



THE GROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 2nd October

SHOUT OUTS TO

From Dove Tree Class, Esme for Learning and great letter formation and Taima for Love and that constant smile and kindness.

From Lime Tree Class, Mali for Communication and talking about feelings and Elliot for Individuality and always being ready to learn- a model student!

From Lilac Tree Class, Jola for Communication and sharing super ideas and Marlo for Learning in fantastic letter formation.

From Willow Tree Class, Charlie for Love being such a kind and positive person and Harper for Individuality – you are amazing.

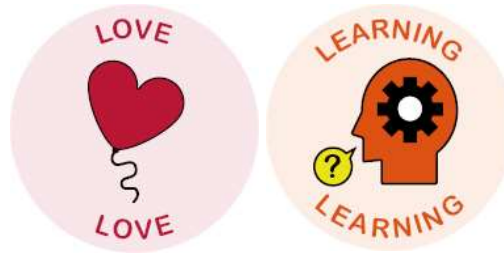
From Mountain Ash Tree Class, Alfie for Love and a brilliant week of kindness and Elsha for Individuality being so thoughtful and accepting of everyone.

From Juniper Tree Class, Sophie for Love and full of cuddles and care for others and Iggy for Happiness and so much pride and care in his learning

From Ginkgo Tree Class, Hattie for Learning in her effort in maths and Maishe for Communication and helping others.

From Trumpet Tree Class, Eva for Happiness and Love – cracking on with her learning with a big smile and Charlotte for Learning and Happiness for such positivity to all classroom tasks.

From Flame Tree Class, Samuel for Happiness – you make Flame a better place to be and TT for Independence in working so hard at all he does – a role model Year 6!



Headteacher blog!!

I'm afraid I will miss you at the school entrances this Thursday and Friday, but I'm delighted to have been invited by 'Headteacher Update' to deliver a workshop in London. The Grove are being used as a case study for the work that we are doing to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff. Over 1 in 5 children and young people in the UK are estimated to have a mental health disorder. As a headteacher of over 17 years, I've witnessed this first-hand, particularly with rising levels of anxiety post-COVID. Our children live in a tricky time, with unprecedented challenges.

We have an early help approach for mental health at the Grove. We teach about mental health and wellbeing at every opportunity we get - it's built wellbeing into the curriculum, discussed in assemblies, and all of our staff are supported to spot the signs of pupils who may be struggling and know what steps to take when they do. We all support children pastorally and we have an exciting new partnership just starting with CAMHS to deliver Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT). (More here about this http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/link_with_mhst_mental_health_support_in_school_2024/697292)

All of our school initiatives are developed with the central aim of improving wellbeing and mental health. We recognise how important good food, cross-generational work and life skills programmes are in promoting confidence and happiness in our students. We want to expand our outdoor programme and teach children to connect with nature (more on this soon!) I believe strongly that happy staff = happy children = great school, it's a topic I'm always happy to discuss!

Harvest

It is at this time of year that we think about harvest in school and talk to the children about how lucky we are to have food, clothing and family support, as well as thinking about those who are less fortunate. After talking to the children in singing assembly last week, they felt they would like to collect some donations for the local food bank. If you would like to contribute, please send in a food donation on **Thursday 17th October**.

All food will be donated to Stepping Stones Totnes CiC Foodbank. Please see a list of items below that local foodbanks often run low on and consider donating something from the list – they have plenty of baked beans! Thank you.

In-date Items such as:

Tinned fruit, Tinned soup, Tinned meat, Tinned ham, Tinned potatoes, Frey Bentos Pies, Tinned tomatoes, Stock cubes/pots, Pot noodles, Mayonnaise, Pasta sauces, Cooking sauces, Pasta packets (microwavable), Cup-a-soups, Gravy granules, Instant mash, Cooking Oil, Powdered milk, Long life milk, Sugar 500g, Long life fruit juice (cartons) and cereals (not sugar coated)

Tea, Coffee, Tinned rice pudding, Jam, Biscuits, Chocolate, Any toiletries and cleaning products for example: Hair shampoo, Toilet rolls, Shower gel

Washing up liquid, Washing powder, Flash (or similar products)

Our food journey

As many of you know, the Grove has been on an exciting and, at times challenging, food journey over the past few years. We've always been passionate about food, but it's amazing to think that we started out with a kitchen that only fit one person (see attached article)

<https://www.headteacher-update.com/content/best-practice/chefs-in-schools-a-school-food-revolution#edutwitter>

and here on our website

http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/school_meals/138106

We pride ourselves on providing your children with delicious homemade food that is all cooked on site. Not only this though, we believe passionately in teaching children essential life skills, and cooking is one of these.

You may have noticed our professional chef, Marco, selling breakfast buns outside the school yesterday morning. He's also made some homemade pesto which he is selling to raise funds to buy ingredients to deliver cooking lessons to all of the children. Make sure you take some home with you!

Tuesday Breakfast buns made by Marco

Marco is hoping to start raising money for the school kitchen by baking some breakfast buns for sale on Tuesdays before school, on the field and at the front door. Please bring cash - £3 for a fabulous breakfast bun.

Marco's pesto for sale

If your child likes Marco's pesto pasta – a big hit on the menu here – you might want to pick up a jar of fresh pesto to use at home – available from the front desk. £3.50 a jar, and you can put in your order for the next batch!

Birthday cakes to order

Marco's speciality as a chef is cakes and deserts if you would like to order a birthday cake for your child please get in touch with Marco at marco@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk to talk design and price (roughly £3 a head for a cake)



Tempest Photos – Friday 11th October from 8am

Tempest Photography will be here on Friday 11th October. If you would like a photo of your child along with their sibling who does not attend school then please come to the double doors for 8.10

Grove Diversity Meeting

October 17 from 9am - 10.30am (come for as much as you can!)

School Studio

In July we had a great parent meet up with lots of ideas proposed, now it's time for action! Please come along to help us prioritise the activities we can organise and actions we can take this year. There's lots of room for people to take the lead and we welcome anyone to attend, in particular those with ideas or questions based on their own lived experience.

You can see the write up from the last meeting [here](#) with the proposed activities and actions.

You can also join the Diversity WhatsApp group in the GroveCommunity.



Lucky Days

You might hear your child talking about lucky days. Just to explain a little, a lucky day is when everyone in the class attends school, so everyone is in. A lucky week is harder to find in that all week every child would be in class every day. To encourage better attendance, there is a light hearted competition between classes as to how many lucky days / weeks they have. Attendance to school is very important and when children miss a day they obviously miss their learning for that day. Lucky days are really great if you teach that class as you don't need to recap or make up for lost learning when the children off are back. Lucky days are also great for the children as they get their whole class team and every child has their learning partner in school. We obviously wouldn't take into account children who are on a part time timetable or are very long term sick and we never, ever make children feel bad for not being in school.

September winners are Juniper Tree Class with a very impressive total of 16 lucky days out of a potential 19!

CYCLOCROSS

We had such a great time at the KS2 Cyclocross last week. With tough conditions the pupils had to really dig deep and show how resilient they were to keep pedalling! Such a supportive and encouraging atmosphere too. There were four Races for year 3/4 girls, boys and Year 5/6 girls and boys and then we had a 'Fun Ride' at the end where pupils could do the course with their friends or challenge themselves for fun. Great results from The Grove with Year 3 and 4 Girls and Year 5 and 6 Girls winning their category. Well done all who participated.





UPCOMING PTA EVENTS



Tomorrows Bake Sale 50p a cake

It is TRUMPET TREE CLASS'S turn to organise the bake sale after school. Please can children from Trumpet bring in delicious treats to sell. We do need help to man the stalls, maybe you could help when it's your child's class to bake? Any help would be amazing, please see Jenni or email jennir@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Cakes will be sold on the field and at the front entrance after school.

Next week it will be Juniper Tree Class on 10th October.

17th October: Mountain Ash Class

24th October: Willow Class

7th November: Lime Class

14th November: Lilac Class

21st November: Dove Class

28th November: Acorns

Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who came to the quiz night last Friday evening and made it a huge success. We raised a massive £534!

A very special thanks to Phil John the quizmaster. Well done to 'I am a Quizzard Harry' who won the quiz. Keep an eye out for our next quiz night.

Christmas Jumpers

If you have any Christmas jumpers to donate, toddlers, childrens, adults for the Christmas fair, please could you drop them off at the front desk.

Halloween Disco – Friday 18th October

Details to be sent out next week.

OTHER EVENTS THIS TERM:

HALLOWEEN DISCO: 18th October

MUFTI DAY (bring sweets contributions for the Christmas Fair): 8th November

MOVIE NIGHT: 15th November

MUFTI (bring cakes for the Christmas Fair): 5th December

CHRISTMAS FAIR: FRIDAY 6th December: 5 - 8 pm

The Grove School PTA Facebook Page

The Grove School PTA Facebook Page will also keep you up to date on events and fundraisers – eg, bake sales, fairs, discos etc.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

We are now over halfway through the application window for secondary school admissions into Year 7 next September. We understand that parents and children are still visiting schools and weighing up their options, but the closing date is looming. **The closing date for applications is 31st October 2024** - www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

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

Mountain Ash Class swimming every Monday until half term

Year 6 Junior Life Skills, Packed Lunch needed – Thursday 10th October

Tempest Photos Individual and pre school siblings from 8am – Friday 11th October

Year 6 Residential to Okehampton Adventure – Monday 21st October 4 nights

Year 3 / 4 Visit to Kent's Cavern - Tuesday 22nd October – Mountain Ash & Yr 4 Juniper

Year 3 / 4 Visit to Kent's Cavern - Wednesday 23rd October – Willow & Yr 3 Juniper

Half term – Monday 28th October

First day back – Monday 4th November

Year 5 and 6 Non Swimmers – Starts Monday 4th November

Parent – teacher consultations - week beginning 11th November

Christmas Fair – Friday 6th December

Christmas productions - week beginning 9th 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.

Devon Family Hubs Monthly Newsletter - October 2024



Parent / Carer Newsletter - October 2024

Each month we will share with you information, advice and top tips on a number of themes, as well as fun things that you and your family can do in and around Devon, and much more!

[Go to this Sway](#)

HALF TERM FUN FOOTBALL DAY



FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

VENUE: KEVICC, TOTNES TQ9 5JX

£20 | Age 5-14 Years | 10am-3pm



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