



CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Spring Term 2 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Headteacher's Welcome



As I write this, I am reflecting on the last half term, which, although fairly short, seems to have been very very busy.

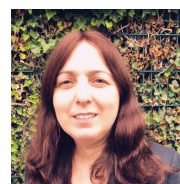
We are still awaiting the Ofsted Inspection Report. Although the usual time is 4 weeks, it seems that Ofsted are running a little behind schedule. We were hoping that we might get a sneak peek at the report before we finish on Friday but I think in all honesty we will be looking at the report "going live" sometime in April. Really frustrating but I hope, when we do get the chance to share the report that it reflects our school fairly and accurately, recognising the work that we do.

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended pupil progress day. It was wonderful to hear about progress across the school, we are so very proud of our pupils here at The Grove.

Finally we wish Ms Nayemah Chowdhry, Victoria Class Teacher all the best as she goes on maternity leave. We look forward to meeting her little one when it arrives! Mr Tahir will be in charge for the remaining academic year alongside Ms Molly Stopps supporting the class.

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



This has been a very busy term for both pupils and staff. All subject leads and Head of Departments are continuing to develop The

Grove Curriculum that has a particular emphasis on knowledge, skills and supply the building blocks to achieve great success and progress. We had another fantastic World Book Day, an amazing time was had by all and the love of reading continues to grow at The Grove. It was great to see all pupils and staff dressed up in their favourite costumes to celebrate characters they love. During Pupil Progress Day I was privileged to witness the amazing progress pupils made this term across different areas of the curriculum and their personal development.

All teachers have added 'Home Learning' to their class section. This section outlines what the pupils will be learning next half term in each class, with ideas of different activities you can do at home to help prepare your child. Best wishes,

Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
31st March	End of Term
17th April	INSET - No Pupils
17th April	Yom HaShoah
18th April	Pupils back to school
21st April	Eid ul-Fitr Begins
25th April	St George's Day
1st May	Bank Holiday - No Pupils
2nd May	Pupils back to school
4th May	Grove Governor Meeting
6th May	King's Coneration
8th May	Bank Holiday - No Pupils
8th May	VE Day
9th May	Pupils back to school
17h May	International day against HBT Phobia
29th May - 2nd June	Half Term



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

Hi everyone,

The family workshops have been continuing through the term and have been well attended and received by parents and carers. We have 2 exciting workshops coming up in the summer term being delivered by Dr Laura Cockburn and Claire Kenny, external Educational Psychologists. Keep an eye out for a letter coming home about this.

Work on the Behaviour Hub action plan has continued recently. Staff have been developing a playground charter and new activities will be introduced into the playground in the summer term. Senior Leaders have also been visiting other schools as part of the DfE led programme in order to develop our practice and see other positive educational settings.

I hope you all have a great holiday!

Best wishes, Louis Maunder (Senior Leader for Pastoral Lead and Behaviour)
(On behalf of Miss Huseyin in her absence)

Career News

It has been a very busy half term for Careers this term. We have had new providers on site for enrichment. The pupils have been enjoying the African Drumming Workshops and NHS Cadets as well as Lee Valley, Pets Club and Becoming a Chef. We have had a fantastic Careers week with lots of onsite and offsite activities. A definite favourite being the visit from The London Fire Brigade which was loved by pupils and teachers alike! The big event of the week was our Careers Fair which we hosted with 15 external organisations in the hall. Thank you to all of you that attended and supported it was a really successful event. Also thank you to all of you that attended our parent workshop on 'Access to work' with Divergent Thinking.

Next term we look forward to bringing in a 'Learning Pod' for all pupils to enjoy based in the library, Sixth form and Secondary East will be doing visits to New City College in Hoxton and we will be setting up new internal work experience opportunities for pupils in year 11 and the Sixth Form.

As always please contact me if you have any questions around careers and next steps.

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

Bronja Elton *Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead*



PRIMARY NEWS

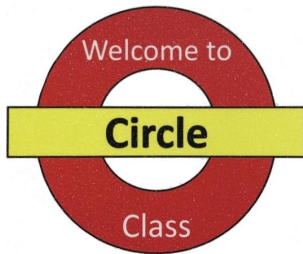
HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS

Pupils have read and learned about books such as 'Boogie Bear', 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear', 'Neon Leon', 'Walking Through the Jungle' and 'The Dragon Sitter' in English. The focus culture this half term has been Polish, pupils have experienced a range of music, foods and beginning to learn some words.

This half term, the SEARCH value has been Resilience. Class teams have been awarding weekly certificates to pupils that have demonstrated good resilience to situations going on around them.

Next term, the theme in the Primary department will be Play, Health and Leisure in which classes will get the opportunity to take part in a lot of outdoor learning.

Have a great Easter Holiday.



CLASS NEWS

This term we have been exploring the theme of 'materials'. Our

core text has been 'Boogie Bear, which we have loved. We have been working hard on writing character descriptions, ordering key events in the story and most importantly, writing about personal experiences. We have loved looking at photos of our past learning to think about experiences we have had, as well as talking about how they made us feel.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. This has been great fun. We have loved engaging in shop role-play, sorting coins and notes and solving money number sentences. We have also really enjoyed learning how to check price tags and compare amounts to see if something is more expensive than the other.

Science has been really interesting too! We have been focusing on the theme of sound and light in lots of different ways. We have really enjoyed exploring different light and sound sources as well as making our own sounds using our bodies as well as other instruments and materials. Cultural Studies has been centred around Polish culture. We have loved tasting Polish snacks, dancing to traditional music and painting the Polish flag.

HOME LEARNING

Next term we'll be focusing on the theme 'Play, Health and Leisure'. Our focus in English will be exploring different authors, with our author being Mini Grey. The first text we will be exploring is ['Egg Drop'](#), with our aim being to write a newspaper

report linked to the story. We will be exploring the layout of a newspaper as well as learning all about language features of reporting to help us write headlines and slogans. We will also be drawing images and writing captions to accompany our news stories, as well as interviewing one another from a character's perspective. Perhaps you could practise writing captions for photos you might take over the half term, or even have a go at interviewing a family member to find out more about them, such as their birthday, favourite food, or colour.

In Maths we will be focusing on fractions. We will do this in lots of engaging ways such as making and sharing snacks, following instructions containing fractions and creating pie charts presenting information about our favourite things. Maybe you could have a go at sharing snacks at home ready to start fractions in the half term. For example, giving half, cutting a quarter or even eating a whole of something!

In Science we will be focusing on 'Everyday Materials, States and Forces'. There are lots of ways you can begin thinking about this at home, such as sorting objects around the house into different categories i.e. 'plastic, wood, metal' or even experimenting with using different materials to make items such as a parachute or boat, to discover the features of materials (are they waterproof, heavy, light?). If you have time, you could even begin to think about

states of matter by freezing juice to make ice lollies or melting chocolate to make chocolate sauce!



CLASS NEWS

City class have had a great half term of learning and exploring. We have continued our

focus on 'materials', learning about weaving in design and technology and light, dark and shadows in science. This half term we have had lots of fun celebrating different occasions including World Book Day and Ghana independence day. We loved exploring different jobs during careers week also, learning about how to be a florist and a firefighter with a visit from a real life fire engine!

In English this half term, we have been focusing on 'Brown bear, brown bear'. We have focused on the sensory side of these stories, aiming to make them as engaging and motivating as possible for our learners. Pupils have been developing their ability to reorder a story. They have also been sequencing the story without support. We have further been developing our understanding of 'more' and how we can use this to achieve something we would like to experience again. Pupils have excelled at all of these skills and have been fantastic learners throughout their lessons. This half term, pupils continued their weekly OT led handwriting group to develop their fine motor skills using a range of activities. We have continued to use these skills and activities during lessons too

In maths, City class has been developing their understanding of money! We started our learning sorting between bronze and silver coins before moving onto recognising coins by name. We have

focused on all coins from 1 pence to £2. We have also focused on volume and weight using water. Pupils have been learning to pour liquids accurately to a marked line. We have also begun to develop our understanding of 'empty' and 'full'.

During our themed learning, we have explored a range of different concepts including Judaism in Religious Education and Polish cuisine and culture in Cultural studies. In geography, pupils loved learning about different European capital cities, trying foods that are native to the cities and exploring their landmarks. We started with Paris, moved onto Rome and finished off in Krakow! In science, we have been learning about light, dark and shadows. Pupils loved exploring our black out tent and making this light with torches, light switches and fairy lights. We also explored shadows in the sensory room, using finger puppets and our hands to put on a show. Reflection was our favourite part of our science learning, using disco balls to create reflected light and listening to the story of the rainbow fish with his reflective scales.

HOME LEARNING

Next term we'll start a new topic of 'Play, health and leisure'. We will be completing an author study on Rod Campbell, focusing on his stories 'Dear Zoo', 'Oh dear!' and 'Noisy farm'. In maths, we will begin our half term learning about fractions, before moving onto statistics. In science we will learn and explore everyday materials, states of matter and forces. In history, we will be exploring the lives of influential people such as Rosa Parks, Neil Armstrong and Florence Nightingale.

Maths: To recap their learning from this half term, pupils could listen to [this money song](#) or play [this game](#). In preparation for next half term, pupils could listen to this [fractions song](#).

English: Children could listen to '[Brown bear, brown bear](#)' to recap their learning. Pupils could listen to Rod Campbells stories: '[Oh dear!](#)', '[Dear zoo](#)' and '[Noisy farm](#)', before starting our author study.

Theme: In science next half term, we are learning about everyday materials and states of matter. Pupils could listen to either of these songs about [states of matter](#) and [everyday materials](#). They could explore different materials in the home and outside areas too! They could listen to these stories and songs about our influential people: [Rosa Parks](#), [Neil Armstrong](#) and [Florence Nightingale](#).



CLASS NEWS

Elizabeth class
We have had a very busy and productive half

term in Elizabeth class. Pupils tried a lot of new activities and they practised a lot of resilience, especially when it came to strike days and external visitors.

Our theme this term has been 'Materials'. In English, the pupils continued to work on reading and writing, and they explored the stories of Neon Leon by Jane Clarke, and Boogie Bear by David Walliams. The focus has been on retelling and rewriting the story in various ways. The pupils continued practising their

reading skills through phonics and guided reading sessions, and they all made steady progress. In Maths, we focused on money and measurement. Elizabeth class learners worked on recognising, identifying and exchanging coins for toys and snacks. Also, they used balancing scales to measure weight and capacity.

In Science, our unit was on Light, sound and electricity. The pupils explored natural and artificial sources of light, observed how light gets reflected by mirrors, and used torches to test whether objects were opaque or transparent. In Design and Technology, Elizabeth class explored weaving, and they manipulated different materials to create woven artwork. In Geography, we explored key human and physical features of a European city, and they learnt to use maps. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Resilience and ways to show resilience, and we looked at Judaism and Jewish celebrations. In Computing, pupils explored how computers group data and practised sorting objects based on similar features. In Cultural studies, we travelled to Poland, ate local snacks and listened to and danced to Polish music. Finally, in PSHE, we learnt about changing and growing, and explored personal hygiene routines.

Next term our theme will be play, health and leisure. In English explore different books written by the same author, and we will look at similarities and differences. In Maths, we will focus on fractions and statistics. In Science we will explore Everyday materials, States and forces.

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.

[Stories](#)

- Maths - [robot addition](#), [animal addition](#), [subtraction](#), [properties of shapes](#), [patterns](#), [money](#), [spot the coin](#),
- Science - [sources of light](#), [light sources](#)



CLASS NEWS

This half term's theme was 'Materials'. In English lessons, Victoria Class

have been

exploring the book 'Walking Through the Jungle'. We have been learning to recognise the different animals in the story and learning to act out different movements from the story.

We have also been learning to request as well as work on our comprehension by answering simple questions using colourful semantics. Victoria Class pupils have been working hard to improve their fine motor skills and pencil control and have made fantastic progress. Some Pupils are now copying ladder letters.

In Maths lessons, we have been learning about money. We have been learning to distinguish and recognise different coins/notes. Some pupils have been learning to link coins to written amounts. Pupils have also engaged and had fun with role play involving money. Pupils were able to 'buy' an item from the Victoria class shop by exchanging money for the chosen item. Pupils have also been learning about capacity and learning to

recognize the correct amounts in different containers.

In Science lessons, we have been learning about Light Sound and Electricity. Pupils have really enjoyed experimenting with different light sources and creating light and dark environments. Pupils have also been exploring and creating shadows and looking at shiny and reflective materials.

In PHSE lessons, we have been learning about important relationships and our bodies.

We have been learning to recognize peers and adults in class and around the school as well as identify and name different parts of our face and bodies.

Victoria Class Staff are incredibly proud of all our pupils' achievements this half term.

It has been an absolute pleasure teaching Victoria Class thus far. I will be going on Maternity Leave after the Easter holidays, however Mr Tahir will be taking over and making sure the pupils continue to make fantastic progress.

HOME LEARNING

Next Half Term we will be moving onto our new Topic 'Play, Health and Leisure'. We will be exploring the story 'I want my Tooth!' and 'Wash your hands' by Tony Ross. In Maths we will be learning about Fractions and Statistics. In English, we will continue to work on our comprehension skills and learn how to answer simple questions, reenact the story, 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.

1. Listen to the story [here](#):
2. Learn about concept of halves and quarters by breaking biscuits etc into halves and quarters at home
3. Work on fine motor skills by helping adults peg clothes on the washing line.

Victoria Class Team



CLASS NEWS

This half term we have been able to maintain consistency and a positive learning

environment, after the changes that we saw last half term. Our new member of Waterloo has now settled in well and has been welcomed by the rest of the class, who have all shown high levels of kindness and acceptance. It has been lovely to see everyone in the class so settled and ready to learn each day. Our mid-week 'check-in' sessions have given pupils a chance to express themselves and take on responsibility by leading learning activities. The level of mature interaction in these sessions has been impressive, and next term our aim is to extend elements of this to other lessons to further promote the idea that the Waterloo Pupils are role models to the other Pupils in the school. Next half term our theme will be Play, Health and Leisure and we will be spotlighting the SEARCH value of compassion.

In English, we have been reading *The Dragon Sitter* by Josh Lacey, and focusing

on writing from a different perspective. Pupils have experimented with writing in character and using first person perspective to create a range of texts. Along the way they have also been working on structuring their paragraphs and using a range of punctuation. All pupils have made good progress in these areas, and I have been impressed with the creativity and hard work that I have seen. Our kinesthetic punctuation sessions have been maintained, and continue to be effective. We have also continued to prioritise reading (and reading aloud) in our library and guided reading sessions. Waterloo will be doing an author study next term. We will be focusing on the 'Planet Omar' series by Zanele Mian, starting with the first book in the series, *Accidental Trouble Magnet*.

In maths, our focus for number has been using money. For geometry, we have been looking at weight and volume. Both of these areas have allowed us to take a hands-on approach in our sessions, and the pupils have had several opportunities to take part in practical activities to develop their understanding. For example, pupils took part in a measurement task in the playground, where they had to estimate the capacity of various containers, then prove their theories by measuring how much water they could contain. Practical application will remain an important part of our maths sessions going forward. Next half term, we will be looking at fractions (for number) and statistics (for geometry).

This half term our Science sessions have been filled with lots of different experiments, while we have been exploring sound, light and electricity. Pupils have really responded well to this,

and it has been great to see engagement with the subject so high. When exploring sound, pupils used drums and rice to explore vibrations, and bottles filled with water to experiment with pitch (and make music). They have also used flashlights to evaluate reflective materials, and use their results to inform their decisions when designing a product. Waterloo Pupils are enjoying 'thinking like scientists' and we will continue to emphasise experiments after the break, when our focus will be everyday materials, states and forces.

This half term Waterloo pupils were given the choice of a European city to investigate. By unanimous decision they chose Paris! They have explored the French capital by looking at famous landmarks, exploring maps and creating a fact file of their own research. This half term we have emphasised using maps (including Google Maps, globes and maps that show statistics). The pupils have also been exploring Polish culture, including different foods. Additionally, pupils have been learning to use pictograms in their computing lessons.

It feels like this half term was over almost as soon as it began - it went by so quickly! The pupils continue to be supportive and encouraging to their peers and, while everyone has their ups and downs, I feel very lucky to work with such a kind and friendly group of young people. They continue to be a pleasure to teach, and I am already looking forward to next term.

HOME LEARNING

This half term we have been reading *The Dragonsitter* by Josh Lacey In English, but we have not been able to finish the whole book. Pupils will be taking a copy home in

their book bags at the end of term, and it would be fantastic if they were able to finish it at home. They could also complete some of the activities [HERE](#) to consolidate their learning on diary writing and first person perspective.

For maths, it would be great if pupils could continue to practise using money. There are resources [HERE](#) that they could use, but the best way for them to practise would be for them to help with shopping tasks at home.

For Science, pupils can begin to explore states of matter using the activities [HERE](#). They could also use the activities [HERE](#) to begin to explore forces.

PE News with Mr Proctor

Pupils across the school have been focusing on football and table tennis this half term. Football has always been a firm favourite for many of our Pupils and table tennis is a new sport that we have added to the PE Curriculum this year. Table tennis helps improve hand eye coordination and there are many game variations that Pupils can play.

Primary and Secondary West Pupils have focused on taking turns and working with a partner this half term. Pupils have been learning to dribble a football, pass to a partner and how to score a goal. Pupils understand that it is important to celebrate everyone's participation in various activities. Elizabeth class have had the opportunity to explore table tennis and have enjoyed taking turns to hit the ball to each other.

Elizabeth class have enjoyed a term of horse riding lessons at Chigwell Riding Trust. Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions and have become very confident with the horses. A number of Secondary East and Post 16 Pupils are continuing to work towards their Sports Leaders Award by supporting Primary PE sessions. Next term, these Pupils will be leading Primary PE lessons.

Also, a group of Pupils have been attending weekly athletics sessions at Lee Valley Athletics Centre. They have had the opportunity to attempt all athletics events and this has been a highlight of the term. Pupils have shown great determination when completing certain events and have really enjoyed this exciting weekly trip.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymaska

Primary

Waterloo

In music, pupils have been learning how to play the Ukulele. They have learnt how to hold the ukulele and how to strum the strings. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama, we've been exploring 'The Three Little Pigs', re-telling the story and creating masks for some of the characters.

Circle

In music, pupils have been learning how to play the ukulele. They have learnt how to hold the ukulele correctly, how to strum the strings and how to pluck individual strings. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama, we've been exploring 'The Three Little Pigs', re-telling the story and creating masks for some of the characters. In addition, we have been practising essential drama skills - stopping, starting, sharing, taking turns and engaging in role play.

Victoria & City

In Performing Arts, pupils have been singing familiar songs and learning how to play some of the different percussion instruments together. Pupils have continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher. We've all had a lot of fun playing the West African drums in these lessons and Pupils are making progress in engaging in these sessions.

Elizabeth

In music, pupils have been exploring dynamics, learning to play loudly and quietly. We've also been singing songs

together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama, we have continued exploring 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' engaging in a variety of drama activities including role play and mask-making.



The Grove School contact information and accreditation logos. The logo for 'THE GROVE' features a stylized tree with colorful circles. Contact details include: Telephone: 020 3876 6555, Email: office@thegroveschool.co.uk, Website: www.thegroveschool.co.uk, and Address: The Grove, Downhills Park Road, Tottenham, London, N17 6AR. Accreditation logos for the National Autism Society, Ofsted, and other awards are also present.

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