



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year, it is so lovely to have a school filled with smiley, happy children – who are all exceptionally well behaved and polite – a complete credit to you all. Thank you for all being very respectful about social distancing and our drop off and pick up routines, we appreciate your support. If you do need to speak to a teacher, we can pass on any messages or you could email them. We can now hold face to face meetings but these need to be by appointment only please.

What is happening this week and next

Chestnut tree have started swimming at Totnes swimming pool on Mondays. Some of our Year 6's are completing the bikeability course Level 1 and 2. Year 5 have been continuing with A Totnes Tale project. On Monday all our Year 5 and Year 6 classes will be starting to take part in the Totnes Renewable Energy Society project. Tresoc have created the REEL programme to encourage learning about renewable energy technologies – both how they fit into the local landscape and address wider energy issues.

Uniform, Coats, PE Kit, lunch boxes, water bottles, coats - Landfill

Last year we had an awful lot of clothes, uniform, lunchboxes and water bottles that all went to landfill because it was unnamed. Please could you label anything that comes into school. There is a climate emergency and as a school we would like to do our bit.

Allergy Aware School

We are no longer a nut-free school but aim to manage allergies through education and awareness so that children become able to manage all allergies for themselves or others in school and then in the outside world. Please note that all classes contain children with food allergies and children should never share food that has been brought from home. We really appreciate your support in being an 'Allergy Aware School' and helping us in the process of educating the children in this. We have children that are allergic to kiwi, pineapple, strawberries, tomatoes, soya, dairy, gluten, hazelnuts, peanuts, nuts, eggs, raw peppers, raw tomatoes, legumes, rapeseed oil, seafood, shellfish, mustard, artificial sugars, artificial colouring and fizzy based drinks.

Absences from school

If your child is ill, then please ensure the school knows as early as possible by emailing or calling. The school need to know what symptoms your child has. COVID should no longer keep children away from school unless they personally have contracted it. The new guidance is that all children should attend school, even if COVID is in their household.

Children should not be kept off school for vague symptoms such as tiredness, headache or tummy ache and not every illness needs to keep your child from school. Evidence needs to be supplied if children have 5 days of illness or if your child's attendance is 96% or below.

A copy of our attendance policy can be found on our website <http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web>

The school is unable to authorise holidays following a change in government guidance but if you want your child to have time off school then you must fill in a form (S2 Absence Request Form) which can be collected from reception. Each term the Education Welfare Officer reviews the percentage of absences your child has had.

Forgotten items and messages for children

Please could all parents and carers try to remember to give their children all that they need for the day, this includes water bottles, snacks, lunch boxes, bookbags, coats, PE kits, Forest School Kit, music books, musical instruments, homework and after school snacks (all named please).

Please tell your children in the morning at drop off who will be picking up your children at the end of the day. Play dates need to be arranged prior to drop off and any changes for pick-ups will only be dealt with if an emergency occurs and the school cannot pass on messages to children.

We try to keep office interruptions to a minimum as forgotten items have to be taken to the children in their class which takes time but also interrupts their learning.

Late Children in the morning and late parents picking up

We are required to monitor children's punctuality and attendance. On-going lateness (after the class register has been taken) is classified as an unauthorised absence and this is contrary to The Education Act.

All late children need to be signed in by the parent that is bringing them to school.

If you are experiencing difficulties with punctuality and would like to talk to us please come and make an appointment.

Medications in school

Please could we remind all parents with children that have or need medications on site i.e. inhalers, epipens, antihistamines that these are all checked that they are still in date. Please also inform us about any updates to the health care plans.

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.



FUNDRAISER FOR
DARTINGTON POOL



WAVE ON

8PM - 11.00PM • FRIDAY 10TH SEP

IN THE NEW LION BREWERY TAPROOM
MEADOWBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE, DARTINGTON, TQ96JD

LET OUR DJ'S ROCK YOUR WORLD
BID IN OUR AUCTION FOR EXPERIENCES AND
ITEMS THAT MONEY CAN'T USUALLY BUY!

FOOD AVAILABLE FROM PIZZALOGICA

FOLLOW OUR EVENT
PAGE ON FACEBOOK

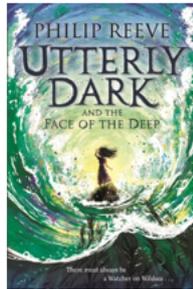
 @DARTINGTONSWIMMINGPOOL

TICKETS £7.70

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.WEGOTTICKETS.COM/EVENT/517630/

**Meet bestselling
author Philip Reeve
at Totnes Cinema
on Saturday 11th September,
3:00pm until 4:00pm**

Entry is free and there will be
delicious cup-cakes and all
manner of drinks available



Philip will be talking about and introducing us to the characters and themes in his latest book.

Utterly Dark and the Face of the Deep

This will be a fabulous afternoon treat for children of all ages – and grown-ups too