



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Newsletter No: Autumn 8**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**30th October 2019**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **What is happening this week and next**

Year 6 have gone on their residential to Okehampton Adventure. Chestnut Tree class have started their swimming lessons at Totnes Pavilions. Lime Tree Class will be having their 'Pyjama Party' tomorrow. They will need to wear their pyjamas to school and bring a small/medium sized teddy. On Monday, Dart Hockey Club are starting the 5 week Hockey League at KEVICCs. Please return the consent slips, thank you.

### **Art Auction Ariel Centre KEVICC – Tonight**

# YOU ARE INVITED

*to join us for an auction of artwork by local artists in aid of Art provision at the Grove Primary School.*

*The Ariel Centre, KEVICC, Totnes  
Wednesday the 30th October 5-7pm (the Auction will start around 6pm)*

*Work has been kindly donated by local artists including Wendy Newman, Malcom Race, Mandy Race, Val Jones, Jan O'Highway, Beth Heaney, Caroline Wightman, Patrick Lessware, Nic Collins and Chris Killock amongst others. All proceeds will be donated to the Grove school for use on Art materials and provision.*

### **CAP Workshops**

On Monday CAP are coming into school to deliver some workshops to the children. CAP takes a fresh approach to assault prevention, aiming to reduce fear by focusing on what children can do, rather than on what they can't. Their workshops are designed to build children's confidence and self-esteem, and are lively and fun. Children learn through drama and discussion with trained facilitators, about their rights to safety, strength and freedom. We encourage them to be proud of these rights and to respect the rights of others. Through the workshops children learn that they have the ability to protect themselves in unsafe situations. The website is [www.safestrongfree.org.uk](http://www.safestrongfree.org.uk)  
Thank you in advance for your support in us all working together in keeping your children safe.

### **Shear Soccer 4 weeks only**

Shear Soccer are only able to do a 4 week course this term due to other educational commitments.

**Tuesdays**                      **Year 3, 4, 5 & 6**

**November 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesdays**                **Year 1 & 2**

**November 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>**

### **Parent & carer survey follow-up**

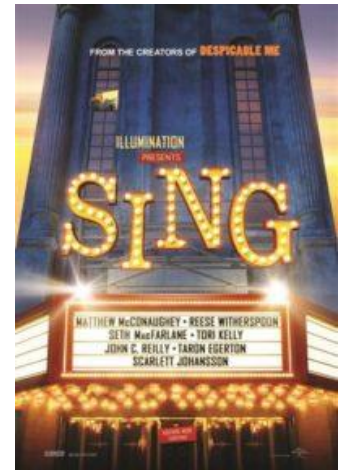
At the end of the last school year we discussed the results from the survey and how we plan to address any concerns raised, initially via this newsletter, focusing on areas where the negative answer percentage was 10% or higher. The first of these is about appropriate homework being set, which saw 11% answering negatively and 14% saying they are unsure, with themes being that it is felt the children are too young for homework and that school is where the learning should be done.

Homework is set for all classes, and marked where completed, but as a school we are clear that there is no obligation for parents to insist their children complete the tasks. They are however designed to be fun and engaging and hopefully don't feel like 'boring old homework'. We also feel strongly that reading at home with children is crucial to aid their progress, and coupled with homework tasks really does help to improve family learning and reinforce skills learned in school.

The [school's homework policy](#) is on our website, and for those who were unsure of the homework set for each class these can be found on the [individual class pages](#) also on the website, alongside further information about each curriculum subject.

If there are any specific concerns or questions you would like to raise regarding homework please let the teaching staff know, or feel free to contact me ([istewart@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:istewart@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)) or any of the governors as we continue to work with you on your feedback from the survey throughout the year.

**School Cinema Night – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 5.30 until 7.30 pm. Book tickets with Rebecca**



### **PTA Bags2School: Collection is Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

A reminder that the collection day for the Bags2School is next Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, but you can start bringing in the bags this week if you are unable to drop them off on Monday. As well as raising vitally needed funds for the school this scheme also helps the environment by helping to divert unwanted textiles away from landfill.

### **PTA: Preparations for the Christmas Fair**

Throughout November we will be getting organised and ready for the Christmas Fair on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm until 5.30pm. We are keen to support the schools ethos of up-cycling and reusing wherever possible so we need your help!

I have already been surprised at the efforts that some parents have already made in independently sourcing raffle prizes, wonderful to witness enthusiastic and generous support to the school. If any of you are able to offer a prize or know a business/company that would be kind enough to donate something please let me know.

We would really appreciate the following:

- Soft cuddly toys and teddy's for our much loved "adopt a teddy" stall
- Good quality items for the tombola; toys, unopened toiletries, unopened stationary bits, unwanted gifts(!!!), boxes of chocolates, craft packs etc
- Bottles and jars for the tombola (we're keen to keep the amount of plastic down to a minimum so glass jars etc packed with goodies are ideal)

- And don't forgot the "small toy amnesty" box for all those "treasures" you have dotted around your homes

There will be boxes in the school from mid November but wanted the opportunity to let you know so you can all be ready!

We obviously would welcome as many volunteers as possible to run the stalls on the day so please start considering this and let me know if you are available.

### **PTA Halloween Cake Sale**

We have had a very generous donation of an enormous chocolate cake and together with some other fiendishly yummy treats we will be in the playground (weather permitting) at school pick up this Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October. This is no TRICK just yummy TREATS!!

### **PTA Halloween Disco**

A very big thank you to all those that helped support the school disco, your enthusiasm and help was really appreciated. It was wonderful to see all the children having fun and enjoying themselves, whilst also contributing to our fundraising efforts.

### **Praise Assembly**

Praise assembly this week is Lime Tree Class on Friday at 2.45pm. The next praise assembly is Willow Tree class on Friday 8th November at 2.45pm.

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.*

### **Fireworks Night at KEVICC**

**Friday 1st November 2019 Gates open 6pm, display 7pm Food & drink available**