



### Weekly Newsletter

[admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)  
<http://www.the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk>  
[www.facebook.com/thegroveschool](http://www.facebook.com/thegroveschool)

**Headteacher: Hilary Priest**  
**Newsletter No: Summer 8**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**29th June 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **PTA Mufti Day this Friday (1st July)**

This Friday is mufti day to celebrate the start of July! We would really appreciate donations of sweets and treats. We use these to make up sweet cones for the summer fete. Any sweets that won't melt or get too sticky would be ideal. Thank you!

The school council would like to combine this with a pride awareness day. Every year, during the month of June, the LGBT community celebrates in a number of different ways. Across the globe, various events are held during this special month as a way of recognising the influence LGBT people have had around the world. So, in line with this we are asking children to wear extra colourful clothing or rainbows if they can. The School Council are researching LGBT people who have had a great influence on the world and will share these with the other children on this day.

### **Transition sessions next week**

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings are our transition sessions for children moving into their new classes in which they will spend time with their new teachers and the other half of their mixed year group class. It is really important that children experience these sessions as it can reduce anxieties around September immensely. We will also have our new starter Reception children attending on this day. On Monday and Tuesday the children moving on to Kevicc will have their days there.

### **Open Evening for Parents – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Feel free to pop into school between 3:30pm and 5:00pm with your child to visit the learning in their current class and meet the new teacher and their new classrooms. Numbers may be high inside school between 3:30 and 4:00, so if you want to come a little later you will find it quieter. Front door and back gate will be open for this and no tickets required as you will have your child with you at all times for safety.

### **Cyclo Cross Success**

A massive well done to all riders. The Grove children made us proud again, during an afternoon of cyclo-cross fun. A huge thank you to all the adults who transported children and bikes, then supporting all the riders. We had 30 riders, with an amazing 3 gold medals and 10 top 10 places. Congratulations to every single one of them for completing the course, showing determination and resilience, even when mechanical failure hit. For those children who competed for the first time, well done and we hope to see you riding again. Particular well done to Hazel, Maya and James for leading your race home to take Gold. A special mention for the other cyclists getting a top 10 place; Max, Ava, Tabi, Jack, Casper, Harry and Noah.

### **After school clubs for September**

In September we are hoping to re-start after school clubs. Unfortunately, our very busy teachers don't really have capacity to run clubs anymore so we are approaching local providers to run clubs on our premises for our children. If you know any clubs that might be interested could you encourage them to get in touch.

### **Teaching Assistant Positions**

We potentially have some part time/full time Teaching Assistant positions coming up for September. If you or know of anyone who may be interested then would you email me by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> on [head@the-grove-primary-devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary-devon.sch.uk)

### **Peripatetic Piano Teacher Position**

We are sad that Nicky Matthews has decided to leave Devon at the end of this school year. She has been an amazing asset to the school teaching piano here for 21 years! Piano teachers aren't directly employed by the school but obviously we would like a say in who replaces her so we are asking for expressions of interest for taking this role to consider this for tender. Please ask around if you know any piano teachers and then direct any expressions of interest to [head@the-grove-primary-devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@the-grove-primary-devon.sch.uk) stating how many days of the week and weeks of the year they might be available and any background CV type information that might help us decide who would fit well within our team.

### **Menu change for tomorrow and Friday**

Tomorrow will be Fish Fingers or Quorn Sausage and chips and Friday will be Haloumi Kebab or Macaroni Cheese.

### **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June Year 3 and 4 Commonwealth Games Festival**

All children in years 3 and 4 have the exciting opportunity to participate in a Commonwealth Games Festival tomorrow. Tammi Leithbridge our School Sports Co-ordinator is leading the festival and training the year 4 children to lead the festival for the other classes, so all children have the opportunity to participate.

The children will be participating in a variety of activities in a carousel eg basketball, tag rugby, athletics, bowls, uni hockey. As these are sports at the commonwealth games. Please ensure all year 3 and 4 have their PE kits.

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July Year 5 and 6 Dartmoor 3 Ball Competition**

Two teams from year 5 and 6 will be competing against other schools from the Dartmoor School Sports Partnership at South Brent. This is an exciting opportunity for some friendly competition.

### **Sports Afternoon**

We would like to invite you to our sports afternoons. The sports afternoons will be taking place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July for KS2 and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July for Reception and KS1 (weather permitting). The children will be in cross-year group teams and will participate in a number of athletic activities, which have been planned by year 5 and 6.

Siblings will be in the same teams. Teams accumulate points which add up towards a team taking 1<sup>st</sup> place. There are not individual competitive races for our sports days.

Your child will be bringing home a letter with details about the team they are in. They can wear their kit to school on the day. Two tickets per family will also be attached. If you do not need your tickets, please return them to school. The sports afternoon will start at 1:30. Please arrive at 1:15 at the back gate entrance (Heathway) with your tickets.

### **Governor update and calling all architects!**

We had our latest Resources committee meeting yesterday where, as usual, we monitored the budget and spending plans for the curriculum, catering, staffing and building maintenance and development. One item in our plans is to adapt the front entrance to the school to improve safeguarding while visitors are signed in and to provide a more private and quiet environment for Rebecca. We have ideas, but if you or maybe somebody you know is an architect and would be willing to come in and help us to understand viable options to set us off on the right track, we would greatly appreciate it - please me know if you can help ([chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:chair@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)).

We have also resumed our visits into classrooms again this term, which has been wonderful. In the last week we have visited Oak, Chestnut and Flame to see Computing lessons, and spent time in Dove observing a year one

Phonics lesson. This morning we spent time with the Early Years team as part of a Babcock review and will also be joining in with a monitoring visit covering the Expressive Arts subjects across multiple classes. It's all go, but it has been brilliant to be back sharing time in classrooms with the children to see the new curriculum in action - thank you to all staff and children for your time.

Ian Stewart, Chair of Governors

### **PTA Cake Sale**

Mountain Ash Tree had some amazing cakes on offer last week and raised a fantastic £110. I would be so grateful if any of the **GINGKO Tree Class** children, parents or carers could bake or donate cakes for this week. Please drop off your bakes and cakes in the morning, either at the front entrance with Rebecca or at the back entrance (we'll be at one of the tables on the back field). All cakes will be 50p (cash only), there will be tables set up at both entrances and we ask for you to not crowd the cakes and patiently wait your turns. Next week it will be the turn of **FLAME Tree Class** so please get your best recipes at the ready!

### **PTA Summer Fete (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 5pm – 8pm)**

The summer fete is getting closer and we are really in need of some donations so please have a hunt around your homes! We would really appreciate your donations of the following over the next two weeks so we can get ready:

- 1) Raffle prizes. We are really grateful to local businesses/companies for your donations to our raffle. This always gets a lot of interest so if any of you are able to personally make a donation or ask a company on our behalf that would be great. Anything from a voucher or a hamper made up or a product from a shop would be ideal
- 2) Teddy bears and cuddly toys. A much loved stall at the fairs. We antibac wash and rename the toys for the children to adopt.
- 3) Small toy amnesty (party bag, small trinkets, pocket money toys etc). Rather than buying more plastic prizes etc we love to reuse what many of us have sat in draws and cupboards at home. These also make exciting and sometimes slightly unusual lucky dip prizes.
- 4) Tombola prizes. Bottles, jars, chocolates and unwanted gifts are ideal for this stall so please have a check through cupboards or pick up an extra bottle when you next do your shop!

Please drop all donations off at the front desk with either EMILY ROWLEY or JENNI ROWE written on it. If you have any questions please email me [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

### **PTA Summer Fete Raffle**

Raffle tickets will be coming out at the end of the week. We have had some amazing donations for the raffle:

- East Gate Bookshop – Two £10 vouchers
- The Bull Inn – 2 course dinner for two with a bottle of wine
- Pig and Whistle voucher
- Sharpham voucher for Sandridge Barton
- Plymouth Argyle Summer Workshop Place
- Venus Café – Three £20 vouchers and a BodyBoard
- Curator voucher
- £20 Pie Street Voucher
- £44 Riverford Field Kitchen Voucher

Books of five tickets at £1 per ticket will be sent home with each child. Please return to their class or front desk. More tickets available at front desk or email me on [pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:pta@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk)

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.*

### **Family Sharpham events**

Special, family events at Sharpham( free for children) this Sunday 3rd July  
Please use the links below:

<https://www.sharphamtrust.org/calendar/course/meander#/events>  
<https://www.sharphamtrust.org/calendar/course/rewilding-tours#/events>

# Totnes Fun Run/ 10k

10.25 7<sup>th</sup> August Borough Pk, 1 mile, with 10K at 11.00  
<https://www.teignbridgetrotters.co.uk/our-races/totnes-10k>



For many years the Trotters have supported Totnes Caring who provide services to the vulnerable, predominately older people, living in Totnes and its surrounding areas. To date this race has raised £24,555.00 for the charity.

### **BIG BROTHER'S BABYSITTING**

Babysitting @ £5 p/hr

Sensible 16 year old – just finished my GCSEs and saving to go away later this summer

Available for school pick ups/after school as well as evenings

Lives central Totnes – can bike to you – don't need a lift home

I have younger siblings and cousins – very happy to do bedtime stories etc

Jamie 07594 533614

