



Weekly Newsletter

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Headteacher: Hilary Priest
Newsletter No: Autumn 6

Telephone 01803 862018
11th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last day of this half term is Friday 20th October and first day back is Monday 30th October

What's been happening this week and next

Sports: Dartmoor School Sports Partnership held the Year 3-6 Cross Country Running Competitive Event at Stover School, Newton Abbot. Congratulations to all 17 children involved – it was a very competitive large event and our children did really well completing the long route. Many thanks as always to the parents who take theirs and other children to these events- if you are not able to transport your child to one of these events and feel they would like to attend then please ask and we will try to match you up with another parent or staff member to arrange transport. We wouldn't like anyone to miss out because of the lack of transport.

Sports: The Year 6's will be attending the Junior Life Skills event tomorrow at the Pavilions in Totnes.

Reminder: Also tomorrow Tempest Photography will be here to take individual photos and sibling photos. They will set up at 8.15 in the studio. Sibling group photos will be taken between 8.15 and 9am and will be on a first come first served basis. (Siblings meaning children that are not attending school i.e. pre-school, nursery and babies).

Sports and Outdoor education: On Monday the Year 6's will be going on their annual Residential to Okehampton Adventure for the week.

Sports: The Dartmoor School Sports Partnership are holding the Year 3 and 4 Bee Netball Competitive Event at Stover School, Newton Abbot after school on Monday

Please note dates at the bottom of the newsletter,

School security

You may have heard that two children left the school premises on Monday. We were aware very quickly that they had left the premises and identified who it was through the registers and with the help of our kind community they were quickly brought back to school.

Access points to the school are not permitted to be locked from the inside, and the push buttons to exit have to be at wheelchair access height. This does introduce an element of risk, and in response we will be conducting a Governor lead review into this incident, our procedures and access points. This is something which is in part already underway, as we have already this term engaged a local firm to help us improve our entry and exit doorways. We will also ensure we have an increased staff presence at the rear gate.

We do trust the children not to put themselves in this situation and monitor this carefully, but will address this subject with them directly through class and assembly discussions, and would ask that you also have a conversation with your children.

Thank you for your support in this matter.
Hilary Priest (Headteacher) and Ian Stewart (Chair of Governors)

OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL

We are the new school council. We would like to introduce ourselves and let you know what our plans are for this term.

These are the different team members.

RESEARCHERS: Aggy and Hazel

ACTION TEAM: Ralph, Kelly and Albert

PRESS RELEASE: Ayra, Sofia and Ava

We are all very passionate about helping others. Our focus this term is to make wonderful links with our community. We already have lots of ideas ourselves. Our research team are currently busy finding out about what other schools do. The research team will be asking all the children of The Grove about their ideas. We will then run a vote and the Action Team will organise various events that have been chosen. If you have any ideas, please email helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Watch this space – the press release team will be contributing regularly to the newsletter to keep you updated about the fantastic projects taking place at our school.

Harvest – Next Thursday 19th October

It is at this time of year that we think about harvest in school and talk to the children about how lucky we are to have food, clothing and family support, as well as thinking about those who are less fortunate. After talking to the children in singing assembly last week, they felt they would like to collect some donations for the local food bank. If you would like to contribute, please send in a food donation on **Thursday 19th October**.

All food will be donated to Stepping Stones Totnes CiC Foodbank. Please see a list of items below that local foodbanks often run low on and consider donating something from the list – they have plenty of baked beans! Thank you.

In-date Items such as:

Tinned fruit, Tinned soup, Tinned meat, Tinned ham, Tinned potatoes

Tinned tomatoes, Stock cubes/pots, Pot noodles, Mayonnaise, Pasta sauces, Cooking sauces, Pasta packets (microwavable), Cup-a-soups, Gravy granules, Instant mash, Cooking Oil, Powdered milk, Long life milk, Sugar 500g, Long life fruit juice (cartons)

Tea, Coffee, Tinned rice pudding, Jam, Biscuits, Chocolate, Any toiletries and cleaning products for example: Hair shampoo, Toilet rolls, Shower gel

Washing up liquid, Washing powder, Flash (or similar products)

Nasal Flu Vaccination – Thursday 2nd November

Yesterday we emailed out the link to everyone to consent or decline the nasal flu vaccination.

The team are due to visit the school on 2nd November 2023. In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following link <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> PLEASE ENSURE YOU ENTER THE FULL UNIQUE SCHOOL REFERENCE CODE. The code for your child's school is: DV113234 Please submit your consent form by midday 31st October 2023.

Parent –teacher consultations

This will start week commencing Monday 6th November. The Monday will be face to face and then online for the rest of the week. More information and how to book instructions will be emailed out week commencing 30th October.

Parent governor vacancy closes today

We have a vacancy on the governing board for a parent governor. Being a governor is an opportunity to help the school continue to be a place where our children can flourish, and become a key part of the community. *There is more information in the letter attached alongside this newsletter, and also a nomination form if you would like to put yourself forward, to be completed by today.* If you'd like more information in a less formal way, please drop me an email via chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk or find me for a chat at drop-off/pick-up. Thank you! Ian.

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

Tempest Photos Individual and siblings – Thursday 12th October

Year 6 Junior Life Skills - Thursday 12th October

Year 6 Residential to Okehampton Adventure – Monday 16th October 4 nights

Food donations for Totnes Food bank – Thursday 19th October

Half term – Monday 23rd October

First day back – Monday 30th October

Nasal Flu Vaccination – Thursday 2nd November

Year 5 Bikeability – Weeks commencing 6th November and 13th November

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

Lilac Tree Christmas performance – Wednesday 6th December time tbc but around 2ish

Dove Tree Christmas performance – Thursday 7th December same time as above

Lime Tree Christmas performance – Friday 8th December same time as above

Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance - Tuesday 12th December

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.

For Sale

Large Syrian hamster cage and accessories, £30. Leave a message in Reception for Fiona Kendall (TA in yr 5/6) if interested.



RIVERSCHOOL

Where nature is the teacher & the river is our guide



HOLIDAY CLUB

24th - 27th October
from £40 per day

Sibling Rate / Benefits Price £40/day
Ofsted registered for universal credits.



Where
are
we?

9.30am to 4.30pm
from the
Quayside at
Stoke Gabriel

- Travel by Canoe to our woodland basecamp
- Experience Kayaks and Paddleboards
- Bushcraft
- Nature art and craft
- Raft building
- Archery
- Wild swimming
- Fishing
- Campfire cooking
- Story telling
- Wildlife and River care

Activities
may
include



TO BOOK:

www.canoeadventures.co.uk

Places are limited so please book early

RIVERSCHOOL

Our provision is delivered by Canoe Adventures Ltd, operating since 1999 with a proven, accredited safety track record.

We are a registered child care provider with Ofsted (Reg. No. 2731749).

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www.facebook.com/riverschool.org



Canoe
Adventures

