



CURRICULUM NEWS

2021 Spring Term 2

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Headteacher's Welcome



As we draw to the end of the Spring term we are reflecting on the last few months. It has been challenging for many but I am so impressed with how well the pupils have settled back to school. Let's hope the Summer term sees us getting back to some normality.

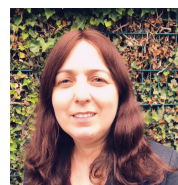
Thank you to those of you who have returned the parent questionnaires, this really helps us to understand your perceptions of what we do well and what we need to improve on. I will round up the results when they are back and share with you in the weekly Grove news.

Please can I remind you of the **weekly Grove news** that comes straight to your email every Wednesday. At the moment we have only a 50% regular readership. This means half our parents are not keeping up to date with what is happening in school. If you miss the emails, then all editions are posted straight to the school website. Any problems, just contact our school office and we can help.

Thank you for your continued support; We wish you a good spring break - here's hoping we get some sunshine!

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

Curriculum Lead



Welcome to our latest Curriculum Newsletter. This academic year we have worked hard to promote the love of reading across our school community. We delayed World Book day by one week, because we wanted all our pupils to be part of the festivities. Of course, World Book Day is much more than dressing-up as our favourite character. It is a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and, most importantly, reading.

The digital revolution has shaped the way in which we share thoughts and ideas, books on the other hand have been around for hundreds of years and it looks like they are here to stay. They are free to borrow, portable and do not even require a power supply, and they have the power to transport us to a different place, a different time, and a different world.

I am happy to say that an amazing time was had by all, and the love of books, reading, stories and poetry continues to grow at The Grove. Wishing you all a wonderful spring break. Best wishes, Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
1st -16th April	Spring Break
19th April	INSET - No Pupils
20th April	Pupils back to school
20th April	Water Safety Week
3rd May	May Day
5th May	African World Heritage Day
12th - 13th May	Eid-al Fitr
28th May	SEARCH Celebration - Compassion
31st May - 4th June	Half-Term
8th June	Pupils back to school
17th June	INSET - No Pupils
9th July	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
23rd July	End of Term

Pastoral & PSHE News-Miss Huseyin



This half term has seen primary pupils exploring emotions, feelings and respectful relationships. I have had the pleasure of attending many lessons and I have been really impressed with the work our pupils have been participating in, including exploring the Zones of Regulation. The West department has been looking at staying safe online, the changing body and healthy foods. Again I have been lucky enough to attend lessons and witnessed some great activities exploring online safety using Chromebooks and the changing body from baby to the elderly. East has been working on relationships, consent and keeping safe online. The social skills and explicit teaching is really supporting our pupils to develop skills which enable them to have successful interactions with peers and adults. Finally Post 16 has been working on Relationship & Sex Education: exploring emotions, different types of relationships and puberty alongside the changing body, this will continue after Spring break. I have been teaching Post 16 so I will not comment on the teaching - I will leave that to the Post 16 pupils to decide what they think!

After the Spring break there will be a PSHE & RSE Newsletter. This is following on from the feedback and conversations during the Relationship & Sex Education workshops offered to families, where detailed information was requested. I will send this out on Friday 23rd April, it shares more information about what classes will be focusing on for Personal, Social, Health & Economic education and our Relationships and Sex Education curriculum.

Best wishes, Nadine Huseyin

Family Support, Pastoral & Safeguarding Lead

Career News

It has been fantastic this half term to see how much planning has been going into lessons across the departments that are linked to jobs and the skills needed to be able to develop independence. It has been particularly exciting to have delivered a full careers week across the school that has included many different activities to help pupils think about future jobs. Pupils from across the school took part in an employability workshop, careers research lessons and online careers activities. You can see from the pictures below that they all had a fantastic day.

Moving forward to next term we'll be seeing more work done around employment with external providers such as Organiclea and Rugby Works. Pupils will have the opportunity to take part in careers lessons and hopefully we will be able to resume our work experience program for pupils in year 11 and post 16.

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 or on 020 3876 6555

Bronja Elton Careers lead/Head of Post 16

CLASSROOM NEWS

PRIMARY NEWS

HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS

It has been a very strange and challenging term due to yet another national

lockdown. School was a quiet and empty place. Primary staff made a massive effort to provide you all with quality home learning to ensure progress was still being made in a range of areas. You all did a great job working with your children as well as managing to cope with life during a global pandemic so well done to all of you!

Since returning to school the pupils have settled back into school life magnificently. They are all so happy to be back and we as staff are delighted to have all pupils back learning, playing and having fun.

This term we have been learning about caring for the environment and recycling in our topic 'Keen to be Green'. Pupils have had the opportunity to get their hands on a range of materials to sort and gain a better understanding of what items are made of and how they can be reused or recycled to care for the environment. The classes in the Primary department have read and learned about a range of books relating to the environment.

Because of Covid restrictions we have not been able to go out into the community for class trips. So to give pupils the opportunity to get out and about we have been going out for minibus drives around the local area. The pupils have really enjoyed going out on small trips and this has helped develop and build their confidence and flexibility.

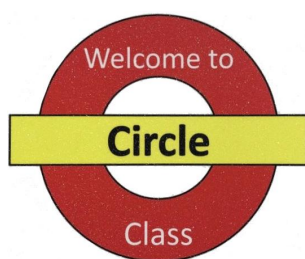
We have taken part in a range of experience days such as World Book Day, Sports Relief and Careers week. Pupils were able to dress up as their favourite book character as well as each class decorating their door related to a book. We had doors themed around Handa's Surprise, The Hungry Caterpillar, Goldilocks and Peppa Pig. We had three doors win prizes in the school wide competition - well done Primary!!!! Sports Relief was lots of fun as the pupils wore their sporty clothes and took part in a

special PE lesson with Mr Proctor. For careers week the pupils worked on a range of tasks relating to future careers and independence. The highlight was the pupils dressing up in a range of different costumes such as a builder, doctor, nurse, TFL worker and soldier.

Next term our topic is based around Water. Hopefully as the Summer approaches we will have some sunshine so that we can utilise outdoor learning to embrace Water in all its glory. We will incorporate animals that live in water, how materials react in water, how water supports life around the world and water in different environments. Hopefully as Covid restrictions loosen we will be able to go out on trips to the beach, swimming pool and visit local parks.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to a successful summer term. I hope you have a wonderful Easter break.

Mr Mills



CLASS NEWS

This term went by very fast, but it brought us all together back in school. It was wonderful to see

our pupils return to school after several weeks. They came back with a lot of stories to tell and ready to learn.

This term, our topic was Keen to be Green. In English, pupils learnt about a story called 'One plastic bag' written by Miranda Paul. The children made posters to encourage recycling, they learnt about adjectives and how to write descriptions and they worked on phonics and reading. We celebrated World Book Day by turning the classroom into Circle Cottage inspired by Goldilocks and the three bears.

In Maths, most of the lessons focused on shapes, properties of shapes and identifying the shapes of different objects around them. Also, the children used trundle wheels to measure the playground and find out how many laps they need to do to run 1 mile. In Science, they learnt about different materials and how they can recycle them. Our Topic activities have varied from dressing up for Careers Day, to melting chocolate and hygiene in Cooking, learning about online safety in PSHE, and making Mother's Day cards in Art.

Our theme for next term will be The World Around Me - Water, and our core book will be The Fish Who Could Wish by John Bush. Circle Class will be working on comprehension, descriptions, predicting actions and events, and sequencing the story. In Maths, they will be learning to measure using different measuring instruments, and they will continue to work on numbers and prepositions. In Topic they will look at states of matter, everyday use of water, and floating and sinking in Science, water colours and boats in Art.

HOME LEARNING

- English - listen to the story [here](#), and ask questions about the fish, the things he wished for, and the ocean.
 - Maths - use cups of different sizes. See how many small cups of water we need to fill a jug. Try again with a different size cup. Compare different objects and group them under small, medium and large/big. Use a ruler/measure tape to measure toys and objects in the house. [Game](#) - Measuring in cm.
 - Science - [video](#) on states of matter.
 - PSHE - Staying safe online [video](#).
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CLASS NEWS



This term we have been enjoying being back at school with all of our friends and teachers. We

have loved reading the story Oliver's Vegetables and exploring our environment and what it can offer. We have had fun sorting fruit and vegetables and making fruit salad in Literacy as we learn to follow recipes and instructions. In maths we have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes in and around our classroom. We have enjoyed labelling and painting with different tools to make different shapes. Since returning to school we have also really enjoyed practising our fine motor skills and reading our favourite books during quiet time. Thank you for helping all of the pupils settle back into their routine by keeping them excited and motivated to come to school when they were at home! We are all very happy to be in the classroom again.

HOME LEARNING

Next term our topic will be 'The World About Us' in which our main focus will be water. Our core text is going to be 'The Little Raindrop' by Joanna Gray, which is available to watch on youtube [The Little Raindrop](#) or perhaps you have the story at home to read already. It would be great if you could take a look over the holiday so we are more familiar with it when we come back to school. In maths we will be learning about position and direction through navigating the school using a map and going on treasure hunts outside in the playground. It would be fabulous if you could start introducing this by taking a walk in the park and following directions such as 'turn left' or 'turn right' or maybe try drawing a map of your garden and explore where different things are such as

the trees, flowers or shed by taking pictures and thinking about if they are 'next to' or 'behind' something. Here are a few songs you can listen to as well.

[Directions song](#) [Debbie Do left and right](#)

In science we will be exploring the importance of water by looking at how we use it and why humans and animals need it too [Sesame street water song](#) [owlybird water song](#)

We will also be looking at the concept of 'sink and float'. Maybe to help us start to think about water we could help with the washing up at home and see if things sink or float as we wash them. Perhaps we could help water the flowers in the garden or just enjoy exploring water with different toys in the bath or shower.

Here are some more ideas for activities that you can do at home:

Read the books assigned on Bug club
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Practice letter formation using Letter school
<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/letterschool-learn-to-write/id481067676>



CLASS NEWS

This half term, the pupils have all come back to class and settled in really

well and have learnt new skills and concepts.

In Maths some pupils have been learning the different terminology for lengths and sizes and describing objects based on their properties. As well as sequencing and ordering numerals in ascending and descending order. Some pupils have been learning to distinguish and match numerals and number shapes. In our

English lesson we have been reading the story 'Peppa Pig Recycling'. The pupils have focused on comprehension and answering questions based on the story as well as recalling and sequencing the story. Furthermore, we have also been working hard on understanding when to use capital letters within their writing. All pupils have been working hard to improve their fine motor skills.

In PSHE, we have been learning about maintaining 'Respectful Relationships' by focusing on being respectful and courteous to adults and pupils alike in school and the community.

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

HOME LEARNING

After the spring holiday, we will be moving onto our new topic 'The World About Me-Water'. The book we will be reading is called 'The Rainbow Fish'. The pupils will be working on their sentence structures and comprehension skills. In Maths we will be learning about Money and identifying the number that is 1 more and 1 less to 10. In Science we will be learning about the importance of water for plants and humans. We will be exploring items to see if they sink or float, you can carry out some experiments at home.

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 the story <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb2mslQo6TI> 'The Rainbow Fish'. Listen to the story together, talk about the story and ask your child different questions, such as what colour was the little fish? Who lived in the deep cave?
3. Recognise different British Coins and value associated with them

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFzAU3u06Ps&t=32s>

4. One more and one less
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/robot-more-or-less>



CLASS NEWS

The topic this half term has been 'Looking after the environment'

and we have

focused our learning around the story 'Handa's Surprise'. The children have been learning the fruit and animal names from the story. They have been tasting the different fruits and painted fruit for our door display for World Book Day. In literacy the children have been acting out the story using masks and props. They have learnt to match symbols to photos and to use colourful semantics to make sentences from the story. The children have learnt to colour in pictures, trace lines and circles and to label pictures. In maths the pupils have found more and less, matched numbers and quantities that are the same and represented numbers in different ways. They have used 3D shapes to build robots and towers and have been sorting objects and pictures into colours and other categories.

In science we have been sorting recyclable materials and used some materials to make crafts. We have continued to use the 4 zones of regulation to label how we are feeling and started using strategies for regulating different emotions. The children really enjoyed trying out different costumes and props to explore different professions during our career week. Once a week the pupils have been taking part in a fine motor skills group where they have been practising skills such as cutting, doing and undoing buttons, using tweezers and handwriting. The pupils have also had outdoor PE sessions twice a week

and have been going on minibus drives in the local area.

HOME LEARNING

We will start the topic 'Sand & Water' next term and we will be reading the stories 'The Rainbow Fish' and 'Sally's Seaside Adventure'. In maths we will start learning about length, weight and capacity. In number we will continue with one-to-one correspondence, comparing numbers, number bonds and addition. We will be using sand water in outdoor learning sessions and explore water/ice in different ways in science. Here are some ideas for 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 story 'The Rainbow Fish'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFORvXhub28>

Practice letter formation using Letter school

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

2. Topic activities:

Search for objects hidden in sand

Explore melting ice

3. Fine motor activities:

Use tweezers to pick up and sort pompoms

Use pegs and cotton balls to dip and paint

Knead, roll and use cutters in playdough

SECONDARY EAST NEWS

ASSISTANT HEAD: MR WOOD

I have been positively encouraged by the engagement of the students in Secondary East with their return to school after the lockdown.

Students have made the positive transition from using google classroom to being 'back' in the classroom and engaging with lessons and it is great to have them back!

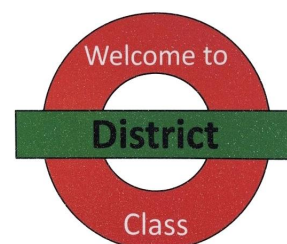
This has meant all students have made good progress and had really positive learning experiences at school this Spring term with their friends and teachers.

We hope that the Summer term continues in the same way without any interruptions with some exciting projects on the horizon.

We are finishing our current topic of 'It's a wonderful world' and next term we'll be starting a departmental Enterprise project with the aim of raising money both for charitable causes as well as for equipment chosen by the students to enhance their school experience.

This will take place throughout their lessons which focus around the topic of 'Treasure Island' for District and Metropolitan classes as well as all subject based lessons in Docklands.

We hope you have a well earned Easter break and come back refreshed for the final term of this academic year.



FORM NEWS

District class have emerged from lock down, engaged and ready to learn. We

have been continuing with the theme of "It's a wonderful world".

In English we have been studying topical personalities ranging from Greta Thunberg's campaign to bring attention to the dangers of global warming, Anthony Joshua's personal struggles whilst growing up, through to Marcus Rashford's intervention to providing free school meals throughout the holiday.

Our Maths focus this term has been on angles, triangles, and 3D solids.

In addition to our core subjects, we have, in humanities, linked Marcus Rashford and Anthony Joshua to the history of Manchester football club and the history of boxing respectively.

Our continuing work in computing this term has been focused on programming. Pupils have had the chance to create their own version of the famous flappy bird game. They also have had the opportunity to engage with micro bits, programming them to create images with flashing LEDs. In art this term we have been concentrating on Portraits from Italian and Dutch classics through to the portraits found on the covers of Marvel comics. We have focused on faces and heads found in comics by drawing our own Superhero heads, placed in an urban environment.

We have used life skills to further improve our pupil's repertoire of dishes they can now cook, they include Handmade Beef Burgers and Pizza with our very own bases made from scratch as well as making progress towards their ASDAN Personal and Social Development qualification.

On the whole it has been a very busy term in District class, with lots of things we have had to navigate through, as a result of coming out of lockdown but we have got off to a successful start, well done!

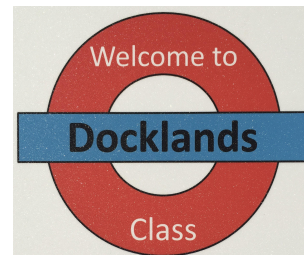
HOME LEARNING

In District class next term the theme is 'Treasure Island' and we will investigate this book in a historical context and what it means to us today. We will be looking at how to program micro bits to create scrolling text and make sound. In Art we will be exploring the totally unique Art of the Aborigines

You can listen to Treasure Island as an audiobook here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSRbCQB1Lgc>

You can read handy guides and look at your own lesson to help you with micro bits here: <https://microbit.org/lessons/>

As we can't go on any trips yet but you can go on a virtual tour of of the National Gallery here: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visitin/g/virtual-tours/google-virtual-tour>



FORM NEWS

What a great but short term we've had! Docklands staff have thoroughly enjoyed having

our pupils back in the classroom. It felt awkward at first, one pupil took the words from all of our mouths saying "I don't know what to do or say, it's been so long since I saw anyone but my family." However, our awkwardness soon disappeared and we returned to business as usual.

Food tech lessons have been very exciting with pupils developing and cooking their own recipes for burgers and chicken wings. They also have been learning important knife skills and guidelines on how to safely cook meat.

As usual we have had some excellent discussions in SMSC on a range of topics

including: fair trade, how world news is reported and do we still need cash? We decided that we probably don't!

In PSHE we have been looking at what makes a healthy relationship and what to look out for in an unhealthy one. In Social Skills we have been using drama games to explore and express different emotions.

Have a great Easter and don't eat too much chocolate! Best wishes, Ms Steventon, Ms Antonella and Ms Hollie

Maths:

In Maths, we have been investigating data and bar graphs. Pupils have enjoyed conducting surveys and collecting our own data. We then used this information to create graphs digitally and on paper. We have also been learning about how to find the range, mode, median and mean of a series of numbers

Computing:

In computing, pupils have been finishing their graphic design project. We have looked at Copyright laws and created images using layering. In the last few lessons we have been programming micro bits to create images with flashing LEDs.

Art:

In Art this term we have been concentrating on Portraits from Italian and Dutch classical portraiture, to the portraits found on the covers of Marvel comics. We have focused on faces and heads found in comics by drawing our own head of a Superhero placed in an urban environment. This would then go into a final phase where we would start to work with Fonts in creating a title for the Artwork. The results so far have been very encouraging and show great potential.

Humanities:

This half term, pupils have been looking at the geography of Russia and how dark were the Dark Ages, what do we really know about that time? Next term pupils will be learning about the Black Death.

Science:

This half term Docklands have been continuing their topic on Forensic science, investigating ways we can separate different kinds of materials and use this as evidence.

English:

In English we have been looking at different biographies and autobiographies and exploring how and why people tell their stories or write stories about others. Although there has only been a short time back in school pupils have already produced some great work around this topic.

HOME LEARNING

Next term in science we will be testing different chemicals and their properties. In particular the use of different chemicals in making soaps and candles and the processes involved in their creation. This will form part of a bigger enterprise project across multiple subjects. You can revise your 'states of matter' chemistry before next term here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zw6jh39/revision/3>

In maths, we will be learning about fractions and decimals and in art we will explore the totally different and unique Art of the Aborigines. In computing we will be looking at programming in more detail and researching the different types of jobs that computing offers. You can read handy guides and look at your own lesson to help you with micro bits here: <https://microbit.org/lessons/>

As we can't go on any trips yet but you can go on a virtual tour of of the National Gallery here: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours/google-virtual-tour>

In English we will be attempting a Shakespeare play and enjoying trying to

do reenactments of Shakespeare's tragedies. If you would like to get a head start on this please use the website below to find out some exciting facts about Elizabethan England and Shakespeare's greatest works.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/shakespeare>

I look forward to sharing tales of Shakespeare with you all after the holidays. Have a fantastic Easter and a well earned rest. Bronja Elton



FORM NEWS

Metropolitan Class has had a busy half term during the second half of the Spring Term. We have enjoyed a range of lessons and activities including; looking at this half terms SEARCH value Resilience with pupils creating their own definitions. As well as creating their own values and rules for their classroom. There has been lots of cooking and washing up in Food Technology. Developing our Basketball and football skills in PE. Pupils have been working hard in all curriculum subjects. They have thoroughly enjoyed reading 'The Twits,' by Roald Dahl's. The pupils were able to discuss the story and answer a range of comprehension questions, as well as use their ever growing bank of adjectives to describe the characters. Pupils have enjoyed creating their own versions of the story. In Maths pupils have been looking at Geometric shapes and exploring the difference of 2D and 3D shapes. Applying and looking at their world around them to see where these shapes are used. Also knowing the various names of 2D and 3D shapes. Pupils have also been practicing their times tables through the online resource of Kahoot!

In Science pupils have been looking at 'Nature.' Pupils have planted a variety of seeds and have watched them grow. They have also considered where seeds, plants and fruit come from and develop. They have even taken seeds from fruit and have experimented to see whether they will grow. Pupils have also considered different types of materials and where they come from and whether they are natural or man-made.

In life skills and food tech we have cooked a variety of dishes and have enjoyed eating them all!!

HOME LEARNING

Metropolitan Class will have a busy half term for their first part of the Summer Term. They look forward to a range of lessons and activities including; looking at next half terms SEARCH value; Compassion with pupils creating their own definitions.

In English pupils will set sail for an adventure to read the classic Treasure Island. I am sure that an adventurous tale will ensue. There will be many engaging materials and props used. As well as interesting artefacts made.

You can listen to Treasure Island as an audiobook [here:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSRbCQB1Lgc)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSRbCQB1Lgc>

Read the books assigned on Bug club
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

The science topic next term is Solids/Liquids/Gases and the senses. We will be looking at the differences between salt water and normal water and what will float and sink in each of them.

In Maths we will be exploring data handling, pupils will make various tally charts and interpret the information in

different ways including bar and pie charts.

All pupils can continue building their maths skills by logging into Numbots. Families can also encourage their child to help them pay for items at the shop to put their money skills into real life practice!

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

In Humanities and Art pupils will look at the sea and the seaside. Artists that use the theme of the sea and the environmental effect man has on this environment.

As we can't go on any trips yet but you can go on a virtual tour of of the National Gallery here:

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours/google-virtual-tour>

Or have a look at some examples of 'coastal art' here:

<https://artuk.org/discover/stories/the-british-seaside-from-turner-to-nash-to-emin>

We look forward to a busy and fun filled summer term!

SECONDARY WEST NEWS

HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST: MS COLHOUN

Dear families, how are you all? This term has been a bit confusing and challenging for us all, starting off in lockdown and then returning to full time school only for the holidays to arrive ever so quickly. I've been very impressed with how our pupils have adapted to returning to full time learning in school again and it was heartwarming to see how many of our pupils looked so happy to be back.

This term, Key stage 3 have continued to enjoy their topic called "It's a Wonderful World". It was great to see them engaging

with growing plants and learning about how to look after our planet. Key Stage 4 continued with their "looking after yourself" theme and have worked hard to create evidence for their ASDAN accreditation, especially in functional literacy and maths.

Next term we begin two new topics in Secondary West. Key Stage 3 will be following the theme of "treasure island" thinking about being at sea, the seaside, our coastlines and also how to read and follow maps. Key Stage 4 will be thinking about "my community" and hopefully they will get the opportunity to go out and explore our local community, learn about planning journeys in the area, visit cafes or shops and also learn about different cultures in our community through the element of food.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and that you get to spend some quality time together this holiday. Have lots of fun!



CLASS NEWS

It has been so lovely to have everyone back this half term! Bakerloo class have coped

really well with the transition back to school and have enjoyed seeing all of their friends again. It has been a busy half term, with lots of hard work, learning and fun!

English

We have continued with our theme of 'Looking After Yourself'. This half term, our class book has been 'Why Should I eat well?', which the pupils have enjoyed reading. The pupils have had the opportunity to explore the story through sensory stories and independent reading and have shown good understanding and comprehension. As part of this topic, pupils have learned about how to write speech using speech bubbles and different types of punctuation that we could use.

Bakerloo class have also enjoyed having extra reading time this half term, all pupils have had either phonics or reading time during the afternoon which has been really successful.

Maths

This half term we have been looking at shapes as well as numbers. Pupils have learned about different 2D and 3D shapes and how to identify their properties. Pupils have explored the shapes in practical ways and have the opportunity to problem solve. In the number strand, pupils have been learning about number operations and have been doing various activities related to addition, subtraction and sequencing numbers. Everyone has worked really hard!

PSHE

In PSHE, we have been learning about how to stay safe online, looking at different apps and devices and the safety rules that protect us. We have also been learning about growing and changing, and have been exploring the different stages of the human life cycle.

HOME LEARNING

Next term, our theme will be 'My Community'. We will be learning about different aspects of our community such as transport, food and leisure activities. We will spend some time looking at maps and how they can help us in our daily lives. It would be really beneficial for pupils to have a look at different maps/transport timetables and relate it to their lives; such as looking at a tube or bus map.

Pupils could also have a go at making some different foods related to their community, such as foods celebrated at religious events or food from different cultures.

As always, regular reading practice is so important. It would be great if pupils could practice reading every day in order to continue developing their reading skills

and comprehension. This could include: familiar or favourite stories, recipe books, encyclopedias, maps and using their bugclub account. All pupils should also have access to a 'Times Table Rockstars' account and/or a 'Numbots' account and can use these to practice their maths skills.

It continues to be important for pupils to get some exercise and experience leisure time outside over this holiday, they have all worked so hard and deserve some sunshine!

Links:

Read the books assigned on Bug club
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>



CLASS NEWS

It has been a strange year with so many changes and challenges, with many of our pupils learning from home since January. I am happy to welcome back all our pupils. Central class have all tried really hard to settle back to our daily routines and to keep learning. I have been so impressed by their efforts and their resilience.

Our topic continued to be "It's a Wonderful World" this term. We have been reading the fable "The Tortoise and the Hare". Pupils enjoyed listening to the story during circle time and reading an adapted version by themselves. Our pupils were able to answer some questions individually and as a part of the group. We have been practicing how to build sentences (noun-verb-object) and our pupils are showing a good improvement in their skills.

In Maths we have been learning about geometry and measures and 3D shapes. In our number based lessons we have

been learning to add 1 more and subtract 1 less.

In Science we have explored different habitats and found out which animals live in them. Pupils have enjoyed exploring different sensory experiences based around each habitat.

In PSHE we have been learning about the different stages of growth and development. Thank you to all our families for being supportive by sharing some family photographs to make the lesson more relevant and individualised for our pupils.

HOME LEARNING

Next term our topic is "Treasure Island". It would be really helpful if you could look at books about the seaside, sailing, pirates, hidden treasures and adventures. You can also play the following song at home to familiarize pupils with the new topic. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAngsMJD3I> If you have a sand tray then you could explore the seaside from the comfort of your home.

In our humanities lessons we will be learning about different types of maps, and how they can tell us directions to different places. At home to support this you could practice going on adventures in the community with the help of a local map or google maps - better still what about a treasure hunt to look for some easter goodies with the help of a trusted treasure map?

Please remember you can still use Bug Club and Numbots. It would be really beneficial for pupils to get regular practice with using these websites.

Please also continue to encourage pupils to be as independent as possible at home, encourage them to tidy up after themselves and help at home with the chores. Regular practice of these chores will help them gain independence and improve life skills as they grow into young adults.

Have a lovely easter holiday!

Bugclub

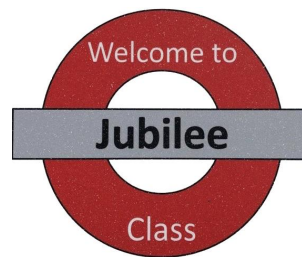
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

Times Table Rockstars:

<https://trockstars.com/>

Numbots:

<https://numbots.com/>



CLASS NEWS

This term Jubilee class has shown so much resilience and enthusiasm upon their return to

school. We had some great events happening like World Book Day, Careers Week or Sports Relief and we all enjoyed taking part in the various activities but the pupils have also shown great dedication and participation. For English we read and sequenced fables such as 'The Tortoise and The Hare' or 'Jack and the Beanstalk', described characters using adjectives and adverbs, identified verbs in the past tense and wrote summaries or book reviews of stories.

For Maths we focused on fractions and telling the time but we also revised our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills. In Science we revised our knowledge around animal groups and also did some gardening to observe the life cycle of plants. In Geography, we learnt about different types of landforms, focusing on volcanoes and carried out an experiment to create our own volcanic eruption. For PSHE we talked a lot about online safety and the dangers of using the Internet. We also learnt about the people in our community who can help us but also how to be a good and supportive friend.

In general it has been a fun term and Jubilee class pupils have all shown great progress in their academics but also in their ability to manage their emotions. Our team is very proud of all our pupils and we wish them a well-deserved holiday!

HOME LEARNING

Next term for English we will be focusing on nonfiction texts such as newspaper articles, for Maths we will be looking at 3D shapes and their properties and for Topic we will practise reading maps, following instructions (recipes, coding) and using directional language.

During the holidays I would suggest to:

1. Watch Newsround every day and ask your child to tell you one thing they found interesting.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>
2. Look at magazines or Newspapers.
3. Practise the use of past tense:
<https://www.gamestolearnenglish.com/past-tense-game/>
4. Use BugClub
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>
5. Use TTR and Numbots
<https://ttrockstars.com/>
<https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>
6. Watch documentary about oceans:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQm4xWngq8M>
7. 3D shapes:
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=3d%20shapes>
8. Online safety games:
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_us/interland

It has been an incredibly busy and wonderful half term, seeing all the pupils back in school. Everyone has done really well getting back to the routine and structure of the day.

During careers week we learnt about different jobs, our strengths and what we like doing. During *world book day* we explored different books, enjoyed sharing them and of course we dressed up and had a good time.

Our theme this half term continued to be "Looking after yourself". We looked at what a healthy lifestyle looks like, from our eating choices to our mental health. To support learning in this topic, we have used the fiction book "Why should I eat well"? The pupils have enjoyed exploring it through a sensory story first to introduce the book. In English, we have been looking at sequencing a story and then writing a caption for each picture, using symbols or writing. We have been learning about speech bubbles and what these represent and mean.

In Maths we have had a recap of the work all pupils have been doing at home, to consolidate learning. We have re-visited measures, using non-standard units to measure, learning to use a ruler and understanding the difference between long, short and tall, short. In number we continue to work on counting and some pupils have moved on to adding, subtracting and understanding tens and units.

In PSHE we have been looking at our hygiene and how we can be more independent, we have also been exploring healthy foods and trying to support pupils with sensory eating difficulties to accept different foods. In addition, we have been learning about online safety and the use of computers for learning. Finally we have looked at the human life cycle and how we change from babies to teenagers to adulthood and elderly age.

HOME LEARNING



CLASS NEWS

Next half term, our topic will be “My Community”, with this topic the pupils will learn about the communities in which they belong and to access different facilities within the local vicinity when possible and safe.

In English we will be planning short trips, writing directions and instructions. We will continue practising our reading and learning about our communities and answering comprehension questions.

In maths we will be looking at the passage of time and relating past tense to our English work. We will also be learning to tell the time, using an analogue and digital clock.

In geography we will be exploring maps and looking at directional instructions.

Some activities you can do at home:

When walking around the community you can point out different buildings, people and places relevant, such as fire station, police station, lolly pop man, shop, etc. Bringing awareness to important places in the community where they live.

When possible, let your child help with some grocery shopping, they might be able to push the trolley, or hold the bags when walking back home or to the car.

If you are moving around the community using public transport, you can let them hold their Oyster card, or show them how to tap it, or use it on the tube.

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.

You can Use BugClub
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>

You can help your child understand the concept of time by using timers for example, how long did it take us to wash the dishes, or walk to the part etc.



CLASS NEWS

I'm sure I won't be the first and I'll definitely not be the last

teacher who draws upon the resilience our pupils have shown since returning to school.

In Piccadilly class, pupils greeted one another with genuine enthusiasm at their return and it has been so pleasing to watch them slip almost effortlessly back into routine and life at school.

Maths:

Our main focus this half term has been based on 'number'. Pupils have been engaged in creative, hands-on lessons to complete tasks such as making sets of numbers, counting quantities and then matching those quantities to its number in both numeral and word form. This tactile, hands on approach to learning really helped the pupils to support their number knowledge. The latter of the term, pupils were learning to calculate number bonds to 10, 20 and for some to 100!

Topic: Science

Keeping in line with our theme of '*It's a wonderful world*' pupils have been understanding and engaging with plant growth. We followed instructional writing to complete steps to plant our own cress seeds and beans. Pupils explored the requirements of plant life and growth by

showing care and consideration through watering them and keeping them in the sunlight with lots of room to grow.

English:

Pupils continued learning about *The Twits* (by Roal Dahl) and all the mischievous tricks and pranks they continued to play on each other. These chapters were brought to life in sensory stories and activities. Everyone seemed to really enjoy these engaging, multi-sensory elements as they brought chapters to life such as putting Mrs Twit's glass eye in Mr Twits 'beer' (cream soda, don't worry) and getting a fright as they drank it.

Across the lessons pupils are learning to remember key information from the text and completed lots of writing, describing the characters and about what the pair got up to.

As part of **independence and life skills**, the Food Technology room is still a popular Thursday treat and Pupil's have had the opportunity to practice and develop their skills in food preparation and have followed step-by-step instructions to cook:

Two favourites have definitely been: Pancakes - as part of Shrove Tuesday and Mrs Twit's 'Worm' Spaghetti.

[cross-curricular links to SMSC and Literacy].

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:

- Embed fluidity with number recognition by letting your child first count quantities of objects

such as socks, cutlery, pasta etc. and then write the total in both numeral (1, 2, 3) as well as in words (one, two, three).

- Show care and concern for living things and the environment - Watering the plants, showing affection to a pet or attempting to recycle.
- Encourage your child to help prepare and cook Mrs Twit's worm spaghetti (a simple bolognese).

POST 16 NEWS

It has been fantastic to see all Post 16 pupils returning to school and enjoying being back in full time lessons. I am again so impressed with how well pupils have adapted to change, not just managing one lock down but two!

When I walk into Post 16 lessons and around the department it is always a joy to see how engaged the pupils are with their learning and how much support they give each other in and around the classroom and the school. They have been working hard around their topic of 'The World of Work' and I have seen how much they have enjoyed learning about different jobs and the skills you need to be successful in those jobs. They did fantastically well in the employment workshop that we delivered by an external provider as part of Careers week. Next term they will be moving on 'Countries and Cultures' and I look forward to seeing more fantastic work produced.

Next term our year 14s will also be completing Functional Skills tests that go towards their qualifications and thinking about their next steps. I know they will rise to the challenge.

Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming our new teacher after the Easter holidays, Dawn Groome: I know

that the pupils will all make her feel very welcome.

Have a lovely Easter holiday and a well earned rest

Bronja
Head of Post 16

Post 16 - 1 CLASS NEWS

The first thing I want to say is a huge well done for all of the work that Post 16 have completed from home, on Google classroom and via home packs. It has been great to see how self-motivated and independent they have been.

In Maths this term pupils have been continuing to learn about time and how to manage time in different ways. In English we have been looking at activities that make the pupils think about the world of work and how to approach different tasks they might find in the workplace. In ICT pupils continue to use both desktops in the IT suite and Chromebooks in the classroom. The pupils have produced some fantastic work across all three of these subjects.

In English, Maths and ICT pupils completed practice test papers which has allowed them to continue making progress towards their qualifications even from home. The week commencing 15th March was assessment week and I am pleased to say pupils did very well in their ICT, English and Maths assessment demonstrating a strong ability to retain previously learnt skills and knowledge - well done Post 16! Also well done to Grace and Nahib who wrote fantastic diaries on Book Creator and Grace and Merveil for being excellent sports leaders across the school during Sports relief activities.

In the summer term we will be moving onto the topic of countries and cultures

and will be asking pupils to find out about where their families are from. We look forward to finding out all the results! We will also cover a variety of activities such as; measure recognising 2D and 3D shapes and their properties, researching and booking holidays and cooking different meals from around the world.

HOME LEARNING

Some home learning activities to support your child for summer term topics could be:

- Carrying out Maths work on [SumDog](#) or [TimeTable Rockstars](#). (Maths)
 - Reading online books on [BugClub](#). (English)
 - Creating books using [Book Creator](#). (English & ICT)
 - Help with measuring out ingredients whilst cooking (Maths).
 - Weigh and measure parcels that get delivered (Maths).
 - Go around the house and find examples of 2D and 3D shapes. (Maths)
 - Go for a walk and look at house numbers; identify odd and even numbers. (Maths)
 - Practise simple rounding to the nearest 10, decimals and division skills. (Maths)
 - Help out at home with the cooking, cleaning, shopping, laundry and even the gardening (Life Skills).
-

PE News with Mr Proctor



It has been brilliant to see all pupils returning to The Grove this half term and back to showing high levels of enthusiasm for PE. Lessons are getting back to normal and pupils have been fully engaged with the lessons. The Grove celebrated Sport Relief on Friday 12th March with all pupils taking part in sport activities throughout the day as well as raising over £86 for charity!

Primary and Secondary West pupils have really enjoyed getting back into their PE routines and working on their fundamental PE skills. Pupils have been showing brilliant engagement levels within PE and have loved getting outdoors and back participating in activities with their friends.

Secondary East and Post 16 pupils have enjoyed taking part in fitness sessions as well as team game activities. Pupils are also engaging in conversations about leading a healthy active lifestyle and the benefits of doing so. During team game sessions, it is quick to see how happy pupils are to be back socialising and taking part in physical activity with their peers. Sports Leaders from Post 16 are also back supporting younger pupils within their bubble and this is helping the younger pupils really engage fully with their lessons. The Sports Leaders are brilliant role models for these pupils.

As the summer term approaches, all pupils can look forward to taking part in sports such as athletics, cricket, rugby and basketball!

PE Kits at School

Next term we will be pushing for ALL pupils to wear the correct PE kit for PE and sports clubs.

This is to encourage personal hygiene as well as modelling the correct clothing for exercise. It is important that we are encouraging our pupils to change into proper and appropriate clothing before they take part in exercise. It is also a great life skill to have!

PE Kit



Light blue polo shirt
(These can be purchased with the school logo through the school or purchased independently)



Navy blue jogging bottoms, shorts or leggings.



Navy sweatshirt
(These can be purchased with the school logo through the school or purchased independently)

If you have difficulties with purchasing a PE kit, please let us know and we will do what we can to support you.

Curriculum Gallery



A Victoria class pupil reading a story.



Dressing up for careers day!



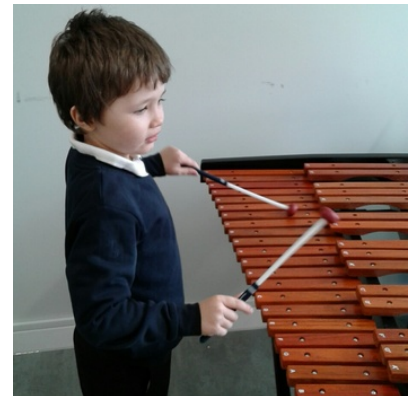
Doing worksheets in Victoria class!



Doing some lovely painting in Victoria class.



Dressing up for careers day!



A pupil enjoying music therapy.



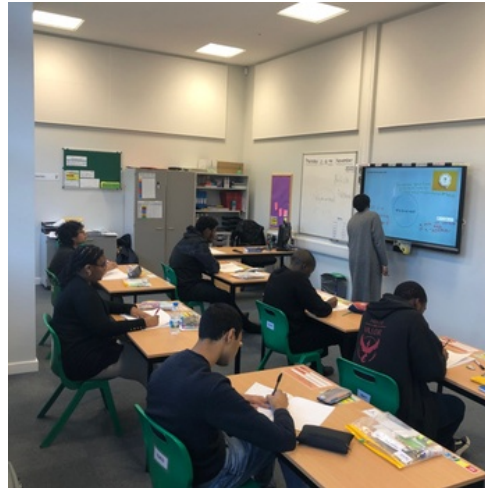
Primary all dressed up for careers day!



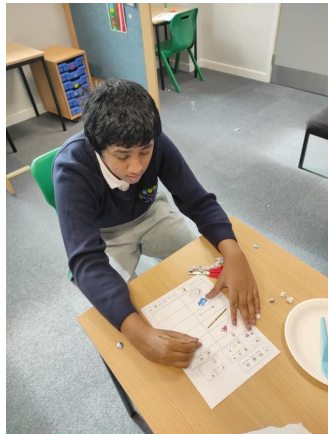
Secondary West and Post-16 well engaged during a careers day seminar!



A little bit of catch during a Post-16 P.E session.



Post-16 keenly engaged as usual!



Some pupils from Northern Class measuring classroom objects as part of maths.



Northern Class all dressed up as their favourite characters for World Book Day!



Pupils from Piccadilly Class grew their cress as part of our topic in Science. Once grown, they harvested their crops into a delicious egg and mayo sandwich.



A pupil following directional instructions to complete his task.



A Piccadilly Class Pupil identifies and displays emotions as part of a continuous PSHE theme.



A pupil telling the time in an online game.



Doing a little bit of gardening.



A pupil using a word bank to write sentences.



Two pupils from Jubilee Class working in a group to show the time.



A pupil is playing a game about online safety.



Making volcano's using clay!



A pupil matched each picture of different landforms to the correct name and description.



World Book Day.



A pupil working on his fine motor skills in Central Class.



Guided reading the Three Bears in Central Class.



A pupil in Central Class using the interactive whiteboard.



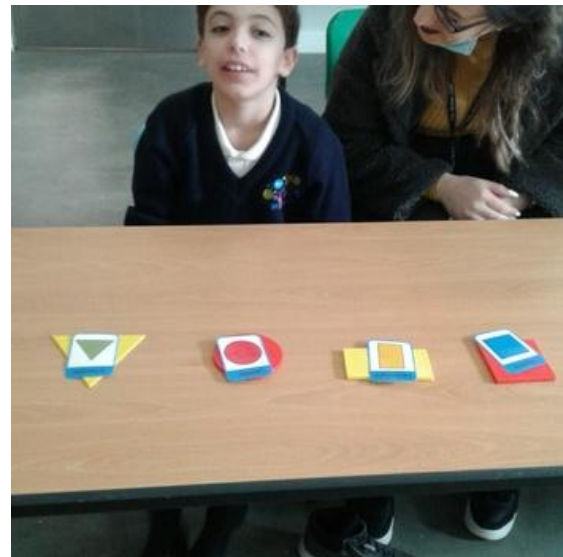
Snack time in primary!



Sorting healthy foods in primary



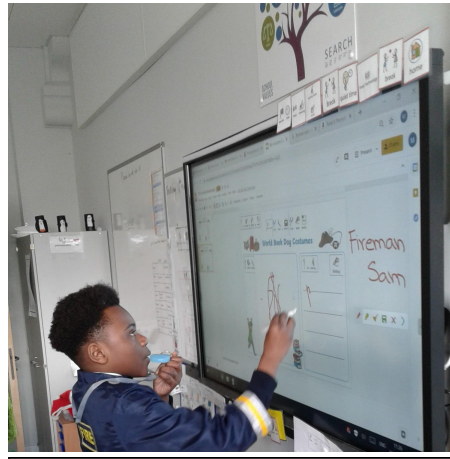
Sorting shapes and colours in City Class.



A City class pupil enjoying some reading!



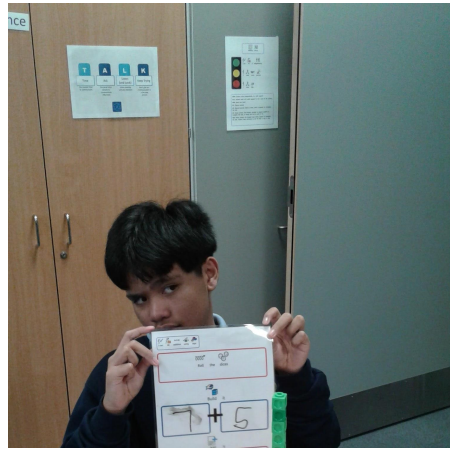
A Central Class pupil loving maths!



A young firefighter in the making!



A pupil using his communication board in lesson.



A pupil from Central Class doing some quick fire maths.



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