



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Newsletter No: Summer 4**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**13th May 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hi everyone, we hope you are keeping well and safe at home. It's an interesting week for us considering how to partially reopen the school with the limited and controversial guidance we have been presented with. The governors and senior staff are discussing what possibilities might work in our setting to keep your children and our staff safe. This is not an easy puzzle to solve and Reception and Year 1 are possibly the most difficult at trying to maintain social distancing and personal hygiene!

The virus is still there and we are all still at risk so if you choose not to send your children back to school there will be no penalty. If your child or your family members are clinically or extremely vulnerable in medical terms they should not be in school once we do expand our capacity. The learning that will happen in school will be the same as set for the home learning. Hopefully this information will help guide your decisions as to your route forward.

Once we are clearer as to what we can offer we will let you know and we will be asking you whether you will be planning to send your children back into school so we can plan for numbers.

The guidance may of course change again as may the virus rates for our area - depending on travel into the SW and the change of government policy.

If you could reply promptly once this questionnaire comes out to you we will be grateful.

### **Key Worker Children**

The school will continue to provide childcare for all key worker children as we have done throughout this lockdown. I'm sure you are all with me and the governors in praising our amazing staff for all their energy and time supporting key worker children, and all children with their home learning.

### **New Policy**

Some usual business remains the same at school - the reviewing and creating of policies! Here is a link to a new policy 'Parent and Carer code of Conduct policy' which has been approved by the governing body to support our full school community. Please read.

[http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/parent\\_and\\_carer\\_code\\_of\\_conduct\\_policy/481687](http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/parent_and_carer_code_of_conduct_policy/481687)

### **Old Skills New Ways**

Raj has put together a wonderful website for the project and there is a stunning video of the exhibition that was supposed to take place but was cancelled due to Covid. You should see how they presented the children's work - it's beautiful. The school website has been updated with the videos and links. Have a look here

### **News from the Governors May 2020**

I hope everyone is keeping well and that you are coping with the current situation which is different for everyone. I know the staff have been working hard providing work for children at home and at school and is hard for parents and careers helping the children to do the work.

The governors are working differently at the moment – only having Full Governor meetings and not the sub-committees. We have had two meetings via video conferencing in the last fortnight.

Two weeks ago we had significant discussions around the budget for 20/21. The school has received an increased income this year, which we hoping to increase expenditure on resources, staff training and some on staff. We will however need to be flexible this year, as it is difficult to predict what the calls on our expenditure will be. We discussed how virtual teaching was progressing and were pleased to hear that most children are engaging in some way with the virtual learning. The numbers at school had been between 5 and 25 per day. We also checked up on safeguarding and had very early discussions on what would be involved about re-opening the school.

We had another meeting this Tuesday at which the main discussion was about how to respond to the government's announcement about some limited opening in June. The more detailed guidance to school only came out the previous evening, so no decisions have been made yet. The key issues will be to keep children and staff as safe as possible. Providing education for those in school and those at home at the same time will not be easy. The governors will be liaising regularly with the school over this period. The governors also reviewed some old policies and also agreed two new policies – a Pandemic Policy, and a Parent Code of Conduct Policy.

### **Year 6 Leavers Hoodies – email [kellie.bishop@sky.com](mailto:kellie.bishop@sky.com)**

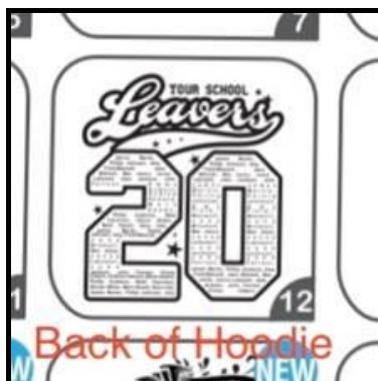
Just to say that I am happy to go ahead and order the hoodies for the children but I have been unable to do any fund-raising due to the lockdown! Therefore the hoodies cost will be emailed to you and the PTA will contribute £5.00 per child.

Sizes available are Child 9/11 years 32" chest, Child 12/13 years 34" chest, Small Adult 36" chest  
Medium Adult 40" chest.

Thank you to those who have already responded to my previous email, I have your details and will be in touch with how to pay me.

[Please email me the size needed and your child's name which will be printed on the back of the hoodie.](#)

Please can I have all of this no later than Friday 29th May. Once I have received an email from you, I will give you details of how to pay me and total cost. Any problems or concerns the please email me. The image below is the design of how the back of the hoodie will look.



**Keep safe and keep well. Hilary Priest**