

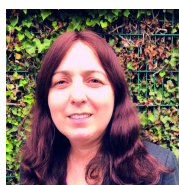


CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Autumn Term 1 - Secondary East

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Deputy Headteacher's Welcome



As we commence the new school year, we anticipate the journey that lies ahead and reflect on the achievements of the past year. We take pride in our pupils' outstanding accomplishments. Each pupil who undertook accreditation exams met or exceeded their predicted grades, a testament to their dedication and hard work. The year was marked by a splendid prom, a cherished tradition enjoyed by all. It was a delight to welcome back former pupils who shared their experiences of Supported Internships and their subsequent successes.

Our leavers embarked on new ventures, including placements at West Lea Pre-Internship and enrolment at The Pavilion 6th Form, part of The Garden School Hackney. We have every confidence in their bright futures. We extend our congratulations to all our pupils, past and present, and wish them the very best in their endeavours. I was pleased to report to our LGB the sustained and improved progress our pupils made. Last year, an impressive 96% of pupils achieved expected progress in both English and mathematics. Best wishes, Helen Georgiades

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



Welcome to the first edition of our curriculum newsletter for 2023 - 2024. Within each half termly edition you will receive updates and information about what has been happening in your child's class and in their departments. Class teachers and Department Leads have added ideas and useful links to help you support your child at home. A simple yet incredibly effective way of supporting your child's development at home is through reading. It strengthens literacy, enriches vocabulary, enhances comprehension, and ignites a lifelong love for learning.

Our dedicated team of faculty and subject leads are unwavering in their commitment to crafting a curriculum that is both knowledge-rich and engaging. We understand that every child is unique, and The Grove curriculum is designed to cater to the diverse needs of all our pupils. Furthermore, our curriculum is thoughtfully sequenced, building upon each pupil's previous knowledge, ensuring a cohesive and structured learning journey.

Best wishes, Molly Stopps, Senior Faculty Lead

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
23rd - 27th October	Half Term
30th October	INSET - No Pupils
31st October	Pupils back to school
11th November	INSET - No Pupils
2nd November	Remembrance Day
8th - 10th October	Autism Re-Accreditation
12th November	Diwali
16th November	Grove Governors
17th November	Children in Need
2nd December	International Day for Abolition of Slavery
10th December	Human Rights Day
15th December	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
21st December	End of Term
8th January	INSET - No Pupils
9th January	Pupils back to school



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

What a great start to the new year! Thank you to parents / families who have attended the coffee afternoon this half term. We will get another date booked in before we have a winter break.

Many of you might not know that we have a Facebook group! This is a group for parents / carers with pupils at The Grove. It has been created to enable our families to share local information about events, share ideas, arrange meet ups or to even give away old uniforms. I am the admin for the group, please feel free to join us -

Next half term we see Anti-Bullying week being celebrated 13th-17th November, with some activities and sessions planned for pupils.

Our work in PSHE continues across departments with relationship values, mental health and wellbeing. Some classes will be starting sex education, letters will be sent home to individuals.

Looking forward to the next half term!

Best wishes, Nadine Huseyin
Designated Safeguarding & Senior Mental Health Lead
nadine.huseyin@thegroveschool.co.uk

Pastoral and Behaviour - Mr Louis Maunder

Hi everyone,

It has been a lovely start to the Autumn Term, and it was so nice to see all of the pupils after the summer break.

We are going to run another programme of Family Workshops this year, tailored to the needs of parents and carers. Letters have gone home to get your feedback and we will devise a programme based on the replies. There is still time to reply and have your say if you have not had a chance to yet.

We have continued to evaluate our playground activities through the start of the term and new ones are now going to be available to pupils based on feedback. The playgrounds are becoming a much more engaging and fun environment and we will continue working hard to make playtime even better.

Best wishes,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Pastoral and Behaviour

Career News

It has already been a busy start to Careers this term across the school. We have started our 6th form placements at Kentish Town City Farm and New City College, Primary pupils have been to Pizza Express to experience becoming a pizza chef! We have started African Drumming sessions again, piano lessons, horse riding and Young Enterprise. There have been trips to Little Angel Theatre and trips to cafes and shops. It has been really exciting this term to start some Higher Education visits with some of our year 11s

from Secondary East. We have started with New City College but hopefully this is just one of many. Please look for links in the parent Newsletter and on the website under 'Internships and Next Steps' with links to open days, evenings and events and different colleges in the local area.

Coming up next half term:

- Sixth Form pupils start work experience at Five Guys in Wood Green
- Face Front Theatre are returning with their performance of 'It's my move' about careers and next steps (9th Nov)
- Small group West End Theatre trip to watch 'Dear England' (16th November)
- Peoplescape Theatre will be performing 'The Gingerbread Man' (20th Nov)

As always, please contact me if you have any questions around careers or options for post 16 and beyond:

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

Bronja Elton - Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead

SECONDARY EAST NEWS

ASSISTANT HEAD: MR MCKAY-WOOD

It has been a busy start to the year in Secondary East. This half term we have our first class continuing their GCSE courses in anticipation of taking their exams in the summer series. We have already had our first college visit and Marylebone class have had the opportunity to go offsite weekly for their STEM sessions at Blackhorse Workshop. We continue to try and build more subject partnerships with our mainstream colleagues as the year goes on and there are more exciting trips and activities to come this Autumn term. We have upcoming careers workshops and enterprise sessions to look out for as well as the Winter Show.

A massive well done to the pupils who achieved their Entry Level qualifications at the end of the last academic year. Pupils have returned to school positively and engagement across the department has been fantastic. It has been great to see the learning taking place when popping into classes during regular learning walks.

We hope you have a restful half term in anticipation of the push to the end of the year!

Computing

Computing has been really great this term, it's been great seeing such engagement and excitement about their lessons and what the pupils have produced. I've seen some really exciting work produced. Well done all of East!

District

Pupils have been learning about animation, using stop-motion for their interactive media task. They have learned about the persistence of vision and early Victorian parlour toys. They have used their artistic skills to create thaumatropes and flick books. Pupils have experimented with Pivot (an animation program), using this to create simple frame by frame animations of stick men dancing. Pupils have also learned about squash and stretch using this to create their own bouncing-ball animation. Next week, pupils will be using drawing tablets to create their own stop animations.

Metropolitan

Pupils have been making websites using Google Sites. They have learned how websites represent a variety of information, and how to identify what makes a good website. They then designed and evaluated their own websites using Google Sites. They have also learned what copyright and fair use policies are and, importantly, how to ensure that they do not break copyright law. There have been some fantastic websites, from the history of computer game systems, Lego builds and tanks to Arsenal vs Tottenham, (which is the best, as if we had to ask). Next term they will be working on their understanding of text based programming.

Hammersmith

Pupils class have been learning HTML. They have learned how websites represent a variety of information. They have inspected code of their favourite websites and learned how to “hack” them, (not permanently!) Throughout this term they have learned how to create headings, add and format text, add pictures, videos and hyperlinks. They then created their own website using these skills. So far we have some fantastic examples. One looks exactly like a website from the 90s complete with sparkly text and 100s of small animated gifs. Other websites are related to historical facts, animals and historical comic book characters. Next term we will be working on their programming skills by working on a Python project.

Docklands and Marylebone

Pupils have had a great start to the term. They have been working towards their qualification in IT user skills. This is a great course as it is 100% coursework with a wide range of topics that staff and pupils can select from. Pupils can hand in their work for assessment at any point in the year.

Marylebone pupils have been working on their design skills; they have been tasked with re-branding a chicken shop. They investigated how many different chicken shops there are in the UK, looking at the variety of names and brands and then considered how they could make their chicken shop stand out from the crowd! They then created their own colour scheme, logo, slogan and a door to door flyer. There has been some fantastic work but pupils tend to get very hungry in the lesson!

Docklands pupils are making fantastic progress in their GCSE coursework. They have all completed at least half the coursework for the single award. This is a fantastic achievement which has encouraged some pupils to approach a unit on email practice independently. This will be used at The Grove as a help sheet on how to use our emails successfully. I am amazed at the level of detail and look forward to sharing their work with the whole school!

The taught unit we are focusing on is looking presentation skills using Powerpoint. Pupils have used 3D models and exhibited some amazing design skills; I doubt most people can display these skills with the ease these pupils do. Incredibly excellent term in terms of progress and effort. Well done, Docklands.

English

District, Metropolitan and Hammersmith

Pupils have been reading the novel *Speechless* by Kate Darbishire. All pupils were able to explore their understanding of the keywords diversity, disability, acceptance and inclusion with reference to the text. This enabled all pupils to gain an understanding of the purpose of why the text was written and the overall message being presented through the story.

Docklands

Pupils have continued to work towards their GCSE qualification. In class they have been reading the contemporary text *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury which links to Paper two of their GCSE English Language 2.0 assessments. All pupils have been working on reading, exploring language and practising language analysis skills. They have all been able to develop

their critical thinking by considering different perspectives, the writer's purpose and different language and structural devices used throughout the text.

Marylebone

Pupils have been reading Looking for JJ by Anne Cassidy. All pupils have been working on developing their reading and comprehension skills. They have also been able to engage in different discussions about the genre, themes and characters presented throughout the story. This has enabled pupils to gain a better understanding of the text as a whole, as well as form their own ideas and perspectives. Well done Secondary East, you have worked extremely hard this half-term.

Maths

District class

Pupils have been exploring topics relating to ratio and proportion. Pupils in District have successfully calculated ratios and scaled up recipes using concrete representations. Pupils also excelled at simplifying ratios, explored gradients and identified similar shapes. Fantastic work!

Metropolitan and Hammersmith

Pupils have all been learning about different types of number.

Pupils in Metropolitan have successfully found common multiples and factors using arrays. Pupils were also able to identify the first ten square and triangular numbers using pictorial representations. Well done Metropolitan for all your hard work!

Hammersmith class have impressed Miss Jess this half-term by using Venn Diagrams to find the Lowest Common Multiple and Highest Common Factor of pairs of large numbers. Pupils have been developing their numeracy skills by exploring higher powers including multiplying and dividing indices. Well done!

Marylebone class

Pupils have excelled at writing numbers as a product of their prime factors using factor trees. Pupils in Marylebone have also shown excellent resilience exploring cube numbers and square roots, in order to answer a range of BIDMAS questions. Fantastic work everyone!

Docklands class

Pupils have developed their numeracy skills. Pupils have successfully: carried out the four operations with decimals; rounded numbers to a given number of decimal places and significant figures; calculated error intervals and upper and lower bounds; revised a range of percentage topics; and explored vectors. Docklands have had an amazing start to the GCSE year. Well done!

Looking Ahead

After the break, District class will concentrate on identifying, ordering, and adding fractions. They will also extend their learning by carrying out different mathematical operations with fractions and decimals.

Next half-term, pupils across Metropolitan, Hammersmith, Marylebone and Docklands will be focussing on algebra.

Metropolitan class will concentrate on solving equations using bar models. Hammersmith class will extend their

knowledge by expanding brackets to solve harder equations. Marylebone will explore a range of topics to improve their understanding of terms, expressions and equations.

After half-term, Docklands class will begin by expanding and factorising binomials, before solving quadratic equations. Pupils will also take a closer look at rearranging formulae. In November, pupils in Docklands will also have their first set of mock examinations. As part of their preparation they will also have a walking, talking mock where I will go through a GCSE paper with them beforehand to get experience of answering GCSE style questions.

Have a wonderful break, you all deserve it! Best wishes, Miss Jess :)

Art

What a creative term we have had. Some wonderful clay and drawing work and all pupils have thoroughly enjoyed getting messy and creating some wonderful work.

District

Pupils have been looking at ceramics this term. Their topic has been Underwater - they have enjoyed considering what lives underwater and what colours you find there. Pupils have researched different artists such as Barbara Hepworth and Courtney Mattison. In terms of skills, pupils have drawn from observation, looking at various shells and using pencil. They have also learned a variety of clay skills such as how to cut, soften clay. They have learned how to throw, pinch, mould, roll and smooth clay. They have created thumb pots and coil pots and are working towards creating their own tile inspired by

Courtney Mattison and their underwater theme. District class will continue their clay work next term. Well done District you have all got messy and produced some excellent work!

Hammersmith and Metropolitan have been looking at OP art. They have understood how an optical illusion is when the eyes are 'tricked' into seeing something that is different from what is really there. They have used this topic to also look at the more formal elements of Art such as line, shape and tone. They have looked at a range of OP artists from M. C. Escher, Victor Vasarely and most importantly British artist Bridget Riley. They have created a range of 2D and 3D art influenced by this art style, focusing on their ability to use shape, line and tone in their art works. Their work has been fantastic and I look forward to sharing the amazing display their work is going to produce.

Marylebone and Docklands

These pupils are working towards a qualification in art. We have been looking at formal elements of Art and how we use them. We have looked at tone and how we use this to create depth using pencils. We have been looking at natural forms focusing on parts of the body, hands and eyes. Next I am looking forward to seeing pupils develop their skills in different media and work towards creating an end piece such as a painting or a sculpture. Well done everyone!

Have a great half term and don't forget to try and be creative. Draw some leaves, draw a ghost, make a costume for Halloween. Whatever creative fun you have I look forward

to hearing or seeing about it next term.

Stay creative!

Ms Steventon

Geography

KS3 Geography

This term KS3 classes have been exploring Russia. They started by discovering the location of Russia. This involved them using their compass directions and map skills to create a map of Russia and the surrounding area. They then discovered physical features and human features of Russia. Pupils discovered how the population of Russia reflected the relief and climate of the country that has resulted in more people living in Western Russia than Eastern Russia. Pupils then used their computer skills to complete a research task on what life in Russia is like. They were able to compare how life in the UK is similar and different to life in Russia. Some pupils have started to explore historical events like the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster. This included one of the pupils sharing their knowledge about the Soviet Union with all KS3 classes.

Next term pupils in KS3 will focus on our first topic of History, World War I. Pupils will explore the question: 'Was there a typical experience for soldiers during WWI?'

GCSE Geography

GCSE Geography pupils have worked hard this term exploring both coasts and rivers. This has included learning about the physical and geological features of these landscapes. They discovered how both coasts and rivers are vulnerable to different processes like erosion and transportation. Finally, they discovered

different strategies used to protect both coasts and rivers from these vulnerabilities through soft and hard engineering. GCSE Geography pupils applied all this learning to their first fieldwork study by visiting Southend on Sea to explore the effectiveness of coastal protection. Pupils will sit their first round of mock exams next term. GCSE Geography pupils will sit Paper 1: Living with the physical environment. Revising topics and keywords will be beneficial. Pupils have access to revision guides and practice materials.

History

GCSE History

GCSE History pupils have worked incredibly hard this term completing their learning from last year on Elizabethan England and starting their study on the Vikings. Pupils are starting to explore the exam style questions to understand how to better prepare their writing for their upcoming GCSE exams. In their study of the Vikings, pupils have started to explore what life was like and challenge the historical stereotypes that are associated with the Vikings. Pupils will sit their first round of mock exams next term. GCSE History pupils will sit a full Paper 1 that will include Crime and Punishment and Elizabethan England. Revising topics and keywords will be beneficial. Pupils have access to revision guides and practice materials.

RE

KS3/KS4 RE

This term District, Metropolitan, Hammersmith and Marylebone classes have been learning about Creation. This has included religious creation stories in the Abrahamic religions of Christianity, Judaism and Islam. They were able to compare these to the creation beliefs in Sikhism and unique creation myths like Pangu. pupils have discovered the difference between facts and beliefs and many are starting to recognise how some beliefs are very similar. The website <http://www.bigmyth.com/> have a collection of other creation myths for pupils to explore. This includes some written descriptions and video links.

Next term, pupils will be exploring different festivals and celebrations amongst different religions and cultures.

Science

District, Hammersmith and Metropolitan KS3 classes

At the beginning of this half term, for the first two weeks, the KS3 classes learnt about the structure of the DNA and how a mutation can effect the information carried by the DNA. This was linked to the variation we observe in living things as a result of inherited characteristics from parents. The following weeks pupils learnt many words and processes that are involved in the human reproduction: they mastered the names of the anatomic parts of the female and male reproductive systems, then they learnt what a fertilised egg is and how much implantation and placenta are important to sustain a pregnancy.

The last part of the half term we focused on the menstrual cycle and all the changes puberty brings to their bodies in this particular stage of their life.

It was not an easy topic to learn about, but the majority of the pupils was so focused, mature and attentive that it was a pleasure to teach an important aspect of their future lives.

Marylebone, Entry Level Science

The Entry Level class learnt about some separation techniques such as chromatography, filtration, and distillation. The last two techniques were an introduction to lessons on “water treatment”, which involves filtration and sedimentation and other stages to make potable water from ground water or from waste water. Distillation as well is a crucial technique to obtain pure drinking water from sea water in Countries where fresh water is not available.

The following weeks we focused on the pH scale of acids and alkalis. pupils tested some chemical substances to see if they were acidic, basic or neutral by using different pH indicators. They had a practical in which they measured the pH of some household such as bleach, washing up liquid, descaler, vinegar and others. They enjoyed seeing if their predictions were confirmed by the results they obtained.

Then they learnt how to make a salt from the reaction between an acid and an alkali, and how to separate with crystallisation the salt formed in solution. We used the same technique to make pure copper sulfate crystals by neutralising sulfuric acid with copper oxide; they were surprised to see how a clear acid and a black powder made something completely different in colour and structure as were the blue copper sulfate crystals.

Docklands, GCSE Combined Science

In this half term we focused on physics. We started investigating the conservation

of energy and energy changes. This was the introduction to analyse the different ways energy can be transfer between energy stores and how is possible to minimise energy dispersion. Then we spent a week learning about non-renewable and renewable energy resource and comparing the pros and cons of each of them.

The second part of the half term was spent learning about the electromagnetic waves. They studied the behaviour of waves, the way they refract and their many different uses in everyday life (radio waves, microwaves, infrared, ultraviolet...)

Docklands we acknowledged about the danger of a certain type of electromagnetic waves such as x-rays and gamma rays.

These radiation are caused by unstable elements that give out energy in the form of electromagnetic wave and particles: this was the introduction of the chapter regarding radioactivity and the different types of decays radioactive elements undergo naturally.

They also spend some lessons with Mr Wood learning about hormonal body regulations and the equilibrium between insulin and glucagone in diabetes.

HOME LEARNING

All Secondary East pupils can visit <https://ttrockstars.com/> to brush up on your **times tables**. All pupils have been given their login details. Please ask the class team if your child has lost their login details..

Metropolitan and Marylebone classes should try [Hit the Button](#) to practise your **number bonds, division facts and square numbers**.

For explanations, questions and mini-quizzes on **Working with powers, roots and prime numbers** go to [BBC Bitesize](#).

Hammersmith class should log onto [MyMaths](#) to revise topics from this half-term.

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

ENGLISH

Revise your spelling, punctuation and grammar

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbmv2sg/articles/zjxqf4j#zbdjdp30> (Spelling)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr6bxyz/articles/zd7w7p3> (Punctuation)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4hrt39/articles/zfxfwty> (Grammar)

Computing

Want to brush up on your Google skills? Use this table of tutorials to do so!!

[Google tutorials](#)

What to practise some skills using google sites, try these tutorials

["Google sites tutorials"](#)

What to brush up on your design skills, try these tutorials

["Google drawing tutorials"](#)

Want to brush up on some **HTML** skills? Try these tutorials

["Create and style a webpage for an anime drawing tutorial"](#)

Have a great half term and don't eat too many sweets on Halloween!

Ms Steventon



Art

What to continue creating OP art?

Why not have a go at a halloween Agamograph. These clever folded pictures reveal different images when viewed from different angles.

[Halloween Agamograph](#)

Or improve your sketch book work and research an artist

[how to revise an artist? .](#)

PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary East pupils have explored hockey and basketball this half term. 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 exploring basketball, learning how to dribble a basketball, different passes, shooting into the hoop and taking part in basketball games.

Many Key Stage 4 pupils have started their Sports Leaders Course which is delivered by Rugby Works every Thursday and

pupils are supporting primary pupils extremely well during PE lessons and lunchtimes.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymska

District, Metropolitan & Hammersmith

In music, pupils have focussed on the elements of Pulse and Rhythm, learning the meaning of these key terms and developing their musical understanding of playing and creating music to fit with the pulse. This culminated in creating our own class composition of 'Time' using tuned percussion, keyboards and guitars.

In drama, pupils have been looking at developing their story-telling skills through working in small groups to operate a paper person puppet. They have had to build their puppet, help their puppet complete an obstacle course and carry out day to day activities.

KS4 Music

Pupils have started their course this year which will enable them to gain accredited music qualifications from AQA. For the introductory unit we have looked at the key musical elements of Pulse and Rhythm, using a variety of instruments and body percussion to hone understanding. In addition, the vital skills of turn-taking, listening and following cues have been a major focus.

Christmas Shows

As our school has grown the performances have grown as well and this year there will be three separate performances taking place in December. With so many pupils now at the school this will mean they have more performance time to showcase their work and it also allows more audience space so everyone who wishes to attend can do so.

The performances are as follows:-
Primary - 'The Snowman' Wednesday 6th
December 10:30am Main Hall
Secondary West - 'The Snowman'
Wednesday 6th December 2pm Main Hall
Secondary East - 'The Little Match Girl'
Wednesday 13th December 1:45pm
Activity Studio We look forward to seeing
you at the performances to celebrate the
fantastic work of our pupils together.

