



### Weekly Newsletter

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<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>  
[www.facebook.com/thegroveschool](https://www.facebook.com/thegroveschool)

**Headteacher: Hilary Priest**  
**Newsletter No: Autumn 8**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**1<sup>st</sup> November 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

**MUFTI DAY ON FRIDAY.** The PTA will be having a **Mufti day**, please bring in your leftover Halloween goodies or other sweets to be made into sweetie cones to sell at the Christmas Fair. Wrapped sweets if possible please. The theme could be Halloween or Guy Fawkes if you need inspiration – if not they can just wear what they like. We appreciate that sweets don't really fit with our healthy eating policy but these will be sold as a special occasional treat at the fair.

### **What's been happening this week and next**

The vaccination team will be here tomorrow morning administering the nasal Flu vaccination to all children that have consented through the link. On Monday some Year 5's will be taking part in the Bikeability course being held here. Level 1 is learning to ride a bike in a traffic-free environment (2 hour course) and Level 2 is learning to ride on quiet roads - passing parked cars, passing junctions, turns from major to minor roads and vice versa. The main focuses are on observation, road position, communication and knowing road priorities.

### **Parent Consults next week**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November will be all classes face to face in school hall 3pm until 6pm

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm for Trumpet Tree, Ginkgo, Mountain Ash and Lilac

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November will be online (Teams) 3pm until 5pm for Robins, Treecreepers

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm Lime Tree, Dove Tree, Juniper Tree and Willow Tree

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm for Flame Tree class

Teams invitations will be sent out either the day before or in the morning of the day. The invite will be sent to only one parent in the group so please forward this to the other person taking part. There will be a Teams waiting room system.

### **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

Poppies are now available at reception for a donation. There is also lots of other Poppy Appeal goodies for sale, (prices up to £1) to raise money for the Royal British Legion. If your child would like to buy an item please send them in with money for the collection box.

## **Message from Foodbank**

**Seriously WOW!** 🤩👍😊

Liz and Michael delivered **The Grove School's Harvest donation** today and it just kept coming and coming by the trolley load! Thanks to everyone who donated towards this wonderful gift! **The Grove School** and everyone who has donated this season has exceeded all of our expectations and we thank each and everyone one of you! You are making a difference in people's lives right here in your community. **WELL DONE!** ❤️👍❤️



## **Parent/Carer survey results and actions**

Thanks again to everyone who completed the survey at the end of last year. A summary of the results is attached alongside this newsletter. We have discussed these results as a governing board with Hilary and Helen, and have a working group to plan the next steps. The main response will be to invite more feedback, to dig deeper and work together as a whole school community on any concerns, misconceptions and of course, to celebrate successes.

The first areas in focus will be lines of communication between the school, parents and the wider community, and also PE/extra curricular opportunities, so please do look out for more on this from Hilary and Helen throughout this school year and get involved in whatever way you can. You will also have seen in last week's newsletter that there is a meeting on 17th November at 9am to discuss how the parent community can help shape the experiences of our children in relation to cultural diversity.

As ever, if you have any questions/observations on the survey let me know via [chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk). I will also be in the hall on 6th November during the parent consultations if you want to have a chat about this or anything else.

Thank you!

Ian

## **PTA Update**

### **Grove Christmas Fair - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10am-1pm**

Planning for this year's Christmas Fair is already under way and as always, we need our fantastic parent volunteers! Have you got an hour to spare to help make this fun event run smoothly? Please email [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk) if you can help. To keep costs and environmental impact low, we ask our Grove families to donate unwanted toys as prizes for the Fair. Please have a clear out and send in any outgrown or unloved toys and games. We would like anything, from teddy bears and board games, down to small bits of party bag loot.

### **PTA XMAS CARDS, GREETINGS CARDS, THANK YOU CARDS & BIRTHDAY CARDS – Deadline Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November to allow for printing**

Once again we are offering you the chance to design your own cards at home. You can get the whole family involved or offer any younger siblings the chance to design their own cards. The more the merrier! The cards will come in packs of 10 and will cost £6.00 per pack. **If you pay by cheque please make payable to Devon County Council.** Don't forget to ask the grandparents if they would like to order some too! All profits will go to the PTA to support the children's learning experiences. If you need any additional information please email [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk).

The form along with more information is attached to this email. If you do not have a printer and would like a copy then please collect one from Rebecca. Alternatively you can make the card in the holidays and then pick up a form when we return to school.

### **PTA Facebook Page:**

Did you know the Grove PTA have a Facebook page? It has lots of handy information and reminders about upcoming events. Search for 'The Grove School PTA', and when you join up as a member please add a note saying what your connection with the school is.

### **Message from Devon County Council Admissions team**

#### **Admissions policy for 2025-26: Annual Consultation**

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2025-26. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposals which are based on policies for this year and next year and have your say.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page on [http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/admissions\\_to\\_our\\_school/270698](http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/admissions_to_our_school/270698) and you can see all policies

at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>. Further information is here: [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements)

The consultation runs until 12 January 2024. Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March next year. You can comment at [schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk) or by emailing the school at [admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

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

Year 5 Bikeability – Weeks commencing 6<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> November

Parent Consultations – Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> November - The Monday will be face to face and then online the rest of the week

Christmas Card deadline – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10am until 1pm

Reception Nativity – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15

Lilac Tree Christmas performance – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December time tbc

Dove Tree Christmas performance – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December time tbc

Lime Tree Christmas performance – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December time tbc


Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance at KEVICC - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December - 2 performances  
(Rehearsal all day at Kevicc day before)

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.



SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER, 10AM-4PM,  
THE ANGEL HALL @ BOWDEN HOUSE

**“SANCTUARY FOR  
THE SOUL”**

*A full day retreat for mothers seeking  
solace and connection at a time when it's  
needed the most*

*Only 12 spaces available*

*To book visit  
[www.theflourishingmother.com/events](http://www.theflourishingmother.com/events) or contact  
[belinda@theflourishingmother.com](mailto:belinda@theflourishingmother.com)*

### **Be a Chorister for a Day**

is a free Chorister open day for children currently in Years 2 – 5 who enjoy singing. It is a great chance for young people to be encouraged and coached by professional musicians in an inspirational setting. The children will have a great time with the current Choristers, rehearsing and then singing with them in the Cathedral. In addition they will have a special opportunity to take part in the Christingle Service at 4pm. They will hear all about the Choristers' daily routine, radio and television broadcasts, recordings and tours, and have the opportunity to ask lots of questions.

No previous experience is required; all are welcome to attend this free day of discovery and information.

FREE  ALL WELCOME



Totnes Carnival in partnership  
with Totnes Climate Hub  
Lantern Making Workshop  
at The Mansion Art Room  
Studio 1  
Saturday 4th November  
PROCESSION 2pm-4pm  
1st 4pm AND  
Tuesday 14th November  
Retroford 6pm-8pm

For more information email  
[veritynewman77@gmail.com](mailto:veritynewman77@gmail.com)

# TOTNES CARNIVAL

LANTERN PROCESSION  
TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER 4PM  
STARTING AT THE ROTHERFOLD



ALL WELCOME TO JOIN





JOIN US FOR THE  
**CHRISTMAS  
LIGHTS SWITCH ON**

**TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 3PM-6PM**  
TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON AT 5:30PM

**CIVIC HALL AND MARKET SQUARE**

**Free Entertainment and Crafts**

**Inflatable Snow Globe  
Elfic the Jester  
Kids Christmas Crafts  
Stilt Walkers  
Carol Singing  
Brass Band  
Make a lantern  
Bring your letter for Santa**

**Pizza £1 per slice**

**Free Bob the Bus service 4pm - 7pm between  
Bridgetown Spar -The Market Square - Follaton  
Stores**

**For more information and bus times look here:  
[www.totnestowncouncil.gov.uk/](http://www.totnestowncouncil.gov.uk/)  
or contact Lisa at [mayor@totnestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@totnestowncouncil.gov.uk)**

