



### Weekly Newsletter

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**Newsletter No: Summer 7**

**Telephone 01803 862018**  
**22nd June 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### **Menu change for Friday**

Due to equipment issues the vegetarian option on Friday will be Quorn Sausage and Chips.

#### **Bikeability Course**

Next week a few children from Year 5 will be taking part in the bikeability program. Bikeability is **the government's national cycle training programme**. It helps children to learn practical skills and understand how to cycle on today's roads.

#### **Occombe Farm Trip**

On Monday all the children from the Acorn class (reception) will be taking some coaches for their day out to Occombe Farm, in Torquay. They will learning about how food is grown and processed for us to eat. This week they also visited Totnes Museum to find out about life in the past.

#### **School assembly Presentation awards Friday 17th June**

Every fortnight we are starting our in-school praise assemblies again. It was lovely to have the whole school in one place – although it was a bit hot! Last Friday we were recognising the children who had made exceptional efforts with the presentation in their books. These children received a Headteacher award sticker and a large round of applause from all the other children who were so proud of them and their efforts.

EYFS – Aoife, Ioan, Aaron

Dove – Meriel, Ada and Isla

Lime – Lewis S, Oskar and Ella

Beech – Matilda, Jack, Suzi, Liam, Arlo and Daisy

Mountain Ash – Ivy, Dillon, Benji and Kya

Chestnut – Amelia G, Tyler, Lily and Max

Oak – Jake B, Brooke, Mia, Amelia B and Brandon

Flame – Caspar, Jacob, Tabi, Rosa and Sopie

Ginkgo – Cleo and Billy

Trumpet – Felix, Albi and Kayden

### **Senior Leadership Team**

Our Senior Leadership Team consists of me, Hilary Priest – Headteacher, Sam Wilkinson – Deputy Headteacher, Helen Fernyhough – Leading Practitioner, Jo Counter and Tonya Stirrup as Special Needs Coordinators and Sophie Hedley-Clark as Early Years Foundation Stage lead. The team works very hard behind the scenes and I would like to share more of what we do with you! This academic year we launched a whole new curriculum throughout the school being much more subject and knowledge based. Currently we are reflecting on how this has gone for the first year and planning on what we need to do for the second year as we follow a two year rolling programme. We have been talking to children and staff and, whilst there are some minor changes to make, it has been a really good year. Staff are noticing that children are more able to talk about each subject, have a greater depth of understanding and a good bank of knowledge and have so much pride in their learning and presentation. The children feel particularly proud of their Art, History, Geography, Maths, Science and their writing. The progress children have made in reading is amazing using the Star Reader (Accelerated reader scheme) with 25% of children in Key Stage 2 making more than 2 years progress and 5% making 3 or more years progress since September! The new phonics scheme introduced into EYFS and Key Stage One has also made a big difference and the vast majority of children are keeping up and retaining their phonics knowledge. We have also been working very hard to be even more inclusive with our children who have special or additional needs with ensuring they are accessing all areas of the curriculum as well as meeting their targets. 17% of our children come under the Special Needs Category so this is a significant piece of work. The areas to continue to work on developing are around the time demands of the curriculum and literally fitting it all into the school day and then making room for other extended activities such as trips and Forest School etc.

### **Year 6 End of year show**

What an exciting time of year. We have just started rehearsing for our Year 6 Leavers' show – THE GREATEST SHOW. By the looks of things, it really is going to be the greatest show. Thank you for all the hard work that's already been going on. Year 6s are involved in all the acting and solos. Year 5s are support singers and will be singing standing on the floor in front of the stage. We feel that this prepares them for next year and allows them to be included as part of the team.

This email is intended as a SAVE THE DATE email. Tickets will be sorted out at a later date.

We are going to do two performances.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July: 1:30 pm ( the school will be coming to watch this performance but there will probably be extra tickets for you too).

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July: 5:30 pm

We are looking forward to a great event. The Year 5 and 6 Team.

### **PTA Cake Sale**

Oak Tree had some fabulous cakes and the ice creams were a welcomed treat last Thursday making just shy of £100. I would be so grateful if any of the **MOUNTAIN ASH TREE** 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 **GINGKO TREE class** so please get your best recipes at the ready!

### **PTA Mufti Day Friday 1st July**

Next 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!

### **PTA Summer Fete (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 1700 – 2000)**

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)

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

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