

CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Spring Term 1 - Secondary East

*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 year 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 strengthened 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. These are 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 EAST NEWS

ASSISTANT HEAD: MR MCKAY-WOOD

This half term has flown by! Students have hardly had time to settle back after Christmas and it is half term already. However, even in a short half term students have been able to actively engage in a new set of break and lunch time clubs including the well received pet club, chess club, D&D club to engage students outside of the curriculum which has been fantastic. We saw really good progress across the Autumn term and this has been sustained so far through the Spring term and it is always good to see the learning take place across the secondary east curriculum. We hope you have a restful break and come back ready to learn in Spring 2.

Computing

Another fantastic term for Computing; KS3 and KS4 have been looking at different topics. There has been some fantastic work and great engagement. Well done all.

District class have been learning about digital images, focusing on how to use digital hardware, and identifying the differences between photographs and other types of online images. Pupils have used a range of softwares to edit and change images in different ways. They have looked at why images are changed and how to recognise real and 'fake' images. They used **BeFunky** to create their own and have had the opportunity to create their own hybrid animals. I especially enjoyed the creation of the horse-pup, pigeon-pig and the cat-dog.

Metropolitan and Hammersmith pupils have been learning about how computers work, focussing on networks - how computers communicate with each other and exchange information. They have done this through a variety of fun physical and written activities.

Docklands and Marylebone pupils have continued to work towards their qualification in IT user skills. They have been learning about data, how to collect it, and then how to use spreadsheets to analyse data. What a fantastic term, well done both classes!

English

This half-term in English, **District, Metropolitan and Hammersmith** class have been studying different poems. All pupils took part in reading poems by different poets from around the world.

They have discussed their perspectives on the poem, identified different themes, techniques and structure to explore the poems in detail. Pupils have also continued to work on developing their reading comprehension as well as writing skills. **Docklands** class have continued to work towards their **GCSE qualification**. In class they have been studying different non fiction texts. All pupils have started developing the skills needed to successfully answer questions on their Paper 1 assessment. They are continuing to build on their knowledge by reading different 19th century non fiction texts to explore and critically analyse the language, form and context of a text. **Marylebone** class have been reading **Stone Cold by Robert Swindells**. All pupils have been able to take part in class discussions about the theme of homelessness, and consider how it impacts people's lives. Pupils have also been able to recognise how structure is used to make the message of a story more interesting. This develops pupils' confidence when identifying examples of structure and language in a text in order to write responses to questions. Well done Secondary East, you have worked extremely hard this half-term.

Maths

This half term **District and Metropolitan classes** have been exploring **fractions, decimals and percentages**.

Pupils in **District class** have excelled at converting **tenths and hundredths**; explored **thousandths and eighths**; and changed **percentages greater than one** into decimals. Well done for all your hard work this half-term District Class!

Pupils in **Metropolitan class** have used pictorial representations to **multiply fractions** by integers and other fractions. Students also impressed Miss Jess by **converting decimals** with up to two decimal places into fractions and percentages. Well done everyone!

This Spring **Hammersmith and Marylebone** have been extending their **algebraic techniques**.

Hammersmith pupils impressed by successfully **expanding and factorising into a single bracket**. Students also **substituted values** into multi-step expressions and used an **algebraic rule to generate sequences**. Amazing work Hammersmith!

This half term, **Marylebone class** practised writing, simplifying and substituting into **algebraic expressions**. Students also improved their numeracy skills by finding the **term-to-term rules** for a range of sequences. Well done Marylebone!

This half term **Docklands class** has been developing their **geometry and measure skills**. Students have successfully: measured and calculated **bearings** using angle facts and trigonometry; accurately drawn and interpreted **scale diagrams**; and explored the **circumference and area of circles**. Docklands have had a brilliant start to the year. Well done!

Looking Ahead

Next half term pupils in Secondary East will be exploring a variety of **geometry and measure** topics. **District** class will develop their understanding of different **units of measure**. Whilst, **Metropolitan, Hammersmith and Marylebone** will take a closer look at **angle facts** and regular **polygons**.

After the break, **Docklands class** will finish their unit on geometry. Pupils will extend their knowledge of area and volume by calculating the **surface area** and **volume of cones, cylinders and spheres**. Students will then begin a unit on **Probability** to investigate the likelihood of events. Have a fantastic February half-term, you all deserve it! Best wishes, Miss Jess :)

Art

What a wonderful creative term we have had. Some excellent painting, crafting and needlework this term

Hammersmith, Metropolitan, Marylebone

Pupils have been learning about pixel art this term, from its origins in 8-bit graphics to its more modern uses. They have created their own images using a variety of media, including: graph paper, computers, and hamma beads. This culminated in using needle work skills to cross stitch their designs. Some extremely creative work was produced this term and some wonderful life skills learned. Well done!

District

District Class have been working on one-point perspectives working towards their final piece, a large painting, which will include a vanishing point and a horizon. We have studied, and been inspired by, the awesome artist Grant Hafner. Well done for a fantastic term!

Docklands

Pupils are completing work for their portfolio. This term, our inspiration has continued to be Dia de los Muertos, the Mexican festival of the Day of the Dead. Pupils have been developing their lino skills and creating some amazing lino skulls!

Geography

Entry Level Geography

Marylebone class have worked hard this term to start their study of Tropical Rainforests. This has involved pupils working on their map skills to understand where rainforests are located and creating climate graphs using data from the Amazon rainforest. Pupils worked hard to complete an independent research project on plant and animal adaptations.

Next term we will be continuing our study of the rainforest by looking at the impacts of deforestation and then beginning our population unit.

GCSE Geography pupils have worked hard to complete the first unit of 'The challenge of natural hazards'. Pupils finished looking at natural and human impacts to climate change as well as the UK flooding case study of Somerset. They have worked exceptionally hard to study and revise keywords which has helped further develop their written work on exam style questions.

Next term, pupils will begin 'The Living World' unit which will have them studying biomes such as tropical rainforests and hot deserts. Pupils are encouraged to use SENeca for on-going revision for topics we have already covered.

History

District, Hammersmith and Metropolitan have worked hard in History this term discovering who King James I was and the impact he had on people during his reign. Pupils started by analysing primary and secondary sources to see how James I was described by others. Metropolitan class worked hard carrying out a research task

on King James I, while Hammersmith and District worked hard to understand the problems with the witch trials used to determine if someone was a witch.

Next term pupils will undertake a small History research project that will allow them to study any topic of interest to them! We will complete this when we finish our Geography study next term on different biomes.

GCSE History pupils have worked hard this term and continued to develop their understanding of Crime and Punishment through time by studying Industrial England. They looked at the development of the prison and policing system in England as well as the change from inhumane punishments due to changing social attitudes.

Next term pupils will focus on the final unit of Modern England and work on developing writing skills to make them successful in GCSE History exam style questions. Pupils are encouraged to use SENeca for on-going revision for topics we have already covered.

RE

Secondary East have worked hard to understand our 3rd religion of the year, Sikhism. They looked at where Sikhism is practised around the world, the main beliefs around Sikh Gurus, places of worship and the meaning behind Sikh symbols. Many pupils were able to compare this religion to Hinduism and Christianity.

Next term District, Metropolitan and Marylebone will study Judaism while Hammersmith undertakes a study into alternative religions beyond the main religions in the United Kingdom.

Science

Docklands, GCSE class

During this half term pupils focus their attention on the atom.

They started this topic by studying the structure of the atom, they learnt how to draw it and label it, and the position each atom occupies in the Periodic Table.

We moved into bonding, learning the different ways the atoms form the matter around us. We started with the ionic bonding that we find in table salt, then covalent bonding in oxygen and water and we completed the series with the metallic bonding in metals. Pupils learnt about the structures of carbon in diamond, graphite and graphene. They even made a 3D model of a Fullerene.

We then studied the properties of all these substances in terms of physical properties.

We completed this unit of work by focusing on changes in state of matter.

Marylebone, Entry Level Science

During Spring 1, pupils have been learning about human cells. We started studying the structure of animal and plant cells, and then we observed them under the microscope. Pupils learnt about specialised cells, in particular nerve cells. They investigated how the different neurones work and how our body can respond quickly to stimuli in an automatic way.

Then we started studying the DNA: pupils learnt its location, the structure, and its function. We went to the lab to extract DNA from strawberries: pupils were able to see the long white strings of nucleic acid wrapped around a wooden splint at the end of the experiment.

At the end of the half term we focused on mutations and variation within a species.

District, Hamersmith and Metropolitan, KS3 classes

We started this half term by studying what an ecosystem is. We focused on learning the different inhabitants of an ecosystem and the meaning of a food chain and food webs.

Pupils were able to see how different species live in a dynamic equilibrium by playing a role game with cards of prey and predators. They were able to see how the number of prey and predators changes over time when the conditions change as well.

The second part of the half term was spent studying plant reproduction. We started learning the names of the different parts of a plant, then we focused on the flower. Pupils learnt the different parts of a flower, their functions, then how pollination and fertilisation happen. Pupils saw a dissected flower and were able to identify the different organs.

They learnt how fertilisation happens and how seeds are formed and the strategies plants use to disperse seeds in the environment.

HOME LEARNING

Science

After half term students will be learning about the reactivity series and chemical change. You can do some pre learning and revision of the topic [here](#) (KS4) and [here](#) (KS3). There are also some great clips that you can [watch](#) as well.

English

You can listen to a Audiobook on BBC Sound

Here is a classic: [Hit the button](#)

(The Railway Children by E.Nesbit)

You can also revise all things linked to Descriptive Writing: [Hit the button](#)

Maths

Visit <https://trockstars.com/> to brush up on your **times tables**.

All students should have been given their login details.

Try [Hit the Button](#) to practise your **number bonds, division facts and square numbers**.

For explanations, questions and mini-quizzes on **Fractions, Decimals and Percentages** go to [BBC Bitesize](#).

Docklands class should have a look at [Corbett Maths](#), where they can find videos and questions to revise geometry topics at home.

Computing District

Try practise photoediting.
<https://www.befunky.com/>

Metropolitan and Hammersmith

Have you enjoyed learning about networks? Why not revise this subject?
[Revision](#)

Docklands + Marylebone

Revise spreadsheets with BBC Bitesize.
[Revise](#)

Art

Why not look at Bitsize and think how you can get inspired by other artists.
[revise](#).

Have a great half term, and don't forget to try and be creative.

Whatever creative fun you have, I look forward to hearing about, or seeing it, next term.

Stay creative!

Ms Steventon

PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary East have continued to show good engagement in football, basketball and table tennis lessons. Pupils in Secondary East are really enjoying working together to complete various tasks in PE as well as trying to compete against each other in certain activities.

Rugby Works continues to work with classes across the school every Thursday developing their teamwork and communication skills. A large number of pupils from 16th Form 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.

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

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

Secondary East

In music pupils have been focussing on their ukulele skills, learning to play chords so they can perform some songs together. They have all made very good progress in developing their skills and have shown good independent learning and resilience. In drama, pupils have begun to work on a set design for a scene from 'Frankenstein'. They have explored the story and watched some of the National Theatre production and are currently creating mood boards to collate their design ideas before they draw a plan and build a model of their set after the half-term break.

Trip to the National Theatre - 'Hex'

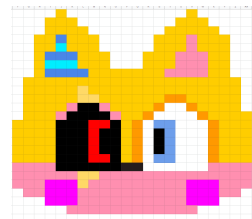
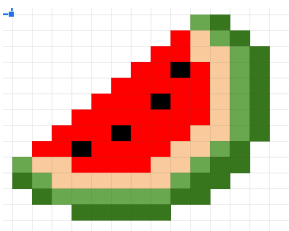
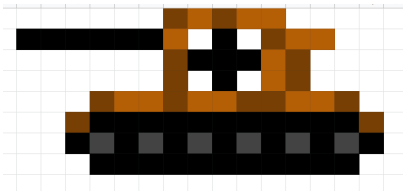
At the start of the term the actors from the christmas show went on a reward trip to watch the musical 'Hex' at the National Theatre. It was a fantastic show, amazing sets, costumes and performances. All the pupils engaged positively with the experience, enjoying not only the performance but spending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



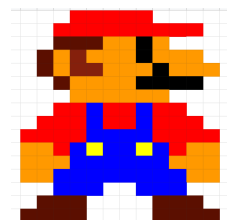
Gallery



Districts Hy-Brid animals



Pixle artworks



Trip to see HEX the musical

