



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas lunch

We are planning our school Christmas Lunch for Tuesday 6th December. This will cost £2:50 for Key Stage Two children. Reception, Key Stage I and Free School Meals will be free BUT – everyone must book if they want a lunch so we can buy enough ingredients. The meat option will be chicken and the vegetarian option 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 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.

Books That Help Project - Update

Many thanks to the parents that have supported this project so far and the donations we have received. Chandra has now raised £650 for the project and swam 5150m so far! There's still time to donate and get involved with the project. See details below.

Mrs Drew has been working with a local author, Clare Welsh, to help create a wellbeing library within the school incorporating books that deal with sensitive subjects such as loss, divorce, illness etc. As a former primary school teacher and mental health champion, Clare knows first-hand the impact books can have on well-being and feels passionately about giving children access to them. She has carefully selected a variety of books written by a selection of authors. To find out more about the project follow the link to Clare's website:

<https://clarehelenwelsh.com/books/>

We would like to purchase as many books as possible to have in the Den area, but also within each of the classrooms so that the children can access them as freely as possible. In order to do this, we will be organising a number of fundraising events beginning with one organised by Chandra, our school councillor. Chandra has bravely taken on a sea swimming challenge for November in order to raise money for the project. You can find out more about it and donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chandra-kantha>

If anyone would like to be involved in helping with the project or would like to purchase a book to donate to the library, please get in touch with Vikki Drew at vikkid@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk or follow the link/QR code for East Gate Bookshop to see which books we are hoping to buy.

<https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/groveschool>

You can purchase a book directly through the link by selecting the book you'd like to donate, ensuring you write FAO Vikki Drew and 'The Grove School' as the delivery address. There is an additional charge for postage. Many thanks for your support for this very worthy project.

Community helpers

Mountain Ash class filled their conker jar of kindness and decided to go litter picking at Borough Park. The children worked really hard and collected 6 bin bags of rubbish. A huge well done to them for their efforts in keeping the community clean.



Congratulations

Mountain Ash won class of the week for such a neat and tidy classroom and for showing each other real kindness, working hard at the presentation of their learning and the amazing community litter pick job!

These children were recognised for their efforts in the presentation of their learning:

Dove Tree Class: Bea and Cyra

Lime Tree Class: Saul and Max

Chestnut Tree Class: Toby and Arlo

Mountain Ash Tree Class: Bea and Iddy

Willow Tree Class: Fred and Bea

Beech Tree class: Catalaya and Juno

Flame Tree Class: Oscar and Allegra

Trumpet Tree Class: Amelia and Rocco

Ginkgo Tree Class: Blossom and Kelly

Staffing news

A few things to note moving into the new term. Mrs Sophie Hedley-Clark has started maternity leave but we are still awaiting news of the new arrival. Mrs Cathy Bingham is retiring at Christmas from a long and successful career in teaching. (If you would like to contribute to a parting gift from the school please contact Rebecca on the front desk). Mrs Hannah Vitali is expecting her third child in January so will start maternity leave soon after Christmas. This means there will be some changes in staffing.

Reception will have Mrs Leona Squires joining the teaching team, she is a qualified primary teacher who specialises in Early Years but has been finding her feet back in the UK after some time abroad by working for us this last year as a Teaching Assistant. Mrs Liz Luff who already works in Reception will take the leading role and will be full time. Flame Tree Class will have Miss Demelza Thomas as their class TA and we welcome Mrs Jade Maizer to support all these changes as a teaching assistant. These changes will be until Mrs Sophie Clarke returns from her maternity leave – probably for September 23.

Chestnut Tree Class will have a new full time teacher starting in January called Miss Emily Lake who is full of fun and excitement and will be great for the class team.

The children will all have time to familiarise themselves with these changes before Christmas to ease transitions.

Year 6 Christmas Fair Stall

A few girls from Year 6 are running a stall to raise money for their year 6 leavers party. If you have any childrens toys and childrens books you could donate they would be very grateful. Please could you leave them at the front desk labelled for Year 6. Thank you.

Future dates for your diary <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/calendar/256154>

Children in Need day Friday 18th November. Theme is a SPOTacular Children in Need Day for £1.00 donation.

Christmas lights Totnes – The Grove children will be singing at the opening from 3.50 until 4.10 on Tuesday 29th November – Please see the poster in this newsletter.

Grove Christmas Fair on the morning of Saturday 3rd December in the school

Open session for parents and carers Monday 5th December 3.30 until 5pm

Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 6th December

Year 3 and 4 Show The Nutcracker - There will be two performances on Thursday 8th December at 1.45pm that siblings can attend and 6pm at KEVICC Ariel Centre.

Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 9th December

Year 1 and 2 Christmas Sing Song in school hall on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th December. It will start at 2.15pm

Reception Nativity in school hall on Wednesday 14th December in school hall, 2.15pm start

Christmas party days to be confirmed

Last day of term is Friday 16th December

First day back is Wednesday 4th January 2023

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, 2023 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 Tuesday 13th December.

PTA Personalised Christmas Cards

Hopefully you have all received the email inviting your children and families to design their own Christmas cards. This is a lovely chance for you to have cards printed with personalised art work or pictures to send to family and friends. It also helps support the PTA fundraising efforts.

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.



Open night on Tuesday 29th November.- Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

We are hoping to re-open with hopefully a Beaver Colony, Cub Pack and Scout Troop in Totnes and will be having an offers Scouting for young people aged 6 to 14 and the Scout hut is located on Streamer Quay.

The open night is an opportunity for young people to attend with their parents to take part in some Scouting activities, this will be for young people aged 6 to 14yrs. It will also provide an opportunity to talk to parents and other interested adults about how they could support the Scout Group.



Try Scouting for free at our open event



Come and join our open event and try Scouting for free. We've got activities for girls and boys aged 6-17yrs and more information for parents.

When: Tuesday 29th November 2022
Where: 3rd Totnes Sea Scouts
The Scout Hut
Streamer Quay
Totnes
TQ9 5AL
Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Contact: Danielle Doyle
danielle.doyle@scouts.org.uk
07930 262183

Use the QR code to register your interest online.

scouts.org.uk

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FAMILY FESTIVE FUN



'TIS THE SEASON TO BE
JOLLY UP ON THE ESTATE...



HIBERNATION



LITTLE BULB THEATRE
SATURDAY 3RD AND
SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER
PERFECT FOR AGES 3-7

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

3RD, 4TH
& 10TH
DECEMBER

NATUREMAKE CHRISTMAS!

POM-POM TREE DECORATIONS

POMPOM AND TASSEL GARLAND

WILLOW STAR WAND



KIDS MEAL DEAL

AT THE WHITE HART



STARTER, MAIN & DESSERT JUST £8!

Dartington
Trust

BOOKING NOW AT
DARTINGTON.ORG/CHRISTMAS