



Weekly Newsletter

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Newsletter No: Spring 7

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24th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid update

We are delighted that children can all return to school on Monday 8th March and are so looking forward to seeing them all. We will return to the times we had in place at the end of December for drop off and pick up (see below). We will be strictly sticking to our class bubbles so we would appreciate your support in restricting contact with other families and keeping your distance from other parents and children. Please ensure you wear a mask on pick up and drop off.

The staff are working hard at planning a different curriculum between the 8th and Easter holidays which will be focusing on children’s mental health, friendships, growth mind-set and tools and strategies for perseverance. We are aware that many children have really struggled this lockdown, whether they have been attending school physically or not and we need to prioritise getting children enjoying school, socialising and being ready to learn. We will also be ensuring we have lots of fun with Art, crafts and areas of the curriculum that the children haven’t been able to access so easily during lockdown.

Please note the only change from Autumn term for in school safety is that staff are required to wear masks when they cannot socially distance from other adults in school. Please prepare your children for this.

Arrival and pick up times from 8th March for all children

Only one parent, no parents on site beyond the school field
 EYFS, KSI and Y6 top gate
 Y3/4 main entrance

Class	Arrival Time	Pick up time	Where
Acorns	9.00-9.05am	3pm	Field
Dove Year 1 and 2	8.55-9.05am	3.05-3.10pm	Field
Lime Year 1 and 2	8.55-9.05am	3.05-3.10pm	Field
Beech Year 1 and 2	8.55-9.05am	3.05-3.10pm	Field
Chestnut Year 3 and 4	8.50-9.00am	3.05pm	Main Entrance
Golden Cedar Year 3 and 4	8.50-9.00am	3.10pm	Main Entrance
Mountain Ash Year 3 and 4	8.50-9.00am	3.15pm	Main Entrance

Ginkgo Class Year 5 and 6 Flame Class Year 5 and 6 Trumpet Class Year 5 and 6	8.50am	All classes will be filtering out between 3.10-3.15pm	Field or walk home on their own.
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Guidance for COVID related illness – please see additional symptoms that will require testing:

- If your child or any member of your family show symptoms of high temperature, new and/or continuous cough, **headache, sore throat, upset tummy (diarrhoea), heavy common cold symptoms** and/or loss of smell or taste then the person and their whole household, need to remain at home and arrange a test for the symptomatic person.
- The whole household has to remain at home, self-isolating, until a negative COVID 19 test result has come back. At this point the whole household can stop isolating.
- If the COVID 19 test is positive the whole class bubble will need to be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. The household of the first case has to self isolate for 10 days also. The households of a wider bubble do not need to isolate unless they develop symptoms and then they follow the procedures above.
- Once the isolation period of 10 days is completed the class bubble can return to school.

World Book Day

Next Thursday (4th) is World Book Day and whilst we can't celebrate in quite the same way, we still want to mark the day and celebrate the best we can. Children can dress up as a character from a book or wear their pyjamas for the day if they would like to.

There is going to be a fun competition called 'The Masked Reader' where a masked reader video will be sent home Monday-Thursday of next week as a Tapestry and Seesaw activity, where you have to guess who the reader behind the mask is! All will be revealed towards the end of the day on World Book Day!

Each class will have the chance to join in with a live author event at some point during the week. Details will be sent via Tapestry and Seesaw closer to the time.

There will be the chance to win some book vouchers from Eastgate Bookshop by taking part in a book quiz on World Book Day, which will be sent home as a Tapestry and Seesaw activity. More details to follow.

The World Book Day vouchers will be valid for a longer period of time this year due to non-essential shops being closed. We have decided not to send the vouchers home until all shops are open again so that the children can have the opportunity to visit a physical bookshop to spend their voucher. However, if you would like your child to receive their voucher before shops reopen, please get in touch with Mrs Drew at vikkid@the-grove-primary.devon.sch.uk

Staff news

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Gratton is expecting her 2nd child in the Summer. Because of this she is required to work from home so Golden Cedar will be covered by Ms Sharpe on Mondays and Tuesdays until Easter, (Mrs Jarvis on Wednesdays and Ms Caldwell on Thursdays and Fridays as usual).

Parent Evening bookings via Zoom – next week

Next week teachers will be having their virtual/online parent consultations. This Friday the person who booked the appointment will receive the zoom invitation via email. Like last time there will be a zoom waiting room system for each class.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest

