



# CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Summer Term 1 - Secondary West

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

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## Headteacher's Welcome



Welcome to Summer 1 curriculum news and more importantly a time for celebrations. The most obvious is news on our confirmed **Outstanding**

Ofsted inspection last half term. We are obviously thrilled with this and I am particularly proud that teachers and support staff, alongside pupils, were mentioned for their valuable contribution to our school.

We hosted our Challenge Partners review this half term which went really well. There were no recommended outcomes and it was a pleasure to have visitors from other schools join us for learning walks and evaluation. This is a great process for staff to be involved in and really supports school improvement. You can find both reports on our website.

Highlights this half term for me have been the installation of the Communication Pod by Groundswell Arts, our new school choir and the new tennis coaching sessions. All these additional enrichment activities continue to support the school curriculum and provide our pupils with lots of varied and rich learning experiences. Happy Half Term to you all.

Best wishes, Lucia Santi, Headteacher

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## Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



Welcome to the latest edition of our curriculum newsletter. As we approach the end of Summer Term 1, I wanted

to provide you with some updates and highlights from our curriculum. As you are aware we recently underwent an inspection by OFSTED and we are delighted that their report acknowledged our efforts in providing an outstanding educational experience for our pupils. OFSTED reported, "Leaders have ensured that there is a highly ambitious and rich curriculum in place for all pupils."

This recognition from OFSTED affirms our commitment to delivering a curriculum that empowers our pupils and prepares them for the next steps in their education and life beyond The Grove.

In this edition you will find updates about what has been happening in your child's class this term and some suggestions and useful links to support your child's learning journey at home.

If you would like to know more about our curriculum, please visit our website or contact me.

Best wishes, Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
29th May - 2nd June	Half Term
5th June	INSET - No Pupils
6th June	Pupils Back to School
6th June	D-Day Anniversary
12th June	Demand Avoidance
13th June	Sensory Stories
13th June	Coffee Afternoon
15th June	Grove Governors
20th June	Early Reading
20th June	World refugee Day
27th June	School Music Performance
4th July	School Music Performance
11th July	International Day at School
14th July	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
15th July	School PROM
19th July	Primary Leavers Assembly
19th July	Secondary West Leavers Assembly
20th July	6th Form Leavers Assembly
21st July	End of Term
7th-10th August	Summer School
14th -17th August	Summer School
4th September	INSET - No Pupils
5th September	Pupils back to school



## Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

Another big thank you from me to all of you for contacting me whilst I was unwell over the last few months and for welcoming me back with such warmth. Your care and consideration was much appreciated - but now back to those Coffee Catch Ups!

The next coffee afternoon is Tuesday 13th June at 1.45pm in the 6th Form Cafe. I look forward to seeing you all there. Tuesday 13th June at 1.45pm in the 6th Form Cafe!

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

We were pleased to have a family workshop session on ADHD delivered this half-term by Dr Laura Cockburn and Claire Kenny, external educational psychologists. The session was really positive and well attended and they will be running another session on Demand Avoidance after the holidays on the 12th June.

We are now moving towards the end of the DFE behaviour hub programme which we have been part of this year.

Staff will again be visiting other schools to gain further knowledge and see how other settings support behaviour and wellbeing. New activities are now available to pupils at playtime as part of our action plan and they have been very well received by pupils with increased engagement..

I hope you all have a great holiday!

Best wishes, Louis Maunder (Senior Leader for Pastoral and Behaviour)

## Career News

It has been another very busy half term for careers and enrichment. Pupils have continued to take part in African Drumming sessions, Kentish Town City Farm trips, and off site work experience. It was really lovely to see Marylebone class pupils at Linklaters Law offices; I think they particularly enjoyed the lunch provided! It has been fantastic to see all the pupils involved in the Communication Pod brought in by Groundswell Arts.. I know some images have already been shared on our Twitter feed and Parents News. I have loved seeing pupils involved from all departments across the school.

Next half term we will continue to provide exciting new experiences. Some of which are a TFL workshop, more Linklaters trips, Drama workshops and a visit to Tottenham Fire Station.

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

[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

### SECONDARY WEST NEWS

HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST: JAC COLHOUN

It's been a very short but eventful term and it seems like only yesterday when I wrote to you all last. What a whirlwind this term has been!

In Key Stage 3 our overall theme has been Health and Leisure and our Search value theme has been Compassion. In literacy, pupils have undertaken author studies by Rob Hodgson, Janet & Allan Ahlberg and Anthony Browne and will continue to study further books by these authors next term. In maths they have been learning about fractions and statistics whilst in science they have been exploring everyday materials and states of matter. In PSHE we have been exploring what it takes to follow a healthy lifestyle. In life skills our focus has been on developing independence through cooking and leisure activities. Our cultural focus this term has been Spanish Culture.

In Key Stage 4 our overall theme has been Careers and pupils have begun working on "working citizen" modules for their AQA awards. They have explored the search value of compassion throughout the term and also worked on further developing their independence skills during life skills sessions. We celebrate that Jubilee class have completed their entry level qualifications in maths and english this term and are very proud of the hard work

they put into achieving these qualifications.

As always, 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.

Have a lovely half term break.

Miss Jac

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## CLASS NEWS

### **Maths:**

The overarching themes across maths this half term have been fractions and data. Pupil's have been learning half, whole and quarter, and also calculating fractions as amounts. Pupils did well with this. We have also focussed on learning to read and record data and making interpretations from this.

### **English:**

Bakerloo class enjoy structured 'guided reading' twice a week. Pupils are matched to their phonics assessment to ensure reading is accessible and enjoyable.

As part of their literacy lessons, pupils have been learning about the concept of an author being the person who writes the book.

Pupils have explored photos of authors, read their profiles and gathered facts about the stories they have read such as identifying characters, plots and themes.

### **Science:**

The topic this half term has been on materials, solids and liquids. Pupils explored and identified which objects sink and which float. Pupils recorded their findings and some were able to make predictions prior to testing the materials. Towards the end of the half term, pupils learnt about solids and liquids and their changing states.

The highlight for pupils was making ice cream and shaking the cream in a bag to release energy in the molecules. We watched the molecules move as it began to freeze. (If you would like to try at home please see the home learning video below or email Mr Mike for the symbol supported instructions InPrint and your child can follow the steps at home).

## HOME LEARNING

- Making ice cream - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ke9xVNRX-xI>
  - 'Bug Club' - Please read daily with/to your child - This can also be done digitally via <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.
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## CLASS NEWS

Summer has arrived and this half-term has been full of surprises for

Central class. We have enjoyed the nice weather when possible and focussed on healthy living as our topic for PSHE. Pupils have had access to the outdoor gym equipment frequently and learnt about how to stay healthy through a balanced diet.

Our literacy author focus has revolved around Rob Hodgson, giving Central class the opportunity to create their own booklet describing characters and settings seen in the story 'The Cave'. We have developed our use of preposition language and continue to develop our mastery of vocabulary boards to comment and build sentences to describe and retell the story.

Fractions have been our topic in Maths. Identifying and making halves and wholes across multiple contexts has seen Central class explore halving a range of foods as well as sorting halves and wholes. In addition, Central class have focussed on simple statistics through organising by criteria such as colour, shape and gender, highlighting the pupils ability to use their prior-knowledge to organise by a range of criteria.

Finally, through an engaging, sensory curriculum, Central class have learnt about the Tudor times in History. Exploring Tudor Clothing through roleplay, how Tudor houses were built through sensory exploration of clay, straw and

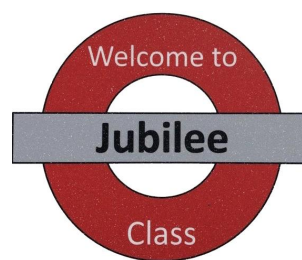
wood and concluding the term with a Tudor feast.

## HOME LEARNING

Next half term we will continue our author study on Rob Hodgson, reading the book 'When Cloud became a cloud'. Pupils can listen to the story during half-term to prepare and learn new vocabulary here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcJw oDPK2p0>

In Maths we will be learning about the tricky topic of 'Time', times of the day will help pupils develop a sense of time and exploring key vocabulary such as day and night will further this understanding, Jack Hartmann videos are fantastic resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gND UPDtrkjQ>

Have a lovely half term and I look forward to seeing everyone for our final summer half term!



## CLASS NEWS

Jubilee have made a great start to their Summer term. For some of our pupils, they have now completed all

they need to do for their Entry Level 1 English and Maths qualifications and the marks have been sent off to the examination body. For the rest of the term we will be continuing with our AQA unit awards and look forward to a celebration assembly in Summer 2 when Pupils will receive their certificates.

Thinking about our learning, we will be moving on to another speaking and listening module in English after a

successful half term improving our writing skills. In Maths, after a focus on Measure, we will be moving on to Statistics. In Science, we have just completed half a term investigating everyday materials and states of matter in which pupils particularly enjoyed exploring the water cycle. We will be moving on to learning about rocks, Earth and space after half term which sounds like it will be a lot of fun.

In our non-core subjects, we had to put our Forest School module on hold due to our Forest School teacher being away but hopefully this will continue in Summer 2. In PSHE we have been learning about healthy eating which pupils appear to now be quite knowledgeable in and so next half term we will be moving on to learning more about what impact exercise and fitness can have on our health. Pupils have really enjoyed our careers and work related learning focus in our thematic afternoons this half term. We have completed an ICT module learning how to send an email and we have also completed two enterprise projects – selling biscuits and ceramic gifts to staff members! We will be furthering our enterprise knowledge for the final half term of this year. We are wrapping up our focus on Spanish culture and will be moving on to learning about Turkish next which will be incorporated into our circle time each day and our cooking lessons. Our SEARCH value this half term has been ‘compassion’ and we have been celebrating how we can grow a strong feeling of sympathy for the suffering or bad luck of others and hope to help them feel better. Next value will be ‘honesty’.

## HOME LEARNING

At home, please continue to find the time to enjoy reading together whenever you can. Reading books aloud to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world! To keep learning, explore some maths activities related to statistics [here](#). Some great

information [here](#) from NASA all about Earth and space. Some fun ideas here on how you can try and keep fit at home together [here](#) and [here](#).

We all hope you have a lovely half term holiday together.

Miss Jude and the Jubilee Class team



## CLASS NEWS

Dear Families, we hope you are well? This has seemed like a super short term but Northern class

have still managed to make good progress in their lessons.

In literacy this term we have been reading a book called “The Cave” by Rob Hodgson. We have been creating a fact file about the book, where we name the main characters, describe the setting and share information about events in the story. Pupils have been challenged to write longer sentences in their fact files, including description and location vocabulary. Next term we will study another book by Rob Hodgson called “When Cloud became a cloud”. And we are looking forward to creating another fact file about that.

In mathematics this term we have been learning about half and whole in terms of fractions. We have enjoyed dividing items into two equal parts and naming the item as half or whole. With Miss Molly the class have been doing statistics this term, here they were sorting items into different criteria and creating charts about interesting topics such as how many

different coloured cars were in the staff car park. Next term our maths topic will be time.

In science this term we have been learning about the density of different materials by exploring different objects and saying if they float or sink. Pupils have been encouraged to predict if an object will float or sink before trying out to see what happens. Next term our topic in science will be Earth and Space. Our humanities focus this term has been History, in particular the Tudor period. Pupils have enjoyed exploring Tudor music, entertainment and clothing. In PSHE this term we have been focusing on our health. Each week we have explored new physical activities to help us to develop a healthier lifestyle such as yoga, green gym, circuits and dance. Pupils are now able to make choices about what activities they would like to do when being more active.

## HOME LEARNING

- Continue to read with your child on a regular basis. Northern class are becoming confident in pointing to text and following along with their finger as an adult reads aloud to them. They are also able to sound out some of the letters within words.
- Continue to develop your child's understanding of money by taking them to buy something at a local supermarket. Working with coins and understanding that they need to give coins to the shopkeeper in order to get their preferred item is useful.
- Next term we will be focussing on road safety. Where possible take

your child out for regular walks in your local area to practise their road safety skills.

Have a lovely and restful half term break.

Miss Jac & Miss Molly.



## CLASS NEWS

Piccadilly have had a really great half term which included a trip to the Courtauld Gallery in Somerset House. This tied in with our art this term focusing on painting, colour and emotion. Whilst at the gallery we did some drawing, painting and marble printing using ink and water. The children's finished results were fantastic!

This term in maths, our main focus has been on fractions. Pupils have focused on lots of skills including finding a half, quarter and a third of quantities and shapes. We have even started to look at finding three quarters! We have also begun looking at statistics including tally charts and bar charts. In spring 2, we will be focusing on multiplication, division and telling the time.

In English, Piccadilly class have been completing an author study on Anthony Browne. As part of this we have been reading three of his books: Gorilla, Into the Forest and Through the Magic Mirror. We have been writing creatively based on these stories including writing character and setting descriptions. After half term, we will be writing a biography of Anthony Browne and also an autobiography.

In History, Piccadilly class have been learning about the Tudors. As part of this, they have looked at timelines, day to day life and Henry VIII and his 6 wives!

In Science, the topic has been 'materials'. Piccadilly class have looked at different materials and their properties. They have also explored which materials are suitable for different purposes. We have completed experiments on waterproof and absorbent materials and also on how we can change materials through squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

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

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 preparation for our maths next term, you can find some activities related to telling the time [here](#).
- In ICT we have been using [paintz.app](#) to create 'digital paintings'. Your child may wish to explore this further at home.

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## PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary West department pupils focus on specific gross motor skills each half term during PE lessons. This half term pupils have focused on developing their running technique, jumping with two feet, balancing on one leg and throwing and catching. Pupils have also explored hockey and athletics events during lessons. Pupils have learnt to hold a hockey stick with two hands, dribble using a hockey stick, pass to a partner, take part in hockey matches and the importance of keeping the hockey stick low to prevent accidentally hitting another player. Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in athletics events such as javelin throwing, jumping over hurdles and running races. Pupils across Secondary West have enjoyed weekly dance lessons every Friday with our Step Into Dance Instructor and many pupils have worked with Rugby Works sports coaches every Thursday to develop their sports leadership skills.

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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymaska

### Secondary West

#### Piccadilly & Jubilee

In music, pupils have been continuing to develop their Ukulele playing skills. They have already learnt how to hold the ukulele correctly, strum and pluck the strings, so have been consolidating these skills through learning to play more difficult pieces with a wider variety of strumming and plucking patterns. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.



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

### **Bakerloo**

In music, pupils have been learning how to move and play in time to different pieces of music. They first learnt a sequence of moves to perform to the music and then created their own moves which they performed. In addition, they have also used percussion instruments to play along with a variety of different pieces. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama, we've continued exploring drama through the story of 'The Three Little Pigs', learning about different versions of 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.

### **Northern & Central**

In music, pupils have been focussing on playing and moving in time to music. They have used tuned and untuned percussion instruments to play along with a variety of different pieces. We've also been singing and playing familiar songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama we've been focussing on costume through exploring different dressing-up items and the pupils have enjoyed trying these out in their lessons.

### **Choir**

This term I have started a choir and we rehearse every Friday afternoon. The choir is made up of pPupils from across the school and is a way for Pupils to enjoy singing and making music together. All the

pupils have made great progress and are having a lot of fun.

### **School Summer Concerts**

Next term we'll be able to share the work taking place in music with you in our school concerts. These will take place on the afternoons of **Tuesday 27th June** and **Tuesday 4th July** and will feature performances from classes, choir and drumming groups. More details about these will be sent out soon!

