



# THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

## SHOUT OUTS TO ....

Dove Tree Class, Freida, Learning, awesome phonics and writing.  
Rahim, Learning, great attitude to his learning and great writing.

Lilac Tree Class, Ledley, Learning, giving his all to his learning this week. Rowan, Individuality, always being a kind and smiley member of Lilac.

Lime Tree Class, Melina, Love, such a kind and caring member of the class, a good friend to all. Rory, Learning, for being such a super mathematician, able to explain how you have solved the problem.

Willow Tree Class, Leo, Communication, what a week you've had!  
We are very proud of you Leo. Emily, Happiness, always smiling and being kind to others.

Mountain Ash Tree Class, Malin, Love, Very kind caring and helpful.  
Such a wonderful role model. Max Steele, Learning, challenging himself and persevering.

Juniper Tree Class, Aoife, Love, for always knowing exactly what her friends need, especially to make them 100 x better. Elizabeth, Learning, amazing presentation in all her books.

Flame Tree Class, Izzy, Individuality, for working on your individual targets and smashing your maths. Abdul, Communication, always supporting your class friends with their learning sharing your ideas.

Ginkgo Tree Class – Happiness, well done to the whole of Ginkgo class for their amazing efforts planting over 50 trees, even the rain didn't dampen their spirits.

Trumpet Tree Class, Elsie, Learning, for her very convincing and persuasive argument during our fake courtroom task! Ash, Individuality, a hard working wonderful individual who shares brilliant ideas in class.

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

**Here are the essentials in summary:**

- ☺ School uniform reminder
- ☺ Behaviour as communication - tips and discussions about how to manage behaviours
- ☺ Playground help – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

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



### **School Uniform**

There are just a couple of rogue trends happening with regard to school uniform currently:

- Leggings must be worn with a skirt. Trousers are fine of course for those who don't like a skirt but should be grey.
- Trousers and skirts should be grey rather than black.
- Shoes should be dark in colour, including trainers
- Jewellery except for watches and stud earrings should be avoided.
- Children can wear any colour or pattern of socks or tights (or leggings that look like tights) to express their individuality but we really appreciate sticking to the school uniform regime to bring team unity for the children.

As an overall reminder below is our full School Uniform Policy

- Plain grey trousers or shorts or skirt or tunic- **Required**
- Gold School Polo Shirt or one of a similar yellow colour- **Required**
- Burgundy School Sweatshirt/Cardigan or one of a similar burgundy colour- **Required**
- Any colour socks or tights- **Required in the winter months**
- Red/White or Yellow/White checked summer dress- **Optional**
- Any colour leggings colour - **Optional BUT No leggings without skirt.**

Footwear

- Black shoes/ winter boots or trainers- **Required**
- Summer Sandals – - **Optional in the summer (No 'Crocs' or flip flops)**

Pupils are not permitted to wear any jewellery with the exception of a watch and stud earrings. If pupils are wearing stud earrings they might have to put tape on these when doing P.E. depending on activity.



## **Behaviour as communication**

Sharing is caring! We'd like to share a little to help each other navigate behaviours at school and home.

Sometimes children behave in ways that other children — and adults — find difficult to understand. Their behaviour often reflects their emotional state and recognising this can help us adults to respond more effectively. While children are developing rapidly, their brains are not fully mature until early adulthood, which means that at times they will struggle to use skills like empathy, emotional regulation, or seeing a different perspective. Their understanding of the world is naturally more self-focused, so they may interpret situations through their own immediate needs and feelings rather than seeing the 'bigger picture' that adults can.

With the support of school staff and you as parents, we are planning to run a newsletter series of tips and discussions about how to manage behaviours that we see at school and at home. We know that in-school behaviours can be different from at-home behaviours and the way we deal with them can be very different also. We have classes of up to 34 children with just one or two adults- and whilst we love your children, we have a different relationship with them, so some behaviours are easier or trickier for us to deal with in school.

If you have any areas of behaviour that you may like guidance on, or if you'd like to share some top tips or guidance with others, please do email in your suggestions to [head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk).

## **Anxiety about school**

Let's start off with the topic of anxiety. Lots of parents help their children to cope with various anxieties about coming to school. Often finding the root cause of this anxiety is hard and complex as children can't always say or actually don't even know what it is that is causing them stress.

I have asked a parent to share their experience:

*"My child has lots of anxiety and school can be very overwhelming for them. Little things make a huge difference, like understanding the structure of the day and what to expect, having something to fiddle with, and making sure that they can move around when they need to. Sometimes playtime and lunchtime can be particularly overwhelming, and friendships are difficult. Whereas some children might run away (flight) or freeze when they panic, my child can sometimes be disruptive (fight). This can be difficult for to manage at home and at school. The class teachers must balance the needs of all the students and make sure that everyone can access their learning. Things are still up and down, but after years of work from home and school, my child has learned coping strategies that will stay with them for life."*

Please do share your experiences and strategies for others to read about anonymously in next edition of the newsletter. I will also get some staff perspectives too.



### **Y1/2 Concert - save the date**

We are excited to share that Y1/2 will be putting on a Spring concert on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. The concert will be at 2.15pm each day and parents will be able to request tickets for the date which suits them best. More information will come out closer to the date.

### **PLAYGROUND HELP - SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH from 10am**

Are you free and up for volunteering to help transform our playground? There is so much that has already been done and also so much more left to do!

Jobs will range from painting, constructing a sandpit, re-inventing our roof terrace and more.

The PTA are going to put on food to help keep spirits high and entice you to join in!

If you are free and able to help, please email me so that we know numbers (let me know if you are vegetarian or have any other food requirements too).

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

**THANK YOU**



### **Holiday Club – 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February**

We're delighted to share that our holiday club will be running during the February half term. To secure your child's place, we encourage you to book in advance as spaces are limited.

<https://kalscope.co.uk/product/totnes-february-half-term-holiday-club-at-the-grove-school/>

## **PTA NEWS**

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

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

Today – Deadline for Disco payment

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Disco

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Mother's Day order forms sent home

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Pre loved World Book Day costumes go on sale

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Final day for Mother's Day orders to be in

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March:

- World Book Day
- Reading café 2pm-4:00pm
- Easter Hamper tickets

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day gifts home

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Easter disco

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Bingo night

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:

- Easter bonnet/hat competition
- Easter hamper raffle
- Mufti £1 donation

**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)**



### **Disco – this Friday**

Letters have been sent home. You can pay by ParentPay, card or cash. Deadline is today – so we know numbers for refreshments.

All children can wear Mufti on Friday.

If you can help – especially with Acorns, Yr1/2 disco please let Jenni know. Thank you.



### **Cake Sale**

Cake sales will resume after half term. The first will be Flame Tree class on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Mother's Day**

Order forms will be sent out next Wednesday.



### **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>

Flame tree planting @ Sharpham – **Changed** to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March Please sign up on ParentPay

Last day of term – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

First day back – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Mountain Ash swimming – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Please sign up on ParentPay

Heights and Weights Reception and Year 6 – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Yr 1/2 Spring Concert - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

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.*

**DEVON HAF** HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

TOTNES NEWTON ABBOT DARTMOUTH

**FULLY FUNDED**

**FOR ALL CHILDREN AGED 5-14**

**ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFIT RELATED**

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

(£25 PER DAY FOR PUPILS NOT ELIGIBLE)

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL**

**10am - 3pm DAILY FOOTBALL & MULTI-SPORT ACTIVITIES**

**NUTRITIOUS COOKED MEAL EVERY DAY**

**CERTIFICATES, PRIZES, NUTRITION GUIDES and MUCH MORE!**

FOR LOCATIONS, DATES AND BOOKINGS  
PLEASE VISIT **SHEARSOCCE.CO.UK**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ADAM SHEARER 07967 124844



# BOUNCY FUN IN WARM SPACES

All donations will go to the 'TQ9:Together We Care' programme organised by Caring Town Totnes.

NO  
BOOKING  
REQUIRED



## Sessions available

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup>  
February 2026

**SEND Session: 10:30-12:30**

**Public Session: 13:00-16:00**

- The sessions are free (but you are welcome to make a donation).
- The sessions are for families with children up to the age of 8
- The sessions are parent supervised.
- They are in the Sports hall at Totnes Leisure Centre.

## What's available at the centre:

- Bouncy castle
- Soft play
- Warm space
- Tea and coffee, with biscuits and fruit
- Seating area
- Music

Totnes Leisure Centre  
Borough Park Road  
Totnes TQ9 5XW  
**01803 862992**





**Boss  
Parenting**



# SIMPLE EASY EFFECTIVE BEHAVIOUR STRATEGIES

Share with your families tried-and-true strategies that work in partnership with primary schools!

## DOWNLOADABLE GUIDE ONLY

- Downloadable Informative Guide Workbook
- Zones of regulations
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[www.bossparentingwithlove.info](http://www.bossparentingwithlove.info)



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## POSITIVE PARENTING AWAITS!

 [bossparentingwithlove@gmail.com](mailto:bossparentingwithlove@gmail.com)





**THURSDAY**

## **FITNESS CLASSES FOR**

**WOMEN**



at Totnes Methodist  
Church Hall

**5.30–6.30pm**

A fantastic, stress  
busting way to get fit for  
all fitness levels!  
non contact boxing  
drills.

Circuit style workouts.

**LADIES**  
**BOXERCISE®**



**6.45–7.30pm**

Easy to follow, great  
energy aerobics style  
workout. Judgement  
free- pressure free. And  
a whole lot of fun!

£9 per class. Discount for block booking.



Booking : <https://bettertogetherbecca.co.uk/wp>

booking-calendar/#/events

for more information contact Becca

07445495059 [info@bettertogetherbecca.co.uk](mailto:info@bettertogetherbecca.co.uk)

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

AGED BETWEEN 9-15 AND WANT TO GIVE  
YOUR BAKING SKILLS A GO?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026