



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Newsletter No: Autumn 2**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**15th September 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

On Monday all our Year 5 and Year 6 classes took part in the Totnes Renewable Energy Society project. Tresoc have created the REEL programme to encourage learning about renewable energy technologies—both how they fit into the local landscape and address wider energy issues.

### **Message from NHS re the Nasal Flu Vaccination**

This year your child will be offered a free flu vaccination in school and we will shortly be sending communication via the school with regards to consent for this. However, we are aware there are some children that due to an underlying medical condition are at increased risk from the flu virus – if you believe that your child is in the category and you would like the opportunity to book them into an early community clinic, please contact our single point of access (SPA) on 0300 247 0082 or email at [vcl.immunisations@nhs.net](mailto:vcl.immunisations@nhs.net). Please note this is an extremely busy time for our phones and therefore if you are struggling to get through, please don't hesitate to contact us via e-mail and someone will return your call.

### **Child protection and safeguarding**

Protecting your children from harm is our top priority. Please note the two updated policies on our website from DCC and the DFE on keeping children safe in education.

<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/safeguarding/280116>

If you ever have any concerns, questions or queries about keeping children safe then please do not hesitate to let us know. Email [head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

### **Behaviour policy**

Each year we review our behaviour policy and direct parents to review it and send in comments should they wish. You can find it on this link:

[http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/policies\\_/138173](http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk/web/policies_/138173)

### **Relationships and sex education – parental consultation**

As recommended by the DFE the school have chosen to follow the programme of study promoted by the PSHE association for Physical, Social, Health (including mental health) and Economic education including RSE (Relationships and sex education).

The link to this programme of study is here: <https://www.pshe-association.org.uk/curriculum-and-resources/resources/programme-study-pshe-education-key-stages-1%E2%80%93935>

The link to the DFE guidance for Relationships and sex education is here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/908013/Relationships\\_Education\\_Relationships\\_and\\_Sex\\_Education\\_RSE\\_and\\_Health\\_Education.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/908013/Relationships_Education_Relationships_and_Sex_Education_RSE_and_Health_Education.pdf)

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from sex education which in fairness only really happens in full in secondary schools – we do discuss puberty with Y5/6 and we will share our materials we tend to use prior to any sessions and are happy for parents to use their right to withdraw their child from this session if they prefer to cover it themselves.

If you have any comment or suggestions, then please do let us know. Email [head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

## **KS2 STAR READING- NEW READING SYSTEM**

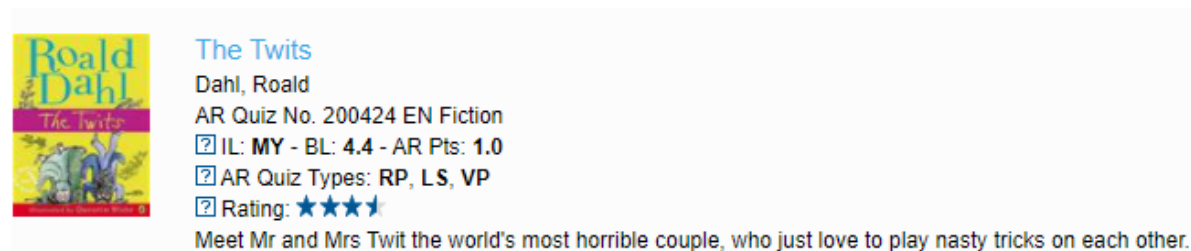
Key Stage Two have a new reading system called STAR READER (or also known as Accelerated Reader). The children have all done an online quiz to find out which level of books they should be reading. This level has been written inside their Reading Record Book. They then choose the appropriate book from the book shelf. Once completed, they do an online comprehension quiz. This keeps a close eye on the progress they are making and adjust their choice options appropriately. Children will be encouraged to bring their books home and read them on a daily basis. Your children will become experts on this and will explain everything to you.

Star Reader is designed for children to read 'real' books and there are over 30,000 books in their database. Any books that the child reads inside and outside of school as long as they are in the database can count towards your child's reading progression.

If you would like to check that the books your children read at home are at an appropriate reading and comprehension level, you can use this website.

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/>

All you need to do is type in the title of the book and it will search to see if it is in the database. You will see an image like this



You need to look at the BL.

We have been in contact with Nigel in East Gate Bookshop and he will happily check any new books that you want to buy.

## **MICRO, MINI and JUNIOR DUKE REMINDER**

Please remember that the closing date for registering for taking part in the Micro, Mini and Junior Duke Scheme is TODAY. I will be sorting through all the forms tomorrow morning at 9:30 am. If you still need to bring your form and money in, please hand it in to Rebecca before then. It would be wonderful to have as many children as possible from The Grove becoming Capable Kids and being recognised for their achievements.

Many thanks for your support. Helen Fernyhough

## **PTA AGM**

Hello all and welcome to the new parents and carers that have joined us. We are a really friendly group in the PTA and would really welcome any support or help. As you can imagine fundraising options are limited at the moment but we have an exciting project to develop the play equipment that we are working towards. I would like to invite you all to the PTA Virtual AGM on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. This will be on zoom and if you would like the invitation please email me on [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk) so I know who to expect. There is no obligation to become a committee member but it will give you an idea of what we have achieved this last year and what we plan to do with the year ahead. I would love to see some new faces and continue to be thankful to those already involved. Emily Rowley

### **PTA fundraising**

We have had a really special donation to the PTA. Tabby Buck in Year 1 Lime Tree has been sponsored by very kind family, friends and neighbours to read 40 books in 40 days over the summer. This in itself is a great achievement and her efforts have raised £324. A very big thank you to her for her efforts and kindness.

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.*

### **Totnes Library Summer Reading Challenge**

This weekend marks the end of our **Summer Reading Challenge 2021** here at Totnes Library! We are pleased to announce that overall, we have had nearly 150 starters to the challenge and over 60 finishers- we are very proud of all our Wild World Heroes that were able to finish the challenge! 📖☐🐾

We also wanted to say a big congratulations as The Grove Primary School had **14 challenge finishers!** A big well done to them all 🎉

Do let us know if you would like a physical copy of your certificate, we can drop one to the school if you are allowing visitors, or you can pick it up from the library.

If you have pupils who have finished the challenge, but have not been into the library to collect their medal and certificate, do let them know that it's not too late- we are still accepting late finishers over the weekend and throughout next week.

### **Support the campaign for a Totnes Climate Change Response Centre**



A group of volunteers have launched a Crowdfund campaign to help establish a Climate Change Response Centre in the heart of Totnes. It aims to support the Totnes community to become carbon neutral and tackle climate change.

It will be a prominent building in the middle of Totnes that represents how important this situation is, while providing practical solutions and responses that can be helpful.

How can you help?

If you can do any one of these three simple things to help support the campaign, it will give us the best possible chance of securing this much-needed resource.

- Visit the Crowdfunding page before October 8th and donate a little or a lot. Rewards are available depending on the level of your donation, all of which have been offered in kind from local businesses.

**[crowdfunder.co.uk/climate-change-response-centre](https://crowdfunder.co.uk/climate-change-response-centre)**

- Join the [Facebook Group](#) to stay up to date with progress and contribute to the discussion about why we feel we need a Climate Change Response Centre and what we hope it will achieve.

**[facebook.com/groups/totnesclimateresponse](https://facebook.com/groups/totnesclimateresponse)**

- Share the Crowdfunding page and the Facebook Group with friends and encourage them to support it too.

Thank you from the Totnes Climate Change Response Centre team.