



# THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

## SHOUT OUTS TO ....

**From Dove Tree Class, Seth for Learning and effort in writing and spelling and Emily P for Learning and great progress in reading.**

**From Lime Tree Class, Natasha for Happiness and having the most amazingly positive attitude and Flo for Learning with some fantastic writing.**

**From Lilac Tree Class, Orla for Happiness and perseverance even when tricky and Persie for Love and always trying her best.**

**From Willow Tree Class, Alex for Love and being a kind friend and class member and Matilda for Learning and super handwriting.**

**From Mountain Ash Tree Class, Aurora for a fantastic Learning attitude and Elsha for Happiness and positivity.**

**From Juniper Tree Class, Aoife for Learning and smashing lots of tasks and Aphra for Love and sharing so much kindness.**

**From Ginkgo Tree Class, Ruby T and Jemima, both for Learning in arithmetic.**

**From Trumpet Tree Class, Liam and Isaac, both for Happiness and doing such an amazing tree planting job.**

**From Flame Tree Class, Rory for Happiness and super Learning in maths and Tyler for Individuality for being so kind, caring and helpful**

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

### **Here are the essentials in summary:**

- ☺ Parent consults are open and ready to book on our website on Parents Evening Tab
- ☺ Can you help with the new playground development? 10 am to 2 pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February
- ☺ Last day of this term is Friday and first day back is Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February
- ☺ Willow Tree class swimming – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February
- ☺ World Book Day – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, includes a book swap, reading café and a competition!
- ☺ Children's author Anthea Simmons visits The Grove on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- ☺ Update on school heating and hot water – the classrooms and offices are all warm enough as they are being heated by electric heaters. The hall is warm enough for PE and lunch. The NHS say hot water is not necessary for hand washing – just soap and a 20 second thorough wash. See email sent earlier today for details.

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



### **World Book Day**

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 7th March** and we have lots of fun things planned for the day. The children will be able to come to school dressed as a book character or in their pyjamas and the PTA will be selling second hand costumes in the reception area from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Book Swap!**

We aren't collecting mufti money this time, but if you would like to donate a preloved, good quality book from your family, then we will be collecting these in from Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> February. There will be a Y5/6, Y3/4, YR and Y1/2 and pre-school box at the front entrance to put your donations in. (Please can we request that you don't donate annuals, colouring books etc) On World Book Day, we are hoping that these boxes will be available throughout the day for the children to choose a book from should they wish to, but this will depend upon the number of books donated.

### **Reading Café**

During the afternoon of World Book Day (7<sup>th</sup> March) from 2pm until 5pm we will be running a reading café in the school hall, like we did last year, where parents/carers can come in and share books with their children. There will also be tea, coffee, squash and cakes for sale and parents/carers can come drop in at a time convenient for them.

## **Competition**

We'd like to invite the children to join in with our competition linked to World Book Day by making a 3D book character/scene! Entries can be brought in from Monday 3rd March and need to be in by March 7th in order to be entered into the competition. More information about



prizes/judging etc will be announced closer to the time.

## **Parent Consult Information**

Monday 3rd March 2:30-5:20pm 8 min slots - All classes face to face in the hall except Lilac Tree

Tuesday 4th March 2:30-5:00 8 min slots - Trumpet and Ginkgo online

Treecreepers and Mountain Ash face to face

Wednesday 5th March 2:30-5:00 8 min slots – Robins, Lilac, Willow and Juniper face to face

Thursday 6th March 2:30-5:00 8 min slots - Flame online

Thursday 13th March 2:30-5:00 8 min slots - Dove, Lime and Lilac face to face

Please go to the website and login using your email address and password. If you can't manage just call us to help.

A screenshot of the eSchools website login page. The page features the eSchools logo at the top left, with navigation links for 'Contact support' and 'Visit school website'. The main content area has a 'Please login...' header and a 'Picture Login' option. Below this are input fields for 'Username or Email Address' and 'Password', followed by a green 'LOGIN' button. At the bottom, there is a 'CLICK HERE' link for password recovery and a 'Manage your cookie preferences' link.

## **PLAYGROUND HELP**

If anyone is free between 10 am and 2 pm on Thursday 20th February (during half term), we would really welcome some help with the playground development. This would include things like: constructing a mud kitchen, sorting the shed, fixing a shed door, tip runs, de-nailing pallets.

Please let me know if you are free so that I know who to expect on the day.

[helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Many thanks.



### **History taught at The Grove – A quick summary of what we do and what we are planning next:**

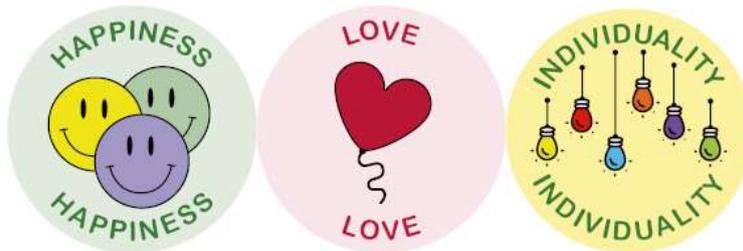
As part of our ongoing improvements to the curriculum, we have been monitoring the teaching of history across the school. Our findings confirmed that your children seem to love history as a topic. They could remember much of their learning and appreciated the importance of history as a subject. They thought that it was useful to learn about history as we can learn from past mistakes and make a better future. Some thought that learning about the past was more interesting than learning about present times as they already know about the present! All the children asked could talk about memorable history lessons (Victorian Days, Roman shields, Stone Age axes and the like!) and we really appreciate the enthusiasm you have shown for their learning, whether it be helping them with a costume or putting that axe in pride-of-place above the mantelpiece! Our next steps are to continue to refine the curriculum and make sure we include lots more memorable and practical historical experiences.

Mr. Gude.

### **BBC 500 Words Competition**

Well done to all of the children who entered the BBC 500 Words competition. There were over 15,000 entries and some of our children made it through to the last 5,000. They were: Idris Honney, Jola Bruce Korn, Moby Roupell, Charlie Batt, Eliza Greaves and Denis Govan. What a great achievement.

Unfortunately, none of the children made it through to the final 50 but we will be announcing our own school winners and giving out certificates the week beginning the 10th of March as part of our celebrations around World Book Day.

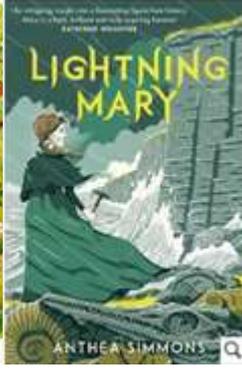


### **Author Visit!!**

We have an extremely exciting visitor coming into The Grove on Wednesday 12th March.

Anthea Simmons is a local author who has written a range of fantastic books. She will be sharing these with key stage 2 in addition to encouraging children at The Grove to share books they enjoy and start writing their own stories. KS2 will be sharing their stories and recommendations with KS1 and reception as part of Anthea's visit and continuing our celebration of books and story-writing after World Book Day the preceding week.

Anthea's books will be stocked at Eastgate Bookshop, these are more appropriate for Key Stage 2, Anthea has written books for smaller children which are available second hand on Amazon but are no longer in print. If your child purchases a book they will have the opportunity to get it signed after Anthea has finished working with the children.



[https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/eastgatebookshop\\_totnes](https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/eastgatebookshop_totnes)

### **Y 1/2 Spring Concert – save the date!**

Y1/2 will be putting on a Spring concert on Tuesday 1st April and Thursday 3rd April at 2.15pm. We will send home letters closer to the time where you will be able to request 2 tickets per family for the date of your choice.

### **Come Dine with me**

We are delighted to offer an opportunity for parents to join their child for a school lunch. You are invited to join your child and have a school dinner with them at their lunch time. If you have more than one child it might be nice to book separate days for each child.

To book, please look at the menu and choose your date and let the admin team know at the front desk or by email.

Meals cost £2.50, please bring cash with you when you arrive.

Meal times:

Acorns – Reception class – 11:30am

Dove, Lime and Lilac – Year 1 and 2 – 12:00 midday

Juniper, Mountain Ash, Willow – Year 3 and 4 – 12:20pm

Flame, Ginkgo, Trumpet- Year 5 and 6 – 12:40pm

### **Could you donate to our benevolent fund to support other families?**

Our benevolent fund is running dry – if you could donate any small amount via parent pay it is a really beneficial service for our families who can't afford school trips etc.

### **Have you joined our School Lottery?**

It's an easy way to support the school with some nice winnings available too.

[https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/referral/1049834246/750386967?utm\\_source=manual](https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/referral/1049834246/750386967?utm_source=manual)

### **PTA News and Upcoming events**

REMEMBER - if you can help in any way, please let us know

7<sup>th</sup> March: 2 - 5pm: World Book Day Reading Cafe and Cake Sale.

*(Please note that this is the day after the National World Book Day for staffing reasons.)*

7<sup>th</sup> March: Easter Hamper Tickets go on sale.

10<sup>th</sup> March: Mother's Day Gift order forms to be given out.

14<sup>th</sup> March: Lilac Tree Bake Sale



17<sup>th</sup> March: Closing date for Mother's Day gift orders.  
21<sup>st</sup> March: Lime Tree Bake Sale  
21<sup>st</sup> March: Easter Bingo Night in the school hall  
27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March: Mother's Day gifts to be sent home.  
28<sup>th</sup> March: Easter Disco  
4<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Bonnet/Hat judging  
4<sup>th</sup> April: Draw Easter Hamper

**Movie night fundraising total was just over £800 so a big THANK YOU.**

### **World Book Day Costumes**

If your child has grown out of any dressing up costumes, we would love them to sell to parents for World Book Day to cut down the cost for everyone.  
Please drop items in a bag marked PTA at the front desk. Thank you!

### **Pre Loved School Uniform**

Lots of sizes available – in the front entrance for a donation.

### **The Grove School PTA Facebook Page**

The Grove School PTA Facebook Page will also keep you up to date on events and fundraisers – eg, bake sales, fairs, discos etc.

### **Dates for your diary this term** <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/calendar/256154>

First day back – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Willow Tree Swimming – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 6 weeks - ParentPay

Reception children vision screening in school – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Parent consultations starting week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> March – The Grove School website - parents evening tab

Year 5 one night residential Okehampton Adventure – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Reception and year 6 Heights and Weights National programme – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March

SEND Meeting – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March

Y1/2 Spring concert - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.15pm

Y1/2 Spring concert - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 2.15pm

Last day of term Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

First day back is Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

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.*

### Message from The Grove School PTA

We (The PTA) would like to say THANK YOU to all the parents, carers, grandparents and friends for all your support and generosity that you give us.

We are aware that we keep asking for prizes and other donations as this enables us to continue fundraising and support the children in school with extra things the budget doesn't provide.

So far since September we have funded:-

Little Wandle reading books

Extension of the Key Stage 1 canopies outside the classrooms

Swimming course training for teachers and TAs

Revamping of the playground

Some of the money has also been put aside for the ongoing fund raising for new Astro Turf for the playground.

We really appreciate everything you all do by supporting our fundraising events.

Kind regards – The PTA team

### One to One piano lessons with Jaz.

Would your child like to come for a trial **piano** lesson?

In it they learn to play by ear, explore the instrument, how to read notes, and are introduced to music theory. I am currently teaching Piano to **ALL Year groups** and some **SPACES** have become available.

### Duet lessons with Jaz.

For those in Key stage 1, I am delighted to offer this special opportunity for children to explore **PIANO playing**. This learning programme is designed for **TWO PIANISTS ON TWO PIANOS** to have their lesson together and learn how to duet!!

Please get in touch for more info:

Jaz [jazgayle@gmail.com](mailto:jazgayle@gmail.com)

07530379198