



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What's happening in school this week and next

Year 6 are having their SATs tests next week, year 2 are discretely completing theirs, Year 1 phonics testing will take place in June and the EYFS are beginning to make their final assessments – We do try to make this period of the school year as fun for the children as possible and avoid over weighting the importance of these tests. Please give the staff extra big smiles!

Basketball Central Venue League at KEVICC

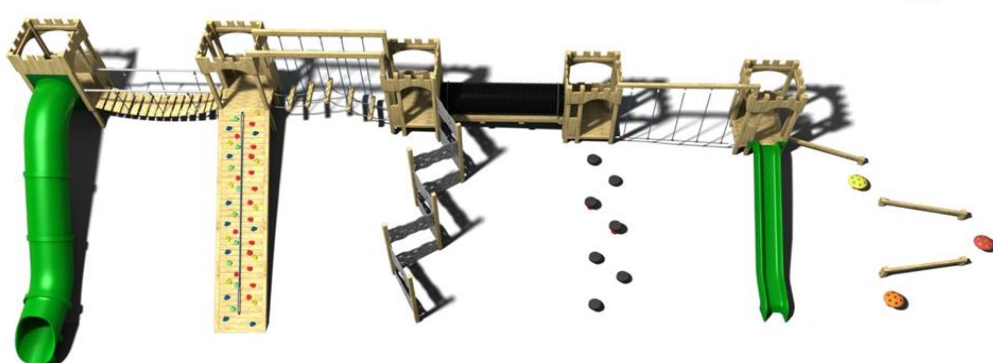
Last Wednesday, two teams from year 5 and 6 competed against other schools in The Totnes Learning Community. Both teams scored lots of points, the final positions in the league will be decided next Wednesday, when the teams compete again!

Cyclo cross at Stover

The sun shone, for the cyclo cross competition at Stover and so did the results! Sixteen children took part in the competition, with them all achieving their personal best results! The course is challenging, including a section through the woods for the older competitors. The year 3 and 4 boys and girls all cycled brilliantly and came joint second in the team event out of 10 schools, a fantastic achievement to all the cyclists, especially Isla, whose laces got caught in her pedal, but she managed to complete the race, well done!

Fundraising

On Saturday we raised £630.65 by bag packing at Morrisons. This will go towards the next phase of the playground climbing frames etc – the first phase is just awaiting the slide, which is being made to measure, and then we can start to use it. Thank you so much to all the staff, parents and children who helped at this event – and to the very generous people of Totnes who donated so much. Thanks also to Morrisons who continue to support us as a school. There is another bag packing day planned for June 17th and we need parents with their children to come and help. The children definitely helped raise the most money (cute-factor helps a lot!) so if you could manage an hour slot with your children we would be exceptionally grateful. See, email or call Rebecca at the school's contacts above to go on the volunteers list.



Nits

There are nits in school again – pretty much a constant these days. They do seem to be particularly persistent this year and I noticed that the NHS are recommending continuing to check regularly but if any found to treat fully with 'wet combing' on days 1,5,9,13 and 17 after discovery. From experience I would recommend every other day after discovery as they seem to miraculously reappear after checking for more than 7 days! This is checking period is longer than previous recommendations so it seems that the nits are lasting longer. We would recommend checking twice a week every week during term time please to try to keep the problem at bay and help children to not pass them on. For advice on how to treat follow this link:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

Elizabethan Dancing

Flame Tree class children danced in the Civic Square for the Opening Ceremony of the Elizabethan Market, thank you for your support – they did a grand job. I was talking to Tony Greg from the Elizabethan Society who was Headteacher at The Grove 30 years ago when the Elizabethan dances started! I have watched 10 years of this tradition myself, it is great to keep up with the community events.

Pick a Pocket

We need to start collecting small homemade items for the 'pick a pocket' for the Summer Fair. All small homemade prizes are very welcome. For more information, please see Fiona Kendall in Reception class.

PTA Cake Sale

Banyan Tree class raised £101.00 last week with their lovely cakes. Tomorrow is the turn of Ginkgo Class to bake. Please leave your cakes with Rebecca at Reception. Cakes and Ice Lollies will be on sale from 3.10pm.

PTA meeting

We are organising our next PTA meeting which will take place in Reception class at 3:30 on Thursday 18th May for just 1 hour – please come, we really need your help. Children can play in the adjacent classroom during the meeting. This meeting will focus on the school discos on 25th May and the Summer Fair on 7th July.

PTA school discos 25th May

Please put this date in your diaries for the event of the year! There will be three discos for the different age groups with lots of other activities also happening. Entry is £1 and includes squash and a biscuit. Children can also buy glow sticks, glitter tattoos, and face painting while they are there.

4.30pm-5.30pm - Reception, Y1 & Y2

5.45pm-6.45pm - Y3 & Y4

7pm-8pm - Y5 & Y6

The Governors and Leadership team

The governors' resources committee met at the beginning of term to finalise our school budget which, along with many schools is very tight this year. We can maintain our excellent teaching staff, but resources and training will be restricted this year. We are looking at ways of fund-raising and being more efficient with our contracts. The Full governors also met on Tuesday last week with discussions around the best ways to collaborate with other schools in the area and the school improvement plan for this term, with work on writing, phonics, maths and marking. We also discussed our visits to school to monitor the improvements being made.

Praise Assemblies

The next praise assembly will be on Friday 5th May at 2.45 and will be Ginkgo Tree Class.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Holiday activity day Monday 5th June

Karen Jarvis is hoping to run an activity day to help raise funds for the school on the 5th June, the extra Monday of Half term. The day will be based on forest school activities and games. To be able to plan the day Karen would like to know the numbers of children interested by 12th May so that she can organise adults to help and equipment.

There will be a cost of £15 for the day this will all go to the PTA fund raising for our school.

Due to child ratios this is open to children from year 1 to year 6.

Please could you let Karen or Rebecca know if you are interested.

This will be on a first come first served basis due to limited numbers.

Nourishing Families

Transforming food and mealtimes to bring more balance and harmony to family life.

This 3-month programme is for parents of children 0-10 who have concerns about any aspects of food, nutrition or dietary habits or simply want better family mealtimes.

I'm looking for a small group of parents (with at least one child under 10) to join a pilot in Totnes beginning Monday, 8th May, with sessions fortnightly.

For more details or to book a place please contact Anna: anna@kandonutrition.com
07786 225757

<http://kandonutrition.weebly.com/nourishing-families.html>