



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What's happening this week and next

Tomorrow children will be having their nasal flu vaccination if you consented. This Friday is Mufti day. The theme is Halloween/Autumn for a donation of sweets for the Christmas PTA fair. Next week Year 5 and 6 will be going on a trip to Plymouth University to take part in a literacy workshop and then have a guided tour of the University campus. The literacy workshop is being run by David Lawrence Jones (author of the Bradley Baker series of children's books) and will be about creating a new adventure to a magical place. The campus tour will give an insight into life at the University.

Books That Help Project

Mrs Drew has been working with a local author, Clare Welsh, to help create a wellbeing library within the school incorporating books that deal with sensitive subjects such as loss, divorce, illness etc. As a former primary school teacher and mental health champion, Clare knows first-hand the impact books can have on well-being and feels passionately about giving children access to them. She has carefully selected a variety of books written by a selection of authors. To find out more about the project follow the link to Clare's website:

<https://clarehelenwelsh.com/books/>

We would like to purchase as many books as possible to have in the den area, but also within each of the classrooms so that the children can access them as freely as possible. In order to do this, we will be organising a number of fundraising events beginning with one organised by Chandra, our school councillor. Chandra has bravely taken on a sea swimming challenge for November in order to raise money for the project. You can find out more about it and donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/chandra-kantha>

If anyone would like to be involved in helping with the project or would like to purchase a book to donate to the library, please get in touch with Vikki Drew at vikkid@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk or follow the link/QR code for East Gate Bookshop to see which books we are hoping to buy.

<https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/groveschool>

You can purchase a book directly through the link by selecting the book you'd like to donate, ensuring you write FAO Vikki Drew and 'The Grove School' as the delivery address. There is an additional charge for postage. Many thanks for your support for this very worthy project.

Teddy Bears Picnic – Friday 4th November

The Reception children have been collecting pom-poms in a class bucket for good behaviour. As a reward for filling the bucket, they have chosen to have a Teddy Bears Picnic. The bucket is now full so the Teddy Bears Picnic will take place this Friday 4th November. The children can bring a small soft toy (no electronics or very precious toys please, just in case). We hope to take the children up to Leechwell Gardens if the weather allows, so please ensure the children have suitable clothing and footwear. We are so proud of the Acorn children for all

their great behaviour since starting school and we are really looking forward to celebrating this with them on Friday.

Parent and teacher consultations (Teams) next week

Monday 7th November will be Robins, Treecreepers, Chestnut, Lime, Beech, Mountain Ash, Flame, Trumpet Tree classes.

Tuesday 8th November will be Chestnut, Beech, Mountain Ash, Willow, Trumpet and Ginkgo Tree classes.

Wednesday 9th November will be Dove and Willow Tree classes.

Thursday 10th November will be Robins, Treecreepers, Lime, Dove, Flame and Ginkgo Tree classes.

Emails have been sent out about booking appointments. You can only book one session per child. We do hope that separated parents can manage a joint Team meeting but if this is completely impossible please let us know. Teams invitations will be sent out. The invite will be sent to only one parent in the group so please forward this to the other person. There will be a Teams waiting room system. If you are having difficulty accessing your account to book then please contact school.

Could you donate anything of use here please?

Each year Jenni creates a display in the corridor of the school. You will see this when you come in on Monday 5th December. This year the theme will be the seasons and Jenni is asking for any artificial decorations to do with Autumn, Spring, Summer and Winter (leaves, twigs, branches, fluffy animals, birds, material (red, blue, green, yellow and brown). Please leave with Rebecca in Reception and thank you.

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

Beech Tree class swimming starts on Monday 14th November

Children in Need day Friday 18th November. Theme is a SPOTacular Children in Need Day for £1.00 donation.

Open session for parents and carers Monday 5th December 3.30 until 5pm

Grove Christmas Fair on the morning of Saturday 3rd December in the school

Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 9th December

Last day of term is Friday 16th December

First day back is Wednesday 4th January 2023

PTA Mufti Day

This Friday 4th November we have a mufti day and are inviting the children to dress up in Halloween clothes or anything they like! We would ask that no scary masks are worn that obscure the children's faces (the younger ones find this particularly scary). We would kindly request a donation of sweets for the mufti day. We use these to make up sweet cones for the Christmas Fair so ideally sweets that are wrapped, won't melt or get too sticky! Thank you!

PTA Christmas Fair

Date for the diary! We will be holding the Grove Christmas Fair on the morning of Saturday 3rd December in the school. Nearer the time I will be asking for volunteers and help so please consider this! We are really excited to create a fun-filled special event for the children and the support from parents and carers is so appreciated and welcomed. I hope you had a chance to have a clear out over the half term and a chance to consider donating the following for the Fair:

1. LUCKY DIP: We are inviting you all to have a small plastic toy amnesty. We will welcome your bags of small plastic/wooden toys that I have no doubt are cluttering your cupboards. Please drop off your bags of "treasure" at the front desk with my name marked on them.
2. CHRIMBO JUMPERS: We would love to see if we can recycle, reuse and re-sell any unwanted/outgrown Christmas jumpers or t-shirts or dresses in adult and children sizes (we will be selling these at the Christmas Fair)
3. Teddy bears and cuddly toys. A much loved stall at the fairs (we ran out very quickly at the summer fete). We antibac wash and rename the toys for the children to adopt.
4. Tombola prizes. Bottles, jars, chocolates and unwanted gifts are ideal for this stall so please have a check through cupboards or pick up an extra bottle when you next do your shop!

PTA Xmas Raffle

I know it seems a little early to start with the Christmas preparations but we are really keen to have the most fabulous Christmas Raffle. We have always received very kind and generous support from local businesses and we are hoping this year will be no different. I would also welcome any donations from you; a bottle of wine, box of chocolates, a voucher, an unwanted gift (!) or a hamper that you've made up of treats. We will be selling raffle tickets and will have the key prizes/companies advertised on them. I would really appreciate your help and support, please drop off any donations directly to me or to Rebecca at the front desk with my name on it. Many thanks, Emily Rowley (pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk). I will be getting the tickets printed soon and like to acknowledge our supporters so please let me know early.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

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