



THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 8th May

SHOUT OUTS TO

Harper, Esme and Arthur for Happiness in joining in with everything and Emma for Learning progress in Acorns

Islay for Learning in her reading and handwriting and Aurora for Communication – being able to ask for help is a life skill- in Dove Tree Class

Flo for Love in her friendships and Amy for Learning in her reading in Lilac Tree Class

Millie for Learning enthusiasm and Aria and Communication and talking through things well in Lime Tree Class

Oscar N for Individuality in drama and Meriel for Love and kindness in Willow Tree Class

Libby for Love and your personal bubble of joy and Freddie for Individuality for teaching Mr Monro his 11 x tables in Mountain Ash Tree Class

Teddy for Individuality for staying true to his lovely personality and Tiger-Rose for Learning in reading progress in Juniper Tree Class

Noah for Happiness in his self-organisation skills and Paige for Love and being amazing in Flame Tree Class

Seth for Individuality in his sense of humour and Maishe for Learning in maths in Ginkgo Tree Class

Bridget for Learning in Spanish and Lulu for Happiness and her positivity in Trumpet Tree Class



and



ELIZABETHAN DANCING

28 of our AMAZING Year 5 children took part in a very long-standing tradition. They have been learning 4 different dances and helped to get the Totnes Elizabethan Season off to a flying start. We were invited to begin the day at The Guildhall where we met the Mayor and were treated to some refreshments. We then were part of the procession which made its way up to The Civic Square. Following speeches, the children danced their hearts out with huge smiles on their faces. The children's efforts were greatly appreciated and enjoyed:

“They were absolute stars, their dancing was superb, & they took part in all the activities (including the visit to the Guildhall) so well.”

Well done Year 5 and thank you.

Governor update

It has been a little while since my last update, I hope you are all enjoying the summer term. Last week there was a meeting of the Primary Partnership, a group of 11 local schools of which we are a part. The other 10 schools are Bradley Barton, Canada Hill, Chudleigh, Decoy, Denbury, Kingskerswell, Abbotskerswell, Bishopsteinton, Highweek and Haytor View. The partnership has grown over the years and is now a very committed and engaged community, focused on school improvement and outcomes for all by sharing skills, resources and experiences.

The meeting last week was with the headteachers and a nominated governor from each school, and was to discuss a memorandum of understanding and outline how the group will demonstrate its effectiveness. All schools within the partnership are maintained schools, and like ourselves have no desire to lose this status and join an academy, which is why this informal partnership model works well. By using the governing boards of each school to build in a level of accountability we will be able to track progress and ensure that the partnership is working for all of the member schools.

This is very much just adding that governance layer to the great work that has already been happening throughout the previous few years, where the heads meet to support each other, teaching staff have visited their counterparts to skill share and experience different styles and settings, and business managers, catering staff and governors have met to do the same. All 11 of the schools are facing their own challenges – finances, staff retention, falling pupil numbers, rising food and resources costs, buildings needing maintenance, etc – and so by working closely together we will be able to face these in a way that secures and improves these schools for the children, in what is a very tough landscape for schools currently.

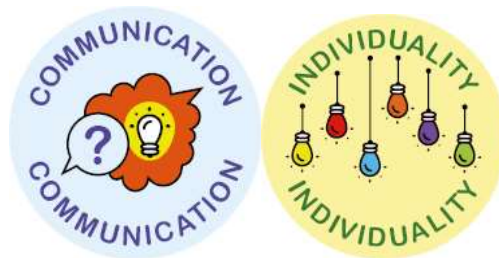
The next meeting is in July, to agree and adopt the memorandum of understanding and set the initial priorities for September, so I will give another update then.

Ian Stewart, Chair of Governors



Year 6 SATs next week

It's a little odd but for some reason this year's Year 6 seem more than up for the challenge of SATs next week! They are really keen to show how hard they have been learning and what amazing progress they have made. They will be coming into school slightly early next week to have some breakfast together and then they have the big reward of Woodlands on Friday after 4 days of exciting tests!



Dove Tree Class swap with Willow Tree Class

In the week before half term Dove Tree Class are moving class room to be next to Lime Tree Class. This means that the three Year 1 and 2 classes can share their outdoor learning space in their continuous provision learning and spend more time with each other. This means that Willow Tree Class gets to move into the lovely original classroom area, currently a home to Dove Tree Class. This will give Willow Tree Class direct access to the playground (and the best classroom in the building!)

Drama Llama Performance - Saturday 11th May, 6.30pm

Mrs John's after school youth theatre have been working really hard since January for their performance of The Story Inspectors this Saturday. They will be performing at The Ariel Centre, KEVICC on Saturday 11th May at 6.30pm. If you would like to come and support them, tickets are free and you can secure one from Mrs John, just email: sjohn@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk stating your name and how many you would like.

The group will then perform to KS2 after SATs.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/calendar/256154>

Year 6 SATS – Start Monday 13th May
Year 6 Woodlands trip – After SATS – Friday 17th May
Tempest Photography – Class photos – Thursday 23rd May
Last Day of Term – Friday 24th May
First Day back – Monday 10th June
Friday 26th June – Violin Show Jacqui 3.15pm Studio
Friday 5th July – School and PTA Summer Fair

Wednesday 17th July - Year 6 production
Tuesday 23rd July - KSI Sports day (weather permitting)
Wednesday 24th July - KS2 Sports day (weather permitting)

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.



DARTMOOR REACH
ALPACA FARM
www.dartmoorreach.com

Dartmoor Reach Alpaca Farm is a family run business that sits on the edge of Dartmoor with easy access to the surrounding local areas. Josh and Natalie have 3 beautiful glamping huts and a double decker bus nestled into the huge oak trees looking out at the serenity of their picturesque and peaceful field.

All accommodation is fully equipped with toilets, hot showers, cooking facilities and everything you need for a break away. Private decking space offers a place to sit and admire the tranquil countryside. Fire pits and logs are available to hire and there are breakfast hampers with the finest home - reared and home made food.

Dartmoor Reach is a working farm so you will share the field with their friendly alpacas, ducks, chickens, pigs, guinea pigs and Peter Rabbit.

"Josh and Natalie have created a little slice of paradise; everything is so peaceful and I feel completely rested and reset."

Josh and Natalie Hyson - Tel. 07793 151 524
info@dartmoorreach.com | www.dartmoorreach.com
Bovey Tracey | Devon | TQ13 9PW

Totnes Skatepark Crowdfunder



Totnes Skatepark

[Totnes Skatepark - a Community crowdfunding project in Totnes by Simon French
\(crowdfunder.co.uk\)](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/totnes-skatepark)

crowdfunder.co.uk