



CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Spring Term 1 - Secondary West

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Headteacher's Welcome



This has been a relatively short half term but we still seem to have packed a lot into it!

INSET at the beginning of the term focused on computing and we have seen lots of fantastic work going on since the training. Recently we ran focused dives into our Humanities, RE and PSHE curriculums. The data and feedback has helped us to plan for refinement in these areas. We saw really engaging lessons and the content in the schemes of work being delivered in a sequenced order to build skills and knowledge. We still want to work on our PSHE curriculum and support our teachers to be more confident in its delivery across classes. As a result our INSET training day on 20th February will be focused on the PSHE curriculum and Life Skills. I'm really excited about these areas for development as they provide essential learning for our pupils and can be delivered cross curricular in all other academic and vocational learning.

Thank you once again for your continued support and partnership working to help us to make the learning experiences for your children the best they can be. Have a good half term!

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



Another half term has passed, and we are already through half the academic year and we are compiling our 3rd Curriculum Newsletter. The senior leadership team and subject leads continue to work hard reviewing and refining. The Grove curriculum, to enhance our pupils' learning, engagement, experiences and outcomes. The Grove curriculum is not limited by the walls of our classrooms. It is enhanced by all aspects of school life through:

- Assemblies
- Pupil Voice
- Pastoral and wellbeing support
- Enrichment
- Wide ranging extracurricular activities

The Grove curriculum seeks to empower and enable, giving our pupils the currency to allow them to realise their aspirations. In this edition you will find many updates as to what has been happening in your child's department this half term. Class teachers and Department Leads have added ideas and useful links to help you support your child at home. If you would like to find out more, please feel free to email me at, helen.georgiades@thegroveschool.co.uk.

Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
13th - 17th February	Half Term
20th February	INSET - No Pupils
21st February	Pupils back to school
21st February	Shrove Tuesday
22nd February	Family Workshop (Primary) Online Safety
1st March	Family Workshop Session 8
3rd March	World Book Day
3rd March	Family Workshop (Secondary) Online Safety
6th March	Purim
7th March	Family Workshop Speech & Language
8th March	International Women's Day
8th March	Holi
16th March	Grove Governor Meeting
24th March	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
22nd March	Ramadan
27th March	Autism Week
31st March	End of Term
17th April	INSET - No Pupils
17th April	Yom HaShoah
18th April	Pupils back to school



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

It has been so lovely to meet so many of you at the family workshops this term. Thank you so much for attending and for your positive contributions to the sessions. They have been really fun and enjoyable to run. There are lots more coming up before summer so please keep an eye out for letters coming home. As always, if ever you have any follow-up questions then please do not hesitate to contact me on louis.maunder@thegroveschool.co.uk.

In the coming half-term we are going to be focusing on developing our practice in the playground, which is one of our key action points from the Behaviour Hub programme. There has been some great engagement from staff and pupils already, and we are excited to see what we can do.

I hope you all have a great holiday! Best wishes, Louis Maunder (Senior Leader for Pastoral Lead and Behaviour)

(Written on behalf of Miss Huseyin)

Career and Enrichment News

A big thank you to all parents and staff for your support with trips and workshops this term. For parents, thank you for embracing our new system on Parent Pay, it has really helped with the organisation of trips and clubs.

It has been a busy term for Careers and Enrichment and there have been some fantastic on and off site trips and activities. Pupils in Secondary East have taken part in a fantastic Mobile Film Workshop with a company called 'Divergent Thinking', run by an inspirational young autistic adult. I will share their films when they are ready! Sixth form continue to take part in Work Experience at Five Guys in Wood Green and most recently Kentish Town City Farm - they have been fantastic opportunities and the pupils are doing really well at developing skills towards independence. Primary and Secondary West have been taking part in Horse Riding and Forest School which has been great to see.

We are now offering many enrichment opportunities across the curriculum to enhance pupils learning and experiences. Some of those activities are listed below:

- Early morning explorers / London Transport Museum
- London Law Courts
- Pet Club
- African Drumming
- NHS Cadets
- Groundswell Arts Communication Pod

Next half term is **Careers Week (6th - 10th March)** and the return of our **Careers and Next Steps Fair**. Please keep the date of the **9th March free**. The fair will take place from 2.30-4.30. please contact me if you have any questions around careers or options for post 16 and beyond: bronja.elton@thegroveschool.co.uk

CLASSROOM NEWS

SECONDARY WEST NEWS

HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST

Happy New Year to all our families! It has been a very busy few weeks back to school and I continue to be impressed with the enthusiasm and engagement from all our pupils.

In Key Stage Three our overall theme is "What's the matter?" and we have been exploring the theme of differences and acceptance in our lessons. In Key Stage Four, Jubilee class have continued to make progress towards their AQA awards; they have focussed this term on developing their comprehension skills in reading and working towards their art and dt modules.

This term Piccadilly and Bakerloo class have continued to enjoy going to Rugby Works sessions and Northern, Jubilee and Piccadilly have continued to enjoy dance lessons through Step into Dance. All classes in Secondary West continued to engage with forest school sessions and look forward to their weekly sessions. This term Bakerloo and Piccadilly class finally managed to go on their rescheduled bowling trip and it was a great success. There has also been the introduction of specialised drumming lessons for our recognised talented musicians and weekly outings to the Lee Valley Athletics Centre for our recognised talented athletes. Both sessions are very engaging and it is fantastic to see the progress our young stars are making.

I hope you all have a fun but restful half term holiday. Miss Jac



CLASS NEWS

Maths:

This strand of mathematics has been around subtraction. The use of real life materials to take one away from a group of objects and find the total really helped as a starting point. Pupils then moved up into using crossing out to take away and find how many left before then counting back on a number line and writing number sentences.

The latter part of the half term, pupils have learnt to name more complex 2-D shapes, as well as identifying their faces and vertices and recognising 2D shapes in their everyday surroundings. To finish the term, pupils will be drawing 2D shapes, and move onto 3-D shapes.

English:

Pupils have been reading and exploring an adapted version of *Frankenstein*. Pupils really enjoyed using props to bring the story alive.

Throughout, a continuous focus on their handwriting and punctuation has taken place. The teacher and support staff 'live mark' pupils' books with the student to monitor these. Supporting them to maintain their full stops, consistent letter sizing, spacing between words etc.

Next half term Bakerloo class will be learning about the story of *Alice in Wonderland*.

As part of **independence and life skills**, Bakerloo class have begun weekly visits to the local shop. It's been a great opportunity to practice road safety en

route as well as begin to read a simple shopping list and navigate our way around the shelves to locate food items. The food the pupils purchase is then used the following day in their food technology lessons. It's a lovely, wholesome process that teaches our pupils about food.

The food technology room is accessed once a week and pupils are reading adapted, pupil-friendly recipes linked with Italian cuisine and have followed step-by-step instructions to cook dishes such as Spaghetti Bolognese, Pizza and Biscotti.

HOME LEARNING

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>

CLASS NEWS



A happy new year and great start to 2023 from Central class! This half term we have been exploring the theme and SEARCH value of 'acceptance'. Central class have engaged in a range of activities

not only celebrating themselves but the people around them. This coincided perfectly with our topic in Science, as we have been identifying features that make us unique.

Our focus in English has been around the story Frankenstein, by Mary Shelly. Central class explored the novel through sensory experiences and enjoyed role-play, engaging with props and building sentences to describe their actions, all culminating in each pupil building their own monster! (see images below).

Our Numeracy curriculum honed skills of subtraction as well as continuing to fortify understanding around 1:1 correspondence and number sense within 10. Pupils built number bonds, partook in subtraction rhymes and finished the term revisiting 2D and 3D shapes.

Our cultural studies looked at Italian cuisine and we made a range of traditional Italian dishes such as: Ciabatta, Caponata, Biscotti and of course Pizza. We had a lot of fun cooking and developing key skills such as: chopping, peeling, frying and kneading.

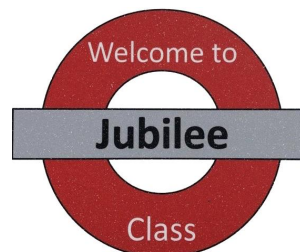
HOME LEARNING

Next half term we are reading Alice in Wonderland and pupils may benefit from some familiarity with the story, I encourage you to explore this short video at home over the holidays in preparation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5QpknYQ4JM>

In Numeracy we will be learning about Money and Weight/Volume. Both concepts can easily be explored in day to day life, ensure you encourage counting of

coins while you're out shopping and include pupils in any cooking in the kitchen to explore weight and volume.

On behalf of the Central team, I hope you have a lovely half-term break!



CLASS NEWS

It's been a busy few weeks back after the holidays and well done to all pupils for continuing to work hard on their learning. In English, we have made an excellent start to the Reading section of our curriculum this year. We have been answering daily comprehension questions and reading new texts and books. Some pupils have been working towards completing their Entry Level 1 reading paper. In Maths we have been completing coverage of fractions and have made great progress in recognising unit fractions and non-unit fractions as well as finding fractions of amounts. In our non-core learning, we have been completing AQA units in Art & Design. We have worked towards completing beautiful winter nature collages using natural materials we have foraged for outside. In Science we have just finished looking at animals, animal groups and life cycles. In PSHE we have been learning about personal hygiene and how to look after our bodies. Keep handwashing as much as possible! We have also been cooking Italian food as part of our Cultural Studies learning. Everyone loved the dishes we made. Next term we'll be looking at Polish culture. Our SEARCH value this half term has been 'acceptance' and we have been

celebrating understanding and compassion in the classroom. Next value will be 'respect'. Looking ahead to the next half term, we will be continuing our reading focus in English, number facts and place value in Maths, light, sound and electricity in Science and intimate and sexual relationships including sexual health in PSHE. Another busy half term!

HOME LEARNING

- At home, please continue to find the time to enjoy reading together whenever you can. Reading is good for you because it improves your focus, memory, empathy, and communication skills!
- To keep learning, try playing some number fact games [here](#). There are some websites available to explore [electricity](#) and [circuits](#). Have a read [here](#) about some of our PSHE topics. Some ideas you can complete [here](#) that tie in to our recent Art & Design learning!

We all hope you have a great half term break.

Miss Jude and the Jubilee Class team



CLASS NEWS

Dear families, we hope you are well. We've had a super busy and quick half term but we are

now looking forward to some well needed rest during the half term.

Our Search value this term has been acceptance, we have explored this theme through many ways such as accepting new activities, engaging in activities which would not be our preference or sharing our favourite activities with people we wouldn't usually work with. We've also explored acceptance through investigating our similarities and differences.

Our overall theme to learning this term is called "What's the matter?" which has given us scope to explore different materials and textures through our art sessions and explore our emotions in pshe. In English we are studying pre-1914 literature, this term we have engaged with an adapted sensory version of Frankenstein. In mathematics we have been exploring shape and learning about subtraction. In science we have been exploring similarities and differences in animals as well as humans. In history we have explored American popular culture and in RE we have learned about Sikhism.

HOME LEARNING

- Please continue to read frequently with your child, we recommend 5 minutes every day.
- Where possible involve your child in helping to prepare food and drinks, they thoroughly enjoyed making pizza in food tech this term and show potential to vary their chosen toppings.
- Go for walks regularly in the community to practise road safety and danger awareness.
- Involve pupils in shopping where possible, we will be learning about money next term, it would be good

for them to understand about paying for items.

It has been a pleasure to teach in Northern Class this term, we hope you all have a restful half term.

Miss Jac & Miss Molly



CLASS NEWS

This term in maths, our main focus has been on subtraction. Pupils have focused on lots

of skills including subtracting 1 and 10 within 100 and subtracting 1- and 2-digit numbers from 2-digit numbers. We are now beginning to looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. In spring 2, we will be focusing on money, weight and volume.

In English, Piccadilly class have been exploring the story of Frankenstein. Pupils have been working hard on reading the text carefully and answering comprehension questions about the story. We have been working towards writing our own retelling of the story, using correct punctuation. We are looking forward to January's English lessons which will focus on Alice in Wonderland.

In History, Piccadilly class have been learning about music and culture from 20th century USA. As part of this, they have been learning about what a decade and a century is and exploring a range of music and art from across the different decades.

In Science, the topic has been 'animals, including humans'. Piccadilly class have focused on humans including body parts, stages of development, healthy lifestyles and teeth! Next term, we will move to explore light, sound and electricity.

As always, I am really proud of all of Piccadilly class' achievements this half term. We are halfway through the academic year already and I am looking forward to seeing what the second half holds!

Well done on another wonderful half term Piccadilly Class. Have a great half term break.

Miss Amy

HOME LEARNING

- Please read daily with your child and ask them questions about what they have read to check that they understand.
- In computing, we have been programming small robots called bee bots. Your child may like to explore this [online version](#).
- In preparation for next term's maths focus, some fun money games can be found [here](#).

PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary West classes have enjoyed a mixture of indoor and outdoor PE activities consisting of dance, table tennis, boccia and obstacle courses. Primary pupils are developing their teamwork skills by understanding the importance of positive communication, taking turns and sharing.

Rugby Works continues to work with classes across the school every Thursday developing their teamwork and communication skills. A large number of pupils from Post 16 and Secondary East now support Rugby Works sessions every Thursday and they will be working towards completing their Sports Leaders Qualification during the summer term.

Secondary West classes have been enjoying their Step Into Dance sessions every Friday and we continue to see high engagement within these sessions.

We have recently started a weekly session at Lee Valley Athletics Centre every Friday afternoon which the pupils are thoroughly enjoying. Pupils have had the chance to try long jump, high jump, 400m and 100m running.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymska

Piccadilly, Bakerloo and Jubilee

In music, pupils have been using music technology to explore different sounds and compose their own music. They have become adept at using Chrome Music Lab and Incredibox and have enjoyed sharing their creations with the other pupils and the teachers in the class.

We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama we've been focussing on essential skills - stopping, starting, sharing, taking turns, copying and engaging in role play.

Northern & Central

In music pupils have begun to learn about pitch and explored listening to and making high and low sounds. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

Trip to the National Theatre - 'Hex'

At the start of the term the actors from the Christmas show went on a reward trip to watch the musical 'Hex' at the National Theatre. It was a fantastic show, amazing sets, costumes and performances. All the pupils engaged positively with the experience, enjoying not only the performance but spending time together as friends. I look forward to more theatre trips with our pupils in the future!



Gallery

Trip to see HEX the musical

