



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Spring 9

Telephone 01803 862018
15th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies for the very long newsletter – please read until the end, it's not in order of priority!

What is happening this week and next

Today Robins, Willow, Ginkgo and Flame were closed due to the teachers strike and tomorrow Robins, Lime and Beech. Willow and Ginkgo will open from 11:45. All other classes will be open and we expect full attendance and attendance of siblings. If this changes then we will let you know but I would make your plans on this basis for now.

On Monday 20th March (weather permitting!) year 3/4 will be walking to The Sharpham Estate to enhance our poetry unit based on Marc Martin's "A River". We will leave after registration and return after break. Please can you ensure your child has shoes which are suitable for walking, a snack, drink, coat and backpack.

Comic Relief Friday 17th March

We are not going to be collecting money for Comic Relief this year but children are welcome to come to school in mufti and if you wish to make a donation towards the charity you can use this link below.

<https://donation.comicrelief.com/cart/1YsYOwm2pHZgBUhWr8ZL13>

The Children's Kitchen

Thank you so much for all the lovely feedback about the school meals and the Come Dine with Me experiences. We are currently working on a Summer menu – if you have any great ideas please let us know. We are going to continue the Come Dine with Me experiences each week – taking bookings until Easter currently. We have set up a go fund me page for when our school story goes out to the wider media. We are working with the PTA to help fund gardening and cooking things for the children, but we also desperately need new equipment for our school kitchen and want to run family workshops. If you'd like to spread the word then here is the link:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/great-grub-at-the-grove?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

Snacks and lunchboxes

We are talking to the children about healthy food choices currently and have been encouraging children to drop the crisps and chocolate bars for healthier options. If you could support them with this that would be great as the children seemed really keen. No child will be told off if they do have less healthy options in their snacks and lunch boxes, but they might engage in conversations about healthy choices as this is a current school assembly and PSHME theme. We don't have healthy lunchbox and snack guidelines yet though I do know a number of schools that do. The only thing we currently ask is no sweets please. If you think some guidelines would be helpful to give you good ideas for snacks and lunches– or alternatively not helpful- then please let me know at head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Jewellery, make up and nail varnish

Just a reminder that we ask that children don't wear jewellery beyond watches and stud earrings or make up or nail varnish (except nude colours) in school please.

Author Visit

On Monday Clare Welsh visited the school to share some of her books and how she approaches writing her books. The children then all took part in a workshop to inspire ideas for their writing. The children had a great time and really enjoyed the day.

If the children would still like to order one of Clare's books and benefit from 20%, they can do so until Friday of this week. (17th March). Order forms are available from reception or can be emailed on request. To find out more about Clare and her books follow the link to her website: <https://clarehelenwelsh.com/books/>

Thankyou

The Year 3/4 team would like to say a huge thank you to Adnan, Abdul and Ferial's dad for coming in to all the year 3/4 classes RE lessons last week. He and Abdul shared what being Muslim means to them and how their faith and prayer shapes their daily lives. It was so fascinating and we all learnt so much, thank you!

It's an ask

Acorns are looking for some more plastic piping/guttering for their water area. If you have any lying around that you do not need and would be happy to donate it to us, please see Mrs Luff. Thank you.

FLAME TREE'S CLOTHES SALE – Thursday 23rd March after school

The children of Flame Tree Class have decided that they would like to organise a SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE to raise money for our kitchen.

This is to take place on:

THURSDAY 23rd MARCH after school between 3:15 and 4:30pm.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE.

If you have any second hand children's clothes, please bring them into school by Friday 17th March so that we can prepare for the event. Please make sure that the clothes are in good condition and clean. Please can you bring them into school in a bag labelled with the sizes of the clothes.

If there are any Flame Tree parents who would be up for helping with the event and would be able to come into school earlier on the day (2pm) to help set up, please email helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Many thanks, Flame Tress Class

WIN TICKETS TO EXETER CITY VS BOLTON WANDERERS

GINKGO class are offering you the chance to win two tickets to see Exeter take on Bolton at St James Park (Exeter) on Friday 7th April at 3pm.

Entry to the prize draw is £1 and tickets can be bought from Rebecca at Reception, from Ginkgo Class or from Ginkgo Children at the end of the school day. Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 28th March.

BUY A TICKET AND BE A WINNER*

*winning not guaranteed

The Grove 1000Km Challenge – Fundraising For The Kitchen – Katherine Kneebone

As my leaving challenge for the children and staff, because at The Grove children are encouraged to lead healthy, active lives, I have challenged them to take part in the couch to 3K training and run / walk the 3km in the last week of term. If we all run 3km the collective total will be 1000km!!

I have always loved sport and being active and made many friends through it. I wanted to give the children the opportunity to experience that sense of achievement and enjoyment you can get through being active and setting yourself goals, even though it may be tough at times! Some may even be running marathons in the future, as a result of this achievement! Please can the children bring in a donation for the kitchen in the last week of term.

Children's University Awards

Just a reminder that as soon as you've collected the following hours, you can claim your certificate:

30 hours: Bronze

65 hours: Silver

100 hours: Gold

Just bring your book in and give it to Adrian Gude in Ginkgo, or give it to Rebecca and she can pass it on.

Once you've got 100 hours, you can attend the annual graduation ceremony at Plymouth University in late June – more details to follow.

Congratulations

Willow Tree Class received the Class Award this week for trying so hard to improve their concentration in class. I think that they might have been rewarded with the most amount of polar bears this week!!!

Also congratulations to these individuals for being such good role models for their behaviour and positive attitude towards learning:

Robins –Lennox and Flo C

Treecreepers –Aria and Seth G

Dove –Ioan and April

Lime –Denis and Khaled

Chestnut – Maizie W and Finlay

Mountain Ash – Immy L and Ruby R

Willow – Xavi and Flossie

Beech – Catalaya and Hazel R

Trumpet – Alexis C and Benji

Flame – Allegra and Lauren

Ginkgo – Iris P and Darcey

Relationships education at The Grove

Here is some clarification about what we teach as part of the National Curriculum in Primary Schools following some concerning reports in the press about age appropriateness of subject matter. Primary schools cover relationships within our PHSME curriculum (personal, health, social, mental health and economics). We do not cover sex education – this is on the KS3 curriculum for secondary schools. Please see our curriculum in detail on our website http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/pshme_progression/582530

In the curriculum area in question, we cover elements of puberty in KS2. In Y3 and 4 we cover hormone changes and changes to body shape, how hormones can affect mood and a brief mention of periods. In Y5 and 6 we have more full puberty sessions and before these we always send out the power-point we use so that you can discuss it further at home or choose to opt out and do it yourself. This happens in the Summer term for the Year 5s and the Year 6s and we tend to separate the boys and the girls for these talks. The sessions in Year 3 and Year 4 are an age appropriate preamble to what is going to happen later – so children have some limited preparation and see it as a natural and wonderful part of growing up. We do have children in Years 4 who have started menstruation and it seems fair to cover this lightly with this age of child. We also celebrate how families and relationships come in all shapes and sizes but we do not go into an intimate relationship detail.

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

Years 5/6 Non Swimmers every Monday until Easter

Reception Children – NHS Vision screening in school Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th March

Years 3 and 4, Dynamic Adventures – Free – Tuesday 28th March Mountain Ash, Wednesday 29th March Willow

Tree and Thursday 30th March Beech Tree class

Meet Dr Emily – Wednesday 29th March

Year 5 One Night Residential – Thursday 30th March

Last day of term is Friday 31st March and First day back is Tuesday 18th April

Reception and Year 6 National Childhood Measurement Programme (please opt out if you do not want to participate) – Wednesday 26th April

Class photos – Thursday 25th May (New date)

Extra Bank Holiday, School Closed for Kings Coronation – Monday 8th May 2023

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.

Free meal support guide in case you are interested:

Good afternoon,

I hope you don't mind me contacting you. I'm Theo Michaels; TV chef, author and founder of a company called FiveDinners.com – online meal planning service for families.

The reason for this email is I've started an initiative to help families struggling with the cost-of-living to eat better and take away the dreaded question of what to cook everynight.

A couple of years ago I launched a business called FiveDinners.com – an online meal planning service; we usually charge £49.99 per annum however, we are now giving it away for free – no catch, no restrictions, just free.

Every week we issue a new meal plan with a single shopping list, set to the number of people you are feeding so you know exactly what you need to buy for the week. All our recipes are easy to follow, with a nutritional breakdown and many with videos. Members can create their own meal plans with our recipes choosing from vegetarian, GF, kid friendly, quick and easy, airfryer, etc.

We have thousands of members and are currently working with the NHS and Police in communicating our service to their staff.

I'd be very grateful if you could communicate our service to your parents (and staff!) via an email/newsletter/ etc. There's no catch to this, we're just trying to help.

I have attached a couple of images that you can use and also noted below a brief introduction to our service (feel free to amend). If you have any questions or want to discuss further please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for your help and please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions!

CONTENT:

Limited time offer – get FREE lifetime membership to FiveDinners.com!

We know how hard times are at the moment so the folks at FiveDinners.com – online meal planning service - have decided to give away FREE lifetime memberships to try and help you save money on food shopping and reduce the mental load of deciding what to eat every night. There's no catch or restrictions, simply full access to our meal plans to make your dinnertimes a little easier and cheaper.

FiveDinners.com is an online meal planning service co-founded by author and TV chef Theo Michaels. To help with the cost of living crisis so many families and individuals are facing Theo has decided to offer their meal planning service for FREE (usually £49.99 per year); every week they publish a new meal plan with an automatically generated shopping list; set to your serving size so you know exactly what you need for the week ahead. It saves you time, money on food shopping and ultimately takes away the headache of deciding what to cook every night. You can even create and save your own meal plans choosing from hundreds of recipes.

Simply head to <https://FiveDinners.com> and click green Join button now.

Best wishes,
Theo Michaels

FiveDinners.com

Events at Slapton Ley 2023

Unless otherwise stated **booking is essential** and events are £8 per adult and £5 per child. Please book online by visiting:

www.field-studies-council.org/whats-on-at-slapton-ley

Click on 'Walks and Nature Experiences'. More details of where events are held and what you need to bring can be found on the website.

If you do not have the facilities to book online, please contact us on **01548 580466**.

April

Pebbles on the Beach

Monday 3rd April 10am–Midday

Have you ever wondered what the pebbles on the beach are?

Between the Tides

Good Friday 7th April 1pm–3.30pm

From giant kelp fronds to miniature anemones, every rock pool holds a secret ecosystem waiting to be discovered.

Tremendous Trees

Monday 10th April May 2pm–4pm

Experience life in the slow lane: how trees grow, make decisions, and communicate in our amazing woodland.

What Lurks Beneath?

Wednesday 12th April 10am–Midday

Get ready to explore Slapton Ley and discover anything from damselfly to dragons.

Horrible History

Saturday 15th April 5pm–7pm

Explore the horrid history that has shaped Slapton, and delve into the lives of the people who lived here.

Slapton Sands Beach Clean

Saturday 15th April 9.30am till 12.30pm

Join us to help clean up Slapton Sands, part of our beautiful coastline.

• No booking required • Free event

Wild Food Forage

Sunday 16th April 10am–1pm

Taste your way through the National Nature Reserve on a wild-food themed walk.

Dawn Chorus

Saturday 22nd April 6am–8am

Listen to the sound of birds waking at dawn on a quiet morning stroll around Slapton Ley.

Poetry Workshop

Saturday 22nd April 10am–1pm

Can poetry, folklore and fables help us care for the land? Join our beginner's poetry workshop.

Flowers of Walks and Waysides

Sunday 23rd April 9.30am–11.30am

Explore the hedgerows and lanes of Devon as they burst into a riot of wildflower colour.

Wellbeing Course (6 weeks)

Tuesday afternoons from 18th April until 23rd May • Free event • Book by email: events.sl@field-studies-council.org

May/June

Bat Watch

Tuesday 30th May
Approximately 9pm–11.30pm (TBC)

Explore the night-time world of these magical creatures.

What Lurks Beneath?

Wednesday 31st May 10am–Midday

Get ready to explore Slapton Ley and discover anything from damselfly to dragons.

Reclusive Reptiles

Thursday 1st June 10am–Midday

Join us for a reclusive reptile ramble along Slapton Sands.

July/August/September

Bat Watch

Monday 31st July
Approximately 8.30pm–10.30pm TBC

Explore the night-time world of these magical creatures.

Celebrate Start Bay

Sunday 13th August 11–5pm

If you love the outdoors and the environment, this mini festival is for you – and what's more entry is free! Hands-on environmental activities will be put on by local charities, and there will be music, stories, demonstrations and talks throughout the day. Local sustainable stall holders will be selling their products, with food and drinks available to keep you refreshed. • No booking required • Free event • Parking £5

What Lurks Beneath?

Wednesday 16th August 10am–Midday

Get ready to explore Slapton Ley and discover anything from damselfly to dragons.

Bat Watch

Monday 21st August
Approximately 8.30pm–10.30pm TBC

Explore the night-time world of these magical creatures.

Pebbles on the Beach

Tuesday 29th August 10am–Midday

Have you ever wondered what the pebbles on the beach are?

Between the Tides

Saturday 2nd September 2pm–4pm

From giant kelp fronds to miniature anemones, every rock pool holds a secret ecosystem waiting to be discovered.

Slapton Sands Great British Beach Clean

Saturday 16th September
9.30am–12.30pm

Join us to help clean up Slapton Sands, part of our beautiful coastline.

• No booking required • Free event

October

Fungal Foray

Saturday 7th October 10am–Midday

Join a guided exploration of the local area around Slapton and discover which fabulous fungi are flourishing this year.

Birds of Slapton Ley

Monday 23rd October 4pm–6pm

Join us for a birding exploration of Slapton Ley NNR.

Horrible History

Saturday 28th October 5pm–7pm

Explore the horrid history that has shaped Slapton and delve into the lives of the people who lived here.



Field Studies
Council

Slapton Ley



FLAME TREE CLASS

CLOTHES SALE

RAISING MONEY FOR THE GROVE SCHOOL KITCHEN



THURSDAY 23rd MARCH

3:15 – 4:40pm

PLEASE BRING ANY SECOND HAND CLOTHES TO SCHOOL BY

FRIDAY 17th MARCH

THANK YOU

TINY TRAVELS PRESENTS

An Introduction to
Anti-Racism in the Early Years

With UK expert
Liz Pemberton

Are you a
parent or do
you work in
Early Years?

Is helping to raise
inclusive, compassionate
children important to you?
If yes, join us for this unique
fully funded opportunity



Cultural Learning Through Play

Online 16th March 7:30pm

www.tinytravels.co.uk/booking

 The Black
Nursery Manager

**EASTER HOLIDAY
DRAMA CAMP!**
PLAY-IN-A-DAY with
PADDLEBOAT THEATRE

10am - 4pm
3, 4, 5 April
7-11 yr olds
£35 per day

THEME:
FAMOUS
EXPLORERS!

Drop your young ones off for a day jam packed with fun and drama skills to feed imaginations and build confidence with award winning PaddleBoat Theatre.

Dartington Trust

FIND OUT MORE AT
DARTINGTON.ORG/FAMILY

Young people aged 7 to 11 are invited to create a play in a day to perform live on stage at Dartington with award winning PaddleBoat Theatre Company during the Easter holidays.

10am – 4pm, Monday 3, Tuesday 4 or Wednesday 5 April 2023

Tickets just £35 per day

Information and tickets:

www.dartington.org/event/play-in-a-day-with-paddleboat-theatre/

OTHER WORKSHOPS & THEATRE

We also have a number of other Family activities this Easter that families might like to know about:

- **Creative Spring Family Workshop: mobile-making** - Take inspiration from the emerging wildlife in the Dartington grounds and make wire, wood and decorated card mobiles (13 April 2023)
- **Creative Spring Family Workshop: bird-making** – Welcome the Spring while crafting your own bird that moves and pecks using natural materials (14 April 2023)
These workshops are for younger children and adults to take part in together.
- **Kickmouse Mysterium: Jon Hicks** - In his brand-new theatre show, Jon Hicks teaches us how to approach life's challenges through resilience and mastery as he embarks on a series of hilarious tasks in his quest to become a 'master' with physical, magical & mystical powers. *Aimed at children aged 3+* (15 April 2023)

All details and tickets for family events at www.dartington.org/whats-on