



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: Summer 5

Telephone 01803 862018
20th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just a reminder that we will be closed for half term next week and this includes Monday 1st June. Term will start again on Tuesday 2nd June.

We have been working very hard on sensible plans to try to open the school to more children from 2nd June. As explained last week, this needs to be done by baby steps so that we can review each step and make adjustments to keep your children and our staff as safe as is currently possible. Tomorrow I will send to all parents the detailed plans of what our expectations are for 2nd June and I will also send out the risk assessment for you all to see. The governors all met yesterday with me and Mrs Wilkinson to go through the details and the staff at school have been busy trying to get the site ready to host more children. The guidance is changing on a daily basis (which is a challenge in itself) and probably will change again before 2nd June but we will stick to the plan, unless we tell you otherwise.

Thank you all for your emails about whether to return your children or not. Reading them all did make me quite emotional, and we were very grateful for your kind words and understanding about how difficult this time is for us currently. There were some questions which I haven't had time to reply to individually but if you have questions still arising after the parent letter and risk assessment comes out tomorrow then please do email me on head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

I do need to thank all the staff who have been caring for the key worker children - they are quite incredible and we will all be eternally grateful. Also all the staff who have also been working tirelessly supporting children with their learning and wellbeing throughout this tough time. And lastly to all of you, I know from experience it is not easy trying to both work full time from home and educate two children from different year groups. It has not been an easy challenge but, when you look at the silver linings (because every cloud has one), the time with our children has been precious.

I know that the staff all need a thoroughly deserved half term break, and you all do too! Please stay safe and keep your social distance, there are a lot of newcomers to the area and the R rate in the SW is the second highest in the country. Stay alert!!

Junior and Mini Dukes

Dear Junior and Mini Dukes,

I hope you are all safe and well. It is a very strange time isn't it. I thought I would let you know how the Junior and Mini Duke Award is going to work this year. Remember – you have 10 CHALLENGES to complete. To be awarded your badge, you need to have completed 7 of them really well. You can, of course, complete all 10! Due to the fact that most of you are not in school, you won't be able to have your Challenges signed off by a teacher. Hang on a minute – yes they can – you parents are your teachers at the moment and what a great job they are doing! If you would like to complete your challenge then please do so with your grown-ups at home and

let me know. I will then have your badge and certificate ready for you when we meet again. We will hopefully still hold an award ceremony but you will have to watch this space.....

Please let me know when you have completed your challenge at the email address below. I would also love to see some photos of what you have been doing!

Any questions, let me know. Helen Fernyhough

Keep safe and keep well.

Hilary Priest