



THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 26th June

SHOUT OUTS TO

In Acorns we praise Melina for her amazing Learning attitude, Idris for Love he shows to everyone, Ledley for Communication about his experiences and Dusty for Love in his great Den building with friends.

In Dove we praise Bea for Learning in maths and Aoife for her brilliant Individuality.

In Lime we praise Seth for Learning in continuous provision and Riley for Individuality and persevering with being the riddle solver!

In Lime we praise Rose for Learning enthusiasm and Eddie for Individuality and doing the right thing.

In Willow we praise Merla for having so much Love and kindness and Jacob for his perseverance in Learning.

In Mountain Ash we praise Charlotte for Love and kindness and Jonty for his determined Learning.

In Juniper we praise Annabel for her hard work at Learning and Elliott for being full of Love and smiles.

In Flame we praise Xavi for his focus in Learning and Loveday for her smiley Happiness and positive attitude.

In Ginkgo we praise Immy for Learning for her diary writing and Hazel for Individuality and caring so much about her learning.

In Trumpet we praise Lulu for her Learning progress in writing and Mia for Learning in her Maths performance



Bake sale every Thursday – cake donations needed

Some of our children (Aggy and Sofia) have committed to running a bakes sale every Thursday after school to raise money for our school. They would be grateful for cake donations from anyone who can and to remind you to bring some cash on Thursdays to buy that little treat for your child.

Benevolent fund, school dinner fund and pre-loved uniform sales

We are very grateful for your regular contributions to the school's benevolent fund and your donations have been very much appreciated by the families who are struggling to pay for trips etc. It is running a little low after all the trips this term so if you had a little spare and wanted to do a kind gesture we would appreciate any small donation.

Remember that if you want your child to access a school dinner and can't afford it then we do have a fund available for this too. Shame for them to miss out.

School uniform is available in the school entrance for a donation. If your children have grown out of their old uniform, then please send it in for us to offer to others.

Many thanks for all you do to support your school community.



Congratulations to our kitchen team – we didn't make it to the final but our school was shortlisted for the Jamie Oliver Food Awards



Having a clear out?

We want to support Individuality and neuro diversity by improving our playground, so if you happen to be able to donate any of the following, perhaps helping to clear out your unused and pre-loved things, then we would be grateful:

Small world play – sets of: insects, farm animals, zoo animals, sea creatures, dinosaurs, British wildlife, vehicles, furniture, people, wooden train set, helpers etc

Sandpit	Specimen jars	Easel	Magnifying glasses
Building materials	Balls and mini goals	Binoculars	
Dressing up clothes	Skipping ropes	Play Sand	
Bird feeders	outdoor storage units and boxes		
Games	Outdoor cushion	Lego	
Picnic tables	Blankets	Bug house	
Tyres	Tee pees	Bird boxes	



Year 5/6 Renewable Energy Field Trip

We had a fantastic day on Monday learning all about local renewable energy thanks to TRESOC's two-day Renewable Energy Experiential Learning (REEL) Programme.

We visited Dartington Estate's Biomass boiler and solar panel field, Totnes Weir Hydro Power Plant and Marley Head Wind Turbine. We learnt about how different renewable energies fit into our landscape and their ecological and financial impact – the children had some fantastic questions to ask! The learning continues this week with a workshop to investigate these technologies in more detail.





New school timings for September

New guidance from DfE has set out the length of a school day, specifically the time between the morning register being submitted and the end of the day when the children leave school. To comply with this, from September children will need to arrive in their classrooms by 8:50am. Finishing time will remain at 3:15pm.

The school gates will continue to open at 8:45am for children to arrive and make their way to class. We have looked at opening the gates sooner, but this would mean having to change the contracted hours for our TAs, which is not possible under current budget restrictions. We appreciate that reducing the arrival window to five minutes is quite a change, and so we appreciate you planning now how to arrive promptly in September to maintain our school's excellent attendance record which you all contribute to.

One advantage that we anticipate for the children is that many will now benefit from an increased 'welcome to the day' time with TAs and teachers before the day starts in earnest. This has been proven to improve their capacity for learning as it creates a more relaxed start to their day in school.

GOVERNOR UPDATE

It's been a little while since my last update. I hope you all enjoyed the May/June half term break, which this year was two weeks. We first had a two week half term break in 2022, something other schools also do, and it is something that we will be doing every other year going forward. This does not increase the number of non-school days, as we use days that are given to schools to use as they see fit for their setting, while always ensuring we meet the standard days Devon County Council say should be school/non-school days for all schools.

I appreciate that a two week half term will not be popular with you all, but I want to share some of the reasoning from our discussions. Our staff work incredibly hard throughout the year, with the nature of teaching being that there is far less flexibility with time off than other professions. This puts a strain on staff wellbeing and workload, which is something that as a board we are always monitoring. The summer term is very busy for staff and children, with SATs, other assessments, reports and transitions to new classes/schools, and so as a board we see this as an opportunity to give staff and children a longer and well-earned break in this busy period.

We have spoken to our staff and while some prefer a longer summer break, more prefer a two week half term. To offer balance we decided as a board and school leadership to alternate the two week summer half term, so in 2025 it will be one week, then in 2026 two weeks, etc.

I hope this goes some way to explain why we have added this to our school calendar, and that knowing the plan going forward will give you sufficient time to plan. As always, if you have any questions or comments on this, you can contact me/the board via chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk.

Thank you, Ian (Chair of Governors)

WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

There are a few of you how have asked about joining the School Whatsapp Community. If you would like to, please find the link below. You can join the various groups from there.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ltZ0W9ltT48lxwUwJubkTb>

PTA DONATIONS NEEDED/WANTED

Tombola, Teddies, Preloved uniform and items for The Summer Fair. Please drop into school.

PTA The Grove School SUMMER FAIR Friday 5th July from 5pm-8pm

We are really looking forward to next Friday and our Summer Fair!

Any help gratefully received - please let us know if you would be up for volunteering.

IT IS MUFTI DAY FOR THE CHILDREN ON FRIDAY 5TH JULY (THE DAY OF THE SUMMER FAIR). PLEASE BRING CAKES TO BE SOLD THAT EVENING.

GAS BBQ Needed

The Summer fair needs to borrow a gas BBQ. Please contact Rebecca if you can help with this.

PTA ANNOUNCEMENT

PLEASE COME ALL WELCOME PLEASE COME ALL WELCOME PLEASE COME

PTA AGM to be held on Monday 15th July in The School Hall at 7pm.

Come along and socialise, share ideas and be part of something great.

Attending doesn't commit you to anything. The more the merrier.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

PTA TREASURER NEEDED

We need your help. The Grove PTA Charity Committee is URGENTLY seeking a new Treasurer. Could this be you or someone you know? The role would include general book keeping such as overseeing payments in/out, invoicing and managing the finances.

No previous experience is necessary and it could be a shared role. Good numeracy and organisational skills are essential.

Please be in touch if this is something you or you and a friend would consider.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



Hedge Trimming Many, many thankyou's to Martha's mum for trimming the road side of the hedge to make it more accessible for you all.

IS YOUR CHILD FEELING SAD, ANGRY OR WORRIED?

Are you walking on eggshells ?

My name is Chandra Kantha and in 2017, I qualified as an integrative Child Counsellor at the Institute for Arts in Therapy and Education. Since then I have been working with families and schools in South Devon supporting children with complex emotional and behavioural needs. My approach to child counselling is play and arts based.

Parents come to me when they are worried about their child's behaviour. Their child may be anxious, sad, angry, suffering from grief, unable to sleep or prone to emotional outbursts and other behavioural issues.

I will have some availability from September 2024 and will be able to have sessions at The Grove School.

Please visit my website for further details of my practice and contact details:

<https://www.chandrakantha.co.uk/>



Y1 / 2 desperately seeking Ikea Kallax units and baskets/boxes

Ikea Kallax units of any size would be very much appreciated for our Y1/2 continuous provision. We are also hoping for donations of baskets and wooden crates to enhance our provision too. If you have any or know of anyone who would be happy to donate any to the school, we would very much appreciate it.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Friday 28th June – Violin Show Jacqui 3.15pm Studio

Monday 1st July – transition open school session for parents 3:30pm- 5pm

Friday 5th July – School and PTA Summer Fair

Monday 15th July - PTA AGM in school hall at 7pm

Wednesday 17th July - Year 6 production

Tuesday 23rd July - KS1 Sports day 1 until 3 (weather permitting)

Wednesday 24th July - KS2 Sports day 1 until 3 (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.

Piano lessons from September 2024

For children starting Year 2 and above, I will have a few spaces available from September as my current Year 6 students will have left.

Please email me for further details.

Many thanks,

Neil Reed

teaching@neilreedmusic.co.uk

**we are
cycling**
the open road is open
UK



The
BIG BIKE
Revival

**FREE
ENTRY!**

WOMEN'S BIKE MAINTENANCE NIGHT

**JUNE 27TH
AUGUST 1ST
SEPT 26TH
6-8:30PM**

**AN OPEN FORUM FOR
WOMEN TO SHARE
MAINTENANCE SKILLS
AND CYCLING TIPS. USE
THE TOOLS AND MEET
OTHERS!**



FOR MORE INFO:

**E: TOTNESBIKEHUB@GMAIL.COM
P: 07761 930035**

PULSE BUILDING ,THE MANSION, 36A FORE STREET, TOTNES. TQ9 5RP

Plymouth Science Summer Camp



Scan here
to book
your
place

**FREE for children who are
eligible for Free School Meals***

or

£23 per day
(bring your own lunch)

£26 per day
(with lunch)

Venue: St Budeaux CE Primary
Academy, Priestley Avenue, PL5 2DQ

Days: Mon 12th August -
Friday 30th August (excluding
Mon 26th)

Timings: 9am-3pm

Age: 6-11 years

Example activities:



Lego Robotics



Jewellery Making



Experiments



Forest Schools



Animal Encounters



VR Experience

To book your place visit our website and click on the poster or scan the QR code above
For any questions, please email us (bookings cannot be done via email).
Web: www.plymouthsciencecic.co.uk Email - plymouthscienceteam@gmail.com
Tel: 07738 243324 (only during camp dates)

* Eligibility for free places is for children who receive Free School Meals. This **DOES NOT** include children in Foundation/Key Stage 1 who receive Universal Free School Meals. If you are unsure of your status, enquire with your school office. Eligibility will be checked by Plymouth City Council, and full payment will need to be made for sessions if your child is ineligible for Free School Meals. Terms and Condition apply.