



Weekly Newsletter

admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>
www.facebook.com/thegroveschool

Headteacher: Hilary Priest
Newsletter No: Autumn 1

Telephone 01803 862018
7th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. The children really have settled well and it is lovely to have the school filled with smiley children! Please make sure you make use of our school website for information about term dates, events, class pages, learning, parent information etc etc. <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web>

What is happening this week and next

Some of our Year 6's are completing the bikeability course Level 1 and 2 and Mountain Ash are swimming next Monday for 4 weeks (letters went out yesterday).

Some staff news

Year 3/4 Beech Tree Class: Mrs Cathy Bingham has decided to retire at Christmas after a long and fruitful career in teaching. She has young Grandchildren and understandably wants to spend more time with them. Because of this we felt that a replacement sooner than later would be better for the children so Mrs Shanaz John will be their class teacher all year from today. The Year 4's already know her of course and the children were all very comfortable with the change when we explained to them this morning. On top of this Mrs Kellie Bishop, the class Teaching Assistant, also let me know that she has been offered a job as a community midwife support and she will be leaving us early in October. So, in light of this, we have put Ms El Pringle in to class from today to work alongside her and take her role when she leaves. Again the Year 4's already know El as she volunteered with us last year.

Reception Class: Mrs Bingham will be finishing out her last term in Reception and so replacing Mrs John. Mrs Sarah Alford will now be based in Year 1 and 2 rather than in Reception to replace the move of El Pringle to Beech.

PPA cover: Each week teachers have time out of their classrooms for planning, preparation and assessment. This will be covered by Ms Lowenna Sharpe in Dove, Chestnut, Mountain Ash, Beech, Trumpet and Ginkgo Tree classes so your children may mention her too! Mrs Karen Jarvis will cover PPA in Willow and Reception and will occasionally cover some other classes too. In Lime and Flame the teachers take their PPA time out of school as these are job share roles so these aren't affected by PPA.

After school clubs this term

We have managed to arrange some exciting after school clubs for the children. These aren't being run as a school but through external providers who we are letting use our premises so there is a small cost and all contact and payment is to be made direct with the provider. You will need to contact them direct if you wish your child to join the club and make sure they have your contact details.

Allergy Aware School

We are not a nut-free school but aim to manage allergies through education and awareness so that children become able to manage all allergies for themselves or others in school and then in the outside world. Please note that all classes contain children with food allergies and children should never share food that has been brought from home. We really appreciate your support in being an 'Allergy Aware School' and helping us in the process of educating the children in this. Please let us know if your child has an allergy that we need to be aware of.

Absences from school

If your child is ill, then please ensure the school knows as early as possible by emailing or calling. The school need to know what symptoms your child has. COVID should no longer keep children away from school unless they personally are unwell. The guidance is that all children should attend school, even if COVID is in their household.

Children should not be kept off school for mild concerns such as tiredness, headache or tummy ache and not every illness needs to keep your child from school. Evidence needs to be supplied if children have 5 days of illness or if your child's attendance is 96% or below.

A copy of our attendance policy can be found on our website <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web>

The school is unable to authorise holidays following government guidance but if you want your child to have time off school then you must fill in a form (S2 Absence Request Form) which can be collected from reception. Each term the Education Welfare Officer reviews the percentage of absences your child has had.

Forgotten items and messages for children

Please could all parents and carers try to remember to give their children all that they need for the day, this includes water bottles, snacks, lunch boxes, bookbags, coats, PE kits, Forest School Kit, music books, musical instruments, homework and after school snacks (all named please).

LABELS, LABELS, LABELS!! PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING THAT YOUR CHILD BRINGS INTO SCHOOL!!
You wouldn't believe how much lost property we have!

Please tell your children in the morning at drop off who will be picking up your children at the end of the day (or for the younger children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 then you must also tell staff on the field/ front of school to authorise this collection)

We try to keep office interruptions to a minimum as forgotten items have to be taken to the children in their class which takes time but also interrupts their learning.

Late Children in the morning and late parents picking up

We are required to monitor children's punctuality and attendance. On-going lateness (after the class register has been taken) is classified as an unauthorised absence and this is contrary to The Education Act.

All late children need to be signed in by the parent that is bringing them to school.

If you are experiencing difficulties with punctuality and would like to talk to us please come and make an appointment.

Medications in school

Please could we remind all parents with children that have or need medications on site i.e. inhalers, epipens, antihistamines that these are all checked that they are still in date. Please also inform us about any updates to the health care plans.

Mini and Juke Duke

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 £12.00 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 Wednesday 14th 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.

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.

LAST POOL PARTY EVER

A celebration of the last 46 years of our much loved community run pool.

Music, games, face painting, circus skills, celebratory drinks, cakes and lots more!

...well until we can secure planning permission and raise funds for a big refurbishment to replace the tired liner, heat the pool and make it more accessible.

Dartington Swimming Pool
Saturday 10th September
3.30-6.30

Family ROLLER DISCO

10TH SEPTEMBER
15TH OCTOBER
12TH NOVEMBER
10TH DECEMBER

Book via the centre app/website.
50 places available in each age group.
Roller Skates are provided or you can bring your own.

1.00PM - 2.30PM
Families with children up to 12yrs
2.45PM - 4.15PM
Families with children 13yrs +

£2.50 PER HEAD

DON'T MISS OUT
BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY

TOTNES LEISURE CENTRE
Borough Park Road, Totnes, TQ9 5XW
totnesleisurecentre.com
T: 01803 862992

TADPOOL
fusion



THE LIONESS WORKSHOP

ROYAL SEVEN STARS TOTNES
ASSEMBLY ROOM

Empowering Mothers to
be strong for themselves
and their Cubs whatever
their age!

Price: £20 or £15 TLN members
To book contact: #07983898701/
helloTLN@protonmail.com



MONDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

11am-1pm



2016-21-16