



Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

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WELCOME: Welcome to the second newsletter of the term. It has been a long and exciting term and I am so excited to be able to reflect on our first full term opened as the Grove.

During the term we have had a Trust safeguarding audit, a Haringey School Improvement visit and a monitoring visit from the Department of Education. Feedback has been really encouraging and it has been really helpful to us to have such positive feedback on what we already have in place. It has also helped us to understand where we want to move towards in our continued efforts to raise standards for our pupils. Over the remaining year, we will be looking at some joined up safeguarding work within our Trust and we will also be having a school focus on communication systems for pupils starting next term. This term, I have particularly felt proud watching our pupils make so much progress. It has been wonderful to see the new primary groups settling in so quickly and make such progress in a short time. These are the moments that make the hard work to put a vision into practice worth it, this is what our school is all about, nurturing that success for life.

We have had some really lovely events take place this term, including our Anti-Bullying week and World Mental Health Day. Our older pupils recently visited the Lyceum Theatre in the West End to watch the Lion King which was a huge success. Pupils were fantastic and coped impressively with the crowds, noise and excitement of the afternoon.

This term we have also been able to offer both Music and Art Therapy to a group of pupils. The pupils have responded so positively to this and it is an area which we hope to expand as we move to our new building next year.

The term ahead will be busy as we start to recruit staff to new posts for the next academic year. We will be expanding by 20 places next year so that means additional classes will be opening up including a primary class for pupils who are very academically able and are following an age equivalent mainstream curriculum.

I would like to thank all parents, carers and families for their continued support over the last term. I have been particularly encouraged to hear how many more parents are getting involved with the parent training sessions and coffee mornings run by Ms Huseyin. I would really encourage parents, carers and families to actively get involved so we are able to grow a strong network and community within the school.

Finally, may I wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas break or for some of you a winter holiday. I hope you get time to spend with your families and enjoy the quality time together. On behalf of all of us at The Grove, we wish you happiness and good health for 2019! We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 7th January.

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Head of school

PERMANENT SCHOOL SITE UPDATE: Work is



underway at our new permanent site (former Haringey Professional Development Centre). The building is currently being stripped out ready for a complete refurbishment.

We have been meeting with specialist designers and

a sensory room and soft play and meetings have been going on between them and our contractors.

Over the next couple of weeks we will be meeting with contractors and suppliers to choose furniture, fixtures and fittings and also look at colors samples for walls, doors and floors. We will be consulting our pupils through these stages and will get feedback from our school council about what they like.

We hope to be able to conduct some tours in the new year once the site is safe from demolition, we will let you know as and when these times are confirmed.

ALEX KELLY SOCIAL SKILLS GROUPS: This half term we have started following Alex Kelly's programme in the secondary department. This is a programme that is devised to develop and build social communication skills. It is a published framework and for it to be delivered at its best it requires the person delivering to have attended the training. Ms Lloyd is our leader for this intervention.

We have split into self titled groups called The Wild Pack, The Violet Group and The Friends Group.

Each group is working on a specific area following an initial assessment, these include self-awareness and self-esteem, conversational skills and the way we talk. We meet once a week and the groups start and finish with a fun game that aims to teach skills the students can transfer into their free time such as playtimes and lunch times.

You can find out more about the programme at <http://alexkelly.biz/>

LION KING: at the beginning of December, our secondary students were very fortunate to have a Lion King afternoon. A group of pupils and staff visited the Lyceum Theatre in the

West End to watch the magnificent stage show.

A smaller group of pupils and staff had their own Lion King experience at school



and watched the movie with treats and popcorn followed by sensory activities. We are delighted to let you know that the charity **Happy Days** funded this experience for our pupils, for which we are very grateful. Students all behaved impeccably on the day,

at school. They represented our school extremely well and we were very proud of each and every one of them.

PARENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT: I was delighted to have 8 parents and carers join me for a cup of coffee on 15th November. I hope some of you will feel inspired to join us for the January parent coffee morning. It is a really good opportunity to network and meet other parents, sharing ideas and experiences.



PARENT AND TRAINING SUPPORT DATES

Thursday 17th January Coffee Morning - location to be confirmed - 10-11am

Monday 11th February Introduction to Alex Kelly Social Skills - Secondary Students - 10.30-11.45

Monday 4th March Healthy Eating workshop - lunchbox ideas and introducing different foods 10.30-11.45

Tuesday 2nd April Managing Behaviours that Challenge 10-11.30 and 3.00-4.30 (same session two timings offered due to popular demand)

Thursday 4th April Coffee Morning - Location to be confirmed

PLANNED PROJECTS: We are really pleased to be involved in some exciting projects across the school next year.

In collaboration with the Tottenham Football Foundation, we have funding to work alongside a professional sports coach to improve outcomes and wellbeing of primary aged children as a result of physical activity. This project will be taking place one afternoon each week over the course of the academic year and we hope to deliver it in collaboration with St Mary's.





creative arts with a focus on mental health. This is a secondary programme, initially, which will be one day a half term where pupils

will have the opportunity to work with a specialist in either dance, music or drama.

Finally, Ms Irene and Jupiter class are working in collaboration with Riverside school to deliver a project called dance unfolding. This is working with a dance specialist over the forthcoming year to measure the impact this has on wellbeing. We are very excited about this project and, if successful, we hope to bid for a researcher to join us next year so we are able to extend this as a piece of published research.



FUNDRAISING: As you are all aware the refurbishment of the new Grove school is underway and everybody is very much looking forward to

moving there in September 2019. To help the teachers in their aim of making it a centre of excellence in North London for children and young people with autism we need to fundraise to ensure that they can have the specialty rooms and outside equipment they need. These are really important to help the Grove students reach their highest possible potential and fully enjoy their educational experience. We have started a campaign 'Growing the Grove' to help us succeed in raising all the funds needed and I would very much like as many of the parents who want to or are able to join in with this. I attach a leaflet about what we are fundraising for and how much. Hopefully most of the money will be raised by applications to grant making trusts and foundations but having parents help to reach out into the local community would be of immense help. I would like to have a meeting in the New Year for anyone who is interested and attach my contact details so you can let me know if you would like to join in. I have provided a fundraising leaflet to this newsletter for more information.

In the meantime I wish you all a peaceful and joyful holiday and look forward to meeting you in the New Year.

Best Wishes

Angela Hay, Fundraiser

angela.hay@heartlands.haringey.sch.uk

PARENT PAY: It has been one month since we changed over to Parentpay for The Grove School.

Thank you all for registering or re-registering your child's account so promptly, this has helped make this a smooth transition.

May I remind you that the cost for a school lunch is **£11.50 per week** and is payable **in advance** of the school week. If you would like to place a large sum of money to cover your child's lunches you may, however it is advisable to check the account intermittently to not fall into arrears.

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, please send a copy of your entitlement letter to The School Office so that we can ensure you are not charged in error.

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be entitled to receive free school lunch for you child or have any questions or queries regarding this or Parentpay, please ring Lorraine Bellot at The School Office on 0208 340 4898 option 3 for a form.

PRIMARY CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Primary children enjoyed their Christmas lunch at St Mary's and the afternoon was



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 📅 Start of Term: Monday 7th January
- 📅 Parent Coffee Morning: Thursday 17th January
- 📅 Parent and Teacher Open Evening: Thursday 17th January 3pm - 5pm
- 📅 After School Club (secondary only): Tuesday 22nd January
- 📅 After school club (secondary only): Tuesday 29th January
- 📅 Meet and Greet the SLT: Tuesday 5th February 2-3pm Heartlands site.
- 📅 Grove Governors Meeting: Thursday 7th February 6-8pm
- 📅 Social Skills Workshop for Parents and Families: Monday 11th February 10.30-11.45am
- 📅 After school club (secondary only): Tuesday 12th February
- 📅 Break Up for Half Term: Friday 15th February
- 📅 Half Term Holidays: Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February



Primary News

GOLD CLASS: Gold class have been learning 'All about me' through learning about our senses and what we wear in different weather. Our stories have been 'On Bonfire night', 'Goldilocks and the three bears' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. The class have enjoyed experiencing the stories using their senses, using vocabulary to describe what different parts smell, look, taste, feel and sound like. We particularly enjoyed listening to the fireworks and party poppers, tasting porridge and feeling the bear fur. The class have been exploring emotion through Goldilocks and trying to remember the sequence. In maths, the class have been learning about size, money and counting. We are looking forward to our Christmas holiday and have been learning about how we celebrate Christmas. In addition to 'The Gingerbread Man' we have been learning about the Christmas story, experiencing it



ned about how Diwali and Hanukkah are celebrated.

Next term, we are going to learn about 'Living Things'. We will have the opportunity to learn about plants and animals, grow plants in the classroom, and make food for a picnic!



BLUE CLASS: This half term Blue class have continued learning within the topic All about me and in PSHE the children have continued to practise skills around self care, eating and communication. Every

with the Occupational Therapist and Speech Language & Therapist and the children have been exploring different types of food and textures. They have been practising requesting objects and asking for help by using symbols.

We have focused our learning around three different sensory stories this half term. The first story was about Bonfire Night. The children used symbols to request props to explore and they matched pictures of the props. We painted fireworks in different ways and the children learned the colours and colour mixing. In maths we used 3D shapes to create Catherine wheels and rockets. We looked at autumn and winter scenes and the children learned about dressing warm for winter.

Our second story was Goldilocks and the Three Bears and the children used the props to show parts of the story. In cooking we made porridge and chose different toppings. The children were mark making using paint, pencils, crayons, pens and chalk. In maths they learned about capacity, big/ small, in/on and numbers through number action songs.

Our third and last story was the story about the Gingerbread Man and we made biscuits in cooking. We learned about repeating patterns, numbers and shapes in maths. The students practised writing the letters in their names in different ways and tracing letters and patterns.

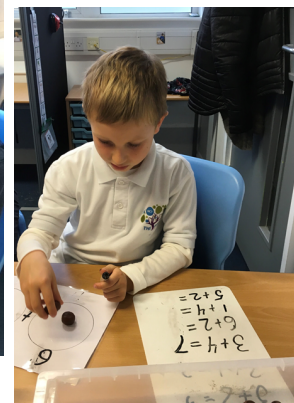
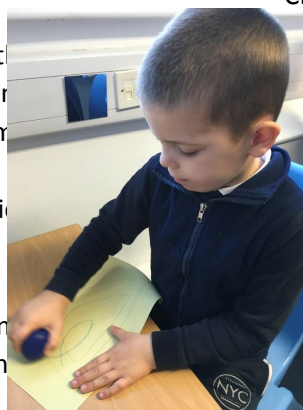


In science the children learned about our five senses and were sorting objects into soft/hard, recognising different smells and tastes and recognising different sounds. In music they have been practising shaking and blowing, playing loudly and quietly and recognising

lessons around special days such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, Anti-bullying day Christmas.

and

In the spring term our topic will be Living Things.



Secondary News

JUPITER CLASS: It was an exciting half term in Jupiter class. In Maths, we learnt about our daily routine. We made a clock and practiced reading the time using it! We also learnt about positions in space, through circuit-based activities and treasure hunt games. For English, we focused on our colourful semantics, and learnt to put the elements of a sentence in the correct order. We also worked on our creative writing, writing fantastic stories following a prompt. In this way, we practised our punctuation and conjunctions, which make our writing flow nicely.

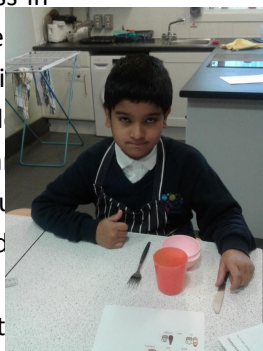
It was exciting to present at Assembly for anti-bullying week. We learnt what a good friend does and doesn't, and we have worked on being kind to each other every day. Making friends is a skill; we are practising it, playing together, asking each other questions, and using kind words. We also learnt about public and private spaces and public and private behaviour – now we know for certain what is ok and what is not ok to do in the classroom. We have also been building our

cooking sessions. Students have been preparing the table and learning some of the domestic skills such as washing up!

We have teamed up with Mars class in a series of Science experiments



massive
bubbles
lava lamp
colour
breakdown,
invert
balloon
experiment



nt, and more... So much fun and some really super learning!

Learning the positions in space also means learning or consolidating our understanding of right and left; and we have learnt to set the table! Oh we have learnt a series of moves in our Stop and Go exercise and Yoga routine: now we can all spin on two or one leg, and do a candlestick!

We have enjoyed dancing with Mr Ricardo every Friday through the Step into Dance project, taking part in the Social Skills Group with Mr Ashley, Music Therapy and Art Therapy. It has definitely been a busy and exciting half term – we always enjoy that relaxing moment under our parachute at the end of our school day.



MARS CLASS: Mars class have been busy working in all areas of learning this term. They have enjoyed engaging in a range of practical activities for English and Maths.

They have been working hard towards developing their skills in writing, speaking and listening through

exploring a range of short films as part of their topic. They have developed their ability to identify and describe nouns and adjectives by completing writing activities on the short films, enabling them to construct more informative and descriptive sentences. Each week they continue to enjoy going to Wood Green Library to work on their reading and comprehension skills.

During maths lessons students have enjoyed playing a variety of maths games and hands on activities to expand their ability to complete addition and subtraction activities. They have explored the concepts of 'more' and 'less' - a skill which they have been able to generalise and apply during other activities, such as cooking, tuck time and shopping.



Mars class have become keen scientists and enjoy making predictions and following procedures to complete experiments. They have been teaming up with Jupiter class and have successfully completed a range of experiments including bubble magic, making fluffy slime and testing chemical reactions.

The 'Active Minds' program is a vital part of the Mars class routine. Each morning students participate in 20 minutes of vigorous physical activities including boxing, jumping and running to help them get in the zone for learning. This has resulted in increased engagement levels in all learning experiences during the day and they have increased level of enjoyment for physical

experiment with adding new ingredients to their pizzas. They work very hard to complete classroom jobs daily and enjoy helping around the school.

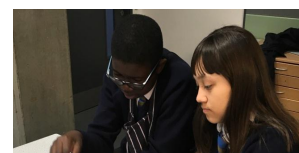
VENUS CLASS: Venus class have been working very hard this half term in all of their lessons and enjoying many of the new topics that they have been studying.



activity.

As part of PSHE students have been focusing on relationships. They have been learning about the different types of relationships and features of a positive relationship. As part of SMSC program, students were able to celebrate anti bullying week, which they promoted anti bullying by creating awareness posters. They have also really enjoyed hosting game sessions as part of their leisure and recreational time. Students from other classes join Mars class to participate in group games such as Mario kart competitions, hungry hippos and toilet trouble. Students have enjoyed building positive relationships with other students and are working on develop their ability to share, problem solve and communicate.

Mars have continued to work towards developing functional living skills during cooking and completing classroom jobs. Students have mastered how to make

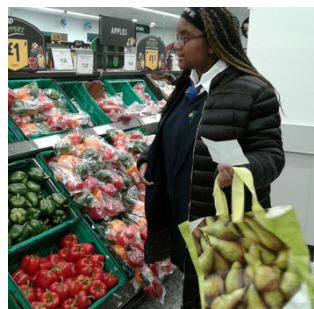


In English they have been reading Great Expectations by Charles Dickens. They have had lots of fun reading



the book and thinking about the characters. They have enjoyed the book and have had some fantastic conversations about London in Victorian times, Charles Dickens

life and Pip (the main character in the books) struggles. Venus class continues to use the school library regularly and still have a love of books and reading. In cooking everyone is becoming a confident and creative chef. The skills that are being used in the kitchen are brilliant with exciting and interesting recipes being made by everyone. I think the favourite food this term has been Fajitas and Tomato pasta. The



students are shopping every week for their ingredients and enjoying finding out how much things cost and working out the money that is needed. In Art we have all been getting creative with a 'POP ART' project that has involved looking at

different artists work and trying to replicate that work in and around school. We have been looking at colour and contrast to create exciting images. Finally we have been working hard in PSHE to think about difficult situations and conflict. There have been some amazing discussions and role play around this topic and the students have really tried their hardest to work together as a team and think about how to support each other.



Next term we'll be continuing the hard work as year 11s will begin to work towards their English and Maths

tests and continue to plan for their Home Cooking Skills BTEC.

After all of this hard work everyone now deserves a well-earned rest and a fantastic Christmas holiday.

SATUR



N CLASS:

We are

continuing to look for opportunities in our learning time to enjoy different physical and sensory needs, this helps students to keep emotionally regulated during their learning time. Our visual schedules keep the students busy whilst we still encourage them to take movement breaks at the end of lessons and to choose from a range of activities during choosing time.



During this half term, Saturn have been enjoying circuit training for our P.E lessons. We start with warm up exercises, then a circuit to move around exercising for

relax and safely stretch after.

Every week Saturn Class students go shopping and prepare something that they can eat themselves. As the weather has started to become colder students wanted to be able to make and eat hot food.

During Food Technology/cooking lessons the students have had the chance to make and enjoy eating their own English Breakfast consisting of; tea, sausages, scrambled eggs and toast. This learning opportunity has given them the freedom and confidence to develop new skills and tasting different foods at school, as well as challenging the independence that they have gained through previous shopping trips to buy ingredients.

Post 16 News

Post 16 students have had a great autumn term. They have enthusiastically participated in learning about different factors that influence and affect their emotional and physical well being. They enjoyed going to the gym every tuesday to use different types of



equipment to keep fit.

They have fully embraced different martial arts styles and dance through sanjuro every thursdays in Haringey Sixth Form College. We are so impressed with how mature the students are and how well they have

education. This week, the Post 16 group planned, prepared and cooked their own Christmas lunch which was delicious. Well done to all the students in Post 16.



AND FINALLY.....

FOOTBALL COACHING: We are hoping to offer a new after school club twice a week. Mr Williams will be returning to run two after school football training sessions at our Heartlands site. The cost of the club will be £5.00 per session and we would require you to sign up for the term and pay in advance. Your child can opt to attend once a week or twice, it is up to them as both sessions will run independently of each other.

We have attached an application form to the back of this newsletter, if you could return it before the end of term we will add your child's name to the list. We are only offering out a maximum of 8 places so it will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

More information will be sent out in the New Year.



A FINAL THANK YOU: On behalf of all the staff here at The Grove, we would like to wish all students, parents, carers and families a very happy holiday.

Thank you for your continued support over the last term, we look forward to working with you next year.

We wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year 2019.

from
Staff



Best wishes
The Grove
Team.

