



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Summer 7

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy week in school. The remaining Reception children (who have opted to come back) came back on Monday and we have been progressing to a full day for them. Year 1s started back today. We are making preparations for the Year 6s who have opted in to come back - hopefully next week (Year 6 parents will get a letter this week once we have seen how the Year 1s have managed). The school kitchen was able to begin opening this week also to provide school meals. The Chair of Governors and the governor with responsibility for an overview of Health and Safety were in on Monday to ensure that they agreed we were ready to start reintroducing more children.

Opening to more children means that all of our staff, who can be, are now back in school a lot more. We are determined to continue to provide the quality of teaching and learning online that the children are used to but you will find that the feedback may be a little less because staff are very busy in school. We are aware that Years 2,3,4 and 5 have now no option to return before the summer holidays and we are determined to keep online school to a high standard for these in particular and those who have opted not to return in Rec, Y1 and Y6.

We are nearly at capacity as a school within the Corona Virus Risk Assessment Plan and we will have to close the lists for children returning once we meet this. We are also at capacity for key worker children on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in particular so this will also be limited. Please note as a school we can only take children when both parents are key workers as we are now have no more staff available.

Blue Peter Badges and Chestnut Tree class

Just wanted to share some good news from our class- all the children have received their eco blue peter badges we worked for before lockdown when looking at recycling etc. They are all very proud. It took around 10 weeks after I posted them but it's cheered many of them up a little.

CALLING ALL RECEPTION CHILDREN – MINI DUKE AWARD

An exciting opportunity for your children! Many of you will know that at The Grove we run a project called Mini and Junior Duke. Mini and Junior Duke is an award system to encourage your children to become capable, independent children, learning lots of new skills and having lots of fun along the way. There are a series of 10 challenges for children to complete (mostly at home but some organised by school) throughout a year and at the end there is an award ceremony where children will receive a badge and certificate. This is for children from Year 1 – Year 6. The first level in Year 1 is Silver Mini Duke. The cost of this award is £10. I have been contacted by the founder of Junior Duke to say that a few parents have emailed her to ask if it is possible for their Reception children to start now – it may be something that you would like to start given the circumstances of lockdown. They are parents who have children in other year groups who are enjoying the challenges. If you would like to sign your **RECEPTION CHILD** up for the **Silver Mini Duke** challenge a little early and receive your booklet of information and challenges, please let me know by **FRIDAY 12th JUNE by emailing me**

at: helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk . Please can you deliver the £10 payment to The Grove School by Friday 12th June too.

There is obviously no pressure to sign up and your child will be invited to join us when they are in Year 1 in September. If you would like to take a look at some of the challenges that children have been involved in, take a look at the Mini and Junior Duke web page on the school website.

Keep safe and keep well.

Hilary Priest

A promotional banner for a 'Virtual Balloon Race' held on 3rd July 2020. The background features a close-up of several colorful balloons in shades of blue, purple, orange, and pink. A pink circular callout on the left states '£3 Per Balloon'. A white circular callout on the right lists the prizes: 'PRIZES INCLUDE: £500 Cash, Apple iPad, 10 winners of £10 Book Token'. At the bottom, the text 'Virtual Balloon Race' is written in large white letters, with '3rd July 2020' below it. On the right side of the bottom section, there is a logo for 'Animals in Distress' featuring a silhouette of a dog.

**£3
Per
Balloon**

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10 winners of £10
Book Token**

Virtual Balloon Race
3rd July 2020

Animals in Distress

here is the link to our balloon race page: <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/199>

New Service - Devon Family Advice Line

ECl will be launching a new phone advice line for parents and carers across Devon on Monday 1 June. The number for the new service is 01392 949059 and it will be manned from 10 – 2pm Monday to Friday. People will be able to leave a message outside of these hours, or when the operators are all busy.

It will offer advice on a specific issue around their children and their family relationships, including any communication issues or conflict they are having with their partners or co-parents of their children. It is not meant to be a replacement for more targeted work, but just a way to offer people a place to be heard and a few tips on how to deal with a particular situation or to signpost them to an organisation which may be able to help them.