



# THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

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

**Here are the essentials in summary:**

- ☺ Amended Term dates
- ☺ Competitive sports event at KEVICC – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June
- ☺ School choir performance – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June
- ☺ Governor updates
- ☺ Skills bank - Register your interest to help us
- ☺ PTA news and dates for upcoming events

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



## **September and January start dates**

We have made a very slight alteration to the term dates children start because we have an opportunity that has arisen for September training. This means that the staff will have two days of training in September so the children will start on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, but no training day in January so staff and children will all start on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. We sincerely hope this doesn't cause an inconvenience to anyone – if it does then please do let us know.

## **Children's Term dates 2026 – 2027**

**School opens at 8:45am and gates close at 8:50am**

**School closes at 3:15pm and gates close at 3:20pm.**

To offer balance to families and staff we decided as a board and school leadership to alternate the summer May/June half term between one and two weeks, so in 2027 it is one week and two weeks in 2028.

### **Autumn Term**

**First day back at school is Thursday 3rd September and the last day is Friday 23rd October.**

October half term is Monday 26th October until Friday 30th October.

First day back at school is Monday 2nd November and the last day is Friday 18th December.

Christmas Holidays are Monday 21st December until Friday 1st January 2027.

### **Spring Term**

**First day back at school is Monday 4th January 2027 and last day is Friday 12th February.**

February half term is Monday 15th February until Friday 19th February.

First day back at school is Monday 22nd February and the last day of term is Thursday 25th March.

Easter Holidays are Friday 26th March until Friday 9th April inclusive.

### **Summer Term**

First day back at school is Monday 12th April and last day is Friday 28th May.

May Bank Holiday - Monday 3rd May - school closed

Half term 1 weeks this year is Monday 31st May until Friday 4th June.

First day back is Monday 7th June and last day of term is Friday 16th July 2027.

Summer holidays are Monday 19th July until Wednesday 1st September inclusive.

First day back at school is Thursday 2nd September 2027



### **COMPETITIVE SPORTS EVENT**

Following last year's success, we will be holding the competitive sports event for KS2 children (Year 3 - 6). You are very welcome to come along and support your child. Here is the information you need to know.

**Date:** Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Time** 12 - 2:45pm

**Location:** KEVICC sports field

**PLEASE SIT ON THE BANK WHERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT IS GOING ON.**

The PTA will be selling refreshments.

All children will need: correct PE kit, correct footwear, packed lunch (please order a school one if desired), snacks, drinks, suncream, sunhat.

The events are: 100m, 400 m, 800m, javelin, shot, long jump, triple jump and relay. The skills are being taught in PE lessons in school and children will choose and be chosen to compete in one or more events. There is no pressure for children to compete. Please discuss this with your child. You

may be super keen for your child to compete but they may not! All children join in with the "in-school" sports afternoon which is less competitive.

**You will be able to collect your child from this event. Please let your child's class teacher know whether you will be doing this.**

We look forward to an event full of fun and sporting spirit.

Many thanks,  
KS2 Team



### **School Choir Performance - Thursday 11th June**

The school choir and a few extra year 5 pupils are excited to be performing as part of a conference at Dartington hall.

Parents need to collect their children from school at 1:30 for a 2pm sing.

Please make sure all permissions slips/emails have been returned.

Many thanks

Steph





### **Governor Updates**

Hello everyone ... we had three applications from parents to our recent governor vacancies, and I am pleased to say that we are able to welcome them all to the board. In addition, we also had an advert open for local people interested in becoming a non-parent governor which has also resulted in another new addition. Quite the boost!! I will give further information and introductions once we have completed the necessary checks and induction steps.

While these new chapters begin, another is coming to an end. Rob Hill, who has been a governor with us for eight years over two terms, is stepping down at the end of this year. Rob has been an exceptionally dedicated governor, giving his expertise across all areas of governance, especially finance. Rob has been here through some significant challenges and brilliant changes at the school, and his support throughout is something I and the rest of the board will always be grateful for.

Thank you, Rob!!

Ian Stewart, Chair of Governors

### **Register your interest to help us.**

We were hoping to set up a list of people with skills we could call on if we need some help – tradespeople, therapists, handy people, - pretty much anything. Please let us know if you would volunteer with your services or do us a mates rates deal. Please send your details to Jo Counter at [jcounter@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:jcounter@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)



### **PTA NEWS**

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

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

Today – Father's Day order forms back

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May (last day of term) – Mufti for sweets (Sweets cones for Summer Fair)

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Sponsored Run letters home

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Father's Day gifts home

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Disco

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Summer Fair 5pm – 8pm (KSI Mufti for cakes / KS2 Mufti for tombola gifts please)



Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July – PTA AGM  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July – Whole school Sponsored Run  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Lolly sale  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Lolly sale

**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)**

### **Summer Fair**

If you are having a clear out over the half term, we would love pre loved teddies and tombola gifts please.

### **Mufti this Friday**

Children can wear mufti clothes on Friday for sweets for the summer fair to make sweet cones. (No chocolate please)



### **Cake Sale**

No cake sale this Friday. The next one will be Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June and is Trumpet's turn to bake.

### **Next bake sales:**

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Trumpet cake sale  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Mountain Ash cake sale  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Acorns & KSI to bake for Summer Fair

### **Father's Day Gifts**

Letters have been sent home and it is also available on ParentPay. Today is the last day for ordering.



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

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Last day of term  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Back to school  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Juniper and Mountain Ash Year 3's to Haytor Trip – ParentPay  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Willow and Mountain Ash Year 4's to Haytor Trip – ParentPay  
Wk com 15<sup>th</sup> June – MHST Year 5/6 Decider skills  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Reception vision screening  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Sharpham Seed Day - Juniper  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - Sharpham Seed Day - Willow  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Sharpham Seed Day – Mountain Ash  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June – Year 1/2 Goodrington beach trip  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Competitive sports day at KEVICC

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.



**ALOE  
ALOE**  
& other Green Tings

**Plant Sale**

at Castle Street  
Pocket Park  
Sunday 24 May

10.30am until  
we're sold out

Raising funds  
for gardening  
#LoveCastleSt

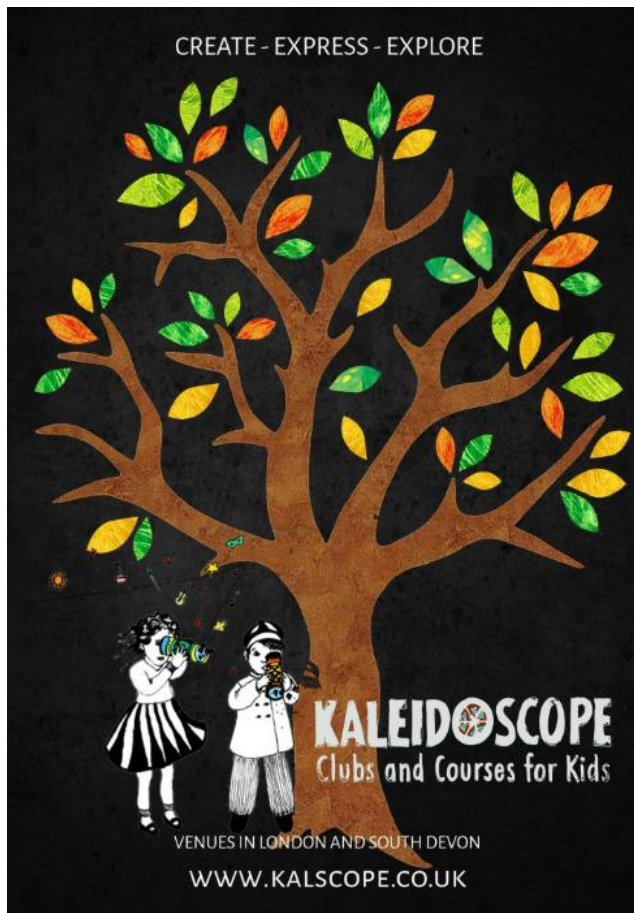
The poster features two anthropomorphic aloe vera plants with faces, arms, and legs, wearing brown boots. The male aloe on the left holds a watering can, and the female aloe on the right wears a white flower crown and holds a pink flower. They are standing in front of a stylized background with a smiling sun, a cactus, and a large pink and orange swirl.



**YOUTH THEATRE SPACES!** Drama Llama Youth Theatre, the successful and popular Youth Theatre run by Shanaz John has a few available spaces for this coming half term! The focus will be on fun drama games to build confidence, collaboration and creative skills.

The sessions will run from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 5.45-6.45pm in the school hall, at £5 per session. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Open to Key Stage 2 only. Please email: [dramallamagrove@gmail.com](mailto:dramallamagrove@gmail.com)



**SUMMER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB**  
The Grove School, Totnes

Week 1: May 26-29 (Tues-Fri)

Week 2: June 1-4 (Mon-Thurs)

10am-3pm daily

Morning club and extended hours available

Hot lunch option

Art - Music - Drama - Dance - Games - Sport

Book here:

<https://kalscope.co.uk/product/totnes-may-half-term-holiday-club/>



**Kidslingo Spanish Teignbridge,  
S Hams & Torbay**

patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk

www.kidslingo.co.uk

**Voucher for  
Spanish club**



**Join our FUN AFTER SCHOOL SPANISH CLUB for 1  
FREE SESSION on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May from  
3:15pm - 4:15pm at The Grove Primary School\***

**IMPORTANT:** email [patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk](mailto:patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk) to book your FREE session.  
Please include the school's name, your child's full name and year group.

\*Only 5 available spaces!

\*Only valid for Year 1-Year 6 pupils attending the named school.

\*The free session must be booked in advance

\*Voucher valid on May, 2026

# SOUNDS AT THE MANSION

MUSIC - SONG - SPOKEN WORD

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL



Daytime (**free**) 10:30am - 1pm

**Kids entertainment** |  
**Facepainting** | **Theatrical storytelling** | **Puppet shows**  
**Bubbles the Pixie** | **Global Soul Beach Club DJ**

Evening (**ticketed**) 4pm - 9pm

**Totnes Vocal Improv Choir**  
**Holly Ebony** | **Briony Greenhill**  
**Shakalaka** | **Disco Snails**  
**Street food pop-ups** | **local beers** | **Pimm's**

**Bank Holiday Monday, May 25**  
**themansiontotnes.org TQ9 5RP**



## RIVERSCHOOL

Where nature is our teacher & the river is our guide

**HOLIDAY CLUB**

COMING UP THIS HALF TERM  
**26TH 27TH 28TH MAY**

🕒 TIME: 10AM TILL 4PM

👤 AGES: 7-14 YEAR OLDS



### ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

- Travel by Canoe to our wonderful woodland basecamp
- Archery
- Bushcraft
- Wild swimming
- Campfire cooking
- Fishing
- Storytelling
- Wildlife spotting
- Nature art and craft



👤 **£45.00 PER CHILD PER DAY**  
 11% discount applied if you book more than one day at the same time

👤👤 **SIBLING SESSIONS**  
**£40.00 PER CHILD**

📍 **DEPARTS AT**  
**STOKE GABRIEL, QUAYSIDE**

### RIVER SCHOOL

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)

ANY QUERIES: [hello@riverschool.org.uk](mailto:hello@riverschool.org.uk)



**TO BOOK:**  
**WWW.CANOEADVENTURES.CO.UK**

PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



# UNDER-6 & UNDER-7 OPEN SESSIONS

**PLYMOUTH**  
Monday, 8 June  
Marjon University, 3G

**NEWTON ABBOT**  
Monday, 22 June  
Devon FA, 3G

**CAMBORNE**  
Monday, 15 June  
Camborne College,  
3G Astro

**LAUNCESTON**  
Monday, 29 June  
Launceston College

**NORTH DEVON**  
Thursday, 18 June  
Tarka Leisure Centre

**ARGYLE**  
academy

Just play it!

# SaMM

## Saturday Morning Music

A fun way to learn music for all young people aged 5-18yrs at the Ariel centre on a Saturday morning during term time.

- All abilities welcome
- A progressive musical training
- Groups - beginners to advanced
- Choirs, concert band, strings, percussion, guitars, song writing, jazz, sing and play and much more



**Come along and see for yourself!**

For more information, please see our website

**[www.sammtotnes.org](http://www.sammtotnes.org)**

# Dare to join a top Grammar School? It might not be as hard as you think...

If your son will be in Year 6 in September 2026, you can register to take the entrance tests for Torquay Boys' Grammar School from 1 March 2026. We're excited to welcome our next potential students!

The tests will be on Saturday, 19 September 2026 and they have been thoughtfully-designed to cover the Maths and English that your son has been learning at primary school. No extra tutoring is needed - just bring your enthusiasm.



## Additional Support for Pupil Premium Students

We believe every child should have a chance to shine, no matter their background. That's why we're excited to team up with Atom Learning. If your child qualifies for Pupil Premium, they can access a fantastic free online programme to help build their confidence and skills for test success. It has been shown that students with a glimmer of academic potential make more progress in schools such as TBGS, and this offer of PP support is part of our continued effort to

encourage as many students as possible to consider us for secondary school.

Not eligible for Pupil Premium? You can still try Atom Learning with a free five-day trial on their website: [atomlearning.com](https://atomlearning.com).

To apply to take the tests, complete the online registration form: [tbgs.co.uk/join-us](https://tbgs.co.uk/join-us)

## Why you should dare to join us?

TBGS is renowned for providing students with:

- a top-quality, rich and varied curriculum, which enables academic progress, whilst encouraging inquisitive minds;
- a wide range of extra-curricular pursuits, and sporting opportunities, contributing to developing the whole person;
- a caring environment and strong pastoral system allowing the nurturing of academic excellence of each individual.

The essence of what TBGS strives to do is captured in our clear mission to:

- **enable** students' enjoyment of learning for its own sake, whilst developing their creative talents to fulfil their intellectual potential;
- **provide** individuals with the knowledge and skills to respond to a changing world with confidence and humility;
- **encourage** each person to be reflective, open-minded and principled so that they can make a positive contribution to their community and the wider world.

**Excellence Integrity Leadership**



Book a  
tour  
[tbgs.co.uk/  
join-us](https://tbgs.co.uk/join-us)

**OPEN  
DAY**

Tours  
8 July  
at 9:30  
& 2:00

*Dare to be*  
[www.tbgs.co.uk](https://www.tbgs.co.uk)  
[enquiries@tbgs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tbgs.co.uk)



# MAY HALF TERM

**TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> – FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

Our award-winning, multi-activity holiday camps are the perfect way to keep your child active this May half-term. From Glow Sports, Nerf Wars, Inflatables, Dodgeball, Football, Arts and Crafts and more, we have 6 activities planned every day that every child is guaranteed to enjoy. We are very lucky to have access to the amazing facilities at Totnes leisure centre, including their swimming pool where the children will take part in swimming sessions

**TOTNES LEISURE CENTRE**

**8:15AM – 5:15PM**

**AGES 5 – 12**

**BOOK NOW AT [WWW.SPORTYSTARS.CO.UK](http://WWW.SPORTYSTARS.CO.UK)**