



# CURRICULUM NEWS

2022 Autumn Term 1 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

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## Headteacher's Welcome



Starting the new school year it feels like the right time to celebrate the success stories from last year. All our pupils who were entered for accreditation exams achieved their predicted grades; we are so very proud of them. All Year 14 leavers secured internships with the Autism Project and have made a great start! Of our year 11 leavers, 2 have moved to the Creative Arts College, 1 has started an apprenticeship programme at college, 1 has moved to employment and 1 pupil has transferred to a new sixth form. Although the leavers assemblies were tearful, we are so thrilled the pupils have developed the skills and confidence to make those successful next steps.

Closer to school, I was really pleased to report to our Governors of the continued and improved progress our pupils make at school. Last year 96% made expected progress in English and 92% in maths. We still have a little way to improve on attendance, which was 86.5%. Pupils who made the most progress were those with 90% attendance and above, so we are keen to get as many pupils above that attendance target as possible!

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

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## Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



Welcome to our first half termly Curriculum Newsletter of the 2022 - 2023 school year. Within each half termly edition you will receive updates and information about what has been happening in your child's class and in their departments.

Department and Subject Leads have been working hard to design a knowledge rich and engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all our pupils. We have a broad 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 so that knowledge is consolidated and built upon to support retention and recall. 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.

Best wishes, Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
24th - 28th October	Half Term
24th October	Diwali
31st October	INSET - No Pupils
2nd November	International day for the abolition of slavery
3rd November	Coffee morning 9.30am
11th November	Remembrance Day
14th November	ODD Sock Day
14th-18th November	Anti-Bullying week
17th November	Grove Governors
10th December	Human Rights Day
18th December	Hanukkah
9th December	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
16th December	End of Term
3rd January	INSET - No Pupils
4th January	Pupils back to school



## Pastoral News - Miss Huseyin

I am going to begin with a huge thank you to all the families that have been in touch with me and checking in over the last few weeks as I have been working offsite at another school in Haringey! I am very happy to be returning on Monday 31st October.

My first task to get back to is the coffee morning! **Thursday 3rd November at 9.30** will be our first one, we will meet at Downhills Park Coffee cafe. I hope you can join me!

Many of you might not know that we have a facebook group! This is a group for parents / carers with pupils at The Grove. It has been created to enable our families to share local information about events, share ideas, arrange meet ups or to even give away old uniforms. I am the admin for the group.

I have been fortunate enough to be in school on a Monday this half term. I teach History to Waterloo and we have been learning about the Stone Age - I love these moments in class. I was really pleased with the written work at the end of our topic where pupils explained what they had been learning.

Next half term sees our usual Anti-Bullying week celebrations from the **14-18th November** starting with **ODD SOCK DAY on Monday 14th November**.

Best wishes, Nadine Huseyin  
Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead  
[nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto:nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk)

## Career News

It has already been a busy start to Careers this term across the school . We have had SCOPE onsite to deliver careers advice to our pupils in year 11 and above, we are taking a work experience trip out to Kentish Town City Farm and the 6th Form pupils have started their college placements at BSIX college in Hackney. These are all really exciting opportunities.

We have more to look forward to next term. Some of our upcoming events are:

- Rugby Works Employment workshops
- Go Karting and Engineering
- Kidzania
- The Recording Studio - Wood Green

It is an exciting time for Careers at The Grove and you can now find out more information on the website in our new "Sixth Form and Careers" section.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions around careers or options for post 16 and beyond:

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

Bronja Elton - Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead

## CLASSROOM NEWS

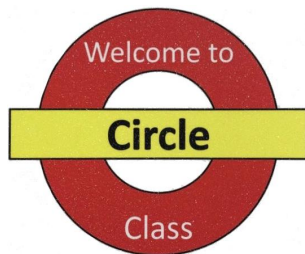
### PRIMARY NEWS

#### HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS

Primary pupils, new and old have settled into life at The Grove extremely well. Staff and developing good relationships with pupils and pupils are building friendships and connections with their peers which is great to see.

This half term the Primary Department Classes have been working on a Food theme. Classes have read books including The Disgusting Sandwich, Rigatone The Pasta Cat, Handa's Surprise, Dough Knights and Dragons and Oliver's Vegetables. Food has been incorporated in maths activities, looking at Bengali foods as part of cultural studies and across the curriculum.

Some of the classes within the Primary department have been lucky enough to take part in some offsite activities including swimming at Tottenham Green Leisure Centre and Horse Riding sessions at The Chigwell Riding Centre.



## CLASS NEWS

This term Circle Class have been focusing on the story 'Dough Knights and

Dragons' in keeping with this term's theme of 'food'. We have loved using the theme to learn how to follow recipes by sorting images and reading and numbering instructions. We learnt how to make biscuit dough, jam sandwiches and cookies too!

In Maths we have been focusing on number patterns and ordinal language. We have loved racing each other and making medals as well as having a go at finding and sorting numbers to make number lines and putting numbers in ascending and descending order.

Science has also been great fun as we have explored seasonal changes. We have really enjoyed learning all about each season through looking at photos and videos as well as touching materials like sand, leaves and ice and comparing textures and temperatures.

## HOME LEARNING

Next term we will continue to learn around the theme of 'food'. In literacy we will be exploring the book 'The Disgusting Sandwich' by Gareth Edwards and looking at descriptive writing. It would be great if you could have a sneak peak at the story over the break ready for next term on [YouTube](#). Perhaps you could even have a go at using some adjectives to describe your food if you go to any nice restaurants or try some new food at home. In Maths our focus will be measurement (height

and length) as well as addition. It would be great if you could have a go at comparing if things are longer or shorter around the house or even create a high chart by drawing around everyone in the house and looking at who is the shortest or tallest. Perhaps you could even have a go at some simple addition using the Cbeebies [Numberblocks Game](#). In Science our theme will be 'Living Things and Habitats. There are lots of songs you can listen to at home ready for next term such as the [Habitats Song](#) and [Living Things song](#). Maybe if you go to the park, you can have a look for animal habitats such as burrows or nests and think about what they might be made of. We are planning on making our very own habitats so it would be fantastic if you could save a cardboard box to use when back at school.

Happy half term!

The Circle Class Team



## CLASS NEWS

The first half term of the year has been a great one for City Class! As a team,

we are all so pleased with how well the children settled back into routines and adjusted to a new class and teacher! We have been engaging in a range of exciting activities, all about our topic of food. It has been fantastic to see the children engaged and enjoying our different learning opportunities.

In English this half term, we have been focusing on the story 'Oliver's vegetables'. As part of this story, we have explored lots

of different vegetables and even dug up our own allotment! We have been building on our recognition of the different vegetables included in the story using symbols and also recalling information that we have read. In writing, pupils have been developing their fine motor skills using a range of activities. We have also been exploring different mark making tools and use these to trace and imitate different shapes.

In maths, City class have been focusing on both number and geometry. We have been learning to count upwards through nursery rhymes and real life objects. We have also been developing our ability to write numerals. We have also been focusing on patterns in geometry. Pupils have been building their skill of matching patterns and also continuing these.

During our themed activities, we have explored and engaged in a range of different activities around food! In history, we explored food of the past and present. We explored different produce that is naturally found such as fruit and vegetables as well as attempting to make bread through basic dough. We then explored ready made foods that are readily available today. Pupils enjoyed exploring the food by looking, smelling, tasting and feeling. In art, we have been learning how to draw still life. City class have developed their mark making skills and ability to identify colour in pictures. We have also explored different mediums to mark make with. In science, we have been learning about plants and seasonal changes. Very fitting to the time of year! We have been exploring season sensory trays as well as planting seeds and caring for these by regular watering too.

## HOME LEARNING

Next term we'll be continuing our learning about food. We will read the story 'Handa's surprise' in English and learn about the different fruits included in the story. We will be using symbols to identify these as well as recalling information from the story. We will also explore French food and culture in our cultural studies lessons. In science we will learn about animals from around the world and where they live.

We will also be learning about shape and measure in maths whilst continuing to learn about number, further developing our recognition of numbers and counting upwards. We will also be exploring measure in geometry!



## CLASS NEWS

It has been lovely welcoming our pupils back to school for new adventures in Elizabeth class. The pupils have had a great start to the year and have coped well with the changes and new routine.

Our theme this term has been 'Food'. In English, the pupils have enjoyed reading the story '[The Disgusting Sandwich](#)' and practising their writing skills in different tasks. They worked on following written and pictorial instructions, and building sentences. In Maths, we focused on numbers and making number patterns. Elizabeth class learners used their skills to identify and count different objects, they practised counting in 2s and in 5s, and they learned



to partition numbers into tens and ones. Also, they practised writing numbers in words.

In Science, the pupils learnt about plants and how they change with the season. They planted cress in cotton wool and in soil, and they learnt particularities of each season. In Art, Elizabeth class explored still life and they used different mark making tools to draw fruits and vegetables. In History, we looked at what people used to eat in Stone Age and how is that different from today. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Support and ways to support each other, and we looked at Hinduism and Hindu celebrations. In ICT, the pupils explored what a computer is and they had the opportunity to play with different devices. In Cultural studies, we travelled to Bangladesh, ate local snacks and listened to and danced to Bangladeshi music. Finally, in PSHE, we learnt about ourselves and our emotions, people who look after us, and basic hygiene routines.

Next half term we will continue to learn about food. In English we will continue to work on reading and writing, and we will explore cooking books. In Maths, we will focus on addition, and measuring length and height. In Science we will explore living things and habitats.

## HOME LEARNING

- English - read with your child or listen to them reading for at least 5 minutes a day. They will take home their reading books. If you go shopping with them, make a shopping list and encourage them to find the items priorly agreed. You can even attempt to follow some recipes and cook ([recipes](#)).

- Maths - [counting in 2s](#), [counting in 5s](#), [tens and ones](#).
- Science - [Seasons](#) - if you go for walks, point the pupils to the signs of autumn (trees, falling leaves, cold days, rainy weather, shorter days, the need to wear a jacket).



## CLASS NEWS

Victoria Class have settled in really well in the new academic year. They have coped fantastically well with new changes and new peers and staff in class.

This half term the Theme has been 'Food'. In English lessons, Victoria Class have been exploring the book 'Handa's Surprise'. We have been exploring the book via sensory story sessions and learning the names of fruits and animals from the story and being able to match them. Victoria Class have also been working hard to improve their fine motor skills and pencil control.

In Maths lessons, we have been learning about 1:1 number correspondence using numicon shapes. We have been learning what quantity numerals represent and working hard to make the correct amount to represent the numeral. We have also been learning about recognising different colours and creating and continuing patterns.

In Science lessons, we have been learning about plants. We have been learning about different parts of a flower, we have

been exploring different fruits and vegetables and finding seeds. Victoria class pupils have grown cress seeds and were able to watch as the seeds grew into Cress.

## HOME LEARNING

Next Half Term we will continue with our Topic 'Food'. We will be exploring the story

'The Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. In Maths, we will be learning about Number Systems and about length and height. In English, we will continue to learn how to answer simple questions and continue working on our fine motor skills and gross motor skills in order to improve our handwriting.

Here are some activities that you can do at home with the pupils.

- Listen to the story [here](#):
- Find numbers in the environment and see whether the pupils are able to match to the written number.
- Practise fine motor skills by threading using pasta and string.



Victoria Class Team

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## CLASS NEWS

It has certainly been an eventful start to the school year for Waterloo class.

This half term we started horse riding

lessons at Chigwell Riding Trust. It has been wonderful seeing the pupils build their confidence levels, and become more comfortable when riding. We have also started swimming lessons in a fantastic new venue, with an excellent set of instructors. A lot has happened in a short space of time and it has been a wonderful - if busy - way to begin the year.

Our theme this term is food, which will continue next half term. In English, we have been looking at different types of recipes, from mouth-watering meals to revolting fantasy dishes. The pupils have done an excellent job developing their descriptive skills and using language to create effects. They have been working on their planning skills and exploring the features of recipes such as lists, instructions and creative introductions. We have been reading Rigatoni the Pasta Cat by Michael Rosen, and a range of shorter texts, to get inspiration, and test our comprehension skills. We have also been working on our punctuation in 'kung-fu punctuation' sessions where pupils use movement and sound to highlight the impact of punctuation. This has been successful so far, and we will be building on this next half term.

In maths, the pupils have been developing their knowledge of place value and patterns by applying them to scenarios such as detective mysteries and football themed puzzles. We had a particularly productive session where Waterloo class measured and interviewed the members of their class team and lined us up in order using a range of different factors, from height to shoe size. They did an excellent job of working together, and were very polite when arranging us! It has been great seeing them actively apply the

maths that we have been covering, and take on new challenges. Even when the pupils have a good understanding of core concepts it can sometimes be difficult for them to apply it in new contexts, and this is an area that we will continue to develop.

Our focus in Science this half term has been plants and seasonal changes. The pupils worked together to conduct an experiment where they grew four samples of cress, each under different conditions. It was fascinating to see the results, and I think that what happened to the cress that we watered but kept in darkness surprised everyone! As in maths, we have focused on taking the knowledge that the pupils have developed in lessons and applying it in different ways to fully embed learning.

There have been many other highlights across their other subjects. In art, the pupils experimented with different kinds of mark making techniques, and were able to use dots to explore some of Roy Lichtenstein's techniques in their own still life compositions. As part of PSHE the pupils worked together to create a set of class rules that we all agreed with, to ensure that we are safe and able to learn. In food technology, Waterloo pupils made some very successful flapjacks, intricately decorated some charming toasted bears, and measured their ingredients accurately when making biscuits.

It has been a pleasure getting to know the pupils in Waterloo this half-term, and we are really looking forward to continuing to teach them after the half term break.

## HOME LEARNING

To prepare the pupils for the Autumn 2 term, pupils should complete some of the following activities:

- In English, pupils should complete the three activities that they can find [HERE](#) to consolidate their understanding of writing instructions. There are videos and clear instructions to help pupils access the tasks. As a bonus activity, it would be fantastic if pupils could write down a recipe for a meal that they eat at home. We have been looking at lots of different types of recipes as we have been exploring our theme of food, and it would be great if they could see how this applies to their life at home.
- In maths, pupils should begin to prepare for Autumn 2 by looking at addition and measurement. For addition, they should start with [THIS](#) activity on number bonds. For measure, they should try [THIS](#) activity, which asks pupils to use household objects to explore how much liquid containers hold. Additionally, pupils can attempt these maths games for [addition](#) and [measures](#).
- In science, pupils will be looking at living things and habitats next half term. To prepare they should attempt [THIS](#) online science challenge about food chains.



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## PE News with Mr Proctor

It has been a very busy start to the year in the PE department with more sport than ever taking place at The Grove School this half term.

Primary classes are enjoying taking part in PE lessons focusing on gross motor skills and understanding taking turns. Waterloo and Circle class are taking part in weekly swimming lessons at Tottenham Green Leisure Centre. Student's water confidence is improving weekly and they are now starting to learn how to front crawl. Waterloo class are also taking part in weekly horse riding lessons which is very exciting and pupils are engaging well in these sessions.

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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

### Primary

In music pupils have been using tuned percussion instruments to play and create music. Waterloo and Circle Class have been learning to play 'Frere Jacques' on the Glockenspiel and have been introduced to using music notation to support learning the melody. City, Victoria and Elizabeth Class have been exploring nursery rhymes, singing and playing these together.

In drama we've been focussing on role play and story-telling through games and well known rhymes. We are also starting to prepare and rehearse our performances for the school production of 'Peter Pan' which will take place in December.



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