



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Today is a very long newsletter – please read to the end otherwise you might miss something important!!
Apologies – it's just there are so many exciting things happening!

MUFTI DAY ON FRIDAY

Friday 1st December will be a Christmas clothes mufti day and rather than donations of money, please bring in a donation of cakes and mince pies to sell the following day at the Christmas Fair! Both homemade and shop-bought cakes are very welcome.

Monday 4th December 3:30-5:00 Parents welcome into the classrooms

ANOTHER CHANCE TO KEEP IN TOUCH and try Marco's tasty mince pies!!

We really value time to catch up and share updates about children's well-being and progress at home and school with parents - come and natter with your children's teachers and enjoy a Marco-mince pie on Monday.

The Grove School Benevolent fund

We are very aware of the longevity of the financial crisis for us all and appreciate some families are really struggling to make ends meet. We would like to set up a benevolent fund pot in school for parents to dip into if they need help paying for school trips etc. If you would like to donate to this fund to help support others you can use Parentpay (you'll find it under 'view all payment items'). Once we have some money banked we can let parents know how to apply to use some of this money to support additional educational experiences. Many thanks in advance.

On this same subject the school are very happy to do a food bank referral for any families needing some additional support – if you would benefit from this then do let us know. We will be very discrete.

Marco's special school Christmas lunch - Thursday 14th December

We are planning our special school Christmas Lunch for Thursday 14th December. This will cost £2:50 for Key Stage Two children. Reception, Key Stage 1 and Free School Meals will be free BUT – EVERYONE MUST BOOK if they want a lunch so we can buy enough ingredients. Marco will be offering chicken as the meat option and the vegetarian option will be a delicious Cauliflower Cheese, both with all the trimmings - please state whether the vegetarian option is preferred, we will take all other known dietary needs into account automatically.

Please let Rebecca / Sarah know on the front desk asap.

If you are free that day and would like to offer a helping hand, please also let Rebecca know.

A BIG THANK YOU

We would all like to say a HUGE thank you to Craig Mienis for transforming our children's winning artwork into designs that represent OUR SCHOOL VALUES (DWP). Please find more details about this in this newsletter below and also on our website.

OUR GROVE SCHOOL VALUES

Since the beginning of this academic year, we have been working really hard on our school values.

Our values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy individuals.

Collaboratively, we chose 5 values. These are explained below.

Together, we are on an adventure that

has **LOVE, HAPPINESS, INDIVIDUALITY,**

COMMUNICATION and **LEARNING** at its

core.

LOVE

We are passionate about our core value: **LOVE**.

As a result:

"Our children are kind, trustworthy, honest, compassionate, loyal, respectful, empathetic, friendly and show gratitude."

HAPPINESS

We are passionate about our core value: **HAPPINESS**.

As a result:

"Our children are caring, friendly, positive, fun, supportive, optimistic, healthy, respectful, passionate and loving."

INDIVIDUALITY

We are passionate about our core value: **INDIVIDUALITY**.

As a result:

"Our children are ambitious, aware, inclusive, respectful, flexible, motivated and courageous"

COMMUNICATION

We are passionate about our core value: **COMMUNICATION**.

As a result:

"Our children are open, empathetic, honest, positive, thoughtful, fair, supportive, aware, flexible, collaborative and articulate."

LEARNING

We are passionate about our core value: **LEARNING**.

As a result:

"Our children are talented, ambitious, collaborative, nurturing, fun, creative, show perseverance, take responsibility, love fun and a challenge and fulfil their potential."

We ran a competition to create representations of our values. Here are the final winners. Jess M won the competition for LOVE; Matilda A won the competition for HAPPINESS; Sofia Ba won the competition for INDIVIDUALITY; Blossom C won the competition for COMMUNICATION; Bea P won the competition for LEARNING.



You will see these logos in various places – on our website, in our newsletter, on our walls and we have even had stickers made for the children which they will be awarded in assemblies.

Our values are part of everything we do. We will also be focussing on each value throughout the year to enhance children's understanding, learning and behaviours.

Our GROVE 100 scheme was also developed as a gift, ensuring that our children have at least 100 memorable experiences above and beyond the curriculum during their time at The Grove. This is recorded in a Passport Book which is given to the children on their last day in Year 6 as a memory of their primary school years. Find out more on our website.

If you feel you have any ideas, time or skills to support us with these values, please let us know. Please visit our website to find out more about how our values are at our core.

Acts of Kindness for Advent-Donations to the Food Bank

This year during December we would like to have a focus of Acts of Kindness for Advent. Children in class will be thinking about how they can give during the Christmas season and appreciate the joy of giving. As a school we will be collecting for our local food bank which is organised by Stepping Stones CIC. We have been in touch with them and they have created a list of items they would gratefully receive, these include: chocolates, Christmassy biscuits, fruit juice, yummy jams, chocolate spread, 2024 diaries/calendars, mayonnaise, seasonal savoury snacks, cranberry sauce and pickles etc. We also have small gifts for people to choose either for themselves or as gifts to others, so toiletries and children's toys/activity items (nothing too expensive) would be wonderful too. If you would like to contribute there will be a box in the main entrance until Wednesday 13th December.

Grove Christmas Fair - Saturday 2nd 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 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.

Riverford Food Box

Thank you Riverford – lovely box of veg and fruit gifted to our school meals this week after they came to experience our lovely school dinners and were full of praise for not only Marco, Roisin and the team but also for how the children clearly loved their lunches and the great atmosphere in the dining hall.



Grove Choir

The Grove choir performed their Christmas songs at the Civic Hall for the Christmas lights switch on yesterday. Well done to all of you, it was really magical and very festive!



Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion have informed us that we raised the sum of £232.60 and our school has won the Rendle Crang shield. Congratulations! This year, to date, they have raised just over £10,000 through our poppy box collections, craft fairs and sale of wreaths.

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.

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

PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 2nd December 10am until 1pm

Reception Nativity – Tuesday 5th December at 2.15

Lilac Tree Christmas performance – Wednesday 6th December at 2.15pm

Dove Tree Christmas performance – Thursday 7th December at 2.15pm

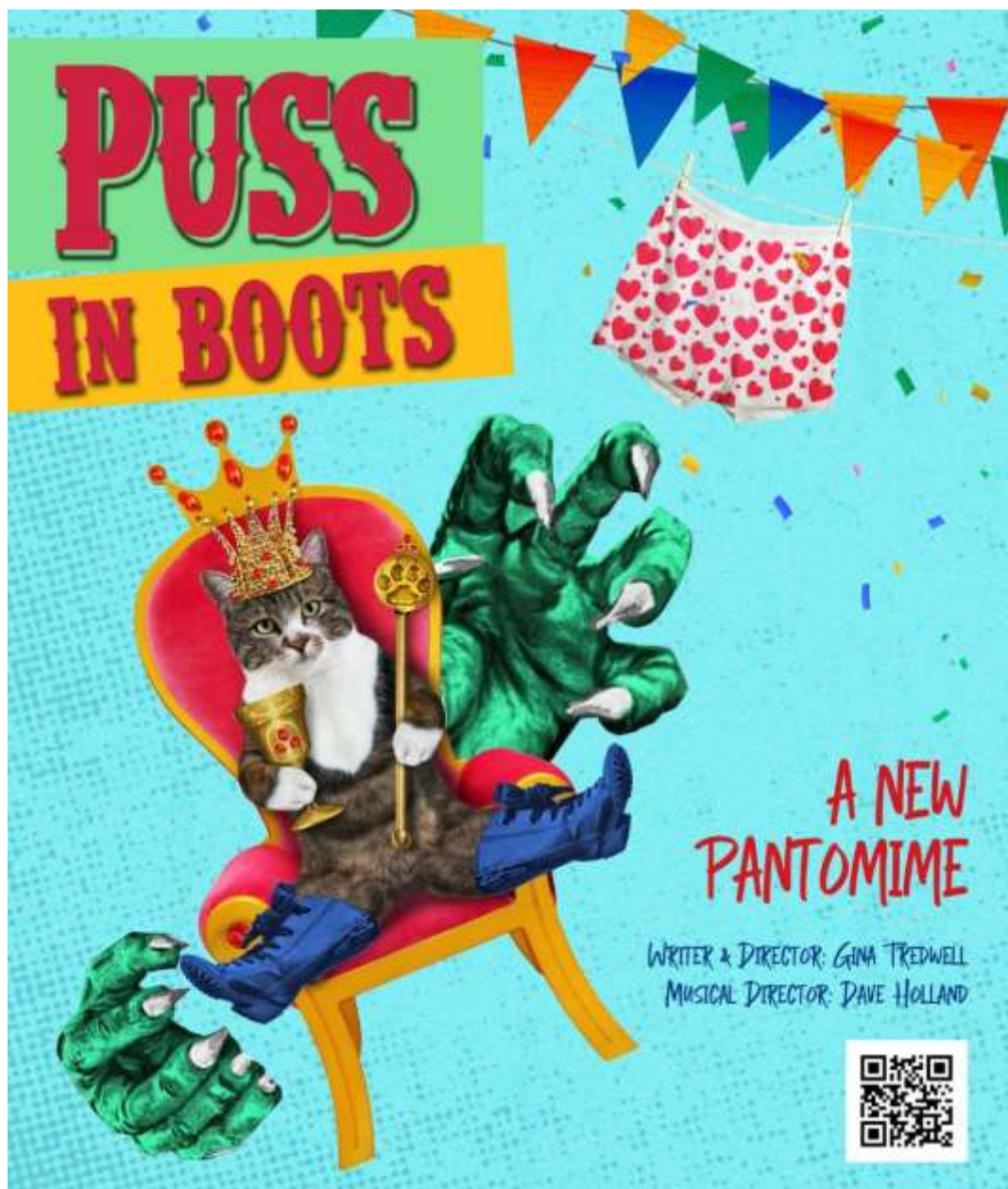
Lime Tree Christmas performance – Friday 8th December time at 2.15pm

Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance at KEVICC - Tuesday 12th December - 2 performances 1pm and 6pm (Rehearsal all day at Kevicc day before) – All information has been sent out

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.



24th - 27th January 2024
Civic Hall, Totnes, TQ9 5SF
7:30 PM & Sat Matinee 2:30 PM
Tickets £10/£8 www.taods.com

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CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday 3rd December 2023

12pm-4pm

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CRAFTS & GIFTS | FESTIVE DRINKS | CAKES
CHILDREN'S CRAFTS | FREE SOFT PLAY

Whitehill
Country Park

Stoke Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7PF

**FREE
ENTRY
& PARKING**

Call us 01803 782338

Visit whitehill-park.co.uk

Sunday December 3rd from 12noon
The Barrel House Ballroom, Totnes.

**BARREL
THE HOUSE** BALLROOM

PIES FOR PARKINSON'S

Are you a dab hand at Pie making?

Enter your very best homemade pie in to our competition

To qualify, your pie absolutely must have homemade pastry!

There will be three categories :-

- * SAVOURY MEAT OR FISH *
- * SAVOURY VEGETARIAN OR VEGAN *
- * SWEET *

JUDGING AT 1PM

PIES MUCH REACH US BY 12:30PM

Our esteemed judges will tuck in and pick their favourite pies.
The pies will then be carefully cut and sold to anybody who would like a taste, all profits will be donated to Parkinson's UK.
Prizes and runner up prizes, and of course, the prestige of 'PIE OF THE DAY' to play for!



Totnes

Christmas Market & Late Night Shopping

- Festive entertainment & music
- 70+ Local artisan market stalls
- Local food & drink
- Lantern Parade - Tuesday 19th December at 18:00
- And much more!

Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th December
15:00 - 21:00

in partnership with TOTNES Town Council