



CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Summer Term 1 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

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

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

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 or on 020 3876 6555

Bronja Elton *Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead*



CLASSROOM NEWS

PRIMARY NEWS

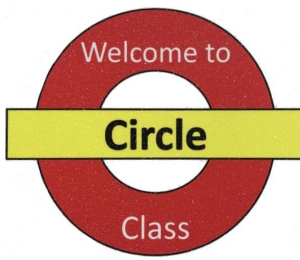
ASSISTANT HEAD: MR MILLS

This half term the Primary department has begun working on a new theme called 'Play, health and leisure'. The pupils have had the opportunity to take part in more outdoor learning as the weather has warmed up which has been great.

In English the focus has been on author studies of a range of authors and their books. In maths the pupils have been learning about money and fractions.

This half term, the SEARCH value has been Compassion. Class teams have been awarding weekly certificates to pupils who have demonstrated compassion and understanding to their peers and class staff.

The Primary department will continue to work on the theme of 'Play, health and leisure' after half term and hopefully they will get the opportunity to go out on some class trips to the local area and beyond!



CLASS NEWS

This term we have been exploring the Author Mini Grey and her book, 'Egg Drop' to write a newspaper report. This has been great fun. We have loved interviewing one another as well as taking part in 'hot-seating' as the character of the Egg. We have enjoyed learning about the features of a newspaper report and coming up with headlines as well as subheadings and writing captions for our drawings. In Maths, we have been working really hard on fractions. We have learnt to identify a whole, half and a quarter in a variety of contexts, although our favourite was splitting and sharing amounts of sweets and chocolate buttons! We also enjoyed recognising fractions in shapes, such as 'halving' rectangular cakes and counting quarters of pizza. Art has been great too. This term we have been exploring our emotions through painting, using the book 'The Colour Monster' to help us. We have loved mixing colours and experimenting with tone and texture using a wide range of resources other than paint brushes. We particularly loved using kitchen utensils such as a potato masher, wooden spoon, fork, as well as materials like foil to create smooth, bumpy and swirly textures and patterns to fast and slow music to help us think about feeling different emotions.

HOME LEARNING

Next term we will be continuing to explore the author Mini Grey through her book

'Toys In Space'. We will be using it to learn about and create our own comic strips and books. There are lots of things you can do to support your child at home. Maybe you can look at and compare pictures from your favourite books at home, or even make your favourite characters from playdough to create scenes from the stories!

In Maths we will be learning multiplication and division. There are lots of ways in which you can introduce this during the half term. For example, pairing socks to practise counting in 2's or sharing sweets or toys to count in 5's or tens. There are also lots of songs you can listen to to introduce this concept such as, ['The Multiplication Square'](#), ['Multiplication'](#), ['Multiply by 1'](#) and ['Multiply by 2'](#). You could even have a go at creating your own number line to help you think about counting in intervals of 1,2,5 and 10!

In Science we will be exploring the theme 'Earth, Rocks and Space. There are lots of songs you can listen to at home to begin to think about this theme, such as, ['The Planets Song'](#), ['The Solar System Song'](#) and ['Storybots: Outer Space'](#). During the half term, you could spend some time looking at different rocks in your garden or the park, or maybe even look out for the moon from the window before bedtime. You could even use playdough to create your very own planets on a rainy day!

Have a lovely break, see you in Summer 2!
Circle Class Team



CLASS NEWS

City class has had a great start to the summer half term. I can't believe there is only one

left to go! We've started our focus of 'Play, health and leisure' and have had a great time learning about this! Some of our pupils have started horse riding, which has been very exciting. We have also had a visit from the communication hub, which our pupils really enjoyed as they loved finding new items and exploring them.

In English this half term, we have been focusing on stories by Rod Campbell. We have read '[Dear Zoo](#)', '[Noisy farm](#)' and '[Oh dear!](#)'. We have explored making basic predictions as well as building sentences based on colourful semantics. We have focused on lots of different aspects including animal sounds, offspring and where animals live. We have been very busy and worked very hard!

In maths, we started this half term with fractions. We focused on identifying 'wholes' and 'halves'. We then explored making halves by manipulating different resources. We cut up playdough, fake and real foods! After this, we explored statistics. We have been grouping objects based on characteristics. Pupils can practise this skill [here](#). We have also been working very hard on our understanding of 1:1 correspondence, being posties and making sure people get the correct parcel and letters.

During our themed learning, we explored a range of different concepts. In Science, we really enjoyed saving objects from ice when exploring materials and solids,

liquids and gases. In Art, we focused on painting our emotions. We teamed this with our skills from computing, using digital cameras to take photos of ourselves and others. In the end we have created a beautiful piece of art showcasing our new learning from both subjects. In City class we are very fortunate to have Miss Liseth, who has been teaching us all about different Spanish speaking countries in Cultural studies. We have 'visited' Spain, Ecuador and Mexico to name a few!

HOME LEARNING

Next term we'll continue with our theme of 'Play, health and leisure'. In English we will start an author focus on Tony Ross, focusing on some of his Little Princess books. We will start the half term with '[I want my tooth!](#)'. In maths, we will start with basic multiplication and division, before moving onto time. In science we will explore rocks, earth and space. We will have a look at different themed sensory trays and create our own planets using playdough and paper mache.

Maths: Pupils could listen to [this song](#) about halves and wholes. They could also play this sorting game to recap their learning from this half term. In preparation for the next half term, pupils could listen to [this song](#) about doubling numbers.

English: Children could listen to '[Oh dear!](#)' or '[Dear zoo](#)' to recap their learning for this half term. How many animals can they identify? They can also listen to '[I want my tooth](#)' by Tony Ross to get them ready for the new half term.

Theme: In science next half term, we are learning about rocks, earth and space.

Pupils could listen to [this song](#) about space and the planets. In computing we will learn about programming. Pupils could help in the kitchen to make something like toast by following a sequence of simple instructions.



CLASS NEWS

This has been a short and very busy half term.

The pupils demonstrated a lot of resilience, especially when it came to strike days and Bank Holidays.

Our theme this term has been 'Play, health and leisure'. In English, the pupils continued to work on reading and writing, and they explored stories written by Mini Grey. The focus has been on finding information about the author and writing a book description. The pupils continued practising their reading skills through phonics and guided reading sessions, and they all made steady progress. In Maths, we focused on fractions and statistics. Elizabeth class learners worked on identifying amounts such as while and halves and recognising these. Also pupils learned to organise and record data by completing tally charts and diagrams.

In Science, our unit was on 'Everyday materials, States and forces'. The pupils explored a range of materials, including wood, metal, plastic, fabric and glass, and they used vocab boards to describe them. They carried out experiments to test whether different objects would float or sink. In Art, Elizabeth class explored emotions and how these can be expressed through

painting. In History, we explored influential people and we looked at Neil Armstrong and the Moon expedition. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Compassion and ways to show compassion to those around us, and we looked at Islam celebrations and places of worship. In Computing, the pupils explored photography and they used digital cameras to take photos of objects and people in their environment. In Cultural studies, we travelled to Spanish speaking countries, ate local snacks and listened to and danced to Latino music. Finally, in PSHE, we learnt about healthy eating and exercising.

Next half term, we will continue to explore the theme '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 multiplication and division, and we will learn to measure time. In science we will explore Rocks, Earth and Space.

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](#), [fractions](#), [tally charts](#)
- Science - [sorting materials 1](#), [sorting materials 2](#)



CLASS NEWS

Victoria Class have had a great half term and engaged really well in this half term's theme of 'Play, Health and Leisure' with which we have explored healthy eating and exercise in class.

In English we have been reading and exploring the story '[I want my Tooth!](#)' by Tony Ross, the pupils have loved exploring the book by means of a sensory story and a vocab board. We have also continued to work on our comprehension skills, with some pupils able to identify objects and characters from the story. Victoria class have worked very hard on their fine motor skills and gross motor skills in order to improve handwriting and use of scissors.

In Maths this half term we have been learning about fractions and statistics. We have been learning to distinguish whole and half objects using food and playdough which has been lots of fun! In statistics we have been sorting objects into different colours with some pupils also able to count how many they have sorted.

In Science lessons, we have been learning about materials, states and forces. Pupils have really enjoyed learning about floating and sinking, with some very exciting practical lessons taking place!

In PHSE lessons, we have been learning about healthy living. Pupils have been taking part in lots of fun exercises and have loved doing animal yoga! In Religious Education we have been learning about

Islam, with pupils exploring Eid, Ramadan, prayer and charity. We have had some lovely lessons in Cultural Studies exploring culture from Spanish speaking countries and cities with pupils going on virtual tours and tasting a variety of different foods, the class favourite being plantain chips! Elsewhere; in Art we have been getting messy exploring the link between colours and emotion using zones of regulation and the story 'The Colour Monster', and in computing we have had an amazing time using cameras to explore photography and digital media.

HOME LEARNING

Next term we'll continue with our theme of 'Play, health and leisure'. In English we will start an author focus on Rod Campbell, focusing on some of his lift the flap books, starting with '[Dear Zoo](#)'. In maths, we will start with basic multiplication and division, before moving onto time. In science we will explore rocks, earth and space. We will have a look at different themed sensory trays and create our own planets using playdough and paper mache.

Maths: Pupils could listen to [this song](#) about halves and wholes. They could also play [this](#) sorting game to recap their learning from this half term. In preparation for the next half term, pupils could listen to [this song](#) about doubling numbers.

English: Children could listen to '[I want my tooth](#)' by Tony Ross to recap their learning for this half term. They can also listen to '[Dear zoo](#)' to get them ready for the new half term.

Theme: In science next half term, we are learning about rocks, earth and space.

Pupils could listen to [this song](#) about space and the planets. In computing we will learn about programming. Pupils could help in the kitchen to make something like toast by following a sequence of simple instructions.



CLASS NEWS

This half term the pupils have adapted well to several changes, such as bank

holidays, which have disrupted their routines. I have been really impressed with their resilience; it is never easy when changes happen, but Waterloo class have responded positively, and quickly recovered from any setbacks. All pupils are now settled in the class, and work together in a calm and supportive learning environment. Next half term our theme of Play, Health and Leisure will continue, but we will be spotlighting the final SEARCH value of honesty.

In English, we have been reading *Accidental Trouble Magnet*, the first book in the 'Planet Omar' series by Zanib Mian. All pupils are engaging well with the novel, and have been able to comment on the protagonist's experiences when starting at a new school. I have been very happy with the level of focus and curiosity in our reading sessions, and it has been lovely to see everyone sustaining engagement with a longer text. Making predictions is an area where pupils have made good progress, through a mix of game-like activities and when reading our class text. As well as developing their reading skills, Waterloo pupils have been developing

their use of descriptive writing by focusing on character descriptions, where they have also been practising using conjunctions (such as but, and & or) when writing sentences. Last term, the pupils in Waterloo demonstrated that they could use a range of punctuation accurately in structured activities. This term we are focusing on putting that knowledge into practice when doing extended writing, where they are not always consistently applied, using a punctuation checklist to review their writing. This has been successful so far, and we will continue to develop these skills next half term.

In maths, we have been looking at fractions for number, and statistics for geometry. We have used a range of approaches when exploring fractions, including integrating aspects of maths into our food technology sessions. Pupils are now confidently able to identify a range of unit fractions, and have made progress when ordering fractions and sorting them into groups. When looking at statistics we have built on their work last half term in computing, which introduced them to tally charts and pictograms. Pupils have been given opportunities to link data to areas that interest them, such as football statistics or the preferences of their classmates, which has encouraged pupils to take ownership of their learning. In both number and geometry, practical application has continued to remain a vital part of our maths sessions, especially when tackling areas of maths that ask them to apply their core skills in unfamiliar contexts.

This half term our science focus has been everyday materials, states and forces. As in maths, pupils have been given the opportunity to engage with their learning

in a practical sense wherever possible, such as a trip around the school to identify (and then evaluate) which materials have been used to make the things that they see everyday. A highlight of the half term was the pupils' group demonstrations of how particles behave in different states. It was great to see everyone working together calmly, and demonstrate their knowledge for the benefit of their peers.

Although this half term has been short, there have been several other highlights across the curriculum. In computing, pupils used digital cameras and were able to take some fantastic photographs (including a *lovely* portrait of Mr Mills). Pupils explored Mexican cuisine as part of their cultural studies, and were able to make some excellent quesadillas and guacamole. In RE they have responded very positively to Ms Iman's wonderful lessons on Islam, where they have demonstrated good understanding and high levels of engagement. Additionally, pupils have conducted their own research into Rosa Parks in History and have developed their painting skills when exploring expressionism in Art.

It is hard to believe that there is only one more half term left this year! After the break we will be preparing for the changes that come with a new school year as we continue our regular classes. We are all really looking forward to seeing all of the pupils after the break.

HOME LEARNING

For English, next half term we will be looking at the difference between fact and opinion. As an introduction to this topic, pupils can complete the activities [HERE](#).

Additionally, encouraging reading for pleasure would be a fantastic way to build on the class reading sessions that we have had this half term.

For maths, it would be great if pupils could continue to practise using fractions. There are resources [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) that they could use to help consolidate their learning.

For Science, next half term we will be looking at rocks, earth and space. As preparation, pupils should complete some of the activities [HERE](#) which will begin to introduce some of the concepts that we will be looking at. The activities feature a range of videos and some interactive elements that would work well with a tablet.

PE News with Mr Proctor

Primary department pupils focus on specific gross motor skills each half term during PE lessons. This half term students 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. They have learnt to hold a hockey stick with two hands, dribble using a hockey stick 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. Four pupils from City and Circle class have just started a series of horse riding lessons and they have shown great self confidence whilst starting these lessons.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymska

Primary

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. They have also begun to explore different dressing-up items and the students have enjoyed trying these out in their lessons.

Elizabeth

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, as well as learning simple actions to perform in time to the music. 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 students have enjoyed trying these out in their lessons.

Circle

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 the characters. In addition, we have been practising essential drama skills - stopping, starting, sharing, taking turns and engaging in role play.

Waterloo

In music, pupils have been focussing on playing and moving in time to 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 the characters.

Choir

This term I have started a choir and we rehearse every Friday afternoon. The choir is made up of pupils 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!



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