



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Spring 4

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24th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Marco's challenge

Running for Their Future - A Half Marathon Fundraiser to Provide Warm Meals for Children in Need at the Grove

Last week we told Marco's story about how he wants all children to have access to school dinners at The Grove. So far this has raised £290 which is great as it will provide 116 meals. Just to clarify this money will be used by families at The Grove who can't afford to opt for school dinners but also don't qualify for Free School Meals. Generally, these are low income families who are really feeling the economic crisis pinch. A number of children have spoken about how they would like to have school dinners but their parents can't afford for them to take them. If your child would like to have school dinners but you can't afford it, please let us know – we will be very discrete. If you would like to help out other local families then please donate: <https://gofund.me/b0eb27f2>

Helping out uniform and school shoes donations

On the same lines we know that some children grow out of their school shoes/ trainers and school uniforms really fast and parents would like to donate these to a good cause. We are happy to collect these donations if you want to donate – and offer any parents the donations who may benefit from this service.

Not welcome visitors

NITs – still here, still taking over The Grove School! Could you please spend time TONIGHT with conditioner and a nit comb checking your children's hair – unless we all do it in one united push they just keep getting passed on and on and on....

Year 6 Fundraising Bake Sales - Thursday 25th Jan

Flame Tree will be running a cake sale after school tomorrow to raise funds for the Year 6 Leaver's Party. Please pop by after school for a tasty treat!

National Heights and Weights programme Reception and Year 6

The National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) will be taking place this Friday 26th January for all children in Reception and Year 6. An email was sent out on the 13th October to all parents along with a link if you wanted your child to opt out of this programme.

After School Club

Just to make you all aware, after school club will be closed for staff training on the following Mondays this term: 5th & 26th February / 11th March, many thanks for your understanding,
Sarah Allford

Your School Lottery

This week's lottery results are in and The Grove School has another winner! Remember to check your emails to see if it's you. If you haven't signed up yet, visit our lottery here:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-grove-school-totnes

How the lottery works:

- £1 per ticket. That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.
- Help us do more: for every ticket you play, 74.2% goes to our school and prizes.
- £25,000 grand prize! Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!

To date, the Grove School has received £582.40 from School Lottery ticket sales, and many families have been winners! Sign up now to be in the next draw on 27th January.

PTA Update

The Grove School Christmas Fair made a whopping £2,855.26 profit! A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard, donated so generously and participated in the Fair with such enthusiasm!

There will be a PTA meeting on Tuesday 6th February at 3.20pm in Lilac Class. This meeting is open for any parents/carers to come and find out more about the PTA, with no pressure to make an ongoing commitment.

We will be discussing:

- What the PTA's spending goals are for 2024
- How we can raise money towards these goals
- What events and activities we can put on for the children and families

We are all really excited about the opportunities this year! If you want to have a say on these issues, or just want to learn more, please come along and get involved.

Join our page 'The Grove School PTA' on Facebook for updates about school and PTA events.

Any questions or suggestions? Email pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Happy 2024 to you all! Tash Buck, PTA Chair

Year 6 End of Year Fundraiser – Clothes Swap, Friday 23rd February, 7-9.30 p.m.

Tickets cost £5, includes a small glass of prosecco/wine/soft drink. Please put £5 in a named envelope for your ticket and drop off at Reception. Ticket/s will soon be on their way to you. Bring 3 good quality items of clothes that you no longer wear. Drop these off at The Grove School reception during week beginning the 19th February. On the evening of 23rd February come to The Grove for the evening, you can then choose 3 items of clothing to take away!

We are doing our bit for the environment, having a social and fundraising. Please support this event by buying a ticket and coming along.

Dates for your diary this term

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

Reception and Year 6 National Heights and Weights programme – Friday 26th January

Last day of term – Friday 9th February

First day back – Monday 19th February

Mountain Ash class swimming – Monday 19th February for 6 weeks

Parent Consults – Week commencing Monday 4th March

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Year 5 One night residential – Wednesday 27th March

Last day of term for Easter holidays - Thursday 28th March

First day of term – Monday 15th April

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Universal Free School Meals – message from a campaigner:

If you are a school or parent and value your children having a healthy school meal, this is your chance to ask for change.

I'm asking the government for free school meals across the country. The benefits for children, their families and their education cannot be ignored.

I support the call for Universal Free School Meals for children in all primary and secondary schools - but that's not all.

You may have seen the good news that free, hot meals for all primary children in London has been extended for another year. Scotland already has free meals for all primary, and Wales too by the end of this year.

Firstly, let's secure Universal Free School Meals for the whole of the UK.

Sign the petition, tell the government its time here <https://freeschoolmealsforall.org.uk/take-action>

There are many petitions, many organisations calling for this - Show your support in asking the Gov for a free school meal for every child in school you can share a picture like this 🍏 & use hashtag [#goodfoodforchildren](https://www.instagram.com/goodfoodforchildren)

Something you may not know - the London scheme that is changing lives and schools - allows £3 per meal.

Everywhere else it is just £2.53.

This has to change. School meal funding has increased by just 3% in 3 years, whereas the living wage has increased by 27% in the same time.

To meet high standards - we also need the standards, but I'm working on that! - I need to be able to buy local and fresh produce ensuring that food fuels kids through their day, supports the local economy while meeting environmental targets.

It simply isn't possible to provide great, tasty food for thousands of children every day without paying for quality ingredients and employing knowledgeable staff.

So I'm asking for free school meals for all but secondly, let's have good free school meals for all. It has been recognised and proved in London that nutritious and filling meals fuel children to learn and thrive, let's secure these benefits for all of the UK.

[#goodfoodforchildren](https://www.instagram.com/goodfoodforchildren) 🍏🍏🍏

See more evidence, reports and calls to action in the comments.

<https://www.itv.com/news/2024-01-16/health-experts-call-for-universal-free-school-meals-to-tackle-food-poverty>

<https://www.laca.co.uk/news/faculty-public-health-report-calls-expansion-free-school-meal-programme>

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.

Totnes Pantomime - Puss In Boots - Jan 24th - Jan 27th 2024

Yes! It is that time of year again when the Totnes pantomime will be on. This year, the pantomime is **Puss In Boots** and will be running at the Civic Hall in Totnes from Wednesday 24th January to Saturday 27th January.

Even better, Grove students and their parents can get a **50% discount** on the **Wednesday & Thursday** nights by using the code "**GROVE2024**" when booking.

Details of the pantomime can be found in the **attached flyer** and you can book tickets here <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/taods/>.

We hope you'll attend and enjoy what should be a barrel of laughs to set us up for the rest of the year.

**PUSS
IN BOOTS**

**A NEW
PANTOMIME**

WRITER & DIRECTOR: GINA TREDWELL
MUSICAL DIRECTOR: DAVID HOLLAND

TOTNES AMATEUR OPERATIC
TAODS
AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

24th - 27th January 2024
Civic Hall, Totnes, TQ9 5SF
7:30 PM & Sat Matinee 2:30 PM
Tickets £10/£8 www.taods.com

Interested in joining a fun social Netball group?

Every Tuesday, 7-8pm, at Totnes Kevicc main sports hall.

Come and give it a try, any age and ability, escape from the kids for a bit of team exercise and a good laugh.

Email: sallygdixon@hotmail.com

Tel: 07813 937217



Thank
you

to all our Christmas Raffle donors!

A Pickled Thought; Avon Mill Garden Centre; Barrel House;
Canoe Adventures; China Blue; Dartington Estate;
Debbie Macpherson Atelier; Dynamic Adventures;
Eleven Clothing; Exeter City; Fitness Factory; Greenfibres;
House of Marbles; Kents Cavern; Luscombe Drinks;
Me and East; Nkuku; One and Eight Jewellery;
Parkour Experiences; Plymouth Argyle; Raven Lifestyle;
Re-Rooted; Seeds Bakery; South Devon Railway;
The Bay Horse; The Pig and Whistle; Things Happen Here;
Venus Café; Whitehill Country Leisure Park; Yoga Sunshine

from the Grove School PTA



TORQUAY BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL



**OPEN
WEEK**

Come and take
a look
**25-28 March
2024**
Tours at
9:30 & 2:00

Book a
tour time at
**tbgs.co.uk/
join-us**

Caring
environment
nurtures academic
excellence

National
and
international
sporting
reputation

Wide range of
extra-curricular
opportunities

Transport links to
**Exeter, Totnes,
Ashburton and
beyond**



dare to be

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