



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Headteacher: Hilary Priest**  
**Newsletter No: Spring 6**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**21st February 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back.

### **What's happening this week and next**

This is our Themed week for this term which is named 'We are inventors'. Classes have been engaged in a number of inventive activities! Ask your children for more information. Ginkgo Tree class start swimming on Monday and we are missing quite a few consent forms.

### **Discos Tomorrow 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

Entry will be £2.50 per child and this will include sweets, a glitter tattoo, a biscuit and drinks. Times are Reception, Year 1 and 2 from 4.15-5.15, year 3 and 4 at 5.45 - 6.45 and finally year 5 and 6 at 7.00-8.00. Same procedure as last year with signing in and paying by a parent and then at pick up please be patient as we need to sign all the children out. If any is able to help please see Rachel Gillespie or Kellie Bishop. The discos are only available for Grove School children.

### **Thursday clubs this week**

There will be no after school clubs on Thursday this week due to the school discos.

### **Bay Tree Class Praise Assembly**

We're really looking forward to welcoming you all aboard the Titanic for our Praise Assembly on Friday! Due to the sad subject matter of the ending of the Titanic's journey KSI will not be attending the assembly. If you have a child in Bay Tree Class with a KSI sibling and would like them to attend then please let their class teacher know.

### **Kapok Tree Class**

Forest school has been changed from a Tuesday to a Friday from now on. Please ensure forest school kit comes in so the children can enjoy forest school without worrying about their clothes.

### **Home learning**

Please check the class page on the school website for the home learning set by your class teachers for this half term. If you require a paper copy of this please just ask. Please remember this is a trial of a new home learning system as mentioned before half term designed to make home learning more accessible and with a greater impact for the children— feedback is welcome. Year 6 will continue to have weekly homework set and sent out by Mrs Gratton as part of their transition into the next stages of their education.

### **School Dinner Money for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6**

We would like to remind you that school meals are supposed to be paid for in advance either by cheque or cash. Our policy is that if more than £12 is outstanding then we cannot provide a lunch for your son/daughter until it has been settled and therefore you will need to provide a home packed lunch.

### **Worry box**

The children requested a 'worry box' where they drop a note requesting they talk to a member of staff about their concerns. This is located outside Mrs Priest's office and the children have been introduced to it.

### **Dementia Friendly school**

We have started our journey to being a Dementia Friendly school and have plans of how to help staff and children support people in our families and community who are coping with Dementia. If you have a member of your family who has Dementia and your child / children have a relationship with them, it may benefit us to support your child better if we know who they are. If you wish to tell us, so we can discretely support them, then please tell the class teachers. It is always really useful for us to know if there is anything tricky happening in a child's life so please feel free to tell us about any concerns – it does really help to get the full picture around a child and we will keep matters confidential.

### **School nurse**

We have a school nurse service which you should be made aware of. The school nurse is no longer one named person but a local hub within a larger team. Our local hub is based in Dartington at Lescaze Offices. Currently the team consists of Gary Jones, Emily Meek, Moyra Pierce and Sue Payne. You can contact them on Tel: 0333 234 1901 or email [VCL.SouthernPHNhub@nhs.net](mailto:VCL.SouthernPHNhub@nhs.net). They can help with all sorts of concerns such as behaviour, sleep, bowel and bladder issues and children who have a high number of absences for medical reasons; they run a monthly drop in clinic to help advise on a variety of medical needs.

### **School Council**

Over the last half term the school councillors have been drawing images and writing about a few areas of Mental wellbeing. They have thought about ways they can: be physically active, ask for help and do things they enjoy. We will be continuing this work over the next half term.

### **Mufti Day**

Thank you to all who donated we raised £200.00 towards the NSPCC.

### **Shear Soccer**

Shear Soccer is due to start again next week Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> for Year 2 and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The course will run for 5 weeks. Please text Adam to enrol on the course or complete a form if your child is new.

### **Outside Play equipment**

The PTA are pleased to say that the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage is nearly finished, just a few tidying up jobs and that the children are enjoying and using it. Thank you to everyone who has helped by giving time, money and support for this project.

### **Praise assembly**

Praise assembly this week is Bay Tree class on Friday at 2.45pm. The next praise assembly is Willow Tree class at 2.45pm.

Kind regards

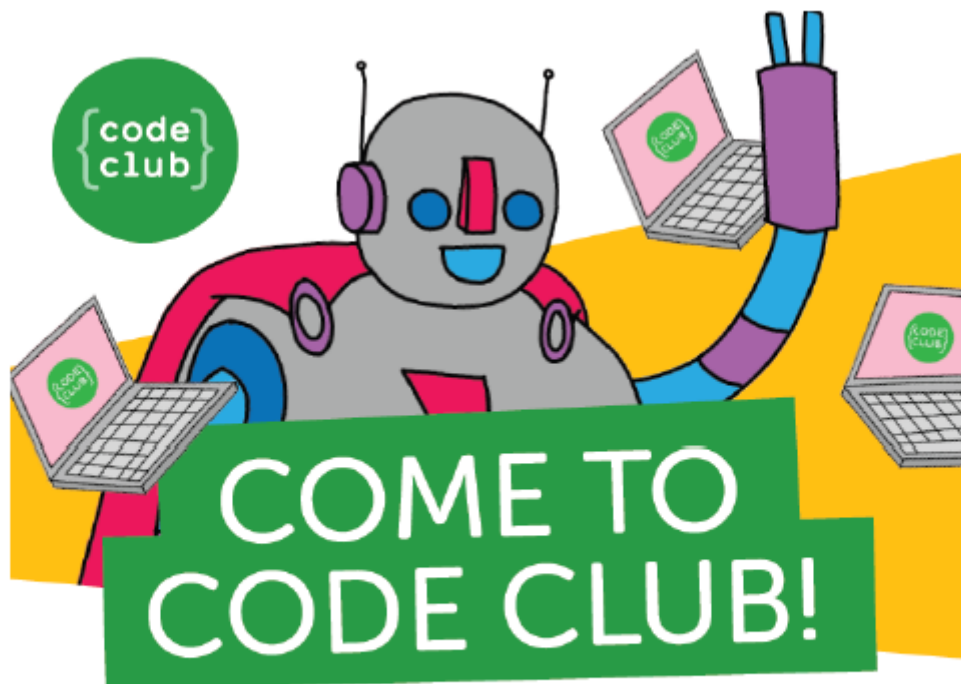
Hilary Priest



### **Wanted Netball Players**

More netball players are wanted to join our friendly team at KEVICCs sports hall every Tuesday evenings from 7pm until 8pm.

If you have not played since school or haven't even played at all – don't panic, we welcome all abilities. Come and give it a try.



Do you have a favourite computer game? Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games?

At Code Club, you can learn how to make cool games, animations, and websites too!

**Have fun learning to code using Scratch and Python at our Code Club for 9-13 year olds starting Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**The club will run at Totnes Library on Saturday mornings from 10-11am, every Saturday apart from the first Saturday of the month**

**Sign up at the library desk to book your place, or email [totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:totnes.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk) or phone 01803 862210**



# **A Children's Singing Workshop**

***(for children in Year 3 and above)***

using Popular music to encourage, educate and inspire children not only to sing,  
but to sing well!

***THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT***

**Saturday February 24<sup>th</sup>**

**at**

**The Parish and Priory Church of St Mary,  
Totnes**

**Workshop to start at 10 am**

**Informal concert of music studied during the day beginning at 2.15 pm**

## **Director – Mr Stephen Tanner**

*Stephen Tanner is a freelance music educator, choral director, organist, composer, arranger and examiner based in Exeter. He began his musical career as a chorister in the choir of Coventry Cathedral and studied for a degree in music at the University of Huddersfield. For many years he was Director of Music at Exeter Cathedral School and Assistant Organist and Director of the Girl Choristers at Exeter Cathedral. His school music department enjoyed a wide reputation for the breadth and quality of its music making with many former pupils going on to enjoy national and international success in the music world. He founded the Girl Choristers' section of Exeter Cathedral Choir in 1994 and directed it for 22 years. In this capacity he has numerous broadcasts, recordings and foreign tours to his credit. He was musical director of Exeter Cathedral's highly acclaimed Chorister Outreach Project, working to promote singing in Devon's primary schools. He directs a group of former girl choristers from Exeter Cathedral Choir "Isca Voices" who perform a wide range of sacred and secular music and is Associate Director of Music to the Exeter Philharmonic Choir. He has composed and arranged extensively and has won two national composition competitions. He is an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music serving on both the main and jazz panels.*

- *to book a place and to find out more details, please  
phone 01803 770515 or email [jandietz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jandietz@hotmail.co.uk)*