



Weekly Newsletter

admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>
www.facebook.com/thegroveschool

Headteacher: Hilary Priest
Newsletter No: Autumn 6

Telephone 01803 862018
14th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID update

We haven't had any positive test results in school by staff or children so far- which is great news. However, we are struggling a little with staff having to isolate whilst awaiting test results (which are still taking a very long time to return) or those contacted by track and trace and told to isolate for 14 days. I feel I have to forewarn you that we can only cover a certain number of staff who are off and there is a possibility that we might have to close certain 'bubbles' / classes if we can't physically staff them! Could you please have a conversation at home about how you would cope with the possibility of this. Learning of course would be provided. Please be rest assured that this would only be done as an absolute last resort when we have exhausted all other staffing possibilities, but I felt I should warn you that although this is unlikely it is not impossible.

Also, anxiety levels are clearly rising as cases seem to be getting much more local, please be mindful of social distancing from others who may be feeling more anxious than you and please avoid any gatherings of more than 6 people – including your own family. I appreciate Halloween may not be so much fun this year but if you could all help to keep us all safe by only planning low key events within the guidance we will be very grateful. We really want schools to stay open but we are all going to have to make sacrifices if this is to remain a COVID safe space.

Uniform for sale

We have one each of the following items of school uniform which we are selling on at a discount rate.

1 book bag - £3

1 cap with neck shield - £2

1 jumper aged 5/6, 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12 - £6

1 fleece cardigan aged 5/6, 7/8, 9/10 and 11/12 - £7

1 knitted cardigan 24, 26", 30" and 32 chest - £10

Yellow polo shirts aged 5/6, 9/11 and 12/14 - £4

White T shirt aged 7/8, 9/10 and 11/13 - £1

They are all new but we held them as stock items for sizing but no longer have use for them. Please email admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk – first come first served.

Junior Duke

Hello to all Dukers! Hopefully your booklets have made it home and you have had a good look through your booklet and have started to think about the challenges that lie ahead. If you have any questions or problems, send me an email on helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk. When you have completed a challenge, you can take your booklet to your class teacher who will sign off your completed challenge.

Remember - anyone who embarked on the scheme last year who is still working on those challenges, you can still get your badge and certificate when you have completed at least seven of those challenges. Just give your booklet

to your class teacher and they will pass it on to me. I will then get your certificate and badge back to you as soon as possible.

I would love to see any photos you have of yourself completing a challenge. I can put them on the website and we can celebrate together.

Happy Duking everyone!

Fruit Trees

We have been thinking of planting some fruit trees on our banking in school next to the field. If you would like to donate a tree please let us know. Thanks.

Children's University News

Firstly, just to let you know the scheme is available to **all children** at The Grove School. It's designed to encourage life-long learning and celebrates the efforts that children put into their extra-curricular learning. More information can be found at...

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/business-partners/partnerships/childrens-university>

Secondly, we appreciate that you may not be doing many of the activities that you were before COVID-19. Therefore, the scheme is being opened up to online learning activities too. To find out what **online activities** count and to get inspiration check out...

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/business-partners/partnerships/childrens-university/online-learning-resources>

or have a look on their facebook page...

<https://www.facebook.com/DevonChildUni/>

If you complete any activity, then just fill in your passport and we can always stamp it later. Once you hit one of the milestones (30, 65 or 100 hours), let Mr Gude (adriang@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk) know and he'll sort out your certificate.

Lastly, if you're waiting for a **graduation ceremony**, would you be interested in a Zoom-type graduation that would happen at school (which parents could watch from home) or would you prefer to wait for the proper ceremony at Plymouth University? The organisers are looking for feedback as to the various options so if you let Mr Gude know, he'll pass on your views.

PTA 1,000km Challenge – not far to go now!

I am now into what I am hoping will be the last week of this challenge as I now only have 125km to go! My after work rides are ending in the dark now, which is different, but strangely fun! I don't think I'd ever thought this far into this slightly nuts thing, but after 875km of exploring and 12,000m of climbing, I am sure that we are lucky to live in one of the best places to be in a lockdown. Once again, thank you so much for all of your support, it has been amazing ... and as ever you can see where I've been here - <https://www.strava.com/activities/4190781364> - and if you've been waiting to see if I'd make it this far - ha! - the fundraising page is here -

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-grove-pta-bikes-not-bakes-1000km-challenge>. Thanks again, Ian.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Adverts – please note that the school is neither recommending nor supporting the adverts below. If you wish to advertise in our newsletter then please contact the school for details.