head Teacher’s Newsletter, Woolgrove Whispers Newsletter and the pupils also have their own Newsletter, The Word of Woolgrove.
◊ Parents’ Coffee Mornings. A thriving parents’ group meets regularly to have coffee together and listen to a variety of interesting speakers.
◊ All parents and staff automatically belong to the Friends of Woolgrove. Anyone who is interested in the school may also join. A Committee is elected at the AGM but all members are welcome to attend the meetings which take place about once a month. It provides opportunities for socialising and, as a result of its activities, raises money for the school in order to enhance the curriculum.

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Parents Consultation Evenings are held throughout the course of the school year, one per term. This gives parents/carers the opportunity to meet with their child’s class teacher to discuss their progress and any other relevant matters that may arise.

Curriculum Sessions are held to give parents/carers the opportunity to come along and see the teaching methods and resources used by the school to support the children’s learning and also to see them in their working environment.

Throughout the year, classes in the Infant Department and Year 3 host tea parties. This enables the adults to see their children at work and play, and meet the other children in their class.

There are many other events held throughout the year to which families are invited to, such as:

- Art Week
- Sports Day
- Music Festivals
- Christmas Productions.

We ask parents to complete an annual questionnaire, and any issues are acted upon.

The Outreach Department at Woolgrove supports over 90 schools in its catchment area and beyond.

We form part of the Letchworth Extended School Consortium.

As part of our ongoing commitment to community cohesion, we also invite governors, transport colleagues and people across the community, to events taking place in school as well as the parents/carers of our children. We are also in the process of setting up links to share good practice with other local sustainable schools and form global links with other educational establishments.

We are always delighted to welcome parents/carers and visitors into our school. If you have any questions, or matters you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will endeavour to do our best to answer your query and take on board any points raised.
Everyone at Woolgrove believes that pupils learn best if they are happy in school. The children are always expected to obey the school rules. Bullying and fighting are not tolerated. Any incidents are dealt with promptly.

In some instances, and as a last resort, it may be necessary to use physical intervention strategies when a pupil does not respond to any form of communication and is endangering him/herself and others or property. At Woolgrove we use the “Hertfordshire Steps” method of physical intervention. Staff are trained to use safe and calm handling techniques that work with natural body movements.

The school’s Promoting Positive Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy and all other policy documents can be viewed on the school website www.woolgrove.herts.sch.uk.

A copy of the Home School Agreement, shown on the following pages, gives details of:

◊ Woolgrove School Aims
◊ Woolgrove School Rules
◊ Woolgrove School Playground Code
◊ Pledge to be signed by the School and the Family agreeing to the terms of the Home School Agreement
WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

SCHOOL AIMS

Woolgrove seeks to create a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which all can experience success and realise their unique potential.

To raise people’s self-esteem, so that they are able to make the most of their Abilities and talents,

To foster a sense of curiosity and a love of learning, so that all will develop a determination to achieve and Succeed,

To work in Partnership with parents, other schools and the wider community, to promote a more inclusive education system and a sense of citizenship,

To promote Independence and encourage intellectual, emotional, spiritual and healthy growth, so that everyone can become lifelong learners,

To work together in an atmosphere of trust and mutual Respect, so that all feel equally safe and valued,

To provide a challenging and Enriching curriculum which addresses individual needs.

ASPIRE

Every child Matters  Safety, health, achievement, independence, citizenship
WOOLGROVE SCHOOL RULES

1. We are friendly and kind to each other and do not fight.
2. We take care of equipment and people’s property.
3. We are polite and pleasant and do not swear
4. We listen if others are talking to us.
5. We walk inside school.

WOOLGROVE PLAYGROUND CODE

1. We obey the adults who are on duty.
2. We stay on the playground when we are told to.
3. We ask if we need to go indoors.
4. We help each other and are kind and we do not fight or swear.
5. We share toys and games
6. We behave sensibly in the quiet areas.
THE SCHOOL

We will

- Be welcoming to parents and encourage them to be involved in the life of the school
- Care for your child's safety and well-being
- Prepare pupils and parents for any transfer arrangements
- Provide a curriculum which aims to meet the individual needs of the child
- Provide informal opportunities for parents to meet regularly with staff, Governors and with other parents/carers
- Contact parents if there is a concern about their child's work, behaviour or health
- Arrange Parents' Evenings during which progress will be discussed
- Be available to meet parents on request
- Listen to the child's point of view

Signed _________________________ (Headteacher)

Date ________________
THE FAMILY

I/We will

- See that my child goes to school regularly and is ready on time
- Let the school know if my child is absent
- Make sure that my child is appropriately dressed and has the right equipment
- Let the school know about any concerns or problems
- Take an interest in my child’s life at the school
- Support the school’s policies and rules for behaviour
- Help my child at home to enjoy books and to do any homework set
- Try to attend Parents Evenings /participate in discussions about my child’s progress

Signed ____________________________(parent/carer)

Date __________________

Signed ____________________________(parent/carer)

Date __________________
MEETING PUPILS' INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Through experience and continuing professional development, staff are able to increase their expertise and knowledge and therefore develop a high level of understanding of pupils’ individual needs. We employ specialist Music, PE and French teachers to support the children in these subjects. In addition, MSAs are given regular training on signing, autism awareness and behaviour management.

Pupils work from the National Curriculum but at a level appropriate to their needs. Teachers at Woolgrove have good subject knowledge. They set clear learning objectives, differentiate to meet individual needs, challenge pupils and have high expectations. Teachers use a variety of teaching styles to address a variety of learning styles. Class routines and lessons are structured and attention is also focused on everyday basic skills. Individual targets are challenging but achievable and these are shared and agreed with pupils and parents. Each pupil completes a progress sheet for their Annual Review meeting and areas for development are collated and reviewed. For pupils with English as a second language, additional support is given.

Pupils’ PHSCE individual needs are met through the delivery of the SEAL theme, morning workout sessions and collective worship. The PSHCE curriculum covers appropriate issues as pupils move up the school. The school works closely with other specialists, organisations, industry, the Police, Health Service and magistrates to ensure information about sex, alcohol, drugs etc is delivered effectively. Pupils are encouraged to voice their opinions through PSHCE, circle time, an annual questionnaire and the School Council. This questionnaire is written and designed by the School Council. Issues arising from PSHCE or circle time may be acted upon independently or be shared at assembly time as appropriate. The School Council makes representation at governing body meetings. The annual questionnaire completed by pupils this year, highlighted the lunchtime and after school clubs that pupils would like to see, in addition to those already offered. As a result, an after school Cookery Club and a lunchtime maths club was set up for the children.

School Council discussions have led to the purchase of new playground equipment, the improvement of the school environment and whole school support for a pre-school in South America, support for SAFRA (the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen Association) and revision of the playground rules to name but a few.
Good behaviour is expected. Some of our pupils find unstructured time (playtimes) difficult. We have introduced many strategies to address this; zoned playground areas for different activities, more playtime toys, a buddy system and a consistent approach to rewards and sanctions. Individual pupils have systems in place as necessary to meet their needs. The Behaviour Policy, monitoring system, positive behaviour support plans and social stories are in place and regularly reviewed. Weekly circle time takes place in each class, at an appropriate level, where issues of concern may be raised.

Woolgrove School offers opportunities to build on self-esteem and confidence. It allows for significant progress in achievement and wellbeing in a safe, structured and consistent environment.

◊ Pupils enjoy Trampoline, Environment and Cookery clubs after school and a number of lunchtime clubs: Games, Environment, Maths, Top Trumps, ICT, Badminton and Table Tennis, Computers, Football, Library, and Karate

◊ Woolgrove offers a Saturday morning club for pupils with autism and their siblings, which is supported by the Extended Schools Consortium. A range of activities are on offer such as Cooking, PE, Computers, Art & Crafts etc.

◊ All Year 6 pupils are given the opportunity to go on an activity holiday at Wymondley Woods. Woolgrove School also participates in many sporting activities both with other special and mainstream schools. These events allow the children to embrace new opportunities and encourage them to gain in independence and confidence. The majority of our Year 6 pupils move on to The Valley School in Stevenage. The Valley is a secondary MLD school with approximately 180 pupils. Towards the end of Year 6 pupils begin an integration programme to gradually accustom them to the forthcoming move. A small percentage of our children will move to Greenside, an all age school in Stevenage for pupils with severe learning difficulties. A small percentage may return to mainstream at the end of Year 6 or earlier if this is felt appropriate. Should this occur each pupil will have an individual integration plan to support them with this move.

Two weeks after your child starts at Woolgrove School, the class teacher will ring to discuss how your child has settled in and whether you have any concerns you may wish to discuss with them.

When your child begins school at Woolgrove, it is usually dependent on their age at the time of entry, as to which class and department of the school they go into. The day to day structure and routine between the Infant and Junior Departments vary considerably, so we hope the following pages will assist you and your child in how each area works.
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are taught in the infant classes. Occasionally, if there are a lot of children in the Infant Department, some or all of the Year 2 children may join a Year 3 class. The infant classes have a high level of adults working in them. All classes have at least one teacher and two teaching assistants. A nursery nurse supports across the 3 classes.

The Infant area has 2 large open areas for child initiated activities and three small quiet areas which are used for more formal teaching. A covered area next to the classroom is used as an extension to the large classroom area. The outdoor area is also available for children to use throughout the day.

The Home-School Book

When your child joins the infant classes, they will be provided with a book bag, a reading book and an orange reading diary that can be written in when your child has been heard reading, a home-school book and a home learning book. The home-school book provides an opportunity for the adults in school to let you know what has happened at school during the day and for you to write to ask any questions or, to let staff know about things that have happened at home. Every Monday the children share their weekend news; it would be helpful if a note could be written into the home-school book that tells us what your child has been doing over the weekend. Photos, objects and pictures can be stuck in the home learning book, to show adults at school what the children have been doing at home. Please return your child’s book bag, reading book, home school book and home learning book to school every day.

The Curriculum

All children in the Infant Department are taught following the Foundation Stage Curriculum. The Foundation Stage Curriculum is organised into 3 prime areas and 4 specific areas of learning. The 3 prime areas are:

◊ Personal, social and emotional development
◊ Communication and Language
◊ Physical development

The 4 specific areas of learning are:

Understanding of the World
Expressive Art and Design
Mathematics
Literacy.
The Foundation Stage Curriculum is based on children learning through play. The children in the Infant area are encouraged to initiate play activities and explore and learn through them. They work for short periods of time as a class on an adult led activity and then in small groups with an adult.

Reading

In the Infant Department, reading scheme books have been grouped and colour coded with a sticker. Your child will be placed on a reading scheme colour and they will be able to change their own reading scheme book on Mondays. Although the children will be encouraged to choose a different reading book each week, they will be given the opportunity to read the same book more than once, if they choose to do so. We will be recording which books your child chooses and encourage your child to choose a different book if they frequently choose the same book. Even if your child chooses the same book a few times and is able to read it from memory, they will be developing reading skills and confidence in their ability to read. In the front of your child’s orange home school reading record, will be a list of skills to practice with your child according to the colour of the reading books.

Outdoors/Snacks

The outdoors area is used as an extension to the classroom and activities are provided for the outdoor area, such as bikes, digging and role play. The children are encouraged to go outdoors in all weathers. Wellington boots and appropriate clothing should be sent into school for your child to use in cold and wet weather to ensure your child’s comfort whilst playing outdoors. In hot weather, a sunhat needs to be sent into school and sun tan lotion. Every day during the morning and afternoon sessions, your child will be provided with a drink and snack. Please could you send in a voluntary contribution of £1.50 per week towards the cost of snack and other items, such as cooking ingredients.

Swimming and Riding

As part of physical development, children are taught swimming and the Year 2 children are taught horse riding. In order to be able to go horse riding a form needs to be completed.

Educational Visits

We try to make regular educational visits, weekly if possible. Some visits include, going to the local park, shopping, going to the library and visiting the farm. These trips give the children hands on experience and are an opportunity to teach the children various skills and concepts, such as how to behave in public, how to pay for shopping, reading signs and labels, naming objects, physical skills and about the local environment.

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Lunchtime

Lunchtime at Woolgrove is used as another learning opportunity. The children sit in their class groups with their class teachers, nursery nurses and some of the teaching assistants. Children are encouraged to use cutlery, tolerate different food being on their plate or try different foods, say please and thank-you and learn table manners.

Helping Your Child At Home

At Woolgrove we use the Firm Foundations Home-School Programme. When your child joins Woolgrove School you will be invited to a short meeting to learn about the programme and look at the activity packs. Activity packs are sent home on Wednesdays and must be returned on Mondays. In addition to the activity packs, every day your child will bring home a reading book and a library book. Some children who have reached a certain level with their reading book, will be sent home words to learn. Each week a things to try at home suggestions sheet will be sent home related to the classroom activities. Children are also encouraged to bring in an item beginning with the sound of the week. Each half term parents are sent a letter informing them of the sounds we will be learning about. It is important that after a long day at school, that activities at home are fun and enjoyable for your child. If you child is tired or reluctant to work at home then wait until they are in a better mood to try again!

We hope this information helps you understand how we work, but should you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us.
We welcome you and your child to the Junior part of the school and hope that your experience with this Department will be both happy and rewarding. The Junior Department consists of eight classes corresponding to the Year 3 to Year 6 age groups. The Teachers’ names are:

◊ Mr G Rowlands, Head of Junior Department
◊ Mr R Pritchard, PE teacher for Infant and Junior pupils
◊ Ms M Summers-Pritchard, Music teacher for Infant and Junior pupils
◊ Mrs G Barley, French teacher for pupils Years 5 and 6
◊ Mr M Turner
◊ Mrs K O’Brien
◊ Mrs J September
◊ Mrs S Pitchers
◊ Mrs J Eason
◊ Mrs Z Tyler
◊ Mrs E Fernandes
◊ Mrs M Nelson
◊ Miss L Hiscock

Most of the junior classes tend to be slightly larger than in the Infant Department with up to 12 pupils in each class. At present, most classes have a teacher and two teaching assistants.

**Times In The Day**

Playtimes and dinner times are different in the junior part of the school:

**Morning play** : 10.45—10.55am

**Dinner** : 12.15—12.40pm

**Dinner playtime** : 12.40—1.05pm

**Afternoon playtime** : 2.00—2.10pm

Toilet facilities are no longer within the classroom areas but are situated off the corridors, which means that pupils have to leave their classroom environment when going to the toilet. This is a normal progression in any school and encourages responsibility on the part of the pupils.

Cont/d...
Lunchtime

Lunchtime at Woolgrove is used as another learning opportunity. The children sit in their class groups with their class teacher and teaching assistant. Children are encouraged to use cutlery, tolerate different foods on their plate or try different foods, say please and thank you and learn table manners.

Lunchtime Clubs

In the Juniors, pupils have the opportunity to participate in some lunchtime clubs. These often include: Environment, Football, ‘Thinking Skills’, Computer, Games and Creativity clubs. They are run by staff members who are willing to give up their lunchtimes. The list of clubs is produced at the beginning of each new school term.

The Curriculum

The curriculum followed in the Juniors is very similar to that of Junior Departments in any mainstream school; the difference being, that the work is tailored to the needs of the pupils. All of the National Curriculum subjects are studied, including French in Years 5 and 6.

Each term, parents are sent the class timetable and a letter informing them of the topics about to be studied.

Pupils in the Juniors are expected to develop self-help skills and independence. Pupils are expected to become responsible for their own needs and belongings i.e. bringing PE kit to school on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Swimming and Horse Riding

As part of physical education children are taught swimming and horse riding. In Year 3 your child will go swimming once a fortnight. In Years 4, 5 and 6, swimming is carried out in half-termy blocks rather than fortnightly. You will be informed when it is your child’s turn for swimming. When sending in swimming equipment, please ensure that your child’s costume and towel are named. Your child will be given the opportunity to go horse riding every week for one term during the school year in Year 3. The opportunity for horse riding will also occur in Years 5 and 6. The groups are small and they ride on a Thursday morning. Not everyone can ride in the same term, so the sessions are staggered through the two years. Those who do not ride in year 5, have their turn in Year 6. In order to go horse riding a form needs to be completed and signed by your child’s doctor.
The Home-School Book is an important point of contact between home and school and whenever the need arises, notes by both parties can be exchanged using this book. The book provides an opportunity for the adults in school to let you know what has happened at school during the day and for you to ask any questions or let the staff know about things that have happened at home. However, due to the increased expectations of the curriculum, teachers are not expected to write daily notes in it. In Year 3 every Monday the children will be sharing their weekend news and will be writing about this. It would be very helpful if you could note in the home school book about something that your child has done over the weekend. Please return your child’s book bag, reading book and home school book to school every day.

Homework is set by the teacher each day, sometimes it may be reading, a few spellings and a few sums; at other times it may be work linked to a topic being studied. Pupils are expected to complete their homework regularly if possible in pencil. Parents are expected to check their pupil’s homework book for letters, notes and homework each evening and provide appropriate support.

In Year 3 homework will be sent home twice a week. On Tuesday’s there will be a piece of literacy or mathematics homework and on a Thursday a piece of science or topic related work. This will be in addition to reading books and words or sounds being sent home every night. Every week the children are introduced to a letter/sound of the week. We have a sound table in the class, where items or pictures beginning with the sound of the week will be displayed. Please encourage your child to find an item at home, draw a picture or write some words to bring into school to display on the sound table. It is important that after a long day at school, activities at home should be enjoyable and fun. If your child is reluctant to work at home then wait until they are in a better mood and try again later!

Educational Visits

In Years 3, 4 5 and 6 children are given the opportunity to make an educational visit once every term. These trips are related to class topics and give children hands-on experiences in the outside classroom.
We hope you have found this handbook useful and that it has given you an insight into school life at Woolgrove. We very much look forward to working in partnership with you in supporting your child during their time with us. We are confident that they will flourish in this environment where they can learn, play, grow in confidence and self-esteem and thereby develop and grow as they progress along life’s journey.