



### Weekly Newsletter

[admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)  
<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>  
[www.facebook.com/thegroveschool](http://www.facebook.com/thegroveschool)

**Headteacher: Hilary Priest**  
**Newsletter No: Autumn 2**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**12<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter is overloaded with important information and dates, any questions please just ask and we will also do our best to remind you of any upcoming events as the school year progresses.

#### **Staff news**

With delight, we announce that Miss Clark's wedding happened over the summer. She is now Mrs Headley-Clark and we wish Sophie and Bob the happiest of marriages.

We have appointed two new TAs for the advertised posts. Miss Aitana Larregola-Adan is taking over from Jo Clark this week, Jo leaves us for new exciting adventures this Friday. Mrs Sally Hurrell is going to be working within Bay Tree Class alongside Mrs Boyacigiller.

We are shortlisting this week for the teaching positions we are currently advertising. We have been very pleased with the quality of applicants for all of our recent posts.

#### **The Golden Mile**

'The Golden Mile' is about encouraging children to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.' It is an initiative that encourages every pupil to get involved by walking, jogging or running around the field. The Golden Mile gets over 4200 children active per month and so far enough miles have been completed to travel around the world 253 times! We at The Grove are now going to do our bit!!

On Monday every child in school took part of the first stage of the Mile. Key stage 2 ran for 4 minutes and a Key stage 1 and Foundation ran for 3 minutes, they had to see how many laps they could complete in that time. The children will be able to add to their laps, when they reach their first 10 miles, they will receive a certificate. Over the year the miles will be added up, for each pupil and class. It will be exciting to see how many we can do!

#### **Surrounding Car Parks**

We believe that some of the car parks will be closed for re-surfacing work. Please be patient for spaces and please don't use private carparks belonging to our resident neighbours – it is the school that ends up getting the complaints.

#### **School Council**

The children in Key Stage 2 (years 3-6) will be voting for 2 school councillors in their classes this week. Our focus this term is to raise funds to train and buy a 'Reading dog' for the school! The cost is approximately £3,500 so the classes will have to come up with some creative and ingenious ideas to raise this amount. We like a challenge.

### **New Basket Ball After school club**

Premier Sport will be running a basket ball club after school on Mondays from 3.15 until 4.15. This new club is due to start on Monday next week and will run for 10 weeks. The fee is £3.00 a week, therefore £30.00 total. To sign up please see Rebecca.

### **Totnes Learning Community Sports Partnerships Dates**

Once again this year we will be supporting Totnes Learning Community Sports. Up and coming events are Basket ball competition on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, The Primary School Central Venue Football league on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September, Year 3-6 Cycling on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September and Year 3-6 Cross Country. Children will receive more details soon.

### **PTA News**

Over the summer we have been working hard to raise money for our school by opening our school car park. This has raised just under £1200! Thanks go to Rebecca, Jenni, Cherry, Karen and Kelly G for giving up their time to raise these much needed funds, we really appreciate it.

### **Thursday Bakes**

Our Thursday Bakes will be back **starting THIS Thursday 13th September with Willow and Bay tree class** taking the first turn to bake. Please look out for the baking rota posters that will be displayed in school. As usual, we would appreciate cake donations from the classes due to bake in the morning of the sale so we can set up before 3.10pm. Please also remember your money on Thursdays to buy the delicious cakes, located usually outside Acorn Tree Class.

### **PTA AGM**

Our AGM is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September in our School Hall at 7pm. If you are interested in joining our PTA please feel free to come and speak with either myself, Kellie Bishop or Jenni Rowe. All parents and friends of the Grove school are welcome to attend our AGM, we really need more help and support to keep our PTA going strong. We welcome fresh ideas and more hands really do make the job easier. One of the important things we will discuss at our AGM is how we spend the PTA money this academic year, so your input is really important. We decide this alongside Mrs Priest, taking into account what the school really needs.

### **Bag2school**

Look out for your Bags2School bag this week. Last time this it raised just under £200! All details of what can be included is printed on the bag, so get sorting! Our collection date is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September so all bags need to be in school by that date. Thank you for your support.

### **PE Kit and correct footwear**

All children need to have the correct PE kit here in school including trainers. Children will not be able to participate in PE lessons unless they have the correct kit.

### **Forest school**

Each class has forest school every week and will need their kit in schools. Please provide old clothes, wellies and waterproofs for your child – otherwise their uniforms will get wrecked as we will continue with the activity even if children haven't got their kit with them.

Acorn – Monday or Tuesday afternoon

Willow – Wednesdays

Beech – Fridays

Lime – Fridays

Gingko – Tuesdays

Chestnut – Mondays

Flame – Tuesdays

Bay – Wednesdays

Mountain Ash – Fridays

Guava – Wednesdays

### **Dates for your diary (These will also be on the website school calendar)**

24th September:	3:30 meeting with year 6 parents
29th October	Year 6 residential
19th November	parent consultations (3:30-6:00)
20th November	parent consultations (3:30 -6:00)
26th November	THEMED WEEK: - 'enrichment'
1st December	Christmas Fair
5th December	Y1/2 Christmas show
14th December	Rec Nativity (as their praise assembly)
20th December	KS2 Christmas show
21st December:	break for Christmas and Christmas party day
8th January:	First day of term (pupils)
4th March:	Parent consultations (3:30-6:00)
5th March:	Parent consultations (3:30 -6:00)
1st April:	THEMED WEEK: 'Lost in History'
4th &5th April	Year 5 residential
24th April	First day of term (pupils)
24th April	Decision making process starts for class splits 2019-20
13th May	Key Stage 2 SATS
11th June	Year 1 phonics screening
19th July:	Annual reports to parents
9th, 10th 11th July:	Reception Induction and push up sessions
17 July tbc	Year 6 production
12th July	Summer Fair
15th July:	THEMED WEEK: activity week –we are active!
18th July:	Sports Afternoon
23rd July:	Last day of term

### **Praise assemblies**

Each class has a praise assembly each term where they share their learning with their parents. You are welcome to attend your child's class praise assembly if you can make it.

Unless otherwise stated they are on Fridays at 2:45pm leading into pickup time. The front door will be opened at 2:30pm for you to take your seats before it begins. You are welcome to take photos and videos but we would very strictly request that none are shared on social media for the sake of all children's safety and privacy.

Lime – 28<sup>th</sup> September

Flame – 5<sup>th</sup> October

Ginkgo – 12<sup>th</sup> October

Chestnut – 19<sup>th</sup> October

Willow – 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Bay – 9<sup>th</sup> November

Beech – 16<sup>th</sup> November

Mountain Ash – 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Guava – 30<sup>th</sup> November

Acorn – will be presenting a Christmas Nativity at 2pm 14<sup>th</sup> December

### **The Grove School Home Learning (homework) Policy – for your information**

It is recommended by the Dept of Education that children do home learning in order to:

'develop a home-school partnership, extend school learning and consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding'.

Whilst as a school we will continue to set home learning and mark it regularly, parents are under no obligation to insist their children complete the tasks set but the staff would appreciate communication on this matter. No child will be penalised for not producing homework.

We feel that home learning is beneficial in helping to involve parents in their children's learning, promote family learning and benefit the children in consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding. The teachers feel that the tasks concentrate on activities which have been seen to benefit many children by completing them at home.

Please see the class website page for the variety of activities we recommend you do with your child to give them a strong foundation in their learning each half term.

Reading at home is CRUCIAL as children who don't read at home really do not progress as quickly as those who do.

Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception) – Reading five times a week and practising numeracy skills in everyday contexts – see Acorn webpage.

KSI (Years 1 and 2) –

Reading three times a week and see Willow, Lime and Beech webpages for activities.

KS2 (Years 3,4,5 and 6) – reading three times a week independently or to an adult, weekly spellings and 1 or 2 home-based activities which can be any subject and can link to the in-class topic work. Individual children's targets for Literacy and Maths will be sent home for parents to consolidate – see Chestnut, Gingko, Flame, Mountain Ash, Bay and Guava webpages.

Year 6 – will get SATs related activities to enjoy later on in the year.

#### General information

- Tasks will be designed to be a maximum of half an hour a week. In addition, reading to parents or independent reading is recommended daily.
- Some home learning may be project based and may be designed to last a number of weeks.
- Additional voluntary home learning will be available for children or parents who wish to have some extra consolidation work.
- Spellings may be tested but in context and when appropriate.
- In KS2 home learning will be discussed in school on Fridays and collected in on Wednesdays.
- Marking may come in the form of discussion – we do not expect teachers to write comments as quality discussions about learning have been proven as the most successful way of giving children feedback.

Reviewed Autumn 2018

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

**NEW** **Rushbrook's Yr 6 & 7 Youth Club**  *Free first time, £1 after*



**Tuesdays 6.30-8.30pm**



FREE WIFI + POOL + NERF DANCE + COOKING + WII & PS3 + SNACKS  
AVAILABLE TO BUY + PLAYING & RECORDING MUSIC + CIRCUS SKILLS + GAMES + ARTS & CRAFTS & MORE!



RUSHBROOK, STATION RD, TOTNES TQ9 5HW  
FOR MORE INFO 01803 849200, SIMON.ROBERTS@SPACE5M.ORG OR FIND 'RUSHBROOK YC' ON FACEBOOK

### **News from Totnes Young People's Theatre:**

This term 'Totnes Young People's Theatre' (TYPT) is offering drama workshops for children aged 6-16. All groups are working towards performances and now is a great time to get involved. TYPT is an award winning independent youth theatre based at Dartington. Please see our website [www.dartington.org/whats-on/typt](http://www.dartington.org/whats-on/typt) and/or contact [devontheatreclub@gmail.com](mailto:devontheatreclub@gmail.com)

### **Save the Date: September 21st Friday evening**

Pub Quiz Party @ Seven Stars

Pub quiz and then dancing to raise money for Year 6 Residential and charity too. Tickets on sale very soon. Do put this date in your diary as it will be a wonderful night.

Please note: THIS IS NOT A SCHOOL FUNDRAISING EVENT BUT A YEAR 6 PARENT INITIATIVE.

### **Library Needs your help**

The library needs your help! Do you have a skill or passion you can share? We are inviting our local community share their talents at the Totnes Library Fun Palace from 9am until 1pm on Saturday 6th October 2018! We need people to take part in a community skillshare to help the community learn something new and exciting. Fun Palaces is an ongoing campaign for cultural democracy, with an annual weekend of action every October. The campaign promotes culture at the heart of community and community at the heart of culture. Each Fun Palace celebrates the unique skills and passions of local people – run by, for and with the local community. If you can help please let us know asap by emailing [totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk) or phoning 01803 659945.

The Apricot Centre's next Farm Club sessions are available to book. We were totally booked for the last sessions, so please book your place to avoid disappointment. Our next term starts TUESDAY 18th September from 3:45- 5:45pm and runs for 5 sessions for the cost of £50 this is £5 per hour per session! It's looking to be a super busy time on the farm with lots to do! So if your child fancies - harvesting veg, caring for the animals, arts and crafts and a whole lot more then check out our website of details. To book your place visit our website. [www.apricotcentre.ticketease.co.uk](http://www.apricotcentre.ticketease.co.uk) or contact Rachel on [rachelphillips@apricotcentre.co.uk](mailto:rachelphillips@apricotcentre.co.uk) for more information.

#### **Parents Netball**

The parents netball night has started back! New (and old) parents are welcome to join us, some of us haven't played since we were at school but it's a great opportunity for some very good value fitness and fun. It's not competitive and all you need is a pair of trainers; no pre-existing experience or fitness is needed. Join us on Tuesday at 7pm at Keviccs school gym (around the back) for a free trial. For further information chat to Vikki Drew (in breakfast club).