



Weekly Newsletter

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Headteacher: Hilary Priest
Newsletter No: Autumn 13

Telephone 01803 862018
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Dear Parents and Carers,

What is happening this week and next

Well – full blown Christmas is upon us at school with a very successful Christmas fair on Saturday (thank you all so much for such a huge amount of donations this year), Reception's beautiful Nativity yesterday, Year 1 and 2 Christmas performances today, Thursday and Friday, Monday brings the Years 5 and 6 singing at care homes and Tuesday Y3/4 Christmas production! Then it's the Christmas lunch on Thursday and party day Friday! Year 5 and 6 also had a Forest School day today.

PTA Cake Sale – Friday after school

There will be a cake sale in the school hall this Friday after school.

Y1/2 Victorian School Showcase

In the last week of term, Y1/2 will be showcasing their knowledge of Victorian schools by acting out a Victorian lesson. Please can the children come to school dressed in Victorian style clothing on Tuesday 12th December ready to take part in our role play. A simple black skirt/trousers and a white shirt will do, with any additional things such as a cap for the boys and shawls for the girls. We will then share their lessons with you on Seesaw!

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.

Today also check your emails for the food box scheme recommended to us by some parents – again we are happy to make referrals should you need a food box.

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

Christmas lunch is now on ParentPay please order.

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.

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.

JUNIOR DUKE UPDATE

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS!

It's official – our AMAZING Platinum Junior Duke Team came third in the International Ironing Competition.

PS The founder of Junior Duke's message said:

"If it had gone on photos of cheerful faces alone, your group would have scored extra!"

Well done you jolly lot!!

**THE FIRST EVER
JUNIOR DUKE WORLD
CHAMPIONS!**

#2
British School Al
Khubairat
(UAE)

#1
Hutcheson's Grammar
School
(Scotland)

#3
The Grove
(England)

Junior Duke pupils in schools around the world competed
to see which school has the fastest pillowcase ironers!
Now we know!

www.juniorduke.com



LATE NIGHT SINGING!

A huge thank you to Steph and our School Choir for such a wonderful Christmas performance last night. You brought happiness to so many.



DIVERSITY MEETING WITH PARENTS

Here is a link to the Equality and Diversity meeting that was held earlier this term. If you would like to get involved, there is still time. Take a look at the minutes and see how!

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ufq_dwFSFaBuoxUegBho9xv6mlqqhgLNu_IUP30NO8s/edit

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>)

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

New Year dates

Willow Tree class swimming – Monday 8th January for 5 weeks – On ParentPay

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.



DO YOU HAVE A CHILD AGED 8-17 WHO IS STRUGGLING WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH?

Anxiety, depression, self-harm and other mental health struggles are on the rise in children, particularly following the Covid-19 Pandemic.

As parents, we can be left feeling overwhelmed and helpless, not knowing where to turn for help.

THIS GROUP AIMS TO SUPPORT YOU TO:

- Meet other parents who understand your situation for mutual support.
- Learn strategies to help you support your child, with no judgement!
- Help you to prioritise your own well-being as a parent.

WHEN? Find out more at our **Information Session** for parents at 7:15pm on Tues 9th or Wed 10th January 2024.

WHERE? Lovelace Room | The Mansion | 36 Fore Street | Totnes | TQ9 5RP

To attend register at www.calendly.com/ymhf/information-session



To get more information contact:

Joel Sutton (YMHF) on 07588 792 474

or email joel@youthmentalhealthfoundation.org



FREE

RIVERSCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY & SUMMER CANOE TRIP VOUCHER



A Grant funded event for 7 to 14 year olds in receipt of free school meals or an EHCP

19th | 20th | 21st December 2023

A three day program with individual day bookings available

- ✧ Cook a Christmas feast
- ✧ Go crabbing in the Mill Pond and explore the nearby woods and riverbank
- ✧ Christmas Quiz
- ✧ Festive games and crafts
- ✧ Indoor and fireside activities (weather permitting)
- ✧ Receive a free voucher worth £80 to try out Canoeing, Kayaking or Paddleboarding in the summer



RIVERSCHOOL

Where nature is the teacher & the river is our guide



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



Where

**The Scout Hut
Stoke Gabriel
10.30am - 2.30pm**

Text or call: 07518 580472

 www.facebook.com/riverschool.org



TO BOOK:

www.canoadventures.co.uk

Places are limited so please book early



BOUNCY FUN IN WARM SPACES

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Brought to you in partnership with
TQ9: Together We Care Programme

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



**Sessions available
between 1pm - 4pm on:**

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd and
Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th December

The sessions are on a pay-what-you-can basis (free if that is what you can afford). A collection tin will be on the reception desk and 100% of all donations will support the programme.

- No need to book but limited capacity.
 - The sessions are parent supervised.
 - The sessions are for families with children up to the age of 8.
 - Sessions are in the Sports Hall at Totnes Leisure Centre.
- What's available at the centre:**
- Bouncy castle
 - Soft play
 - Music
 - Warm space
 - Seating area
 - Tea and coffee, plus fruit for the kids
 - Free wifi and charging points

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

