



THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 21st February

SHOUT OUTS TO

Dylan for Learning and Ferial for Happiness in Dove Tree Class.

Natasha for Love and Zoe for Happiness in Lilac Tree Class.

Millie for Happiness and Atticus for Learning in Lime Tree Class.

Jack for Learning and Grace for Individuality in Willow Tree Class.

Hattie for Learning and Isabel for Happiness in Mountain Ash Tree Class.

Abdul for Learning and Iris FW for Love in Juniper Tree Class.

Jody for Learning and Leilani for Love in Flame Tree Class.

Immy for Happiness and Levi for Love in Gingko Tree Class

Charlie BD for Learning and Amelia for Learning in Trumpet Tree Class.



Welcome back after The Half Term Holiday. We hope you had a super week.

Ground works volunteers needed

We have been lucky to have been allocated an allotment near the river but it does need some good digging and clearing before we can get started. Could you let us know if you could spare some time and help us get the ground ready for planting veg for our school lunches.

Raising money to repair the school field and update our play and lunchtime areas

15 years ago we were lucky to have our school field transformed into an Astro turf space from a very soggy and uneven field. The children loved it. Local community clubs used it and loved it as it is right here in the centre of Totnes. It drained well, it withstood the weather and we used it continuously. 15 years on and it is looking very sad and has lumps and bumps where it shouldn't have - even birds bath in some of the dips that fill with water! We desperately need to repair the drainage and replace the astro so that our school and community can use it well again.

We also want to create zones on our small playground for those children who like the fresh air but less of the running around and also for those children who like the fresh air and love the running around! We'd love to build a shelter for wet and rainy days and have more equipment for the children to engage with at playtimes and lunchtimes. Maybe have a sensory area, a creative space etc too (any great ideas welcome).

If you can, please donate so we can reinstate this great space. <https://gofund.me/7be9e66e>

If you know of any local community organisations including home schoolers, community sports groups, creative groups, exercise classes etc etc who would like to help us and potentially use the space out of school times, then please share.



A huge THANK YOU to Jenni, Mrs P, Cherry and Rebecca who have given up so much of their half term to transform our Staff room and SEND meeting room/offices. The spaces make everyone feel so HAPPY.



Share successes out of school – we love children bringing their certificates and medals from clubs out of school to share in assemblies – we love the individuality that the children have and want to celebrate. Please send your child in with any celebrations of achievement for assemblies on Fridays



After School Club

Just to make you all aware, after school club will be closed for staff training on the following Mondays this term:

26th February / 11th March, many thanks for your understanding. Sarah Alford

Donations of Gold Frames

Do you have any old frames hanging around that we could use? We are looking particularly for gold coloured frames but we could paint other suitable frames that would take paint – any shapes or sizes please. It is for the front entrance re-vamp and frames are a lovely way to display children's art and photos.

Parent Consultations commencing Thursday 28th February

Booking forms will be ready for you for tomorrow. You will get an email, but if you want you can just call and we can book you in.

Thursday 28th February will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm for Flame Tree class

Monday 4th March will be all classes face to face in school hall 2pm until 5pm

Tuesday 5th March will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm for Trumpet Tree, Ginkgo Tree, Mountain Ash Tree and Lilac Tree

Wednesday 6th March will be online (Teams) 3pm until 5pm for Robins, Treecreepers and Juniper Tree

Thursday 7th March will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm Lime Tree and Willow Tree

Thursday 14th March will be online (Teams) 2pm until 5pm Dove Tree

Teams invitations will be sent out either the day before or in the morning of the day. The invite will be sent to only one parent in the group so please forward this to the other person taking part. There will be a Teams waiting room system.



WRITING COMPETITION - AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY

Hugo's (in Juniper) Grandad from Totnes Bookshop has kindly organised this amazing opportunity for all children from Year 1 upwards, with amazing prizes for first, second and third place.

TOTNES COMMUNITY WRITING COMPETITION FOR THE GROVE SCHOOL

Interpret this as you wish. Create a piece of writing all about CASTLES! This could be a story, it could be a piece of non-fiction writing all about the history of castles, it could be about one castle or many castles - for example, English, French or Spanish.

THE PRIZES!

Years 1, 2 and 3: First Prize: £25

Second Prize: £15

Third Prize: £10

Years 4, 5 and 6: First Prize: £50

Second Prize: £30

Third Prize: £20

**THE CLOSING DATE IS THIS FRIDAY: Friday 23rd February
GO FOR IT!**

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March and we will be celebrating in school within our classes by looking at books related to our school values of love, communication, learning, individuality and happiness. The children are welcome to come to school dressed up as a favourite book character or in their pyjamas ready for a bedtime story!

Here's a link to some ideas for simple

costumes: <https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/>

Reading Café Drop In

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are running a reading café from 1.45-3pm on Thursday 7th March in the hall. Come along and share a book with your child/children and enjoy a cup of tea and a home-made biscuit made by Marco! If you can't make the 7th and would like to come and read with your child in school, do get in touch with your child's class teacher to arrange another time towards the end of the day during story time.

World Book Day Competition

This year we will be running the design a 'potato character' competition where the children can make a character from a book using a potato. Two years ago we had some fabulous entries and East Gate Bookshop came and judged the competition for us. Entries can be brought in throughout the week beginning 4th March and need to be in by the Friday 8th March and the winners will be announced the following week. Please label your potato characters with your child's name and class.

Have a look at some ideas here: <https://www.parrotstreet.com/blogs/posts/make-world-book-day-potato-characters>

Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre Visit

Yesterday we were very lucky to welcome Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre into school to run a workshop/draw-a-long and present some prizes for our in-house BBC 500 Words competition. We also updated the children on the actual BBC competition too. The children had a fantastic time learning about Philip and Sarah's latest collaboration 'Adventure Mice.' They listened to an extract from 'Otter Chaos' and learnt how to draw the character Pedro, as well as designing and playing a board game! Find out more about the Adventure Mice series here:

<https://www.adventuremice.com/>

some more photos here on Sarah's

blog: <https://jabberworks.livejournal.com/918594.html>



BBC 500 Words Results

All of the children that took part in the BBC 500 Words competition did an amazing job and wrote some truly inspiring stories. Seven of our children made it through to the final 5000, but, sadly, none of them made it through to the final 50. Well done to Aoife, Nia, Lyddon, Theo Key, Evie Dunk, Olive and Blossom for making it through to the final 5000.

Congratulations to our in-house winners who were chosen by an independent judge unattached to the school, and thank you very much to the PTA for providing the book vouchers as prizes.

Age 8-11

1st place – Olive Ledger

2nd place – Cerys Rowley

3rd place – Iris Fernyhough-White

Age 5-7

1st place – Theo Key

2nd place – Eliza Greaves

3rd place – Riley Tomlinson

Pasta Making Workshop

Yesterday Dove Tree Class spent the afternoon with Marco making pasta! Marco showed the children how to make pasta and use a pasta machine to press and shape the dough. The children then got messy and made their own pasta shapes which they will get to sample at lunchtime today!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Mountain Ash class swimming – Monday 19th February for 6 weeks this is on ParentPay

Parent Consults – Week commencing Monday 4th March

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Year 5 One night residential – Wednesday 27th March

Last day of term for Easter holidays - Thursday 28th March

First day of term – Monday 15th 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.