



THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 23rd April

Don't have time to read all the newsletter?

Here are the essentials in summary:

- ☺ Potential pre-school at The Grove – please let us know if it would be of interest to you.
- ☺ Thank you to Jenni, Lucy & Lily for repainting the school hall, and Jenni for our magical Easter display.
- ☺ Update on admission policy for Churston
- ☺ PTA news, events and ways to help the school. Summer Disco permission forms out next week.

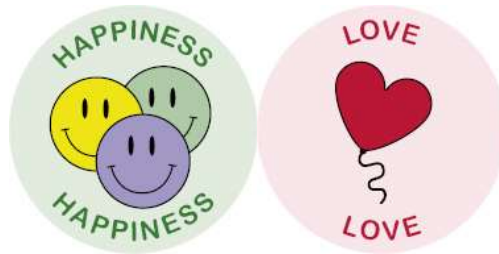
More info on all these below or ask at the front desk



Potential pre-school at The Grove!!

As a school we are always looking for ways to serve our community and it's needs. We have had discussions with local nursery providers and Devon County Council and we can see there is a need for more provision for younger children in Totnes. We are in the early stages of seeing whether running a term-time only, school day based class for those 3 and 4 year olds who will start school next September 2026 would be of interest. Parents could use their nursery funding and private funding for either 15 hours or 30 hours a week. We could potentially start this class from September 2025. If you feel this would be of use to you, or anyone you know then could you (or they) email me at head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk.

We are also investigating using the school for holiday clubs as again there is a real need in Totnes, but will get back to you on this.



Massive thank you

A massive thank you to Jenni Rowe and Lucy and Lily Grierson Jackson who took time out of their Easter holiday to repaint our school hall for us. It looks so fresh and clean – we are very grateful.

Spring has arrived at The Grove!

Thanks again to Jenni for another magical display for the children to enjoy in school.





Churston Ferrers Grammar School has updated its admissions policy for September 2026

The admissions policy change addresses the issue of students from increasingly distant areas (90 minute + journey times) securing places at the expense of qualified students from the school's more immediate locality.

The new policy prioritises:

- Looked after children, previously looked after children, and those with EHCPs naming Churston.
- The top 50 highest-scoring students, regardless of location or primary school attended.
- Students eligible for Free School Meals, Pupil Premium, or Service Pupil Premium; those with siblings already at Churston; children of staff; and students from 15 designated local feeder schools in Torbay.
- Remaining places are allocated based on 11+ score rank order.

This aims to balance local access with merit-based admissions. While approximately 20 more local, qualified students will gain places who would have previously missed out on a purely rank-ordered allocation, ten additional Year 7 places have been created to minimize the impact on overall admission chances. Essentially, for families at The Grove, the situation remains the same: students take the 11+ and are ranked by score, with the majority of places at Churston being awarded based on the child's place in the rank order.

The [policy in full can be read here](#), and there is a more detailed explanation of the change, and the reasons behind it, [here](#).

The next Open Day event at Churston is on Thursday 26 June - there are tours of the school during the day and into the evening.

KEVICC

We are just awaiting a date for Mr Salt to come and talk to parents this half term about Kevicc. We will let you know as soon as we hear back.

PTA NEWS

Upcoming Events Summary

25th April: Dove Tree Class bake sale

2nd May: Mountain Ash bake sale

9th May: Summer disco

12th May: Father's Day forms out

16th May: Willow bake sale

23rd May: Mufti for sweets

23rd May: Juniper bake sale

23rd May: Whole school sponsor forms out

2nd June: Last day for Father's Day forms back

6th June: Trumpet bake sale



9th – 13th June: Sponsored run week

13th June: Flame bake sale

13th June: Father's Day gift home

20th June: Ginkgo bake sale

27th June: Acorn bake sale

4th July: Summer Fair/Mufti

11th July: Ice lolly/cake sale

Easter Hamper Winners

Large hamper – Delilah H

Large chick & egg – Isabel L

Gift bags – Flo E, Atticus P, Alicia W & Rainer

Easter Bonnet/Hat competition

Thank you to everyone who took part, it was fantastic to see so many fabulous and amazing hats!

Acorns

1st Seth

2nd Bonnie Rose

3rd Freya

Year 3/4

1st Finlay

2nd Mia

3rd Amy

Year 1/2

1st Zoe

2nd Cara

3rd Fraser

Year 5/6

1st Phoebe

2nd Immy

3rd Bella & Lorelei

Summer Disco

Permission slips will be sent out next week.

If you can help, especially with Acorns, 1/2 disco that would be great (they love the tattoos), please let Jenni know.



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

School closed May Bank holiday – Monday 5th May

Year 6 SATS – Monday until Thursday 15th May

Year 6 Woodlands Fun day – Friday 16th May

Half Term – Monday 26th until Friday 30th May

First Day back – Monday 2nd June

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.