



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Spring 1

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3rd January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,
Happy New Year everyone!

School holidays

Please take a look at the school holidays for this year and note that we have 2 weeks off in May/June.

http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/term_dates_and_school_opening_times/256123

The governors sought opinions a few years back and the returns were mixed with many preferring the time here rather than on the long summer holiday. They also looked at all the local schools and whilst all schools use a Devon basic suggested term date calendar, all schools add their own staff training days and 2 extra days to make up the 190 school days for children each year. So as all schools differ quite a lot they couldn't even go for an 'area-plan'. Ultimately they decided that a compromise would work and we would alternate every 2 years with the 2 weeks off at half term and the longer summer term. This is one of those years and whilst we do appreciate it doesn't suit everybody it is a great opportunity to access those cheaper family holidays to avoid having to take time off in the school year.

We have also just released dates for 24-25 so please find these on the website link too. These are quite different from this year's so make sure you look – Easter is late so it throws off the whole year.

Come Dine with Me and New Menu for January 2024

For the New Year we will be running Come Dine With Me again for parents to come in and have school lunch with their children for £2.50 an adult. If you would like to book then please do this with Rebecca (or Sarah on Wednesdays). The new menu is now available for you to choose from. Come Dine with me lunches will be served at 12 midday no matter what year groups your children are in.

New starters for Reception 2024

Just a reminder that if you have children who turn 4 before 31st August you need to apply for a school place for Reception by 15th January. Here's the link:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/>

Clubs list

We are gathering information from our clubs providers and will email with the clubs lists asap.

Year 6 fundraising bake sales

What better way to start a new year than with cakes! The Year 6 children have begun fundraising (at the Christmas fair and a few other things) to self-fund their leaver's party, yearbooks and hoodies etc in July.

Next up are some resolution busting bake/cake sales after school this half term, the first being run by Ginkgo class next Thursday 11th January. So, a date for your diaries ... fellow Ginkgo parents I'll use the party WhatsApp group to make sure we have some bakes! Thank you for your support, Ian (Archie's dad).

Dates for your diary this term

<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/calendar/256154>

New Year dates

Willow Tree class swimming – Monday 8th January for 5 weeks – On ParentPay
Years 1 and 2 to Plymouth – Tuesday 16th and 17th January 2024

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 detail.