



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Newsletter No: Summer 3**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is a Bank holiday on Monday so the school will be closed. We are back on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

### **What's happening this week and next**

The Elizabethan opening Ceremony took place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May and Year 5 wore their Elizabethan costumes and danced to Elizabethan music. They were a real credit to the school. We also received the 'Rendall Crang' cup for raising the most poppy money at school. We raised £388.00. Club confirmations have gone out and all clubs start next week.

### **Home learning review**

Thank you for being patient with us whilst we trialled new home learning systems. We have been reviewing the amount of home learning taking place as well as children's and parent's comments to staff.

In Early Years, it was noted that not many parents manage to read with their children on a daily basis. If possible could parents aim for 4 times a week as a minimum – it does make all the difference. The children who are reading this much have made increased progress with their reading and have really benefitted. Parents seem to respond well to Tapestry and activities suggested.

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) the amount of children completing home learning has stayed much the same (about 50%), parents seem to be able to access the home learning and appreciate the more educational type home learning suggested. This new system will remain the same.

In Years 3 and 4 home learning has declined and parents have not liked the change so this will return to weekly spellings and weekly home learning suggested.

In Year 5 half-termly set home learning with dated tasks have been used and this does seem to have worked well so will continue.

In Year 6 home learning is set weekly and this will continue.

If you would like to offer any further comments or suggestions please let us know as we are continuously reviewing our practices to ensure we offer the best education possible.

### **Basketball League**

Last Wednesday three teams from The Grove, played in the first of two fixtures in the Totnes Learning Community Basketball League. The teams played very enthusiastically and after the first meeting they finished in third and joint fifth place, with only 4 points difference. We look forward to a tightly fought second meeting next week!

### **Cross Country**

The weather was kind to us all at the cross country running event at Haldon Forest, it started raining, just as I got in the car! The course was challenging, running along the tracks in the forest, there were over eighty competitors in each race, from over twenty schools. The year three and four teams ran, 1200m and the year five and six ran 1600m.

All runners were brilliant and really supportive of each other, it is wonderful, to see their sportsmanship. The year three / four team finished in second place overall, which is a fantastic result with so many other schools competing. Well done to all the runners, many of them finishing in the top twenty in their race, well done.

### **WW2 day years 3 and 4**

Last Wednesday, Year 3 / 4 had their World War 2 day. They dressed up as children from that era and got to experience what it was like to living during such an important event in recent history. The children were super and really got into character, and much fun was had by all. They were an absolute credit to The Grove school. Many thanks to all the parents who put so much effort into the costumes. We really appreciate it!

### **Summer term School Council news**

Children have put themselves forward and have been elected by the other children in their class as school councillors. Well done to the following children –

Reuben and Oki from Bay, Iris and Oscar from Flame, Jamie and Bethany from Ginkgo, Zoe and Sonny from Lime, Felix and Noah from Banyan, Gabriel and Florence from Willow. Last term the councillors made posters to share 3 key areas which are important for good mental health – [Being physically active](#) – [Doing something you enjoy](#) and – [Asking for help](#). This term the councillors will be designing posters and messages to go onto the school website about these 3 key areas. Some other wonderful suggestions included bringing a photo/object of something you enjoy to share with the class and bringing a photo of your pet to school to share with others!

### **Ginkgo, Kapok and Flame praise assembly change of date**

The Years 3 and 4 praise assembly will now be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 2.45.

### **PTA News**

Thank you to Acorns for the lovely cakes last week. You helped us to raise a huge £125.00! Tomorrow is the turn of BANYAN and LIME to bake, please bring your cakes in first thing and leave either in your child's class or with Rebecca at Reception. Cakes will be available from 3.10pm, get them before they all go!

Cake Baking Dates:

Willow and Kapok - [Thursday 10th May](#)

Ginkgo and Flame - [Thursday 17th May](#)

Bay and Guava - [Thursday 24th May](#)

### **Bags2School**

Thank you to everyone who donated a bag. We made a £156.00! All this money goes towards funding equipment and resources to enhance our school.

### **Summer Fair**

Please email Kellie and Jenni [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk) if you can offer any help for our summer fair on Friday 13th July. Plans are already underway, but we need your support and help to really get it going. Any amount of time you can offer will be greatly appreciated. We need; face painters, glitter tattooists, people to man the games stalls etc. We also need raffle prizes, so if you or the company you work for could offer a prize, please let us know. Thank you.

### **Praise assembly**

This week's praise assembly is Lime Tree class on Friday 4th May at 2.45pm. Next week it is Willow Tree class at 2.45pm.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

### **Totnes Library**

#### **Code Club: Saturdays from 12<sup>th</sup> May, 11am**

Join the Code Club at Totnes Library! There are still some spaces available at the code club at Totnes Library for 8-13 years old, which will run on Saturdays from 12<sup>th</sup> May 11am. Please contact Totnes Library at [totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk) or call 01803 862210 to book your place.

#### **An Afternoon with Philip Reeve: Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm, Totnes Library**

A chance to meet hit author of 'Mortal Engines' and 'Cakes in Space' and hear about his books and what it's like to be an author. Tickets £1, children free

#### **Exciting Elmer Extravaganza: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30-12, the Hall, Totnes Library**

Enjoy fun stories and crafts to celebrate our favourite multi-coloured elephant, and help make a giant Elmer! Free event, and all ages are welcome

### **Farm Club Huxhams Cross Farm**

The Apricot Centre's next Farm Club sessions are available to book. We were totally booked for the last sessions, so please book your place to avoid disappointment. Our next term starts Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June and runs for 7 sessions for the cost of £54 this is less than £8 per session! It's looking to be a super busy time on the farm with lots to do! So if you fancy - planting and harvesting veg, caring for the animals, arts and crafts and a whole lot more then check out our website of details. To book your place visit our website. [www.apricotcentre.ticketease.co.uk/eve.../farm-club-7-sessions](http://www.apricotcentre.ticketease.co.uk/eve.../farm-club-7-sessions) or contact Rachel on [rachelphillips@apricotcentre.co.uk](mailto:rachelphillips@apricotcentre.co.uk) for more information.

## CAP Money Course

A free, short course that makes managing your money simple.



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The CAP Money Course is a three week money management course which teaches budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. This course will help you to take control of your finances so you can save, give and prevent debt.

You are very welcome to join us at Daisy Play Centre in Totnes on 16th May, 23rd May & 6th June 6.30-8.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

If you would like to attend, book in online at [CAPmoney.org](http://CAPmoney.org) or contact Phil or Lynn Watson [01803 363127](tel:01803363127) for further details.