



# THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

**Don't have time to read all the newsletter?**

**Here are the essentials in summary:**

- ☺ Mrs Priest update
- ☺ Earthcare news
- ☺ Early Years teaching assistant required
- ☺ Book donation request for Early Years
- ☺ We are looking for new governors

**More info on all these below or ask at the front desk**



## **Mrs Priest update**

We had some good news in the Easter holidays from the surgeon to say they had successfully removed all the cancer and there is no need for chemotherapy. Some radiotherapy and hormone treatment is still needed but all is positive. Mrs Priest is back, mostly full time, although there seem to be still lots of appointments at the hospital! Many thanks for the beautiful welcome back flowers received – it was a very kind thought and much appreciated.



### **Exciting Earthcare communication from Mr Monro:**

As part of the Grove School's Earthcare Curriculum – our commitment to nurture children's connection with the natural world - we are excited to trial a new way for our school community to share and celebrate the wonders of nature.

We are launching a school Instagram account which will act as a virtual "nature shelf." The idea is to create a safe online space where children can post photos of interesting nature finds—whether that's a feather, a seed pod, or a close encounter with a minibeast! It aims to extend classroom learning into family life and strength our sense of community.

We know that families will have a range of views about social media, and we want to reassure you of the following:

- The account will be private and accessible only to the Grove school community.
- There is absolutely no obligation to follow or take part.
- No child will appear on the account without parental permission. Contributions can be anonymous, or (with permission) posted with the child's first name.

The Earthcare account will be managed by Mr Monro. If you would like to join, simply request to follow @grove-earthcare on Instagram, including the name and class your child is in. You are welcome to browse quietly, contribute regularly, or dip in and out—whatever feels right for your family.

Alongside the Earthcare account, the school is also considering a more general Instagram account to support communication with families—for example, sharing reminders or celebrating school events, and offering a window into day-to-day learning. Before making any decisions (and knowing that we won't be able to please everybody!), we would really value your thoughts on whether this would be helpful, appropriate, or something you would prefer us not to pursue.

We look forward to hearing your feedback and to sharing the small wonders of the natural world together.

Contact: [kmonro@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:kmonro@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)



### **Early Years teaching assistant required.**

Ali Priest has decided it is the right time for her to retire from her long career in education, first as a teacher and then with us as a Teaching Assistant. She has lots of exciting plans and will leave after the May/June half term.

This leaves us looking for an Early Years specialist teaching assistant to replace this full time role in Reception and Nursery, preferably in June but definitely for September. Please get in touch if you may be interested, or if you know someone who would be perfect as we will be advertising soon.

Contact [head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

### **Book Donations for Early Years**

We are looking to add to our collection of recommended nursery key texts. If you have any books from the list below that you would be willing to donate, we would be so grateful! Thank you.

Home is a Nest	Poppy and Sam's Complete Book of Farmyard Tales
Is It a Seed	There's Nothing Faster Than a Cheetah
Animal Crackers	The Tiger He Came to Tea
Mama's Sleeping Scarf	Not Now Bernard
Knock Knock Superhero	Runaway Cone
Oi Dinosaurs	Dottie Doughnut
The Bear and the Hair and the Fair	Blue Monster
There's a Bear on My Chair	The Circular Square
Ready For Spaghetti	Oh Carrots
Shark in the Park	All Are Welcome
Measuring Me	Someone Just Like You
Twirly Wiggly Dance	The Dolls House
Aqua Boy	Kindness Makes Us Strong
Rosa Explores Life Cycles	A Hat Full of Sea
Bees Bad Day	A Moment in Nature
I Really Really Love You So	Building a Home
Two People Can	Mae Jemison
The Camel Who Had a Hump	The Rabbit the Dark and the Biscuit Tin
One in a Million	The Runaway Train
Annabelle and Flower	Lulu's First Day
The Biggest Breakfast	My Very Important Human Body Encyclopedia



### **Fancy Getting Involved? We're Looking for New Governors!!**

We have two governor vacancies at The Grove and we'd love to hear from anyone interested in getting involved.

Parent Governor — open to any parent or carer with a child at the school. Parent governors are elected by fellow parents.

Local Authority Governor — this role is open to anyone with a connection to the school or local community but we would particularly welcome interest from people outside the school's parent body.

No special qualifications are needed. What matters is that you care about our school and want to help it be the best it can be. Full training and support are provided, and meetings typically take place once or twice a term. Governors help set the school's direction, support the headteacher and staff, and make sure resources are used well. It's a voluntary role and genuinely rewarding — you'll be making a real difference to every child at The Grove.

**Interested? Have questions? Drop me an email at [chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk).**

**The closing date for nominations is Wednesday 30th April.**

**Ian Stewart, Chair of Governor**

### **Lost property**

2 JD Bug scooters were left outside Firefly recently, the shop owner has kindly let us know in case they were left by Grovers.



### **PTA NEWS**

Please put these dates in your diary and watch this space for further information!

### **PTA dates for your diary**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Father's Day order forms home

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Father's Day order forms back

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Mufti for sweets (Sweets cones for Summer Fair)



**Remember - if you are up for helping with any event, please let us know by emailing [jennir@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:jennir@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)**



### **Cake Sale**

This Friday on the field is Juniper's turn to bake.

Next Friday – Lime Tree

### **Caravan**

The caravan is finished and will be ready for the children to use from Monday.

A massive thank you to everyone who has helped to make this happen!



### **The Grove School PTA Facebook Page**

The Grove School PTA Facebook Page will also keep you up to date on events - e.g. discos, fundraisers, bake sales etc.

### **Dates for your diary this term** <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/calendar/256154>

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 trip to Woodlands

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Reception trip to Paignton Zoo

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Last day of term

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Back to school

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.*

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Big thanks to all who attended our Easter holiday clubs.

We'll be back for both weeks of May half term and look forward to seeing you then!

<https://kalscope.co.uk/>

# SPANISH CLUB at The Grove School



Learn Spanish through songs, games, role play and fun activities

**THURSDAY 3:15pm-4:15pm**

**for year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6**

**Cost: £33.00 per child, per month**

**Free access to 250+ online games**

**Only 3 spaces available**



**Summer term starts 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

**[patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk](mailto:patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk) To book a space please visit  
[www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/teignbridge-s-hams-torbay/](http://www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/teignbridge-s-hams-torbay/)**



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# ARGYLE FOOTBALL CAMPS

MAY HALF TERM

SOUTH DEVON 2026

9.30am - 3.30pm | boys & girls all abilities aged 6 - 14



Devon FA, Newton abbot

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May

kingsbridge community college

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May

LIMITED TIME SPECIAL PRICE OF £10  
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For more info email  
[Ben.Thompson@paafc.co.uk](mailto:Ben.Thompson@paafc.co.uk)

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