



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What's happening in school this week and next

Tempest photography came in on Monday. Please could you return all orders by Tuesday 17th October so that we can send them away before we break for half term. Totnes Library came in to hand out the reading challenge awards, we came 2nd out of all the local schools. Tomorrow afternoon Guava Tree class are going to Totnes Pavilions for 'Life Skills'. On Tuesday 17th Boots will be here administering the Flu vaccinations.

Lime Tree's class trip

On their trip to Goodrington beach last week Lime tree class looked for and collected lots of different types of shells on the beach. The groups then organised them and made a 3D sand sculpture using the shells. Take a look at the school website to see our wonderful creations! The class also went in search of creatures and plants in the rock pools. We learnt this slogan to help us walk safely over the seaweed on the rocks 'green is slippery, brown is grippy'. The sun was shining and everyone helped each other have fun - a brilliant day out.

Harvest Festival – organised by the School Council to give to the Homeless Shelter Charity in Totnes

A notice from the school councillors.

Dear parents, we would like to collect some food, new socks and sleeping bags to donate to the homeless shelter in Totnes. Could you bring in new socks, sleeping bags (second hand is fine but clean), tins of tomatoes, tinned peas, coffee, tea, biscuits and tubs of margarine for our harvest assembly for Monday 16th October.

Irish Dancing lesson - Thursday 19th October, 5.30 - 6.30pm, £5

Tickets available: Weds 11th before & after school, Thurs 12th before school, Mon 16th before & after school, Tues 17th before school and Weds 18th before & after school. Please see Maria (with her green clipboard!) at the reception desk or email: mobrien1972@hotmail.com. Check out our Irish dancing teacher, Aileen Ryan, at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3zuFdXrX7g>

Senior Leadership and Governor update

The senior leadership team are carrying out a Teaching Assistant Audit currently. We are so lucky to have a great team of TAs at our school who work so hard and bring such a huge impact. If you would like to comment on our use of Teaching Assistants, then please send us an email.

World Mental Health Day #Hello Yellow

Thank you to everyone who has written a message of support to add to our bunting. Please take a look at our tree and have a read of the lovely kind thoughts and advice.

We have 35 messages so far, it would be great if we could reach 50! It's not too late to have your say, the table and speech bubbles will be there until the end of the week. We will let you know how much money we have raised for this worthwhile charity next week. (Donation bucket beside the table, box at reception)

PTA Meeting

There is a PTA meeting next Thursday (19th) straight after school in the Acorn Unit. We will be discussing all the fundraising events coming up in school, so if you can offer any help or have any ideas for fundraising, please do come along to support us. We will also be voting on how to spend the PTA fundraising money for this year. If you would like to receive the agenda prior to our meeting, send us an email and we will add you to our mailing list. This is a really good way to keep informed about all our events.

School Disco

Hopefully you will have noticed the posters around school! The Disco will be on Thursday 2nd November with Reception, Year 1 and 2 from 4.30-5.30, year 3 and 4 at 5.45 - 6.45 and finally year 5 and 6 at 7.00-8.00. We will need volunteers to ensure this event can go ahead, so if you can help please see Rachel Gillespie, Kellie Bishop or Jenni Rowe.

BAGS2SCHOOL

Please keep an eye out for the bags2school bag in your child's book bag, they will be with you before half term. The collection date is Thursday 9th November. Please remember you can use any bag, so get sorting!

Table top sale

The PTA will be holding a table top sale in the school hall on Saturday 11th November, time to be confirmed. If you would like to book at table please see Kellie or Jenni. Look out for the posters for more information!

Mufti Day Friday 20th October

Rather than money for mufti, the PTA would kindly ask that you donate a bag of sweets! The sweet cones that we made for the summer fair were such a success that we thought we would do it again!

Praise assemblies

Praise assembly this Friday is a joint Ginkgo, Kapok and Flame Tree Class at 2pm. The next one will be Willow Tree class on Friday 20th October at the usual time of 2.45pm.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Dear Parents,

We are now part of the Letter-join handwriting scheme and any of our pupils wishing to practise their handwriting at home can now log in to the Letter-join website on iPads and tablets as well as desktop and laptop computers. There you will find the same, easy-to-use handwriting resources as we use at school.

How to log in to Letter-join

DESKTOP AND LAPTOP LOG-IN

Simply go to www.letterjoin.co.uk and log in, using the Desktop log-in boxes, with these details:

User name: ak7092

Password: home

Letter-join will work on the following browsers on PCs:

- Google Chrome
 - Firefox
 - Safari
 - Opera
- We cannot recommend using Internet Explorer for Letter-join.

IPAD AND TABLET LOG-IN

Go to www.letterjoin.co.uk, select the Tablet Login button and log in using these details:

User name: ak7092

Swipe code (starting at top left):



Letter-join will run on the following tablets:

- iPads running at least iOS7 through the Safari browser.
- Windows 8 tablets (8 inch and bigger) using the built-in browser.
- Android tablets (8 inch and bigger) using Google Chrome, Firefox or Opera.

Once logged-in, you will be able to watch how to form all the letters of the alphabet using the same style that we use at school. You can then trace over the letters and words on your tablet and print out the worksheets from your PC for real handwriting practice.

We are limited to the number of users who can log in to this account, so please only log in with this username and password/swipe code for your own personal use.

Totnes Beaver Group

The Totnes Beaver group are holding a Charity Rugby Match on Saturday 22nd October at the rugby pitch in Totnes.

Kick off is at 2.30pm. There will be a cake sale and a raffle and refreshments at the Rugby Club. Please join us to raise money for the group and find out more about The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

Nourishing Families
Exploring MEALTIME MATTERS because MEALTIMES really do MATTER

- Nourishing Families is a 6-week programme for parents.
- Together, we'll look at everything about feeding a family and family eating, because how we eat is as important as what we eat for our health and wellbeing.
- Sessions take place weekly, each time you'll choose one thing to try at home - it doesn't matter if it works or not, you just need a willingness to try something new.
 - We'll also have food tastings and an online group

When: Mondays 9:30-11am, Oct 30th - Dec 4th

Where: South Hams Children's Centre, Pathfields, Totnes, TQ9 5TZ

Cost: Free (donations welcome), for parents with at least one child under 5 years old

Bookings: 01803 847626 southhamschildrenscentre@actionforchildren.org.uk

For more information: nourishingfamilies@kandonutrition.com or www.nourishingfamilies.weebly.com

Messy Church

Saturday 21st October 3.30-5.30PM

St Johns Church, Bridgetown

The theme is **CREATION**

Info for parents

As part of Bodykind festival (the world's first ever festival of body acceptance), from 9-10 am on Saturday 14th October at Totnes Library, Chris and Nicky will be reading from their latest book aimed at 3-7 year olds. This is a free, drop-on event; everyone's welcome. There will be an opportunity for parents and children to ask questions of these highly-respected specialists in the field of self-esteem and body image.

Chris Calland M.A. and Nicky Hutchinson M.Ed are specialist education consultants with 'Not Just Behaviour' and have over 25 years' experience as advisers working in children's behaviour and mental health. They work internationally with parents, psychologists and schools to develop children's self-esteem and body confidence. They co-authored the award winning book, 'Body Image in the Primary School'. (David Fulton 2011) and have just published 'Minnie and Max are OK!' A story book for young children to promote body confidence.

Chris & Nicky advise the government on how to promote a healthy body image in boys and girls and believe it is vital to begin this work when children are young.

They are both parents and understand the joys and challenges of raising a family in the 21st century.