



# CURRICULUM NEWS

2021 Spring Term 1

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

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## Headteacher's Welcome



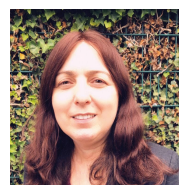
Welcome to the 3rd edition of the curriculum news. It has been a tough half term with on site and home learning. Thank you to those of you who have diligently been annotating your child's work, sending photos and videos in; these are invaluable to our assessment process and are providing us with some really robust evidence of progress!

The SEARCH value focus for next half term is Resilience; of course this is very timely given the difficult time we find ourselves in. I am really pleased to see more pupils returning to us after half term but we are under no illusion that for many it will be a difficult transition that will require resilience and careful planning.

As we move towards a more blended learning approach after half term we will be adjusting some of the work pupils are doing at home to complement and reinforce skills learnt in school.

For now, thank you for all the support you have given throughout this difficult half term and thank you for your unwavering collaboration!

Wishing you all a restful half term.  
Best wishes, Lucia Santi



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## Curriculum Lead

I want to start with saying thank you to all our families for the amazing job you are all doing at home, the work that has been coming in via Google Classroom and work packs is a testament to that and shows the outstanding effort you are all making.

In this edition you will find many updates as to what has been happening this half term. Class teachers and Head of Departments have added ideas and useful links to help you when working at home with your child. In addition to all these suggestions, reading daily with your child, talking about the story and characters, for as little as 10 minutes a day will have a significant positive effect on their reading skills. All our pupils have a Bug Club account and login details to access books and complete quizzes online.

If you experience any problems with Bug Club please inform your child's class teacher and we will endeavour to resolve the problem.

Best wishes, Helen Georgiades,  
Deputy Headteacher

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## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
22nd February	INSET Day- No Pupils
23rd February	Pupils back to School
1st March	World book Day
12th March	Sports Relief
18th March	Grove Governors
21st March	Equality Celebration Day
26th March	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
29th March	Autism Awareness Week
31st March	End of Term
19th April	INSET Day - No Pupils
20th April	Pupils back to School
3rd May	Bank Holiday



Pastoral & PSHE News-  
Miss Huseyin

We made it to half term - and in such a spectacular fashion!

A massive thank you to all of you for your work and effort. I have received photos and videos showing home learning which have contributed to many areas of the curriculum, but as you all know I have a passion for life skills and social skills. I have been particularly wowed by the baking, the self-help skills, the shopping videos and general preparation for life which means our pupils become independent.

Thank you all for celebrating Internet Safety and Children's Mental Health Week.

After half term we will continue with our PSHE and RSE as we explore keeping children safe online through online relationships (we will also be looking at Gaming). We will also be continuing work around puberty, body changes or sex education depending on age / stage.

Finally our Mental Health research started this week, which I have emailed to you all. If you have not received this please let me know.

Next term sees the restart of our families workshops programme. I have a few sessions which will be from 7-8 or 7-9pm as per the questionnaire I sent you all, I know this time was a strong preference for many of you! I am looking forward to seeing you all.

If any of you would like to contact me about lessons or workshops please email: [nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto:nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk)

Best wishes, Nadine

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## Career News

There are lots of developments to Careers across The Grove. We have been working hard to put in place different opportunities for all pupils to take part in. Implementing different employment and work related activities across the school. Although it has been a very difficult time for careers and work placements due to Covid 19 restrictions we are still continuing to include work related skills into lessons and home learning where possible. For the pupils onsite we have still managed to find opportunities for our older pupils to access some work related activities in school due to the fantastic work they started with the Oganiclea project before Christmas. Pupils from Post 16 and Secondary East have continued with the work this term and are maintaining and adding to the already started allotment space.

I will update you with exciting developments to this as they happen, but for now some of the future plans involve; careers interviews with pupils from year 8 upwards, employment days and external workshops, work experience placements (internally and externally), workshops for parents on next steps and support internships and a careers fair. More information to follow in the next newsletter.

As always you can contact me with any questions around careers, the world of work or transition to adulthood and steps after the Grove.

[bronja.elton@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto:bronja.elton@thegroveschool.co.uk) or on 020 3876 6555  
Bronja Elton

## CLASSROOM NEWS

### PRIMARY NEWS

#### Head of Primary: Mr Mills

A new year unfortunately brought us a new lockdown. It was not the start we wanted as all of the pupils had settled in so well since September. But the main priority is keeping everyone safe and well.

It has been a strange half-term because we have had a small number of pupils learning in school with the vast majority of Primary pupils working from home. Because of this we felt it would be best to adapt our planned curriculum topic based around recycling and looking after the environment as it would have been difficult to introduce a new topic whilst learning from home.

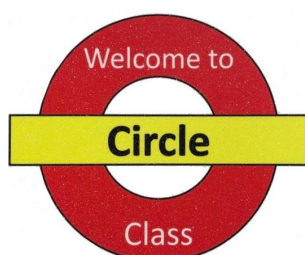
Instead we planned and delivered a 5 week book cycle in which we based both in school learning and home learning.

Week Beginning	Book
Monday 11th January	The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Monday 18th January	We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Monday 25th January	The Gruffalo
Monday 1st February	Handa's Surprise
Monday 8th February	Jack and the Beanstalk

The topic through which the pupils accessed their learning was different but we ensured that the core skills in which they needed to develop were being targeted and developed to ensure all pupils make as much progress as possible.

I want to thank you for all of the completed work that was returned from the work packs, the photos and videos that were emailed or whatsapp'd to staff and any feedback you gave either via email or telephone conversations. Everything that was returned to school was either marked and assessed, some samples of work were added to progress folders, samples of photos and videos uploaded to our online tracking system and dialogue with you helped us to adapt and shape how we delivered home learning to best suit our pupils.

Next term we begin our planned topic around Recycling and looking after the environment. Hopefully the number of Covid cases drop and we are able to get back to a bit more normality in the near future. In the meantime keep up the good work with the home learning and try to enjoy the half term break as much as possible.



## CLASS NEWS

This term has been very different for both pupils and teachers. We

went through a few changes, we had to work and learn from home, and we got to spend more time with our families. We

have seen many wonderful pictures of our pupils working hard to complete various activities at home.

Following the government's guidelines, our school has been partly closed. Due to this, we had to change this term's topic. All our learning activities were prepared around 5 stories that were introduced one by one, weekly, in the following order: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, We're going on a bear hunt by Michael Rosen, The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson, Handa's surprise by Eileen Browne, and Jack and the beanstalk. In English we practiced reading, answering questions, writing sentences, making posters, tracing letters, and sequencing the events of the stories. In Maths, we worked on counting, measuring, ordering from smallest to largest, solving mazes, addition and subtraction, shapes, and prepositions of place. Our Topic activities have been various, from learning about our families, to lessons on animals, the country that we live in, bears and owls on toast, painting and colouring. We thank you for all of your hard work, and for all the pictures and videos that show it.

Our theme for next term will still be Keen to be Green, and we will focus on the story of One Plastic Bag ([click here](#)). We will take part in activities that involve recycling, looking after our planet, shapes, measuring and comparing sizes, quantities.

## HOME LEARNING

1. Reading - read with your child or ask them to read to you, ask them questions about settings, characters and actions from the story. We have allocated books on Bug Club ([click here](#)).

2. Maths - Ask your child about different objects and their sizes using small, medium and large/big, short, medium and long. Ask about the shape of different objects around the house. Maths activities here ([link 1](#), [more resources](#)).
3. Watch videos about recycling ([video 1](#), [video 2](#), [video 3](#), [video 4](#)) and model recycling at home, ask about paper, plastic, glass, cans, and where they go.

you can see or hear would be fantastic. You could listen for the wind, or look for rain clouds or even think about if the weather feels warm or cold. There are also some great weather songs on Youtube you could listen to [here](#). Going for a walk can also be a great opportunity to practice counting, by counting how many trees or birds you see.

As part of Maths and Science we will be learning all about recycling and different materials. If you are able to recycle at home, sorting out different materials and containers together would be a nice way to introduce the concept. Maybe you could watch a special episode of Peppa Pig all about recycling! [here](#)

Also, if you are feeling creative on a sunny day, perhaps use left over pots and plastic bottles to create flower pots and vases and plant some cress seeds for the garden or the window sill.



## CLASS NEWS

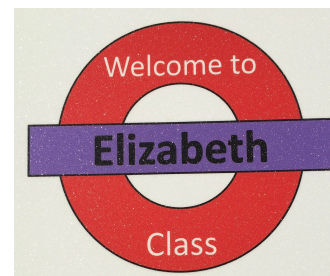
This half term everyone has been working hard on their home learning. We have seen

some great work and photos of how well you are doing and we are very proud of you all. During Spring Term 2 we are hoping to begin our topic that we had planned previously, called 'Keen to be Green', where we will be learning about caring for our environment and looking after things. It would be wonderful if you could start introducing the topic during the break to help us when we come back to school.

## HOME LEARNING

Our core text in Literacy is going to be the book 'Oliver's Vegetables' by Vivian French and Alison Bartlett, which you could read, or watch online [here](#), to familiarise yourselves with the story.

As part of learning about the environment, we are also going to learn about changes such as the weather, so going for walks and talking about what



## CLASS NEWS

This half term, the majority of Elizabeth class have been

learning from home. Each week there was a new story which the work being sent was themed around. In English, all of the pupils did some fantastic work on identifying different characters and understanding what the characters were doing in each story, most of the pupils were able to sequence and retell the stories. In Maths, pupils were able to recognise different shapes and their properties and match coins to their correct values.

All the pupils and families have been working incredibly hard this half term and we are incredibly proud of all their achievements.

Due to lockdown we were not able to move onto our new topic this term, as the majority of the pupils were learning from home and therefore after half term we will begin our new topic 'Keen to be Green'.

## HOME LEARNING

Some activities to help pupils at home include:

1. Read the books assigned on Bug club  
[-https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0](https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0)
2. Watch Sesame Street characters learn about recycling -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OijMPvly-U>
3. Sing '10 Green bottles' by standing 10 bottles, sing the song and take 1 away. Encourage pupils to write the sum and work out the answers.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPCzwqbFAn0>
4. Make an Earth collage by recycling old magazines and using bits of blue and green paper to make planet Earth.



## CLASS NEWS

During this home learning period, we have based the activities around the

stories: 'The very hungry caterpillar', 'We're going on a bear hunt', 'The Gruffalo', 'Handa's surprise' and 'Jack and the beanstalk'. In literacy children have been listening to and reading the stories. They have been matching words to pictures, coloured in pictures and traced lines, letters and words. The pupils have been using colourful semantics to describe pictures. In maths they have been ordering objects from smallest to largest and shortest to longest, recognising and sorting 2D shapes and 3D shapes, matching quantity to numbers up to 20, matching identical coins and starting with addition to 10. In topic the pupils have been learning the names of fruits and animals, they have used shapes to create pictures and they have begun sorting food into groups. They have also engaged in sensory circuits in PE and with sensory play and turn taking games.

Thank you for all the photos of videos that you have been sending in! It has been great seeing their progress and engagement in the activities.

## HOME LEARNING

We will start the topic Looking After Things (Caring for the Environment) after the half term break. Here are activities that you can do at home:

1. Literacy activities:

Read the books on Bug Club together:

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Listen to the stories 'Oliver's vegetables' and 'The tiny seed'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yvllKqyVUc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ls6wTeT2cKA>

Practice letter formation using Letter school

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/letterschool-learn-to-write/id481067676>

String together magnetic or foam letters

2. Maths activities:

Order leaves, fruit, flowers from smallest to biggest.

Plant a given number of seeds into a pot.

Build structures using recyclable 3D shapes e.g cereal boxes, tins yoghurt pots.

Write numbers on bottles or bottle tops and put them in order.

3. Topic activities:

Plant some cress seeds on cotton wool.

Search for seeds in fruit and vegetables.

Go on a nature walk.

Sort or make crafts from recyclable materials.

4. Fine motor activities:

Tear tissue paper or card into small pieces and stick as a puzzle.

Thread pasta pieces on a string or a strand of spaghetti.

Knead and roll playdough.

## SECONDARY EAST NEWS

### ASSISTANT HEAD: MR WOODS

In what has been a difficult half term for everyone, I have been positively encouraged by the engagement of the pupils in Secondary East with their home learning. Pupils have adapted well to using google classrooms ensuring they have been able to access the same curriculum they would have done at school. For those few pupils in school, it has been a really positive experience, being able to form new friendships with pupils from other classes who were originally in different bubbles. We look forward to being able to welcome back all of Secondary East so that our new teachers can really get to know the fantastic pupils and continue their learning in their normal classes. We hope we can build on the excellent progress made by pupils in the department over the rest of the spring term.

**Please note:** Home learning for all classes in Secondary East can be found at the end of Metropolitan Form News.



## FORM NEWS

What challenging half term this has been for all our pupils, sadly the new year brought us a new lockdown. Pupils have had to adapt again to working through google classroom and engaging with this way of working, away from the class. We have welcomed a new teacher, Mr Andy to District class who started after Christmas. He will be leading District class and has some exciting design and technology projects planned for after half term.

The pupils have made a start on the topic of 'What a wonderful world' which has covered work in english, humanities and science.

Pupils have been recalling facts about Ancient Greece in humanities and exploring different habitats and environments in science. In ASDAN pupils have been focusing on organising travel in the local area and planning journeys using different apps and websites in the hope of being able to plan school trips in the local community as soon as it is safe to do so.

We have been regularly looking at the news and keeping up to date with current affairs through our 'Votes for schools' sessions and doing some excellent comprehension work based on the best news articles of the week.

Mr Michael has been setting PE lessons for those in school and providing ideas for pupils at home to keep active and we hope they have enjoyed the exercises and games that have been shared

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school as soon as possible so we can continue making good progress with our Spring topics.



## FORM NEWS

This has been a strange and difficult term, but Docklands pupils have been very resilient and produced some great work at home.

Many pupils have enjoyed the food tech home-learning and produced some interesting sandwiches and flapjacks. The class have also been taking part in Miss Steventon's Daily Challenges which have included listening to audiobooks, making avatars, learning to touch type and looking at inspirational poems.

In SMSC, pupils have considered a wide variety of topics, including: good news stories from 2020, discussing if E-sports should be included in the Olympics, understanding conspiracy theories and do we need to understand how vaccines work.

### Maths:

In Maths, we have just finished multiplication pupils. We still need to keep practicing our times tables using Times Table Rockstars. I am waiting to be challenged, can you defeat me!? We have now moved on to division and pupils have started this confidently.

### Computing:

In computing, pupils have been completing a graphic design project using Photopea. They have learned different advanced techniques to manipulate images. Some of the techniques include using a spot-healing brush and the use of a variety of text tools. By the end of the project, pupils will be able to adjust any image and create professional looking graphics.

### Art:

This half term we have been doing virtual gallery tours and exploring the art of Matisse and other Abstract Artists such as Kandinsky and Hilma Af Klint. Pupils have



created amazing pieces at home based on the work of Julian Opie using different media. When we return to school pupils will have the chance next half term to work on a Design and Technology project linked to recycled materials and woodwork

### **History:**

Humanities: This half term pupils have been investigating the differences between Urban and Rural communities. Looking at how the climate changes based on your location. Next half term we will do a focused case study comparing climates across the globe and the impact this has on local wildlife and communities.

### **Science:**

This half term pupils have been focusing on the Crime Scene Investigation Unit. We have been exploring the science behind forensics and some of the techniques used. When we return to school we will be putting the theory into practice and look at ways of extracting fingerprints and finding key pieces of chemical and physical evidence left at a simulated crime scene

### **English:**

I have been so impressed this half term with how all of the pupils in Docklands class have completed their work on Google Classroom and Readworks during another National Lockdown.

I have enjoyed seeing their responses to different Gothic literature and creations. I am hoping that when we are all back in school together we will be able to explore this topic in even more detail. We can have lots of fun with creating different

Gothic characters and maybe even writing our own plays and novels!

Next term we will be moving on to the topic 'childhood and school' and looking at autobiographical writing. If anyone wants to get a head start then they could read Roald Dahl's 'Boy' or 'Normal' by Magdalena and Nathaniel Newman.

Hopefully I will see you all soon and we can return to some type of normality. In the meantime make sure you all enjoy your half term, rest, read and re-energise.

Hope you are all staying safe and are looking forward to returning to school, we can't wait to see you all! Best wishes, Ms Steventon, Ms Anotella, Ms Hollie



## **FORM NEWS**

This half term pupils have had the chance to do a mixture of home learning and learning in the classroom. The class has adapted well, working with new pupils in their bubble and continuing to follow their curriculum.

The class has welcomed a new teacher, Miss C who has been working with the pupils everyday. They have made a start on the topic of 'What a wonderful world' which has covered work in english, humanities and science.

Pupils have had the chance to investigate the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates as well as start engaging

with some outdoor learning at school in the developing allotment.

Pupils have engaged well with PE sessions and daily exercise and games that have been set by Mr Proctor.

Pupils home learning have taken part in weekly votes for schools sessions and have had the chance to debate current news topics from around the world.

After half term we will be continuing with our 'what a wonderful world' topic and hope to get pupils into the science room and back outdoors to engage with some exciting ecology projects.

## HOME LEARNING

### **Reading? Why not try some audiobooks?**

There are some great ones on BBC Sounds.

39 Steps by John Buchan - a classic thriller with spies and lots of excitement.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p07sntzg>

A Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde - classic horror which ties in with your English topics this half term  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p071b9kb>

Kidnapped - Classic pirate adventure.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p071k80t>

### **Create your own book!**

This is a great website where you can create your own books. It's good because you can easily add photos, videos and text into pages. There is a Secondary East Library where I can see all your work and you can see my books too. To access it create a login here:

<https://app.bookcreator.com/sign-in>

Library Password: **SW9YDXB**

### **Touch Typing**

Continue learning the life changing skill of touch typing!

<https://www.typingclub.com/>

### **Coding**

Just beginning? Try this website where you can use code to draw!

<https://studio.code.org/s/pre-express-2020/stage/8/puzzle/1>

For a more advanced level of coding, try out this mini course in HTML

<https://www.khanacademy.org/computing/computer-programming/html-css>

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## SECONDARY WEST NEWS

**HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST:  
MS COLHOUN**

Dear families, I hope you are all well and are coping during this latest difficult time. I want to say a massive thank you to you all and to the teaching staff for trying your best to support pupils during this latest lockdown. I've been so impressed with the work our pupils have done at home and have enjoyed every photograph or video you have sent that shows our pupils still engaging with learning from a distance.

This term Central, Piccadilly and Jubilee have been following their new topic called "It's a wonderful world", it's been great to see them exploring different aspects of

life and really thinking about how we can help our planet. Hopefully after half term the weather will improve and we can all enjoy exploring the great outdoors that little bit more. Also this term Bakerloo and Northern class have started their new topic called “looking after yourself”. I’ve been very impressed with how they have engaged with recipe books and I’ve seen some great photographs of some nice healthy meals prepared by our pupils. I look forward to seeing what new creations they make next term.



## CLASS NEWS

It has been a strange start to 2021 for everyone, with many of our pupils learning from home since January. Despite this, Bakerloo Class have all tried really hard with their learning and I have been so impressed by their efforts and their resilience. I have also been so appreciative of the hard work and support that families have given the pupils to help them with their learning. It really has made all the difference and I wanted to say a huge thank you!

### English

Our curriculum theme this term has been ‘Looking After Yourself’. This half term, we have been learning about non-fiction texts, with a main focus on recipe books. Pupils have been looking at the features of recipe books and how to use them in a functional way. They have learned how to locate information using a contents page and how to read and understand recipes

in a real life context. Within this topic, we have looked at sequencing of instructions and instructional language. Pupils have continued to expand on their understanding of punctuation, with a focus on full stops, capital letters and bullet points in a list. Pupils have also had the opportunity for practical learning in this unit, as they have followed written recipes to create different meals or snacks.

### Maths

Pupils have been working very hard in maths this term and have engaged with lessons with both a number and measurement focus. We started by learning about measuring length using non-standard units (eg. cubes and household objects) and then standard units (using a ruler to measure in cm). Pupils started to show a good understanding of the skills needed to measure in different ways. Pupils then started to problem solve by estimating and checking. In the number strand, we have looked at fractions. Pupils have learned new strategies to help them find halves and quarters of shapes and quantities which have helped them gain understanding of this concept.

### Science/PSHE

In both PSHE and science, we have been learning about how to look after ourselves. We have looked at different ways that we can stay healthy, such as the food we eat and the exercise we do. We have also looked at how to look after our mental health, exploring what we can do to help us feel happy and regulated.

## HOME LEARNING

Next half term, we will be continuing with the theme, 'Looking After Yourself'. We will be carrying on with learning about how to stay healthy through eating and exercise and how to have happy and healthy friendships. I would encourage pupils to practise the skill of reading and understanding instructions by reading simple recipes at home and making simple meals or snacks. Pupils can also practise exercising as a way to stay healthy and happy. This can be outside in nature or at home - PE activities have been sent which you can use at your leisure.

It is also so important for pupils to be reading as often as possible. Regular reading practice will help them gain independence with their learning but also with life skills as they grow into young adults. Reading can take place in any way that the pupils find motivating or engaging - they could include: familiar or favourite stories, recipe books, encyclopedias, maps and using their bugclub account.

Finally, all pupils should have access to a 'Times Table Rockstars' account and/or a 'Numbots' account. It would be really beneficial for them to get regular practice with using these websites as these will help their confidence in other areas of maths.



## CLASS NEWS

It has been a challenging half term, but I can say proudly that all our pupils and families have worked really hard to ensure

learning and progress, both, at home and at school.

A huge thank you to all pupils, who have been doing home learning, for completing their work and sending some amazing photographs and videos. It was lovely to see you!

We have been learning about the differences between living and nonliving. We also learned about the woodland habitat and the ocean habitat, as well as some fantastic animals that we can find on them.

"I can save the Earth" and "Heal the Earth" are the books we used to cover our topic "It is a wonderful world". We have learned about how important it is to take care of our planet and how we can do it in our daily lives.

Pupils have used colourful semantics to comment on what is happening in the book as well as to comment on pictures or creating their own sentences.

In Maths, pupils have learned to differentiate length (short, medium, long), follow patterns, measure using different objects and the use of money. We will carry on working on the use of money next term and hopefully we will be able to go out and practice the new skills and knowledge.

This term we have been having weekly sessions with our fantastic therapists. Both our Occupational and Speech & Language therapists have done amazing work with central class pupils. We can already see some improvements!

We will be continuing with our topic 'It's a wonderful world'; next half term.

## HOME LEARNING

We will be continuing with

Please read daily with/to your child. Remember you can use BugClub at any time

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Practice number bonds and addition with Numbots

<https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>.

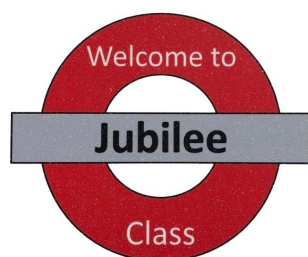
Here is another useful website

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

Pupils can practice life skills at home. You can give them some daily chores such as: washing the dishes, making their bed, folding some clothes, hoovering their room, making tea/toast for the family.

Please keep recycling at home, you can still use the bins they made.

Exercising is really important, try to go outdoors a few times a week, even if it is to the park for a few minutes, enjoy the walk and nature. It will help your wellbeing and mental health. PE activities have been sent which you can use at your leisure.



## CLASS NEWS

I couldn't be more proud of all Jubilee class this term. No matter the challenges,

they have all been resilient, produced some brilliant work and have shown great progress. Our topic this term is 'It's a wonderful world'; therefore our work was around nature: rivers, ocean and animals.

In English we have been practising our punctuation; use of capital letters, full stops, question marks, but also developing our grammatical knowledge by using adjectives and adverbs to form

sentences and describe pictures. We also focused on reading (books, BugClub) and have completed many fabulous book reviews.

Moreover, in Maths we started off the term by revising our multiplication and division skills and completed some word problems. We then moved on to fractions and learnt the basic ones in order to be able to use them next term to tell the time. Most pupils have also been using TTR, Sumdog and Numbots to develop their numeracy skills even further.

For Science, we focused on the various animal groups; mammals, reptiles, birds, vertebrates, invertebrates etc and have created some great posters about our favourite animals after doing online research to collect information.

Next term our topic remains the same but we will also be exploring our local environment, how to protect and keep it safe for future generations through recycling.

Finally, I want to say well done to all my superstar pupils but also a big thank you to parents, because without you none of this would be possible. Thank you for your hard work, for being so supportive and maintaining communication on a daily basis. Enjoy the half term holiday!

## HOME LEARNING

**English:** Please try to motivate your child to do at least 30 mins of reading per day.

1. Online Reading:

BugClub:

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/> (free registration)

2. To practise grammar and punctuation:  
<https://agendaweb.org/grammar/adverb-adjective-exercises.html>  
<https://www.turtlediary.com/game/identify-correct-punctuation.html>

3. To practise spellings:  
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/words-and-spelling>

### Maths:

1. Continue using the online games:  
<https://ttrockstars.com/>  
<https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>

2. To practise fractions:  
[https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/fractions-intro/latest/fractions-intro\\_en.html](https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/fractions-intro/latest/fractions-intro_en.html)  
[https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/fraction-matcher/latest/fraction-matcher\\_en.html](https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/fraction-matcher/latest/fraction-matcher_en.html)

3. To start exploring digital and analogue clocks:  
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/time/teaching-clock>

### Science:

1. Allow the pupils to be responsible for recycling at home.  
2. Online Recycling games:  
Recycle Roundup:  
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/action-and-adventure/recycle-roundup-new/>  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/games/clean-and-green>

**Lifeskills:** Repeat the tasks they completed during this term such as:  
1. Preparing snacks and drinks  
2. Washing dishes after lunch  
3. Hoovering and tidying up  
4. Helping parents to make meals (chopping veg, making the table, stirring food)

## CLASS NEWS

This half term has been again filled with changes and challenges for all of us, but it has also shown us how resilient all the pupils and parents can be. I have been amazed at how well most pupils have managed to cope with changes in school. Well done Northern class!

Our theme this half term has been "Looking after yourself". During this half term the pupils have been learning about healthy living habits, looking at healthy food, how to recognize our emotions and what we can do to feel better and how to stay clean and maintain good hygiene. To learn about healthy eating we have been making our own recipe books. In school the pupils have been accessing the food tech room to cook a range of meals, which they then added to their recipe book, learning about the different parts of a recipe.

At home everyone has tried their best to follow all activities, and I have seen amazing work coming back from home, well done parents, brothers and sisters for your great effort.

In Maths we have been exploring measurement, learning about concepts such as long, short and tall. The pupils have been learning to measure using standard and non-standard units of measure, such as ruler, blocks, play dough etc. Finally, we have looked at number activities, continuing to practice counting, addition and concepts such as "more" or "less".

## HOME LEARNING



Next half term, our topic will continue to be “looking after yourself” but we will focus on understanding ourselves as part of a family and in the community, as well as looking at our healthy habits to maintain healthy life.

Some activities you can do at home:

- Look at family pictures and help your child identify family members. You can ask simple questions such as “Where is xxxxx? Or what is xx doing?”
- Looking at pictures of themselves when they were babies and now. Can they recognize the difference between baby and teenager?
- Continue to support your child making healthy simple meals or snacks: e.g. a sandwich, fruit bowl, carrots and hummus (peeling the carrots is a good skill to practice).
- Helping at home when cooking a meal. Helping to peel, chop, wash vegetables, etc.
- Creating a simple movement break exercise: e.g. First running on the spot or star jumps, then walking on a line, finally wall push-ups.
- Reading a story to your child and looking at the pictures together.
- You can access our Reading app here:  
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?e=-1&c=0>  
You just need to log in using the log in details provided on the email I sent you this week.
- Counting the number of people sitting at the table for a meal and getting the right number of cutlery, plates, etc.

## CLASS NEWS

Calm, courage, compassion, I have found myself reminded of these 3 words across this half term. I have seen it from the parents of pupils, the members of my staffing team as well as within the pupils themselves. I thank you all as we persevere in these deeply challenging and difficult times.

### **Maths:**

We began by learning about measure and length. Starting with long and short and moving into using non-standardised methods to measure length - which is where the cubes and cutlery came into place. This practical, hands on method of using these resources proved to be engaging and beneficial to the pupils. The last couple of weeks pupils have been learning about fractions and in particular halves.

At home, try to further promote their engagement and understanding of fractions with halves, whole and maybe even quarters by sharing items into 2 equal pieces (half  $\frac{1}{2}$ ), 4 equal pieces (quarter  $\frac{1}{4}$ ). This could be done the next time dinner is served, with stationary or their motivating items.

### **Topic: Science**

A focus on living and nonliving things took place as well as recognising features of a plant.

Key vocabulary and language was reinforced when outside on the playground as pupils communicated what they could see within their environment “I see grass, a puddle” etc.

I highly recommend doing this too across the half term holiday in the garden, park or if you’re staying indoors, then by looking out the window.



### **English:**

The ghastly Mr and Mrs Twit were introduced as our Literacy choice of fiction and they thoroughly enjoyed reading and listening to their shenanigans such as: the dirty beard of Mr Twit or the sneaky tricks from Mrs Twit. Pupils had a strong understanding of key information from the text and were able to answer questions and draw some brilliant pictures.

There are so many versions you can watch at home on YouTube, type:

Roald Dahl's The Twits - a theatrical reading for ages 6 - 12 - Mr Mike's favourite!

As part of **independence and life skills**, please continue to practice and promote daily personal hygiene routines as well as completing tasks in the kitchen/around the home such as the washing up, food prep (peeling/chopping etc.) or some Hoovering.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Please read daily with/to your child - Can also be done digitally via our 'BugClub' - <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Practice number bonds, addition and subtraction with access to our fun, friendly 'Numbots'

<https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>

- (Mr Mike has made a step-by-step visual if you require support to log on to your child's account)

### **Some other home learning may include:**

Using a smartphone/i-Pad to capture photographs inside or out and then draw a picture of the photograph. Show care and concern for living things and the

environment - Watering the plants, showing affection to a pet or attempting to recycle. You could even make instruments from recycled materials - E.g. toilet roll tubes filled with rice and taped up.

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## **POST 16 NEWS**

It has been another very strange and difficult start to a term in Post 16. Seeing all the pupils back in a national lock down and working from home or school in different ways is not the way that any of us wanted to start the new year. However, it has been amazing to see how well everyone has been managing this situation: pupils, families and the teachers. A huge thank you to all of you for completing such great work and teachers for setting such great activities and lessons.

We have been working on the topic of the World of Work and it is exciting to see Post 16 pupils thinking about how this will affect their futures. Next term we will be continuing with this topic, developing pupils skills further and hopefully, once in school practicing how to prepare for interviews and new situations.

Although pupils in Post 16 have all been working in different ways, at home on Google Classroom, at home with work packs or in school they have all been working towards their curriculum and exam subjects so that they are still able to make progress towards their qualifications and adulthood pathways.

I am hoping that we will return to some normality in the near future and things will become easier with Covid numbers



going down. Please enjoy your half term and a well earned rest.

Bronja  
Head of Post 16

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## Post 16 CLASS NEWS

This has again been a very strange half term and the first thing I want to say is a huge thank you to all the pupils and families for completing so much home learning work. Over this half term we have been continuing to work towards our qualifications and work in our topic of 'the world of work'. In Maths pupils have been learning about time and how to interpret data, as well as completing past exam papers as practise. Where pupils have had access to Google classroom they have been completing some amazing work. Pupils have been using the learning platforms SumDog and TimeTable Rockstars and all pupils have been doing brilliantly on both and making some excellent progress. In English pupils have been writing about themselves, the world of work and producing some great pieces of creative story writing. They have also been interviewing members of their family to see what jobs and careers they have; it's been a pleasure to read their work.

It has been wonderful seeing so many students using Book Creator which covers both ICT and English as well as many other subject areas. We have very much enjoyed reading their weekly lockdown diaries and look forward to printing them off and preparing them as hard copy books which they can bring home to show you.

In Work Related Learning we have been covering the World of Work this term. Students have researched into how and where to find job advertisements as well as how to plan the route from home to a chosen workplace. It was great seeing

them combine their ICT skills with this by the use of Google maps and taking screenshots. I was also very impressed at the work submitted for: how to dress appropriately for work; the students demonstrated a great understanding of different attire to wear for different jobs and I even received two photos of students dressed ready for work – thank you!

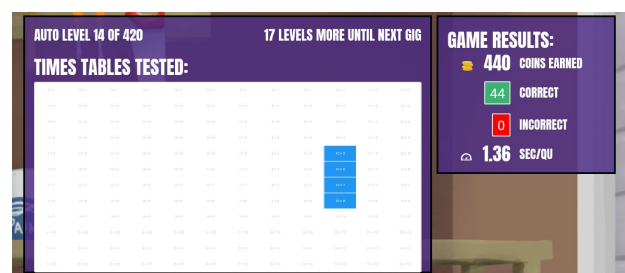
Students have weekly Votes 4 Schools lessons where this term the topics have been: Discrimination, How will Brexit affect me? Vaccines and Teammates.

Both at home and school we have been setting several Life Skills tasks e.g. sewing on a button, Hoovering, learning their address and reading the ingredients of shop bought drinks. Whilst in school we have seen the students carry this out practically however, it has been lovely receiving some videos and photos via email of what everyone is doing at home. Please continue to email in media so we can see all the Life Skills they are learning whilst at home.

Next term the topic will continue to be 'The World of Work' where we will be asking pupils to think about interviews and how to prepare for the workplace as well as practicing life skills such as setting up a bank account and managing money.

### Examples of students work produced this term:

Maths – results from TimeTable Rockstars.



### Work Related Learning: how to dress appropriately for work.

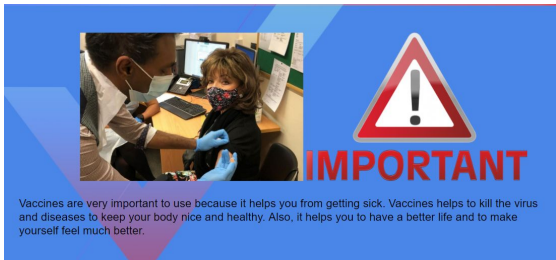


Police Officers are wearing High vis vests to be seen at night and wearing face masks to stay safe from Covid.



A Shopkeeper is wearing a button shirt to dress appropriately.

Higher level Maths work: interpreting data



Student poster for Votes 4 School: Vaccines topic.

Type workings and answers below

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.30 \\ + 1.00 \\ \hline 8.30 \end{array}$$

1 hour = 1.00

Answer: 8:30

Time: Forwards and Backwards

1. Kim goes to bed at this time:

On a Friday, she can go to bed an hour later. What time will that be?

Type workings and answers below

$$\begin{array}{r} 4.30 \\ + 1.00 \\ \hline 3.30 \end{array}$$

Answer: 3:30

Time: Forwards and Backwards

3. Jim put a cake in the oven an hour ago. It is now this time:

What time did he put the cake in the oven?

## HOME LEARNING

Ideas for home learning will be included in regular emails home and on Google classroom but you could also support your child's learning at home by helping them look at different workplaces, sharing with them different jobs you have now or have had in the past, talking to them about their future and what they would like to do or watching documentaries with them about different cultures or different workplaces.

You can follow these links below that can be used to learn more about the world of work:

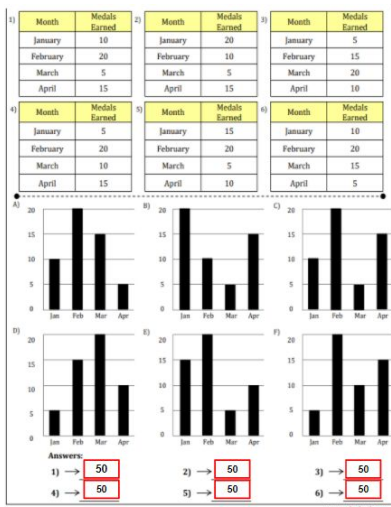
[BBC Bitesize 'the world of work'](#)

[BBC Bitesize - different clips of the world of work](#)

[Careers quiz](#)

[Careers quiz 2](#)

Maths – learning about time, word problems.



pupils have also completed PE theory topics such as naming the muscles and bones in the human body.

Well done to all pupils across the school for showing great commitment to PE throughout this half term.

To keep active over the half term, please have a go at watching and copying the following exercise videos:

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## PE News with Mr Proctor



Throughout this half term, pupils in and out of school have continued to show great enthusiasm for PE. All PE lessons have taken place outside to help reduce the risk of

virus transmission and to ensure pupils get plenty of fresh air as well as time in an outside environment.

Pupils who are in school have been participating well in PE lessons. Pupils have been improving their fitness levels through various circuits and running activities. Pupils have enjoyed completing relay races consisting of various exercises and working in teams. This has helped pupils develop their teamwork skills, turn taking skills and exercise technique. As well as this, pupils have really enjoyed creating their own trampoline exercise routines and showing their routines to their peers.

Pupils at home have been watching and copying various exercise videos each week as well as completing exercise circuits. Pupils have really enjoyed Cosmic Yoga videos as well as Joe Wicks PE videos. Whilst watching and copying the exercise videos, please feel free to pause the videos and work on each exercise. Post 16

## HOME LEARNING

### Joe Wicks:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvrtftiOOVw>

### Sonic The Hedgehog Cosmic Yoga:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QM8NjfCfOg0>

Parental supervision is needed and please stop if you feel pain or you cannot complete the routine safely. Take breaks and enjoy!

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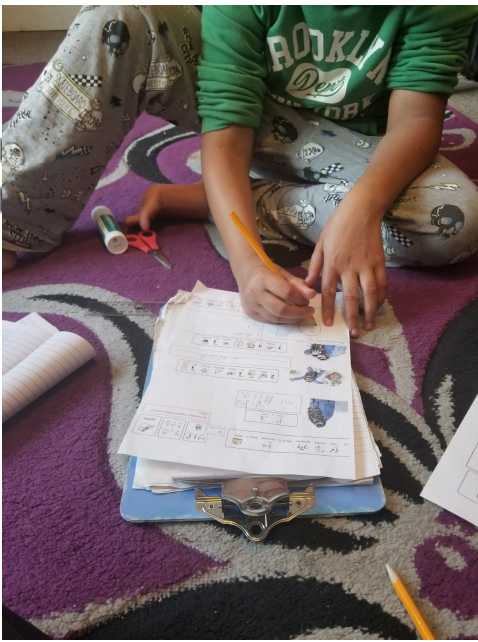
## Curriculum Gallery

Painting a river after exploring other famous artist's paintings.



Exploring fractions.

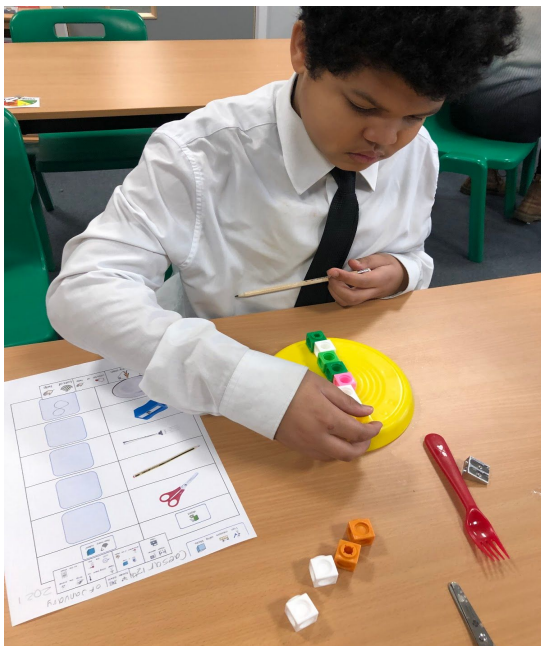
Writing a book review.



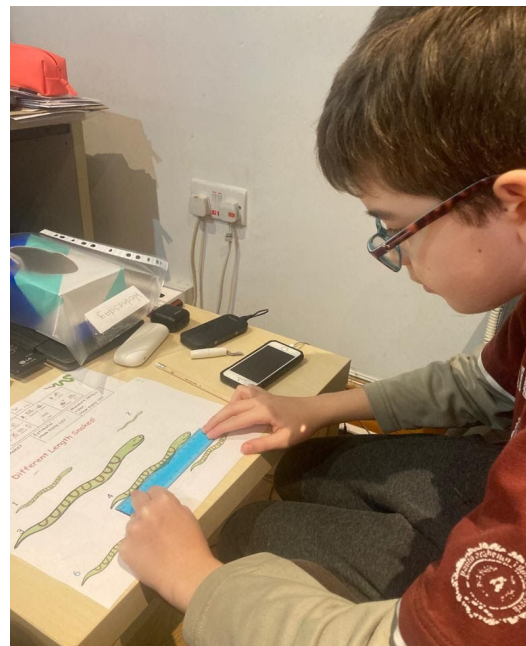
Some fantastic home learning taking place here. Answering questions from a text (The Twits).



Piccadilly class loved using technology to record different examples of nature out on the playground.



Using cubes to measure items around the school proved to be most fun and extremely engaging!



Another brilliant photo of learning at home. Using a ruler to measure the different sized snakes before putting them into length order - biggest to smallest.



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