



Weekly Newsletter

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Headteacher: Hilary Priest
Newsletter No: Autumn 1

Telephone 01803 862018
7th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to an exciting new school year. We welcome Mrs Bickerstaff and Miss Clark as new teachers and Miss Dodwell returns as a Teaching assistant. The class names have altered a little with the movement of teachers and new staff so please note these changes.

Reception Miss Clark – Carob Tree Class
Reception Mrs Bingham – Beech Tree Class
Year 1/2 Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Westrope – Willow Tree Class
Year 1/2 Mrs Luff and Mrs MacLeod – Lime Tree Class
Year 1/2 Mrs Bickerstaff – Banyan Tree Class
Year 3 Mr Gude – Ginkgo Tree Class
Year 4 Mr MacKenzie – Maple Tree Class
Year 5 Miss Fernyhough and Mr Brudenell – Flame Tree Class
Year 6 Miss Smith – Snowbell Tree Class

Birthdays

We voted in assembly on Tuesday that children should wear their own clothes (not uniform) on their birthdays if they wish to as a special birthday treat. They were very keen but if there are children who prefer for their birthdays to pass quietly they don't have to. Birthdays which have already passed us in September can wear their mufti on Friday this week, all others can be on the actual day. Any birthdays in weekends or holidays can choose the nearest day to their birthday. If the day is already a mufti day they may choose another day.

Meet the teacher session on MONDAY 12th September and generally keeping in touch with the class teachers.

In response to the parent questionnaire when it was raised that it is a long time to wait until parent consultations should you want to chat to your class teachers about children's progress we have arranged a parent drop in session next MONDAY. Teachers will be available straight after school in their classrooms for you to pop in and have a chat. Reception teachers will be available from 3:15 – 4pm as they have some medical training at 4pm, but all other classes will be from 3:15 – 4:15pm. **Year 6** is more of a presentation talk so please attend from 3:15 for the full hour. Any parents who are unable to make the Year 6 talk please let us know and we will send you a written version.

If at any time you need to contact your class teachers or wish for a progress update please remember you can email or pop in, either for a quiet word or to make an appointment.

These are the email addresses for all the teachers, some with specific leadership roles:

School general enquiries to Miss Rebecca Rockett at admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Mrs Hilary Priest (Headteacher) – head@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Mrs Sam Wilkinson (Deputy Headteacher) – sams@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Ms Ali Stewart (Special Needs coordinator and senior leader) - alis@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Miss Sophie Clark (Early Years Coordinator and senior leader) – sclark@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Miss Helen Fernyhough (senior Leader) - helenf@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Mrs Sandie Lovell (School Business Manager and senior leader) finance@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mr Mark Brudenell (senior teacher) - mbrudenell@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Ms Alison Caldwell (senior teacher) - alisonjaldwell@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Cathy Bingham (senior teacher) - cathyb@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Liz Luff (senior teacher) - lizluff@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Vicky MacLeod (senior teacher) - vickym@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Katherine Kneebone (senior teacher) katherinek@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Miss Abby Smith - abbys@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mr Adrian Gude - adriang@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mr Russel MacKenzie - russelm@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Linda Bickerstaff – lbickerstaff@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Hannah Westrope - hannahw@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Karen Jarvis (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) - kjarvis@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Hayley Brown (Modern Foreign Languages lead)- admin@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

We also have a PSA – Parent Support Advisor Mrs Sandra Maggs who is available to help you with advice. She can be contacted by email at - smaggs@totnes-st-johns-primary.devon.sch.uk or you can **text** her on mobile number 07904491207.

Headteacher availability and Tuesdays drop in time from 2pm.

In addition to the teacher availability it was also raised in the parent questionnaire that parents would like more access to me. I am always available on email and many parents use this method to contact me. I have always been on the field in the mornings for quick chats and available for appointments and have now arranged that I shall alternate between the field and the front entrance as 50% of our children enter at this door so you should be able to catch me on one entrance or the other. On Tuesday afternoons from 2pm I can offer a drop in time, no appointment necessary, to see me as I am generally available and if I am not then another member of the senior leadership team will be made available.

Memory Walk for Dementia 8th October

Mrs Wilkinson, Simon Gifford Mead (Governor), my 7 year old daughter and I are all going to complete the memory walk to raise money for research into helping people with dementia and Alzheimer's. If you would like to donate to this charity which helps so many people and support us in our efforts, please leave a donation at the front desk. If you would also like to do the walk and raise money yourself then this is the link:

<https://www.memorywalk.org.uk/find-a-walk/plymouth/>

Shear Soccer

Adam's Shear Soccer information and booking forms are available from reception. The course will begin next Wednesday 14th September.

Swimming Dates for Year groups

Year 4	Monday 12 th September 6 weeks
Year 3	Monday 31 st October 7 weeks
Year 6	Monday 9 th January 5 weeks
Year 5	Monday 20 th February 6 weeks
Year 2	Monday 24 th April 10 weeks

Term dates and Praise Assemblies for your diaries will be in next week's newsletter

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

Tai Chi Classes

Adults class in the Grove School Hall, starts again next Tuesday – September 13th.

6.00pm – 7.30pm.

Beginners welcome.

Yoga Sunshine with Gina

Children's Yoga: 'New' Kids Yoga Adventures

- Who for? age 2.5 -6 yrs
- Where? Chapel House Studio, Totnes
- When? Tuesday 10-10.40 am
- How much? Drop- in £5 per class/ Flexible 6-pass card £24 (£4 per class)/ Term booking on first day of term (£3 per class)

Adults Flowing yoga

- Who for? Warm welcome all levels
- Where? Forge Yoga Studio, Totnes
- When? Monday 9.30-11am - term time/Wednesday 7.30-9pm
- How much? £6.50 class card/£8 Drop-in

To book: gina@yogasunshine.co.uk / 07795 032346 www.yogasunshine.co.uk