



CURRICULUM NEWS

2020 Autumn Term 2

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Headteacher's Welcome



I am really excited that we are sending our half termly curriculum news to you during what has been a really challenging half term. Despite the challenges, it has been wonderful to see pupils engaged and learning and enjoying school.

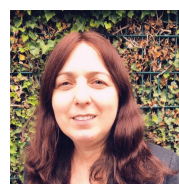
You will find in this edition, lots of updates about what has been happening around the school and some ideas and useful links to help you when working at home with your child.

As we go into what might be a difficult new year with further uncertainty, we remain focused on keeping school as structured and safe for all the pupils. We have a comprehensive remote learning plan in place and if, for any reason, your child is at home due to the impact of COVID isolation, we will continue to provide the support and education they need.

For now, we wish you all a very happy holiday and we look forward to seeing the pupils back with us on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

Curriculum Lead & DHT



I would like to take this opportunity and share with you The Grove's innovative curriculum.

We have worked hard to design a curriculum that is broad and balanced and meets the needs of all our pupils. Our curriculum is ambitious and sequenced to give all our pupils the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in life.

We have a thematic approach to delivering the curriculum, which allows our pupils to make links between areas of learning and consolidate skills. All the themes have been carefully considered and mapped across our departments to allow our pupils to build on previous knowledge and skills.

Each department has a curriculum map that outlines themes for each term and the cross curricular links between subjects.

If you would like to know more about our curriculum, please contact me, visit our website.

Wishing you all a wonderful winter break.

Best wishes, Helen Georgiades,

Deputy Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
17th December	End of Term
17th December	FSM Vouchers Sent
18th December	INSET - No Pupils
4th January	INSET - No Pupils
5th January	Pupils back to school
29th January	Governors Meeting
1st February	Children's Mental Health Week
11th February	E-Safety Day
12th February	Break Up
15th-19th Feb	Half Term
22nd February	INSET - No Pupils



Pastoral & PSHE News-Miss Huseyin

We have just completed the first half term of our new Relationship, Sex and Health Education

programme. We incorporated this work into the general PSHE curriculum which has enabled us to provide well planned and sequenced lessons to support skills progression for our pupils.

This term we focussed on anti-bullying and relationships including getting on and falling out. We had a week-long focus on anti-bullying (please see the photos) where Miss Eleni and Miss Ashley both won awards for their work with pupils and we celebrated Odd-Socks Day.

During January to February we will start to look at "the changing adolescent body." These lessons are tailored to be both age and stage appropriate and are a very necessary part of the curriculum as we help our pupils to understand body changes. We will also be learning about respectful relationships with all pupils, which explores boundaries.

Finally during the next term we'll be taking part in **two research projects**: one exploring communication and emotional regulation the other looking at mental health support. I have sent home the permission forms and questionnaires for the communication and emotional regulation research and would appreciate the return of forms by **Thursday 17th December**. I will be collating all documents for both research projects.

I want to thank all of you who have attended workshops and our coffee morning, it has been wonderful to see so many of you and feel some sense of connection with our families.

If any of you would like to contact me about PSHE lessons, workshops please email:

nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk

Best wishes, Nadine

Career News

As employment rates for Autistic adults still remain the lowest of all disability groups, it is even more important that we think about how to prepare our pupils for the world of work, employment and future choices.

This term we have been working hard to ensure that even with Covid 19 there are still opportunities for all pupils to access some work related learning where possible.

We have seen Pupils across Secondary East, Secondary West and Post 16 take part in our exciting allotment project with Organiclea. This is a project where pupils have been working at school to design, build and plant raised beds in a communal area. It has also seen Secondary West pupils go off site and visit Organiclea's horticultural gardens to plant seeds and work in the polytunnel. All groups have thoroughly enjoyed the project. Post 16 pupils have also been completing work related learning sessions, helping out with the communication for school lunches, working as sports leaders and helping support the organisation of the library.

Year 9 pupils have started their Transition to Adulthood forms as part of the annual review process, setting targets towards employment and their futures. They are also going to be the first cohort of pupils to start Vocational Profiles that should help support employment and adulthood pathways.

We held our first parent group for 'Pathways for post 16 and beyond'. This was very successful and we had a speaker join us from The Autism Project - supported internship. Please look out for Ms Huseyins' invitations for future meetings on this topic.

Looking ahead to the future we will be working with 'Rugby Works' who will deliver sport sessions. Employment days and Sports leadership opportunities. We will continue to work with Organiclea and give more pupils the opportunity to take part in this. The Tottenham foundation will be coming in to work with our primary department and we will be looking for more opportunities to work with external providers and employers as the world hopefully begins to feel more normal again.

If you have any questions about careers, employment and steps please email or call me and I will try to answer any questions you may have.

bronja.elton@thegroveschool.co.uk or on 020 3876 6555

Bronja Elton
Careers lead/Head of Post 16

CLASSROOM NEWS

PRIMARY NEWS

Wow, this half term has absolutely flown by! The Primary pupils have been amazing at coping with all of the changes around school due to bubbles, changes of timings, not going to areas of the school outside of our bubble, as well as lots of hand washing!

I am really proud of the progress all pupils are making on a daily basis. I spend a lot of time in the classrooms, either teaching, taking part in learning walks or just popping in to say 'hello' to everyone and I constantly see purposeful and fun learning happening. Pupils are engaged and happy which is great to see.

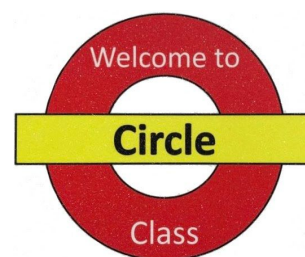
After the Christmas break we will be entering a new term and a new topic. The pre-formal curriculum will be based around Looking after things, such as themselves, others and the environment around them. The semi-formal curriculum will be based on a topic called 'Keen to be green' which will teach pupils about caring for the environment and recycling.

All pupils will continue to work on developing their communication skills and independence skills as this is a fundamental part of learning and development. Pupils will be exploring their local environment both inside and outside of the school to see how it could be improved and looked after, thinking about recycling and keeping areas tidy, sorting materials and finding other uses for items that might be thrown away. Pupils will also get the opportunity to grow plants and vegetables from seeds to demonstrate where food comes from and teach skills that will help care and nurture their plants.

Please remember to access our online reading resources using your Bug Club log-ins where pupils will be able access a wide range of reading materials and quizzes to develop reading comprehension skills.

Thank you all for your support and I look forward to another successful term in the new year. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas break.

Mr Mills



CLASS NEWS

The second half of Autumn term has been filled with a range of interesting and engaging

learning experiences for our pupils. Circle Class have had a great start this half term and everyone has tried really hard with their learning.

Our theme this term has been Let's Pretend. In English, we have been reading the story of Hansel and Gretel. The pupils have been working on comprehension and answering questions based on the story, ordering the events of the story, describing the characters using adjectives, acting out the story, and interrogating the evil witch from the perspective of a Police officer. We have also read, Hope the Rainbow Fairy, Aliens Love Underpants, Panta Clause to mention just a few. In Maths, we have been learning about money, recognising coins and notes, ordering based on value, adding and subtracting amounts, and using money (pretend toy shop). In Science, we have been learning about our solar system and its planets. Pupils designed and coloured planets, and looked at day and night. In PSHE, we looked at emotions, friendship and ingredients for a healthy friendship, bullying, likes and dislikes, and who to talk to when we are sad or upset. In Arts,

pupils designed their own gingerbread houses, made poppies and cards for Remembrance Day, and painted pebbles. In Cooking, we looked at hygiene and safety in the kitchen, cleaning the surfaces and washing our hands before and after cooking. We decorated gingerbread men, we made sparklers with breadsticks and marshmallows.

Our theme for next term is 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

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

Maths - Ask pupils 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](#)).

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.



CLASS NEWS

This term in City Class we have been learning the story of Goldilocks and

The Three Bears in Literacy. We have loved using small world toys to learn the characters' names and create scenes from the story. We have also enjoyed creating collages relating to the story, using our

PECS and Colourful Semantics books to practice asking for different materials whilst developing our communication and language skills too!

In maths, we have been learning about different attributes such as size, height and colour. We have loved sorting shapes by colour and building different sized towers! We have also explored colour relating to life skills in our 'Tasting' session. Each week we have explored different fruit and veg belonging to a new colour group, learning to peel, cut and mash ingredients (and even taste some!) We have been working hard on communicating our likes and dislikes using language boards and pictures of familiar and unfamiliar foods. We also celebrated Remembrance Day as a class as well as Children in Need by making poppy collages and Pudsey Bear posters.

HOME LEARNING

In the Spring term our learning theme will be '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 holidays. We are going to be reading the book 'Oliver's Vegetables' by Vivian French and Alison Bartlett, which you could read, or watch online

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpzGlyRSUw> . The book is full of different vegetables so getting a chance to see some vegetables at home would be amazing, so that we know what they are when we read the story together. Maybe you could watch a special episode of Peppa Pig all about recycling! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIP-EN7Ygro>. Also, talking about and looking at the weather over the holidays would be a great way to start thinking about our

environment and how it changes! In maths, we will also be learning about 2d and 3d shapes, so it would be great if you could spend some time looking at different shapes around the house (For example, what shape is the door, mirror, window?) or even listening to some shape songs on Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guNdJ5MtX1A> to get us started.

Have a lovely Break!

The City Class Team



CLASS NEWS

This half term, Elizabeth Class has been working incredibly hard learning different

skills and concepts. In Maths, most of the pupils were learning how to identify and count sides and corners in 2D Shapes, as well as finding out the 'odd one out' and stating why. In addition, we have been learning how to make number bonds to 10 and find the numerals 1 more and 1 less from the given number. Some pupils have been learning how to make amounts to 3 and identify common 2D Shapes. In our English lessons we have been reading 'Handa's Surprise' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. The pupils have focused on comprehension and answering questions based on the stories as well re-telling the story through their drama lessons. All the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed dressing up and retelling their own version of the stories.

In PSHE, we have been looking at friendship and how to be a good friend to our peers.

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

HOME LEARNING

In the Spring Term we will be moving onto our new Topic which is 'Keen to be Green'. Some activities to help pupils at home include:

1. Read the books assigned on Bug club - <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.
4. Make an Earth collage by recycling old magazines and using blue and green paper to make planet Earth.



CLASS NEWS

Victoria class has been working incredibly hard this half term. We have focused our learning

around three sensory stories; Bonfire night story, Old Mc Donald had a farm and The Gingerbread man. The children have been making farm animal masks and matching animal babies with their parents. They have used paint to create fireworks pictures and used playdough to make gingerbread men. In maths we have been matching quantities, recording numbers 1-10 and ordering numbers and quantities from smallest to biggest. The pupils have been tracing shapes and used 2D shapes to make pictures. In literacy we have used roleplay to act out parts of the Gingerbread man story. The children have been forming letters and used symbols and colourful semantics to label pictures

from the stories. In PSHE the students have been learning about friendship and people who help us around the school. We have been exploring our local area. We continue to use the Zones of regulation to label how we are feeling and to start using strategies for regulating different emotions.

HOME LEARNING

Our topic for the next term will be Looking After Things (Caring for the Environment). Here are some learning ideas that you can do at home:

1. Literacy activities: Read the books on Bug Club together:
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0> practice letter formation on the Letterschool app, listen to the stories 'Olivers vegetables' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk' (+please see activities in their learning packs)
2. Topic activities: Plant some cress seed on cotton wool, water it and watch it grow, peel and cut vegetables together, search for seeds in fruit and vegetables, go on a nature walk
3. Maths activities: Count how many leaves, pieces of fruit or vegetables, order from smallest to biggest or shortest to longest (+please see activities in their learning packs)

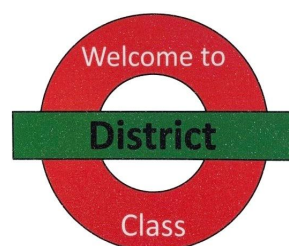
We wish you a happy and restful holiday.

SECONDARY EAST NEWS

ASSISTANT HEAD: MR WOODS

As we come to the end of 2020 and this Autumn term we have lots to celebrate in Secondary East. Pupils have made good progress towards their qualifications in

Docklands and all classes have really succeeded in demonstrating our positive SEARCH values of Support and Empathy this term. In our end of term assembly pupils will be given their end of term merit certificates for some of the excellent work in different subjects that they have done so far. After Christmas our SEARCH value focus is acceptance and we are sadly saying goodbye to Miss Macleod and Miss Gold who have been with us since September 2019, we wish them well in their new adventures! I hope you have a restful break and I look forward to seeing you all in the new year!



FORM NEWS

District class have had a brilliant term. Our theme Myths and Legends was engaging and

exciting, it has produced lots of beautiful pieces of English, History and art work. In PSHE we have focused on healthy relationships, the pupils have completed work about healthy and unhealthy friendships, bullying and professional relationships in the workplace. This has all linked in with the school wide SEARCH value: Empathy. In SMSC District class have been doing Votes for Schools each week, where they are able to share their opinions and ideas. Alongside this we have done activities for key events such as: Children in Need, Anti Bullying Week, Remembrance day and International day of Persons with Disabilities. In computing, District class have been working towards their entry level certificate for IT users course. They are creating a presentation for new pupils, introducing them to The Grove School.

This project is underway and the pupils have thought carefully of what they want to incorporate in their presentation. I look

forward to seeing their completed presentation.

In life skills we have been working towards our ASDAN certificates and cooking up a storm in Food Tech, including making tea, sandwiches and baking and decorating cakes. An absolutely amazing half term for District class, keep up the fantastic work in January!

HOME LEARNING

Challenge yourself to read a book (Paper copy or bug club)

Write a character description of your favourite character from the book.

Write a book review to go to the library.

Link for book review [click here](#)

Touch Typing using Dance Mat Typing on BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr>

Times Table Rockstars:
<https://ttrockstars.com/>

Practise your handwriting, remember: Start with Uppercase and Lowercase letters and then try words.



FORM NEWS

This half-term, Docklands pupils have gone from strength to strength. We have welcomed new pupils into our class and they have settled quickly.

We finished our Italian theme at the start of the term, making a lasagna, a salad and an apple crumble from scratch (not exactly Italian but it was requested and was delicious!). Since then we have had the very exciting '*Bake Off*' week where each pupil baked their own cake. We

baked a wide variety of cakes including lemon drizzle, chocolate, cheesecake and even a birthday cake. Pupils and staff loved tasting and rating the cakes!

For reading, Docklands Class have been looking at cautionary tales from the 1800s. As part of this we have read many of Edward Lear's nonsense limericks. We then had a go at writing our own limericks which are proudly being displayed in the classroom for the class and visitors to see.

As usual we have had some excellent discussion on a range of topics, including: how disabilities are represented in social media, cyberbullying, what makes a good friend, how much are we influenced by the USA and could you break a world record? (We decided that we couldn't yet!)

Maths:

In Maths pupils have been looking at money, we have been buying lunches and deciding if our change is correct. We also have been looking at budgeting and thinking about how we can save money for things we really want. We have just started a new topic of multiplication.

Computing:

Pupils also went on their first school trip of the year to a local green space, lordship recreation ground. This was to gather information and pictures to go into information booklets they are making about the park for their ICT/Computing coursework.

Pupils are making excellent progress towards this qualification and I am confident that many will achieve their first step Entry Level 1 very soon.

Art:

Dockland class have worked very hard in art this half term. They researched ideas about our theme: The environment, manmade and natural disasters, they created stained glass windows, experimented with clay and collage and are now working towards their final piece. I am very pleased with all their progress and hope they continue to have brilliant outcomes during the spring term.

History:

Docklands have been learning about Life in Elizabethan England. Pupils have completed a range of lessons from reasons Queen Elizabeth refused to get married to rebellions and plots to murder her! Pupils have engaged thoroughly well in this topic completing excellent extended writing pieces, participating in class reading and enjoying class discussions. Well done Docklands!

Science:

This term in Science pupils have made good progress towards their first Entry Level Unit on Space. We have investigated the planets in the solar system as well as introduced key concepts and ideas related to forces and getting rockets into space. We have conducted a number of force based practicals investigating Newton's 1st and 2nd Laws, one of which involved firing rockets across the classroom using citric acid and baking soda which was messy but fun! Next term we start a new unit on Crime Scene Investigation and turn our attention to solving biological puzzles

PE:

Docklands have been working on their football skills this half term and transferring these skills into games. Pupils have also been learning the importance of accepting the referee's decision and enjoying competitive matches. Pupils have also been introduced to key basketball skills which they have really enjoyed.

English:

Pupils have been working hard this half term in all their English lessons and I have been impressed by all of their creative ideas and discussions around the theme of 'Natural Disasters'. We have been immersing ourselves in Tsunamis, Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Volcanoes and Icebergs (The Titanic). Pupils have been writing about these disasters, using adjectives, similes, verbs and adverbs to complete newspaper articles and descriptive writing. We have been reading about these disasters and discussing how it would feel to be part of a natural disaster, using empathy which our SEARCH focus of this half term to discuss how these disasters would have affected people's lives. Pupils have also completed some tests around the topic of 'hobbies'. They have completed both the reading and writing section of the paper and in some cases achieving over 50% of the marks! I am very proud of all of them and how well they took part in the tests.

Next term we'll be moving on to a literature unit and scaring ourselves with different Gothic and horror stories - I am looking forward to this and seeing what creative writing it inspires.

I wish everyone a happy Christmas and look forward to seeing Dockland's class back and refreshed in the new year.

HOME LEARNING

Ideas for Home Learning

IDEA - computing courses

www.idea.org.uk

Computing/art ideas- try the "JUST FOR FUN" tasks in your google classroom

Bitesize - choose a topic!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z4kw2hv>

Times Table Rockstars - (especially as we are doing multiplication for the next few weeks) <https://trockstars.com/>

Reading, try out oxford owl lots of free books here -

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/bookshop/>

Learning typing skills- skills that will set up pupils for life!

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

Have a lovely holiday season, Best wishes,
Ms Steventon, Ms Anotella, Ms Hollie



FORM NEWS

Metropolitan have had a fantastic half term. We have enjoyed a range of lessons and activities

including: focussing on our second SEARCH value- Empathy; lots of cooking and washing up in Food Tech; basketball and football in PE; and sensory play with lots of cool material.

Pupils have been working hard in a variety of subjects including:

Maths: In Maths we have been using working with money and practicing buying items at Miss Taylor's tuck shop. Pupils have progressed very well through this topic and are able to use a range of coins and notes to buy a range of items. Pupils have also been enjoying a range of Maths games including maths bingo, maths monopoly and engaging in circle time.

English: In English we have thoroughly enjoyed the Myths and Legends topic. Pupils have read a range of material including: dragons, monsters, Pandora's Box and Theseus and the Minotaur. Pupils have completed excellent creative writing pieces including fantastic adjectives, metaphors and similes.

Science: This half term Metropolitan Class have been studying Space in Science and have discovered lots of planets! Pupils have shown an excellent understanding of the topic by completing lots of excellent written work and taking part in experiments... the rocket experiment was a favourite!

Computing: In computing pupils have enjoyed creating lots of PowerPoint presentations. Pupils are able to add their own images and GIFs onto PowerPoints and present to the class. Pupils have also enjoyed making their own computer game on the Chromebooks.

Art: In art pupils have worked with a range of materials including clay, paint, paper, sand, leaves and many more. Pupils have created work to support their English topic by moulding clay monsters and dragons! Pupils have started to create some Christmas decorations which are on display at reception.

HOME LEARNING

Metropolitan class can prepare for the next term by reading books set for them

on Bug Club These books will relate to our next topic- It's a Wonderful World!

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

Pupils can also prepare for our topic by watching 'David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities' for free on BBC iPlayer.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07cgj72>

All pupils can continue building their Maths skills by logging into Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots. Parents can also encourage their child to help them pay for items at the shop to put their money skills into real life practice!

<https://trockstars.com/>

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

Pupils have been working hard in Life Skills and Food Tech. Pupils are able to follow recipes, set the table, wash and dry dishes and put them away in an orderly fashion. Pupils can help around the house by doing this at home also!

SECONDARY WEST NEWS

**HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST:
MS COLHOUN**

Merry Christmas to all our families, I hope you have a safe and happy holiday with our pupils.

What an exhaustive but fun half term we have had in Secondary West. I have enjoyed seeing all our pupils make progress in their learning with KS3 continuing their topic of Myths and Legends and Key Stage 4 completing their first units of study for their Asdan Personal Progress qualifications.

Key Stage 4 enjoyed 3 lovely trips to OrganicLea in Chingford where they learnt various horticulture skills such as weeding, filling compost, sewing seeds, making wreaths and laying woodchip pathways around the planting beds. It was lovely to see pupils outdoors experiencing nature and really enjoying the practical elements of gardening despite the often cold and sometimes wet weather. Next term they will continue their horticulture journey in school working on developing our school allotment.

Next term Key Stage 3 will be embarking on a new topic called "It's a wonderful world" where they will be exploring nature and living things in more depth as well as thinking about how to protect our environment. Key Stage 4 will continue their ASDAN accreditation and start a new topic focusing on looking after themselves, keeping healthy and understanding differences between us.



CLASS NEWS

Bakerloo have had a busy but productive half term. The pupils have tried really

hard with their learning across all subjects and have really enjoyed our theme of 'Special Events'. The pupils have also loved going to Organiclea as part of their outdoor learning curriculum this year, they all enjoyed the sensory experience of planting seeds, digging weeds and making festive wreaths.

English

This half term, we have looked at Diwali, bonfire night and Christmas and the pupils have had the opportunity to explore the different traditions across the curriculum. In English, pupils have been learning about how to structure sentences and write captions for pictures. They were all able to draw pictures to show what happens at different festivals and write

about them. Pupils have also enjoyed participating in sensory stories for different celebrations and then commenting on what happens either verbally or using PECS.

Maths

Pupils have been learning about how to halve and double numbers and have gained confidence with this skill. Some pupils have been working out word problems related to half or double facts to extend their learning. We have also been looking at time and sequencing the months of the year and the seasons. Pupils have daily practice at skills related to their personal targets, such as identifying number bonds to ten, identifying one more or one less and practicing times tables.

Food Tech

In food tech, we have been preparing and cooking food from different cultures and festivals. Pupils have made Diwali Coconut squares, bonfire night chocolate apples and christmas cookies. All pupils have been really engaged with this topic and have enjoyed the process of learning about foods for different celebrations.

HOME LEARNING

Next term, our topic will be 'looking after yourself'. We will be learning about how to stay healthy through eating and exercise and how to have happy and healthy friendships. I would encourage pupils to practice making healthy snacks and making healthy choices when presented with options. I will send home healthy recipes as we use them in class so that pupils can consolidate their understanding. I would also encourage them to get frequent exercise and perhaps take note of the effect that the exercise is having on their bodies (eg. feel their heart rate after a fast walk or notice that they are sweating after a run).

As always, I would encourage the pupils to read as often as possible, this can be a book that they enjoy or a story from their bugclub account.

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

Hello from Central class, this term we have been practising our phonics and

learning how to write CVC words, recognising different shapes, enjoying sensory stories and exploring sensory trays with the book "Sharing a Shell". In science we have been looking at the differences between the sun, moon and Earth. As well as how to recognise the seasons. We have been learning Bangali and Urdu words during modern foreign languages.

During cooking Central Class have been learning how to use knives, grater and peelers safely. We have created simple and delicious meals. Well done everybody!

Our SEARCH value was empathy, we have been focusing on the importance of understanding each other's feelings and caring for our friends. We enjoyed learning about the Diwali festival and making fireworks. We made Christmas cards for our class friends and spent time together decorating our own Christmas tree.

All our team wishes you a merry christmas and happy new year, hoping you all will have a restful and safe holiday.

HOME LEARNING

It will be a great start if you could keep reading books at home, all pupils have been allocated books in their BugClub account.

BugClub:

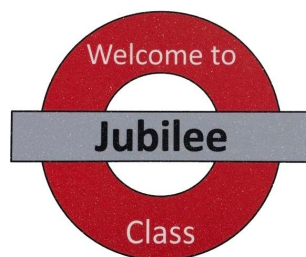
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login.php?c=0>

Our book for next term is "I can save the Earth". We will appreciate it if you could introduce it at home. You can find the story-here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Mkwhe6LOBo>

Try out some of these math games at home with your child, pupils have enjoyed accessing this maths site at school.

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



CLASS NEWS

During this term, all Jubilee class pupils have been working hard and shown great progress in all

their lessons and friendships. They have all bonded nicely, have shown empathy to one another and to their teachers. Moreover, we use the 4 Zones of Regulation daily to express how we feel and in our PSHE lessons we looked at emotions and behaviours and how we can help ourselves and others when needed.

For English we have been doing lots of reading and explored more myths and legends from Greek and Chinese mythology. We have been working on understanding new vocabulary, describing characters, writing summaries and predictions about stories in order to develop our understanding and reasoning skills.

Furthermore, all pupils enjoyed their Maths lessons for which we had to apply our knowledge of addition and subtraction to solve 1-step and 2-step problems or to add and combine different coins to buy a toy or snack. They also started working on their 2,3,4,5 and 10 Times Tables and have shown pride in their achievements.

In Science, we explored how humans travel to space. We looked at Tim Peake, the first British astronaut who went to space but also learnt about ISS and the use of satellites. The pupils were all very engaged and loved looking at pictures of our planet from Space.

Lastly, in RE we have been learning about Hinduism and they were all very fascinated by the stories of different Gods.

Jubilee class team is extremely proud of our pupils' achievements and wish them all an amazing holiday and Merry Christmas! May the New Year 2021 bring to us all loads of happiness, laughter and special moments with our loved ones. Enjoy your well-deserved holiday!

HOME LEARNING

English: All pupils will choose 2 books from the class library. Please dedicate 20 minutes per day to do some reading. I have also allocated books on Bug Club and I'm also sending some homework. BugClub:

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

Maths: Please use Times Tables Rock Star (<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school>) to practise multiplication but also Sumdog (<https://www.sumdog.com/en/>) to practise addition, subtraction and word problems.

Science: Look at NASA's live stream for any exciting news: <https://www.nasa.gov/nasalive>.

PSHE: When watching movies try to have some conversations with your child and ask them about different characters i.e. 'How do they feel? Why? What could have caused that? How would they help them?'

Lifeskills: Give them some daily chores such as washing the dishes, making their bed, fold some clothes, Hoover their room, make tea/coffee/toast for the family.

Miss Eleni



CLASS NEWS

It has been a very busy half term for Northern class and I am very proud of all the pupils' efforts.

Our theme this term has been 'Special Events'. During this half term the pupils have been learning about Diwali and more recently Christmas. All the pupils enjoyed exploring both topics through books, sensory stories and a range of hands-on activities. We have had a focus on reading and writing skills. We have been learning to build longer sentences to describe pictures and to read and understand a simple text with images and then answer simple questions.

As part of this topic, we looked at different foods and explored them through "messy food play" and "Just one taste" activities, where the pupils had a chance to try new and old foods, building their tolerance to different textures and tastes. We also cooked a range of different meals such as a vegetable curry.

In maths, we have been learning about money, recognizing the value of all coins and notes up to 10 pounds and practicing buying items in our own "Northern class shop". In Number we have been learning about "more and less" and to compare two groups of objects.

HOME LEARNING

Next half term, our topic will be "looking after yourself" where we will learn about healthy living habits and healthy food.

Some activities you can do at home:

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 peeling, chopping, washing vegetables, etc.

Creating a simple movement break exercise: e.g. First star jumps, then walking on a line, finally wall push-ups.

Reading simple books to practice reading skills or looking at pictures and commenting on them.

Counting the number of people sitting at the table for a meal and getting the right number of cutlery, plates, etc.

Our SEARCH value this half term has been "Empathy" and we have been learning about how to be a good friend and how to show it.

Overall a good half term for Northern class. Well done!



CLASS NEWS

We are in full swing here in Piccadilly class. The pupils are settled, routine and structure is

embedded and everyone is responding very well to the classroom environment; showing confidence in using their schedules.

Maths:

The pupils have had opportunities to consolidate and harness their knowledge of both 2D and 3D shapes. They have

enjoyed the active aspect in identifying, cutting and sticking shapes to construct models.

The active element of recognising everyday shapes in the playground and classroom proved to be most fun.

Drawing 2D shapes with a ruler gave the pupils a complex challenge and is definitely something I would encourage to promote and practice at home for your child's home learning.

Topic: Science/Geography

A focus of the Earth and its most common weather took place this term. Pupils were true scientists, following a visual tick list to gather the equipment they needed to build weather stations as well as a step by step instruction to build their model. Supporting adults in the room promoted their independence even if they had forgotten to include a design feature because it then allowed the pupils to test it, understand the problem and work for a solution. Just like a real scientist!

English:

Ask your child about Icarus and I imagine they would be able to identify at least one key word/theme/aspect of the story. The pupils were immersed in a sensory delight on the story of Icarus - the boy who flew too close to the sun.

The sensory element was a delight for the pupils, their engagement and response to questions were brilliant. They really enjoyed touching the 'hot sun' hot water bottle or feel the splash of water as Icarus fell from the sky.

As part of **independence and life skills**, we have enjoyed using the Food Technology room weekly. Pupil's have had the opportunity to practice and develop their skills in food preparation. A big favourite was definitely the Indian vegetable soup (cross-curricular links to Modern Foreign Language in Indian cultures).

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>

- (Please email Mr Mike if you do not have your login details for either of these).

Some other home learning may include: A shapes hunt around the house/flat/garden/park to find rectangles (TV) circles (plates) etc.

Practice their confidence to use a ruler by taking engaging toys/items to them and lay it flat and ask them to draw a line to its height and then take a measurement of how tall. Have fun!

POST 16 NEWS

I am again surprised at how fast this term has gone and that I am writing another Newsletter entry already. This term has come with some challenges. It has been challenging to work in bubbles, wear face masks in communal areas and follow all the ever changing Covid guidelines for schools, but I can say with confidence that Post 16 pupils have risen to this challenge and supported each other, and staff, to be safe and happy through this very difficult time. I am proud of all the pupils and how they have adapted this new way of working.

The theme of this half term has been 'Community' and it has been great to see pupils thinking about what this means to them, their families, schools and the world of work. I have seen exciting lessons where they have been discussing issues in

the community through PSHE, different businesses in the community and how to access them as part of English and using mathematical skills that are transferable to different jobs in the community and how to negotiate and navigate the world outside school. I have really enjoyed seeing pupils talking to teachers and staff about managing tasks at home and completing surveys and tally charts on how many people use laundry services.

Looking ahead to next term will see pupils completing work around the topic of 'The World of Work'. They will be taking part in interview practice and role plays, researching different jobs and the qualifications and skills they require, filling in application forms, practicing time and money problems and completing an OCR unit in Work related skills.

Ms King will sadly be leaving us at Christmas and I would like to take a moment in thanking her for all of her hard work and dedication to Post 16 pupils over the last three years as she leaves us to move on to new and exciting adventures. I know you will agree with me that she will be missed by the whole team and we wish her luck for whatever the future holds.

Bronja Elton

Head of Post 16/Associate Assistant Head

Post 16 1 & 2 CLASS NEWS

Across both Post 16 classes this year all pupils have had a term of great academic and life skills achievements.

All Post 16 pupils have successfully completed their Life and Living skills assessment objectives for Home Management and are working their way

towards their Entry level 2 qualifications. Their independence and self-help skills have grown immensely and this growth is self-evident in the knowledge and skills shown in lesson activities and during their assessment.

As part of their life skills lessons all Post 16 have been using google search engines to research new recipes, plan and cook. They enjoy eating lunch and socialising as a cohort when they cook their own lunch independently on Mondays and Tuesdays.

In PSHE pupils continue to take part in discussions and group work around subjects that are thought provoking and challenging. They have been working on topics such as bullying, cyber bullying, social skills, relationships and friendships and how to manage some of these situations.

In Maths pupils have covered fractions and some positional vocabulary. At the start of September pupils completed a Maths past paper and again at the start of October, the improvement is incredible with some pupils improving from 11% to 94% – well done! In ICT pupils have been visiting the new ICT suite here at The Grove where they have had the opportunity to learn Microsoft applications. They have also been using a new tool called Book Creator which they can use from home as well as at school.

As we enter the spring term we move our teaching and learning theme on to "the world of work". In Maths we aim to look at time, date, months, seasons as well as interpreting data from charts/graphs. In ICT we will move on to jobs that involve computer use, Health & Safety whilst using a computer, use of email, creating and presenting PowerPoints and word processing and typing skills.

This term Post 16-1 have been making good progress in their lessons and

working on their social skills. We've spent some time discussing personal space, voice tone and volume where the pupils have been putting this into practise during break and lunchtimes.

This half term the schools SEARCH value was "empathy". Each morning the pupils set themselves personal targets linked to how they will practice empathy in the school community. This has been a hard one to learn however, they have worked well to demonstrate compassion and understanding towards others. Their success is reflected in their daily merits as well as during assembly where their peers, teachers and head of department nominate them for a certificate – well done team!

HOME LEARNING

Pupils have BugClub accounts where they can carry out reading tasks. They have been allocated books that they can access from home and read if they wish. <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Pupils also have access to Timetable Rockstars where they can practise their numeracy skills as well as compete and play against their peers. <https://ttrockstars.com/>

If pupils would like to create a new book using Book Creator over the Christmas break this would be a great idea. <https://bookcreator.com/>

Suggested topics:

- My Christmas diary
- Staying safe from Covid-19
- The four seasons: Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer.
- Any topic of their choice!

Well done Post 16

Have a Merry Christmas and see you all in 2021!

PE News with Mr Proctor



Pupils across the school have continued to enjoy PE this half term, all pupils have shown great improvement in many core skills. All pupils are also showing higher levels of confidence and

self-belief within lessons by always being willing to try new skills as well as often volunteering to do demonstrations in front of all their class friends.

Primary pupils have continued to work on core PE skills through circuit style lessons. During these circuits, pupils have been working on many skills that help to improve their hand eye coordination. Basketball dribbling, throwing, catching (with different types of balls) and throwing towards different targets are some of the activities pupils have been working on. Primary pupils have also been doing relay races consisting of hurdles and various exercises to help pupils understand how to take turns which they have been very successful at.

Secondary East pupils have really engaged with football and basketball this half term. Basketball lessons have consisted mainly of drills to help pupils learn the core skills of basketball which are dribbling (bouncing of the ball), various passing techniques and basketball shooting. Football lessons have also consisted of

drills but pupils have also been working on their understanding of the game and accepting the referee's decision. Secondary East pupils have all helped create football rules for our school playground which they refer to during lessons and playtime which the pupils have taken ownership of.

Jubilee class from Secondary West have been learning how to play hockey which the pupils have found very exciting. Jubilee class have engaged so much with learning a new sport that we have added hockey as a lunchtime club which a lot of pupils attend. Other classes from Secondary West have been working on their hand eye coordination skills as well as yoga and dancing this half term. Pupil's throwing and catching ability is improving across all these classes and pupils have really enjoyed learning new movement patterns through yoga and dancing.

Both Post 16 classes join together for their weekly PE lesson which pupils really enjoy and see as a highlight of their week. They always communicate and support each other in a positive way and they always have a lot of fun during these lessons. Pupils have learnt key skills for basketball and handball this half term which pupils have engaged brilliantly with.

Sports Leaders from Post 16 have continued to support younger pupils this half term in PE lessons each week. The Sports Leaders have been amazing all term by leading parts of the lesson and are always such great role models for these younger pupils.

This half term we have also introduced PE clubs at lunchtimes which many pupils attend every day. There is a timetable for the different lunchtime clubs which includes football, basketball, athletics and hockey.

I hope that you all enjoy your Christmas holiday and I look forward to seeing you in January.

Shop (Money recognition) and giving presents to friends

Curriculum Gallery



City Class enjoying maths



Buying from
Northern Class



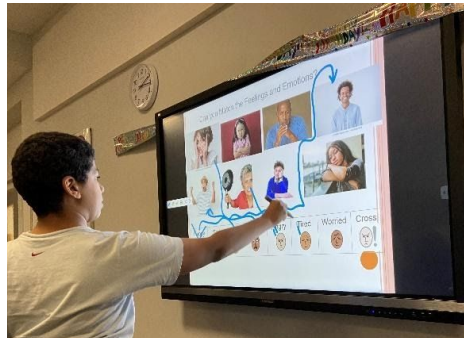


Central Class cooking and enjoying maths

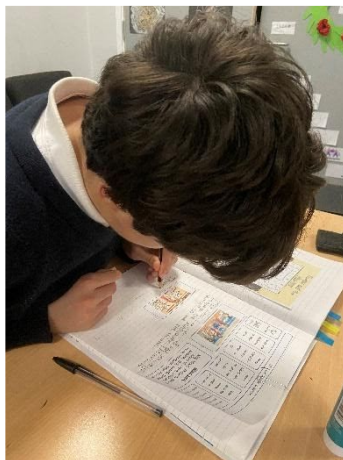


Victoria Class



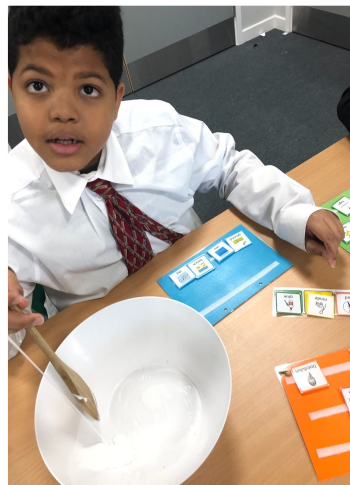


Jubilee Class



Anti
Bullying week.





Piccadilly class cooking, using their wind models, presenting stories.



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