



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Autumn 5

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5th October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

What's happening in school this week and next

The Totnes Times came in last Wednesday to take photos of the new reception children, so remember to buy your copy. On Monday we had a visit from Totnes Library to present children with medals from the Library's Summer Reading challenge. Also on Monday children took part in the Football Seven-a-side. This was played at KEVICC with 2 teams competing against other schools in the Totnes Learning Community. Our 'A' Team won all of their matches. The next matches will be on 9th November. Yesterday a Cyclo-cross race took place at Stover and 18 children took part. Children did brilliantly completing 2 laps of a challenging course. Thank you to all the parents for their support and hopefully we might get some new branded kit if we find some sponsors. We would like to give a 'Special Well Done' mention to Felix in year 6 who had a 'Chris Froome moment' when his chain got stuck, so he had to run part of the course to then collect another bike and complete the lap - great thinking and sportsmanship!! On Thursday Ginkgo Tree Class are going to Kents Cavern in Torquay for the day. We will tell you more about that next week. Next Monday is the SEND sports festival which is being held at KEVICC.

REMINDER – School Photos on Monday from 8:30am with siblings

Governors

It is a busy time of year for the governors as we are currently planning the impact the governing body will have on the school this academic year. We are also busy with the final snagging of the building, as it is coming up to a year since the build was handed over to us. If you spot anything that we should raise with Kier then please let us know. Nicola Rogers and Steve Bryant have both stepped down from their positions as parent governors so we are now recruiting for new governors. We are looking for a range of skills so please apply and let us know where your skills lie. We thank both Nicola and Steve for all their hard work whilst they were on the governing body.

Leadership and Management

Mrs Wilkinson and I attended a conference about academisation yesterday. The School has no current plans to become or join an academy but the future path of all schools seems to point in that direction so it is better to be informed and plan for the future carefully.

As a school we have been developing our skills in questioning to increase children's skills in thinking. After half term we are planning our 'thinking' themed week when each class will be trying out lots of new strategies to challenge the children. It should be a really fun and engaging week.

The Children's Kitchen

Just a reminder that lunch tomorrow will be Fish Fingers and Chips or Cheese and Tomato Puff and Friday will be Chicken Pie and Jacket Potato.

The Grove School PTA

The PTA are putting together plans for the school fete. We need helpers to do many tasks, such as look after stalls, collect prizes, gently persuade local businesses to kindly donate things or items, wrap presents, make decorations, sing, dance... Anything really which is fun and makes it great. If you would like to help, have ideas and want to get into the Christmas spirit please let us know via pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk or The Grove School Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/thegroveschool/>) or Twitter (https://twitter.com/TheGrove_PTA). We only have about 9 weeks to sort it all out! Thanks. PTA Team

New Sports Kits Needed for our new school

We are looking for someone or a number of people to sponsor our New Grove School Kit. If you are interested please see reception or email us. Thank you.

Praise Assemblies – all assemblies will be on Fridays at 2:45pm

Praise assembly this week is Maple Tree Class on 7th October at 2.45pm. The next praise assembly will be Banyan Tree Class on Friday 21st October (last day of term) at 2.45pm.

Teacher planned absences

There are no absences planned this week.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Refugee Aid from Taunton

Lucy Slemmings (Cara's mum from Yr 4) is collecting items for expectant mothers and newborn babies for RAFT (Refugee Aid From Taunton) who distribute items to camps across Europe and Syria which have high volumes of women and children. If you have any of the following you no longer need please bring them to school on Friday 7th October - there will be collection boxes by reception both before and after school. Required - nursing bras, practical maternity clothes, any clothing and blankets for newborns, baby bottles, unopened tins of formula and leftover nappies (any size, these are always in high demand). Thank you.

WildWise

Oct 24th - WildWise's Extraordinary School for Kids (8-12 yrs): A day of bushcraft challenges, skills and adventures for kids who love messing about in the woods with sticks, streams, mud, fires and a pinch of danger!
10-4pm Dartington Estate £30 p.p. 01803 869269 www.wildwise.co.uk

Totnes Library

Totnes Library have got a fantastic event coming up in a few weeks on Saturday 8th October at 10:30am for ages 4+, which is part of the Turn the Page Children's Book Festival running in Totnes. Local author Peter Bently will be introducing his new book 'Potion Commotion' and there will be wonderful witchy crafts! Tickets are £2.50 (accompanying parent/guardians go free) and can be bought from the library, online at turnthepagetotnes.org.uk or on the door.

Transition Town Totnes

Sat 8th October. 12 noon till 6pm

Located on Vire Island, it's a celebration of the wonderful range of local food we have near Totnes. We believe it's the first festival celebrating truly locally produced food.

As well as a diverse range of farmers market stalls, we'll also have hot food, and plenty of entertainment including music, mini 'soap box' talks, face painting, storytelling, food arts and crafts suitable for kids and kids at heart

More information is available here: www.totnes10.org