



### Weekly Newsletter

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

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**16th September 2020**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **TA post full time in KS1 and KS2**

Having said our thank you and goodbye to Mrs Julie Twitty from Beech Tree Class in July we are now advertising for an experienced KSI Teaching Assistant for Thursdays and Fridays. We also need additional support on Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in KS2. The position would ideally start at the beginning of October. Previous experience is essential. We are a school that prides itself in safeguarding so good references, a good understanding of KCSiE, and a clean DBS is also essential. Please use our application form found on our website to apply. The post is a DCC C Grade, permanent position.

### **COVID 19 update**

Can we just make some small alterations to drop off and pick up times since everyone has become very efficient!  
On the field side:

Acorns (Reception) can arrive from 9am- 9:15am. Collection will be at 3:00pm

Lime, Beech and Dove (KS1) can arrive from 8:55-9:05am. Collection can be from 3:05-3:15pm

Ginkgo, Flame and Trumpet (Y5/6) can arrive from 8:50-9am. Collection can be from 3:10-3:15pm

On the front door:

Mountain Ash, Chestnut and Golden Cedar (Y3/4) can arrive from 8:50 -9:05am and can be collected as before at set class times of Chestnut 3:05pm, Golden Cedar 3:10pm and Mountain Ash 3:15pm

### **Home learning for individuals and bubbles**

Now that you all have your seesaw (Tapestry for Reception) codes we can ensure that children when they are not in school for reasons connected with Covid have learning posted for them. The learning will keep them in line with the rest of the class and this will be mainly Literacy and Maths based. Should we have to close a whole class bubble at any time then the whole curriculum will be posted over a two week period, covering the planned learning for that class.

Homework for all children will be posted on their class webpage – please do check this and ensure children have completed their homework by any deadlines set. The home work learning can then be posted back on seesaw from home for the teachers to see.

### **Mini and Juke Duke Reminder – Last day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

To encourage independence and self-motivation, this year, The Grove School is, once again, running the Award Scheme called the Junior Duke (KS2) and Mini Duke (KS1). This is aimed to be like a precursor to The Duke of Edinburgh challenge that your child may wish to take on in Secondary School.

There are four levels: in KS2; (Year 3) Bronze, (Year 4) Silver, (Year 5) Gold and (Year 6) Platinum. There are two levels in KS1; (Year 1) Silver and (Year 2) Gold. Each of these levels has ten challenges and, in order to complete a level, the children need to finish seven of these successfully. These include skills such as First Aid, ICT, Languages,

Art, Drama, Music, Sport and other life skills such as cookery and puncture repair. The children will be given many of the necessary skills in school, but most of the challenges will require some time and effort out with school.

On completion of a level, a certificate and a badge will be awarded at assembly. All children who complete the Platinum level will receive his or her badge at assembly as soon as they have completed his or her Award, but their certificates will be awarded at a special ceremony near the end of the academic year.

There is a £12.50 charge each year to cover the cost of the booklet, certificate, badges and postage.

Your child will receive a letter with a form to fill in if they wish to take part. The form and money will need to be returned to Rebecca by Friday 18th September. Please look out for the letter. It would be amazing to have as many Grove children take part as possible; the benefits to your child will be huge.

### **Class pets**

As most of you know, we have a school reading dog called Lola. Because of isolating bubbles she can't roam between classes currently so is based in Flame Tree Class. Some of the other class teachers were keen on having a pet so we do have some hamsters appearing shortly! Initially these will be in Acorn, Dove, Chestnut and Mountain Ash. Hamsters are very gentle creatures and once trained to be handled they don't tend to nibble fingers! In the early days, we will try to settle them in with not too much nibbling! It will be each child's choice whether to handle them.

### **Bikes not bakes - 1,000km half term challenge**

As Emily mentioned last week, I have set myself the challenge of cycling 1,000km this half term (2nd Sept to 23rd Oct). I am not just doing this for fun(!), I would love to put the efforts towards raising some money for the PTA which goes to benefit all of the children. With the bake sales that we all love not currently possible at the moment, and other fundraising hampered, it would be great if you feel able to divert some of the cake money into supporting me in this challenge.

I am two weeks in and have done 255km out of 1,000km, so am a quarter of the way there! I have just set up fundraising page - <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-grove-pta-bikes-not-bakes-1000km-challenge> - if you do feel able to donate. It would mean a lot to the PTA and would really spur me on as the nights and weather draw in!

Oh, and you can see my rides on strava to prove I am actually doing it

- <https://www.strava.com/athletes/39489617> - !

Thank you, Ian Stewart.

### **PTA Update**

Fundraising Meeting:

Welcome to the new parents/carers at the school. We would warmly welcome you to join the PTA, either as a member or as a "helper". Please email Emily Rowley and we can get you added to the group: [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

We have a Zoom PTA meeting scheduled for next Wednesday 23rd September at 1930. This is a great opportunity for old and new to find out a little bit more about us and be a part of the PTA and fundraising efforts for the school. These are the login details:

Topic: PTA Fundraising ideas and updates

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3855664118?pwd=eWxxMElTThtL3lZRytzUnhQYkNSZz09>

Meeting ID: 385 566 4118

Passcode: 8Cs2OC

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.

### **125 mile run, 3 days, one man!**

On Saturday morning please will you join Young Devon on Totnes High Street to cheer on a totally epic fundraiser, Ollie Jackman, who is running 125 miles in 3 days from North to South Devon, hoping to raise £5000 for the charity.

Ollie will be nearing his 100th mile as he runs down Totnes High Street so he will need as much support as possible. All I'm asking is a cheer and a wave...and your charitable deed will be done for the day!

I'm going to position myself next to Mangetout cafe and may even come bearing balloons and flags so either come and see me **from 8.30am** or just find a spot along the street (from White Stuff down to the Seven Stars). Ollie will run up Castle street and turn down on to the High street **just before 9am**.

Ollie is a huge supporter of the charity and passionate about the 2000 young people that Young Devon works with in Totnes and it's 23 other locations across Devon. For our own children he is a role model and an inspiration. He is not on the pages of a book...he is a real life Devonian hero!

He will be setting off on Thursday morning from Countisbury Point in North Devon and will arrive in East Prawle Saturday afternoon. Ollie's live progress can be followed on gps via the Young Devon Instagram or Facebook <https://instagram.com/youngdevonofficial?igshid=11ietxnazgeft>

NB. This event does not fall under the permitted government guidelines of being able to gather in a large group so please ensure that you socially distance and do not group up in more than that magic number of SIX!!!

Contact me 07989 586547 if you need any other info. Thanks so much in advance.  
Caroline (Ruby and Rebecca's mum).

### **Free Fish Tank**

Does anyone want a small fish tank with lights but no pump. Perfect for fish or stick insects or small reptiles.  
Leave a message with Rebecca to pass onto Fiona Kendall (Lime Tree class)