



# THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

## SHOUT OUTS TO ....

Dove Tree Class, Theo, Happiness, always so positive in everything he does. Pearl, Love, for being so kind and a good friend.

Lilac Tree Class, Jack, Happiness, encouraging and including everyone. Nathan, Communication, giving it his all in show rehearsals.

Lime Tree Class, Tau, Love, a great start to your time at the Grove, you're so caring. Noor, Learning, making great effort with your handwriting well done!

Willow Tree Class, Nia, Love, always so kind enthusiastic and positive, a star! Alicia, Learning, incredible storytelling in literacy, your fable is magical.

Mountain Ash Tree Class, Elsie, Love, a fantastic role model, always trying her best and caring. Marlowe, Communication, doing such a brilliant job of learning his lines and his dance.

Juniper Tree Class, Islay G, Learning, super whizzy maths and great ideas for your fable. Denis, Individuality, always being yourself and working with independence.

Flame Tree Class, Lyddon, Learning, absolutely smashing your Maths Sunshine, wow! Winnie, Love, we love you being in Flame, you're an amazing friend to everyone & a super learner.

Ginkgo Tree Class, Seth, Individuality, a great independent learner – organised, dedicated & kind all of the time. Bella W, Learning, trying so hard with everything We love your attitude to learning.

Trumpet Tree Class, Grace, Love, being the loveliest friend, always helping others. Jacob SM, Learning, for your awesome information text on a new planet. You worked really hard!

### **Don't have time to read all the newsletter?**

#### **Here are the essentials in summary:**

- ☺ Refreshments will be on sale today/tomorrow from 1:45pm in the hall before the KSI show starts
- ☺ Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day - next Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.
- ☺ New teacher Juniper Tree class.
- ☺ Notice about parking at drop off/pick up times.
- ☺ School Food Standards survey – please complete this second survey and help us raise money.
- ☺ Benevolent Fund info.

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



### **Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – next Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

#### **New Teacher for Juniper Tree Class**

Last week we concluded all the paperwork around appointing a new class teacher for Juniper Tree Class from January. We are very happy to let you know we are appointing the children's favourite, Miss Hornby. The children were great in the interview process and gave really valuable feedback. They liked Miss Hornby because she was gentle and kind and she spoke clearly and not too fast!

#### **Notice about parking**

We have been asked to remind parents/carers to please park considerately when using the carparks nearby during drop off and pick up. Please ensure you use a bay and do not park in the motorbike bays or around the entrances. Many thanks.



### **School Food Standards survey – Second Part**

As shared before, our school is taking part in a national pilot run by the Department of Health and Social Care, working with the Department for Education. Verian, a research agency, is helping to test updated School Food Standards to make sure school meals are healthy, balanced, and enjoyable for children. You can find all the details here: <https://www.veriangroup.com/en-gb/school-food-standards-pilot>

We now invite you to complete the second and final 5-minute survey with your child. Each completed survey will bring £1 directly to our school, so by taking part, you'll be supporting both national change and helping us invest in the things that matter for our students.

You can complete the survey here: <https://horizons.confermit.eu/wix/p725584653352.aspx?schID=2>  
Please note, all responses are anonymous.

Thank you once again for your time and support.



### **Benevolent Fund and School Fund on parent pay**

We are running very low on our benevolent fund (about £30 left). This fund helps support families in need with things like trips or School Christmas Lunch etc to make sure children can be included when ever possible. If you are able, and would like to, please donate just a little Christmas Cheer to this fund on parent pay.

Also on Parent pay you will see a School Fund pot – this fund is different and goes directly into classroom extras to support learning and play.

### **KSI Christmas Show**

There will be refreshments on sale today and tomorrow from 1:45pm in the hall before the show.



### **THANK YOU!**

A massive thank you to Vie and Martina for a fabulous wreath making evening and all your hard work in organising this event. A fantastic evening was had by all!



### **The Grove School PTA Facebook Page**

The Grove School PTA Facebook Page will also keep you up to date on events - e.g. discos, fundraisers, bake sales etc.



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

Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15pm

Choir club parents performance in hall – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 3.15 after school

School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

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.*



#### **Drama Llama Youth Theatre at The Grove**

Due to popular demand, the Drama Llama Club will continue to run on a Tuesday evening. Mrs John will continue to run this club as a Youth Theatre, running it in the hall on Tuesdays from 5.45pm - 6.45pm. As not all of the current members can do this time slot, there is now some availability for Year 4, 5 and 6 children. Each session is £5 and will start on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

If your child would like to attend the Youth Theatre and work towards a performance in the summer term, please can you email Mrs John on: [dramallamagrove@gmail.com](mailto:dramallamagrove@gmail.com)

### **Food in community Xmas veg giveaway**

We will be holding our usual Christmas veg giveaway on Wed 24th December, 12 noon - 3pm, at the United Free Church, 56 Fore Street, Totnes TQ9 5RP. We will be offering fruit and vegetables for a donation (cash or card payment). We ask people to bring a bag or box to take their veg home and to tell their friends - there is usually a lot of produce to shift & this event is not in any way targeted, all welcome to help us reduce food waste! Please do pass on to your clients, colleagues and anyone you know who might appreciate some extra fruit & veg for the festive period.

### **HELP NEEDED!!**

Hello everyone,

I'm getting in touch on behalf of Resilient Lives / Pizza Pirates who are urgently looking for a temporary, practical space in Totnes (or very nearby) from January while they continue their search for a longer-term building.

They do not need a full venue (although they are still looking if anyone has any ideas!) – what they need is a small, workable arrangement so they can keep community sessions and pop-ups going.

#### **What they're trying to do**

They are looking for somewhere they can use on and off to:

- mix pizza dough
- store dough in a fridge to prove
- then take it out and freeze it

They are also hoping to have their freezer plugged in somewhere else, so they can keep dough available for short-notice community activity.

#### **What equipment is involved**

- 1 x double-door commercial fridge (described as “pretty big”)
- 1 x dough mixer (approx. 1m high, around 75cm diameter)

If needed, they can provide more accurate measurements.

#### **What kind of space would work**

Any of the following might be suitable:

- a commercial or community kitchen with a bit of spare capacity
    - a church or hall kitchen
  - a school/college/community food space (if hireable out of hours)
    - a café/restaurant back-of-house with space at quiet times
  - a warehouse/store room with power (even if prep happens elsewhere)
- They are flexible, and they expect to pay a sensible hire/storage fee.

#### **Key practical questions (to match the right place)**

If you might be able to help, could you let us know:

- Do you have space for a large double-door fridge and a mixer?
  - Can the fridge be plugged in continuously?
- Is sessional access available (even limited hours) for dough mixing?

#### **If you can help**

Please contact Simon directly:

Simon Dyer

[Simon@resilientlives.org.uk](mailto:Simon@resilientlives.org.uk)

Either way can you please forward this to your networks as well? Many thanks in advance for any ideas!



## LANTERN FESTIVAL PROCESSION - Tuesday 16th December

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the families who came along to the free Lantern Workshop this weekend! The children were incredible and produced a **spectacular shoal of rainbow fish!** We are delighted to confirm that approximately 80 students took part this year, thanks to the funding from the **PTA** that made this wonderful opportunity possible.

We hope you can join us to see the **Shoal of 'Grove Fish' light up the night!** Please remember to bring a stick or a simple umbrella to hang your lantern from.

The procession will take place on **Tuesday, 16th December.**

**Meet at 4:15pm in Rotherfold Square (by The Bull Inn).**

The lantern procession will follow the Samba band down the High Street and conclude in **The Dartmouth Inn Square**, where Tony Gee will tell the story of "How Totnes Welcomed the World to Totnes"... including your gorgeous fish! The procession should take approximately 45-60 minutes.



A group for parents/carers and their children to be creative together using clay

# Join the Clay Club!

Sliding scale (pay what you can afford)  
£36-£180 per 12 sessions (one adult and one child age 6+) Taster sessions available

Tuesdays 4-5:15pm starting 6<sup>th</sup> January at The Mansion Pottery Studio in Totnes! Reach out to Paula at 07876087061 or drop her an email at paulawilsonceramics@gmail.com