



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Summer 12

Telephone 01803 862018
14th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

September and Covid

We wanted to update you on how we should progress in September with regard to Covid. It seems the new variant is hitting primary schools hard this time with much younger children catching the virus. We have reviewed our risk assessment and the guidance from the Government and there are some things that we will keep in place in September as they do seem to work for us and have managed to keep us open and safe – for the most part. We do still have some extremely vulnerable staff, children and relatives within school households so we appreciate not all will approve of these measures to continue in the short term but keeping our school community safe is our highest priority so we appreciate your understanding.

Drop off – drop off for Y3/4 (and their siblings) should still be at the front door between 8:45 and 9am, parents will continue to say bye outside. Drop off for all other years will be on the field between 8:45 and 9am. Parents will continue to say bye at the far end of the field. (Just as a note to this one – the children's transition from home to school has, in general, been much improved by this system and even the youngest of our school cope brilliantly with this.)

Collection/Pick up – Year 3/4 and their siblings outside the front door between 3:10 and 3:20. Reception at the far end of the field at 3:05-10 and all other year groups will come out between 3:10 and 3:20. Gates will be locked after the last child has left.

Bubbles – We will have some segregation still in school – Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be a bubble, Year 3 and 4 another and Year 5 and 6 the other. This is just to prevent a major outbreak spreading through the whole school and is not for isolation purposes.

Assemblies - We will continue whole school assemblies on zoom, bubble assemblies, including singing can restart. We won't resume praise assemblies with an audience in the Autumn term.

Parents in school – we will welcome parents in school by appointment only.

Parent consultations – in the Autumn term these will remain online.

Cleaning – we will continue to employ cleaners to clean throughout the day to ensure we are as Covid free as possible. We will keep rooms well ventilated. Children will continue to wash and sanitise their hands regularly.

Lunchtimes - We will revert to old lunchtime patterns – Reception at 11:45, Year 1 and 2 at 12pm, Year 3 and 4 at 12:30pm and Year 5 and 6 at 1:00pm.

Isolation – from what we understand, isolation when connected to a case will no longer occur but isolation will be needed for a positive lateral flow. If this is followed by a positive PCR test result the person will continue to isolate. This means we won't need to close a bubble, unless we have staffing issues or a major outbreak. We will still send children and staff home who have symptoms themselves. If you have a positive case in your household, then it is my understanding that the whole family should isolate – but there may be clarification on this later! The school will no longer make track and trace decisions – this will be done by track and trace themselves but this won't affect the under 18s who will only have to isolate if they themselves test positive.

Sports Day for Beech, Dove and Lime Tree class

Your child will be taking part in our Sports Day on Thursday. This was going to take place during the afternoon, but has had to be moved to the morning. As a consequence, we would like the children to come to school wearing their team colour sports kit. It will be fine for them to wear it all day, so please don't feel that you have to pack uniform and shoes for them to change into once they have finished. Your child will bring their PE kit home with them on Wednesday and this will not need to be returned to school after they have worn it on Sports Day. **PLEASE COULD ALL CHILDREN BRING A NAMED DRINKS BOTTLE.**



Provisional Booking of Year 6 Residential for Next Academic Year

We have made a provisional booking for the Year 6 residential for this Autumn. This trip would be at the usual Okehampton residential centre and feature all the regular activities. The cost of the trip would be £295 per child. The trip is booked for Monday 18th to Friday 22nd October. We appreciate that this is a lot of money and that there is minimal time for fundraising. The school will not be organising fundraising activities in the Autumn term. However, if parents wanted to, they could start organising fundraising over the summer holidays and through the Autumn term. Of course, the trip will only go ahead if the then-current COVID regulations permit it. However, if the trip was cancelled, then any money raised could be used for other fun things. One potential source of fundraising could be using the staff carpark, charging a daily rate for parking spaces. This in the past has proved very lucrative, especially over the busy summer tourist season! If anyone is interested in organising this then please contact the PTA.

Governor update

We've made it (nearly), and should all be very proud of our children, fellow parents/carers and all staff as it has been quite a year! The board met for the last time this year on Tuesday and I would like to thank all governors for their support, time and counsel this year, my first as Chair. We focus our meetings on the impact we have on the children, and as we bring this year to a close the attention shifts to September.

We have been working with Hilary to review the School Improvement Plan which covers all aspects of school life, especially the curriculum which continues to challenge and engage, and planning for September's potential covid restriction changes. We will also be sending out our bi-annual parent and carer's survey this week. Finally, there is also a looming knowledge that Ofsted will resume inspections in September and so we will continue to prepare for this over the summer break, to ensure we are ready as governors.

But enough of that ... have a wonderful summer break everyone!

Ian Stewart, Chair of Governors

PTA School Lottery

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.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-grove-school-totnes>. We are also going to promote this to the local community and have printed some flyers to try and encourage Totnes residence to support our fundraising efforts. If any of the children would like to post some flyers through neighbours doors please get in touch with me (pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk). Thank you!

Mufti Day

The last day of school (Friday 23rd) is a mufti day. We are suggesting a £1 donation which will go towards the fundraising for the playground equipment.

Playground equipment

There is a chance that we can reduce the cost of the playground equipment significantly by removing the old equipment and wall ourselves. It will need to be done over the summer holidays and a skip is booked for the last two weeks of August, so I'd be really grateful if you could email me if you think you might be able to help for a day (or two). Thank you! (pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

Kind regards – Hilary Priest

THE GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL TOTNES

We've launched a lottery!

CHANCE TO WIN
£25,000
JACKPOT

LOCAL CASH PRIZE EVERY WEEK

TICKETS JUST
£1

Please help raise valuable funds for our local school

To start supporting visit:
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk
and search for **The Grove School**
or use the QR code. **Thank you!**

Our details:
The Grove School PTA, The Grove, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5ED
Registered Charity No: 1106507
Email: pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

12, 8, 4, 34, 18, 7, 31, 2, 11, 41

This event was due to be on this Friday (16th July) but has now been moved to Friday 10th September because of the covid restrictions still in place.



**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/**



KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OPEN EVENTS 2021:

OPEN EVENING: **TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER at 6 - 8.00pm**
OPEN MORNINGS: **THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER at 9 - 10.30am**
FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER at 9 - 10.30am
THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER at 9 - 10.30am
FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER at 9 - 10.30am

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE ARE BOOKABLE EVENTS, WITH LIMITED NUMBERS PER EVENT.
BOOK ONLINE VIA OUR WEBSITE: [KINGEDWARDVI.DEVON.SCH.UK/NEWS&EVENTS](https://kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk/news&events)**