



### Weekly Newsletter

[admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)  
<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>  
[www.facebook.com/thegroveschool](https://www.facebook.com/thegroveschool)

**Headteacher: Hilary Priest**  
**Newsletter No: Summer 10**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**30th June 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Children's school reports for 20-21**

The children's school reports will be emailed to you over the week beginning the 12<sup>th</sup> July. If you don't have yours by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> please get in touch immediately. If you require yours as a paper copy, then please also let us know. We will email the reports to one parent and would appreciate if you could forward the report to the other parent or carer. Please ensure we have your current email address if you have changed yours since September 2020.

We will not be entering assessment scores this year because no formal assessments are required of primary schools due to COVID 19 interruptions. There will, however, be comments which do show you a clear picture of where your child is in terms of curriculum age related expectations based on our teacher assessments and their knowledge of your child.

Rebecca will email out the following classes on the days stated below:-

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July – Acorns (Robins and Treecreepers) and Lime

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Dove and Beech

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Chestnut and Mountain Ash

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Golden Cedar and Flame

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July – Trumpet and Ginkgo

### **COVID 19 update**

We have inundated you a bit this week with COVID info but talking to other schools the next 4 weeks look like they may bring an increase in cases and therefore bubble closures. You need to have plans in place for what to do if we have to close a bubble that your child is in. In Primary we can't do the close contacts system that secondary's can because our children can't stay put in one place for long so seating plans don't work and children mix continuously. Therefore, when a case comes in the whole class has to isolate.

### **A Lateral Flow Test – the quick 30 minutes one - SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR SYMPTOMS**

these are only for people testing regularly with no symptoms to ensure they don't unknowingly bring a case into school.

The main change to the current guidance is that if we have a positive case and your child as a 'contact' has to isolate – then they will also need to do a PCR test (the one at the testing centres or through the post – not the lateral flow test) – see the box below:

Identify close contacts and self-isolate for 10 days from the date of their last contact with the case.

Advise all close contacts to take a PCR test.

Contacts have to complete 10 days of isolation even if they get a negative PCR.

Household of contacts do not need to isolate.

This letter is from Devon County Council:

Key messages for parents from Devon County Council Public Health Team

### COVID-19 update

As you may have seen in the news, cases of COVID-19 are rising again. Here in Devon we still have lower rates than many parts of the country, but it is expected that Devon's rates will continue to rise as we all start to socialise more. This is starting to be reflected in the rise in positive cases among school age children in the county.

We want to thank parents and carers for all you are doing to help keep school communities safe – and ask everyone to keep going with the 'hands, face, space and fresh air' measures when you and your family are out and about, as well as at school:

- Wash hands frequently
- Use face coverings where required, including school transport, public transport, and indoor public spaces
- Make space – keep your social distance
- Choose to meet outside in the fresh air where possible

Regular testing also helps to stop the spread of the virus – here's a reminder of what tests are available and when to use them:

#### LFD tests (Lateral Flow Device)

· LFD tests can identify people with lots of the virus and who are very infectious. 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading the virus to other people without knowing. These tests are for people who do not have any symptoms of coronavirus. They provide quick results within half an hour, so that you can get on with your day if you test negative, remembering to keep following public health guidance. If you test positive, you'll need to arrange a follow-up PCR test (see below). LFD tests are available for all adults and secondary aged pupils to test twice weekly. You can pick them up for free from your local pharmacy, and they are available to order online for home delivery. Assistance with the test is available at any of our Community Testing sites. You can find details about where our sites are across Devon on our website, [devon.cc/flow](https://devon.cc/flow).

#### PCR tests (Polymerase Chain Reaction)

· PCR tests are more sensitive and used to confirm if someone has COVID-19. The result takes longer as it is processed in a lab. PCR tests are for people with COVID-19 symptoms – high temperature, new and continuous cough, change to usual sense of taste or smell - or for follow up after a positive LFD result. Close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case can also get a PCR test.

Please remember to report test results on the national website as well as to the school, this helps us monitor cases and support quick and appropriate action to keep schools operating as normal.

You can keep up to date with the latest coronavirus news from Devon County Council at [devon.cc/covid-19](https://devon.cc/covid-19)

### **PTA Bags2School**

Many thanks to all of you who donated the textile bags for collection we made £70 which is a great effort and even better that the clothes/shoes etc will be recycled and put to good use.

PTA Survey Monkey. I have really appreciated the time taken to complete this survey and comment on the proposal. All of this has been considered. With 96.5% of the votes supporting the proposal to fund new playground equipment we have started to get quotes and ideas together on what we could purchase. I will keep you updated on the progress of this. Just a reminder that the Survey Monkey was anonymous so thank you to

those that offered support, please contact me directly if you can be of any help ([pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk))

### **PTA support for playtime toys**

Jenni and Cherry will be coming in over the summer holidays to clean the lunchtime toys ready for September, we are anticipating that a lot of the toys will need replacing.

We are asking parents if they have any Happyland toys, cars, dolls, my little ponies, plastic animals, dinosaurs, construction toys, Lego, Knex etc. We would also really appreciate any books from Reception to Year 6 for lunchtime use. We would be very grateful for any donations, if you could mark your donation for "JENNI PTA" and drop it off at the main doors to Rebecca (preferably earlier in the week) that would be fantastic. Thank you!

### **PTA School Lottery**

With the initial plans starting to take shape for the playground equipment we are really keen to increase our fundraising potential. For those that haven't already signed up for the school lottery this is a really easy simple way to raise money for the school whilst also giving you the chance of winning the guaranteed local weekly prize or scooping the £25000 jackpot. The link to sign up is <http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-grove-school-totnes>. We are also going to promote this to the local community. If any of the children would like to post some flyers through neighbours doors please get in touch with me. Thank you!

Kind regards – Hilary Priest



**Go wild for reading with the Summer Reading Challenge!**

Visit your local library this summer to take part in the Wild World Heroes Summer Reading Challenge. This year The Reading Agency has partnered with WWF to create an exciting challenge which will inspire children to take action for nature and the environment. Join the Wild World Heroes for an exciting adventure in the fictional town of 'Wilderville'. Through reading books, collecting rewards and learning all about our planet, Challenge participants will help the Heroes make Wilderville a greener place to live. With stickers to collect and plenty of brilliant books to enjoy, the Challenge is the perfect summer activity to build young readers' skills and confidence during the long break from school. Children who manage to read 6 or more books will earn a special medal and certificate.

Wild World Heroes launches on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July and runs until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021. You can find out more here [Devon Libraries](#) or here [Torbay Libraries](#)

