

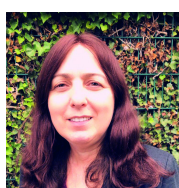


CURRICULUM NEWS

2023 Autumn Term 2 - Secondary West

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Deputy Headteacher's Welcome



As we bid farewell to a busy term, I am thrilled to share a few of the remarkable highlights from our wide range of activities.

The school production of The Snowman showcased outstanding performances by Primary and Secondary West pupils, creating a truly memorable experience. Similarly, Secondary East captivated audiences with their impressive presentation of The Little Match Girl in the performing arts showcase.

Among my highlights is the TGS Young Enterprise Team, they demonstrated dedication and hard work. Their biscuits especially were a resounding success, and sold out during all the performances.

The dedication of our pupils shone brightly on Pupils Progressed Day, where we celebrated their exceptional strides across various curriculum areas. Witnessing their progress left me genuinely moved. It is inspiring to see our pupils consistently meet and exceed expectations. Thanks to parents and carers for your ongoing support in improving attendance. Our school's average has now reached an impressive 92%, positively influencing progress throughout the school.

Wishing you all a peaceful and healthy holiday. Best wishes, Helen Georgiades, Deputy

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



As we come to the end of a very busy Autumn Term, it is such a pleasure to reflect on all of the hard work that has gone on across the school. We

have set up a Curriculum Development Team, which allows us to develop and monitor all curriculum subjects and ensure that we are providing the best possible education for all of our pupils. This has been hugely successful. Our focus this term has been PSHE, Maths and Humanities, and we aim to cover different subjects going forward into Spring Term. Reading continues to be a priority at The Grove, with Phonics, Guided Reading and Reading for Meaning happening across the school consistently. I would like to take this time to remind parents how beneficial reading at home can be for pupils. Any time you can set aside for reading over the holidays would help your child develop their vocabulary and understanding, as well as prepare them for more learning next term.

Have a wonderful break!

Best Wishes,

Molly Stopps
Senior Faculty Lead

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
8th January	INSET Day - No pupils
9th January	Pupils back to school
15th January	Martin Luther King Day
16th January	Coffee Morning at Downhills Park Cafe. 10.45-12
21st January	World Religion Day
24th January	Family Workshop
25th January	Grove Governors
27th January	Holocaust Memorial Day
31st January	Family Workshop
6th February	Family Workshop
12th - 17th February	Half Term
14th February	Ash Wednesday
12th - 16th February	Half Term
9th February	Pupils back to school
26th February	Women's History Month
4th March	World Book Day



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

Wow what a term! I would like to say thank you to all of the families who have been in touch this term and to those that have welcomed me into their homes.

This half term I saw some wonderful celebrations for Anti-Bullying week and the Winter show practice and performances. I have been fortunate enough to teach Marylebone Relationship and Sex Education and have been astounded by their maturity as we covered topics including forced marriage, abuse, types of relationships, sex and contraception. I have also had the opportunity to teach District where we had a focus on Online Safety, again some excellent work and recognition for safety aspects online.

Ready for the new year we have a Coffee Morning on Tuesday 16th January 2023 at 10.45am-12.00. We will have this one at Downhills Park Cafe.

Just a reminder for the 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. It is called The Grove Families Group - if you search for it the image is The Grove logo.

Last but not least pupils who have access to Thrive, PBS and Trauma Informed direct support will be reviewed and parents contacted in the new year. Referrals can be made by staff and families for these services, therefore I will send information home in January detailing what each service can provide / support with. Wishing you all a wonderful break.

Best wishes, Nadine Huseyin
Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead

Pastoral and Behaviour - Mr Louis Maunder

Hi everyone,

It has been a long but incredibly successful Autumn Term, with so many success stories evident across the departments.

It was an absolute pleasure to see the Christmas Shows this year, and everyone involved should be so proud of what they achieved. All of the hard work from pupils and staff members really did pay off and it was great to see so many happy faces in the audience.

We have had 3 very successful Family Workshops this term. Our 'Careers and Next Steps' session was incredibly well attended and our families really benefited from hearing from a range of different providers and ex-pupils. The session run by our SaLT Team was also very well received and it is great that we are able to offer workshops from such skilled professionals. We look forward to seeing more of you at the sessions we will be running in the new year.

I hope that you all manage to have a restful break and I look forward to working alongside more of you in 2024!

Best wishes,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Pastoral and Behaviour

Career News

It has been a fantastic term for careers and enrichment activities across the school. We are so proud of our Young Enterprise team who have raised over £200 through their hard work and creativity. They have raised money for their business and will be having a stall at Spitalfields in March! We will keep everyone posted on their achievements.

We have lots of exciting opportunities coming up next term such as a trip to the RSC to see a play at the Barbican, immersive art exhibitions and hopefully another visit from the Fire Brigade.

It is an exciting time for Careers and Enrichment at The Grove and you can find out more information on the website in our "Sixth Form and Careers" section.

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



CLASS NEWS

SECONDARY WEST NEWS

HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST

Merry Christmas to all our families! The pupils in Secondary West have continued to build on the fantastic start they made earlier in the term. Pupils are now all very settled in their new classes and are continuing to build and develop good relationships within the department; staff are working hard to ensure that all pupils achieve and reach their full potential.

Key stage 3 pupils have continued to work on the "Myths and Legends" theme this term and have been exploring different mythical stories in their literacy lessons. In Key Stage 4 pupils have continued to explore their "Global Citizen" theme whilst working towards their entry level examinations or AQA awards.

All classes have continued to enjoy forest school each week and regular step into dance or rugby works lessons. Piccadilly class have been attending climbing lessons on Monday afternoons and have made great progress there. Northern, Central, Bakerloo and Piccadilly have enjoyed a visit to the Little Angel Theatre to watch either "Big bad me" or "The bed" and Bakerloo class enjoyed a visit to the British museum to take part in an interactive workshop based on ancient Greece. Have a great holiday and thank you for your continued support this half term.
Miss Jac

Maths:

The main focus across maths in Autumn 2 has been around 'number'. Pupils have been mastering their number bonds. For some to 10, with others 50-100. The pupils progressed into adding 2 and 5, as well as adding 10 more to numbers. For some pupils, they were confidently tackling the addition of a 2-digit number and a 1-digit number, specifically where the sum crosses the 10 mark.

Bakerloo will finish the term learning around 'measure' - Identify short/long on request and end by measuring using cm.

English:

The book of focus for autumn 2 was 'Puff The Magic Dragon'. Most pupils have been constructing three or four part sentences about what's happening. Pupils were able to sequence events which supported them to answer comprehension questions (who?, what?, where?, and why?) Pupils used word banks to help them to write their descriptive sentences. Next half term, pupils will be reading *Coming to England* - an inspiring true story celebrating the Windrush generation.

Humanities:

In **geography**, pupils were able to identify the features of a forest. Pupils used symbols and language boards to write sentences to effectively describe a forest. In **religious education**, pupils explored the Christian story of *Noah's Ark*. They have explored the storyline, characters, and setting, expressing their thoughts and ideas through both writing and drawing.

As part of **independence and life skills**, Bakerloo class had their trip offsite to *The*

British Museum in which we practiced our travel training on the London Underground. In addition, we continued to use the food tech room once a week, reading adapted, pupil-friendly recipes to practice skills such as rolling a dough to make a shape. Pupils followed recipes to make shortbread and flatbread.

HOME LEARNING

- Our *Little Wandle* reading scheme books will be home with your child as well as a book of their choice. Read with/to them and practice comprehension questions throughout (who/what/where/when/why? questions)

Computing - Research a London landmark. Draw it and write facts about it.

Practice number bonds, addition and subtraction with access to our fun, friendly 'Numbots'

<https://play.numbots.com/#/intro>



CLASS NEWS

Hello Central Class families,

We hope you are all doing well. Here we are to update you about what we've been up to in the second part of the Autumn Term. It has been a fun-filled and busy half

term especially with all the rehearsals for our school show. What a brilliant performance it was! It's been fantastic to see everyone learning and having fun together. We're continuing to work hard to get AQA certificates in all our subjects, and here's a glimpse of some of the things we've been up to.

In English, we have talked a lot about feelings and emotions recently in our speaking and listening module. The pupils have been fantastic in expressing themselves during these activities. Next half term, we will be getting ready to read about different 'places.'

In Maths, we have finished learning about shapes and patterns and will soon dive into number facts. The pupils are doing great with all the maths concepts we have been working on!

In Science, we have explored different places where animals live. Next, we'll learn about animals, including humans, and how they change over time. We hope the pupils will be really curious and excited about this. In PSHE, we have talked about how to keep our minds healthy.

Next, we'll explore how to keep our bodies healthy and the changes our bodies go through. This term we have been 'Global Citizens' and have completed two modules each in Geography, History and RE and as part of our thematic learning in KS4. We will be moving to becoming 'Creative Citizens' and focusing on Art and Design Technology in Spring term. We have improved at reading maps and learned about the incredible Vikings and interesting myths and legends like Anansi the Spider. We also learned about winter celebrations from different religions. As part of our SEARCH values, we have been focussing on Empathy and have talked a lot about understanding and helping each

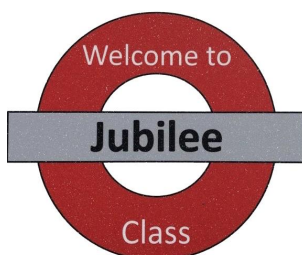
other. Next we'll be focussing on Acceptance which means being kind to everyone.

HOME LEARNING

Keep enjoying reading together at home. Reading is beneficial because it can improve focus, memory, empathy, and communication skills. It can also reduce stress and improve your mental health. There are also lots of resources available online that can help support our learning. Try some number fact games [here](#) and there are some phonics games [here](#) in preparation for our Spring reading module. Enjoy the recent legend of how Anansi got his long legs together [here](#). Try these out with your child to make learning fun!

As we get ready for a break, I want to thank you for your support. Wishing you all a restful and happy holiday!

Warm regards,
The Central Class Team



CLASS NEWS

Jubilee have been busy, busy, busy this half term.

In English we have been working on our speaking and listening skills in a discussion unit where we have been exploring all things emotional. We've read a range of stories about managing our emotions and have discussed a variety of scenarios, looking at how we can help ourselves and others around us. We even found time for some pupils to complete a mock Entry Level

Reading paper. The pupils were hugely focused and did really well.

In Maths our topic has been geometry and we have revised the properties of a range of 2D and 3D shapes. We regularly practise Entry level papers in Maths and the pupils are making great progress.

In Science we have been exploring classification of animals and have investigated some different habitats, identifying how animals have adapted to the places where they live. The pupils have completed a range of AQA units in Science and are very proud of all their work.

In Humanities we have continued our topic on migration. In Geography we have linked with Food Tech and have cooked and sampled the food and lifestyles of different cultures. In History we have been exploring the stories that have travelled with people as they've come to the UK and in RE we have learned about different light festivals. This has linked well with our Christmas Show performance where we shared a St Lucian light festival celebration with everyone as well as showing off our moves with a Soca dance!

On top of all this, pupils have engaged with social skills groups, drumming, dance, piano lessons, regular trips to Tesco and the Life Skills flat and Forest School. We can only do all of this because of Jubilee's consistent hard work and effort - we are so proud of them!

HOME LEARNING

- Continue to read their guided reading and free choice books with

them. Focus on any difficult words or sounds and revisit them regularly.

- Keep cooking and shopping together. These are important life skills and a great way to work on following instructions, everyday maths skills and communication.
- Jubilee have been working on managing clothing in the Life Skills flat. Encourage them to switch on the washing machine, peg clothes to dry and match and fold clean clothes.
- Top marks is a great website for maths games. Jubilee love Hit the Button in particular.

continued the development of key foundational skills/concepts, including 1:1 correspondence and forming visual representations on request. Finally in, Science, Northern class explored a range of habitats and the animals associated with them. Pupils identified animal markings and described how animals move in the wild.

In addition to the foundation subjects, Northern class have covered Christianity in RE, discovering the story of Noah's Ark. They developed self-care and independence skills in PSHE and experimented with mark-making and typing during ICT. A highlight of the term still remains our Monday morning Yoga sessions where we have seen fantastic progress and increased involvement from the whole class.



CLASS NEWS

Happy holidays from the Northern class team! As we come to the end of a long and busy term, it is lovely to look back at the fantastic achievements of all of the pupils in Northern.

We have continued to explore the theme of 'Myths & Legends' this half term, with a focus on Australian Aboriginal *DreamTime* stories. The Rainbow Serpent sensory story provided pupils with engaging learning opportunities to expand both core and topic specific vocabulary. In addition, as a class we used this story as a background for our Winter Play theme and made props based on the story and culture of Australian Aboriginals. Maths focussed on basic addition through concrete representations. Pupils

HOME LEARNING

- We will be reading *Chapatti Moon* for English in the new year, please feel free to watch the read-along story on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZAH7gPuZiE>
- As we move onto subtraction in Maths, I encourage you to find opportunities to involve number wherever possible around the home, for example: Take one cup, give one plate, how many can you see... Support with counting day to day objects ensuring that numbers are said out loud and coincide with the physical objects being counted.



CLASS NEWS

This term in maths, our main focus has been on addition. Pupils have focused on lots of skills including number bonds to ten and twenty, adding three one digit numbers, adding a one digit number to a two digit number and adding two two digit numbers using column addition. We are now also looking at length and height, and using rulers to measure.

In English, Piccadilly class have been reading *The Legend of Robin Hood* this half term. Pupils have been working hard to answer questions about what they have read particularly who, what, where and when questions. Like last half term, pupils have been working towards writing a newspaper report about a key event from the story.

In Geography, Piccadilly class have been learning about forests. Pupils have explored and compared the Amazon Rainforest in South America, Sherwood Forest in the UK and the Black Forest in Germany. They have looked at the features of the forests and the plants and animals living there as well as considering why forests are important.

In Science, we have focused on animals and their habitats. Pupils have explored rainforests, deserts, the Arctic and the ocean. As part of this, they considered what animals live in each habitat and how they are adapted to their habitat. They have also looked at food chains.

In RE, we have been reading the Christian story, Noah's Ark. The children have retold the story, described the characters and discussed the significance of the rainbow at the end of the story.

Well done on another fantastic half term Piccadilly Class. We are all so proud of you! Have a great winter break.

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 next term's maths focus, some fun subtraction games can be found [here](#).
- This term in computing, we have been using [Chrome Music Lab](#). Your child may enjoy using this website more at home.

PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary West department pupils focus on specific gross motor skills every half term during PE lessons. This half term pupils focused on developing their running technique, jumping with two feet, balancing, hopping, throwing and catching. Pupils have also explored handball and tag rugby.

Pupils have learnt how to dribble, pass and score in handball. This has been a new sport added to the PE curriculum this year which pupils have thoroughly enjoyed and engaged with.

Pupils have also enjoyed exploring tag rugby, learning how to hold the ball, pass and how to score a rugby try.

Bakerloo, Jubilee and Piccadilly classes have enjoyed weekly dance lessons every Tuesday with our Step Into Dance

Instructor. Piccadilly Class have attended climbing lessons at Stronghold Climbing Centre which have been extremely engaging and exciting for our pupils. A number of pupils across Secondary West have also recently started their Sports Leaders Award by leading and supporting primary pupils in PE lessons.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

Secondary West

In Performing Arts, pupils have been working hard to prepare their performances for the Christmas Show, 'The Snowman'. In the show, the Snowman goes on an adventure around the world. On his journey he makes lots of new friends and discovers a lot about different cultures. Pupils created costumes and props to support their performance and really enjoyed meeting, dancing and making music with the Snowman. The fantastic performances they gave on Wednesday 6th December were a joy to see and it was incredible to see the progress that they have made.

