



CURRICULUM NEWS

2024 Spring Term 1 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Deputy Headteacher's Welcome



It is hard to imagine that we are already wrapping up the first half of the Spring term.

As part of our ongoing commitment to our school vision, 'To make a difference and change lives for the better', I am pleased to share that all faculty and subject leads have been working hard to further develop and refine The Grove curriculum.

All our CPD has been carefully tailored to enhance all staff subject knowledge and their implementation of the curriculum. During my visits to classrooms across the school, it has been wonderful to see pupils so actively engaged in their learning.

Additionally, we devoted our INSET Day to further developing our knowledge of ADHD, in partnership with the ADHD Foundation. as part of our ongoing effort to earn the ADHD Friendly School Award.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership working to help us to make the learning experiences for your children the best they can be. Have a good half term!

Best wishes, Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum



I can't believe we are already at the end of our first Spring half term! It has been a short but busy half term, with lots going on

regarding the curriculum and teaching and learning. We have continued to monitor the development of our curriculum to ensure that it is meaningful, personalised and challenging for all of our pupils. We have begun deep dives into different subjects which has given us the opportunity to get into different classes across the school. It has been lovely to see such inspiring teaching and to see pupils so engaged in their learning.

There are many parent workshops taking place next term focusing on different areas of the curriculum and how we can support our pupils, please do look out for more information as the term progresses.

Have a restful break and I look forward to welcoming the pupils back for Spring 2.

Best Wishes,
Molly Stopps Senior Faculty Lead

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
February	LGBTQ+ History Month
12th - 16th February	Half Term
19th February	INSET - No Pupils
20th February	Pupils back to school
7th March	World Book Day
19th March	Mother's Day
15th March	Red Nose Day
21st March	World Down Syndrome Day
22nd March	World Water Day
23th - 24th March	Purim
25th March	Holi
22nd March	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
28th March	End of Term
15th April	INSET - No Pupils
16th April	Pupils back to school



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

What a short term this is! I am sorry I have not been able to squeeze a coffee morning in but I shall get that organised for our return after the February break.

Tuesday 6th February was **Safer Internet Day**, this takes place in February of each year to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all, and especially for children and young people. Have a look on <https://www.saferinternetday.org/> which has some great resources.

The UK Safer Internet Centre has some great information, you can find it via this link <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Some of you may be interested in mental health support, there are a few great websites here:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>

As always, thank you for your support. 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 an incredibly short half-term, yet it still feels like we have managed to pack a huge amount in across the whole school.

We have had some incredibly well attended family workshops this half-term, with sessions focused around anxiety, function of behaviour and behaviour strategies. It has been amazing to see some new faces at these workshops and for me to meet some new people.

Family workshops for the remainder of the year will have more of a curriculum focus and will be led by some of our wonderful class teachers and subject leads. Topics will include sensory stories, phonics, OT strategies and many more. Please keep an eye out for information on how to sign up.

Best wishes,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Pastoral and Behaviour

Career News

It's been busy on the Careers and Enrichment front this half term. We've had pupils from Secondary West going on trips to the British Museum, Key Stage Four pupils involved in Scope, (a 121's career advice service for young people aged 15 and above) there have been two theatre trips, one to The witches at the National and one to the RSC and Barbican Theatre to see My Neighbour Totoro. Both trips were a great success and it was lovely to hear a pupil say that seeing My

Neighbour Totoro was 'the best day of their life'. Some of our primary department families are taking part in workshops to create music with their children. The Sixth Form still continue with their regular work experience at Kentish Town City Farm and Five Guys! **THANK YOU** so much to all the staff who supported these activities. It means so much to our pupils.

These are some of the careers and enrichment activities that are coming up next term:

- Art trips of secondary west classes to 'Frameless'
- Employability visits for key stage 4 to the Rugby Works Offices
- On site drama workshops with 'Monkey Moves'
- 'Becoming a chef' trip to Pizza Express
- The Gaming Bus! TBC

CAREERS WEEK 4th March - 8th March with our CAREERS FAIR on Thursday 7th March.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions around careers or options for post 16 and beyond and if any parents know of any local businesses or companies that would be willing to take our pupils for work experience opportunities please let us know. You can contact me via the office email.

office@thegroveschool.co.uk or on 020 3876 6555

Bronja Elton - Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead

PRIMARY NEWS

HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS

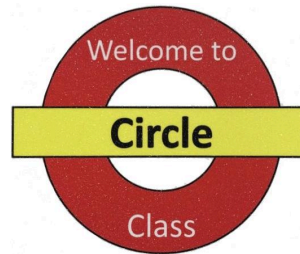
It feels like we have just returned from the winter break and now we are preparing to finish for half term!

The pupils have returned to school and settled back really well into the school routines and actively engaging in learning.

The Primary classes have been reading and learning about stories from other cultures which they have all seemed to enjoy. In art, the focus has been on street art and they have had fun making their own designs. Our cultural studies focus has been France which has culminated in the school kitchen cooking up a french cuisine storm for lunch!

Victoria Class have continued going for swimming sessions this half term which they have really enjoyed and from speaking to the class team, the pupils have made great individual progress. Mr Proctor has been in contact with Tottenham Green Leisure Centre and they are reopening meaning we can move our swimming sessions a bit closer to school and hopefully give more pupils the opportunity to attend swimming sessions.

Have a great half term!



CLASS NEWS

Circle class had a great first half to the spring term!

Our theme this term in English is stories from other cultures. Circle class have been reading the story Grace and Family by Mary Hoffman. Pupils enjoyed the story and were able to write postcards from the perspective of the main character, Grace. We have also been learning about diary entries and will finish the half term writing our own diary entries.

In maths, we have been learning about subtraction. Pupils have been working on 3 digit subtraction using base ten resources.

In Science, we have been learning about the function of different organs in the human body. Pupils have learned about the physical impact of exercise on our heart and lungs, and about the physical features and purpose of the brain. We have even made our own model lungs to explore what happens when we inhale and exhale.

The topic for history this half term has been the Great Fire of London, pupils have really enjoyed learning about the different jobs people did in the 17th century and how different life was back then.

Circle class have been learning about algorithms in computing and have been working with beebots to see what happens when you input a command.

In art, Circle class have been exploring street art and the work of local artists. They have been able to explore some of the different techniques that are used in street art and have created their own pieces in the style of a local artist.

HOME LEARNING

- Pupils will all receive a reading book every Friday, which they have already read in class. It would be great if you could take some time over the weekend to listen to your child read so that they can share their great progress with you!
- Pupils have worked very hard in maths this term on developing their skills in subtraction so it would be great for them to continue with doing some basic subtraction at home.
- As we have been learning about the human body it would be great for Circle class to get involved with some daily exercise and see what happens to their heart rate and breathing.

communication, in particular making requests, commenting and describing. In English, pupils have enjoyed engaging in exploring sensory activities around the story '[Handa's hen](#)'. They used sentence strips and symbols to comment on the book, and learnt to describe characters from the story. Also, they have been completing fine motor skills tasks and practising letter formation and writing. In Maths, we focused on 2D shapes. City class learners used their skills to identify, sort, and make 2D shapes using different materials.

In Science, the pupils learnt about the human body. They started identifying facial features, then continued identifying and labelling body parts. In Art, City class explored street art and they used stencils and rollers to create patterns. In History, we explored The Great Fire of London through a sensory story, and we looked at building materials for homes in historical times. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Acceptance and ways to accept changes, and we looked at Sikhism through Vaisakhi Day celebrations. In Computing, the pupils explored programming by operating different devices. In Cultural studies, we travelled to French speaking countries, ate local snacks and listened to and danced to music. Finally, in PSHE, we learnt about people who help us and we practised hygiene routines.

Next term, we will continue to explore books from other cultures. In English we will continue to work on developing reading and writing skills through phonics, fine motor skills and letter formation sessions. In Maths, we will focus on recognising and using money, and measuring weight and volume. In Science we will learn about Light, sound and electricity.



CLASS NEWS

It has been a very busy term for City class

Our theme this term is 'Stories from other cultures'. Across all subjects of the curriculum our focus has been

HOME LEARNING

- English - read with your child for at least 5 minutes a day. They will take home their reading books.
- Maths - practise counting steps or toys with them (up to 5 or 10), and encourage them to describe objects
- Science - you can encourage your child to label body parts through games



CLASS NEWS

This term has been amazing. The pupils have made great progress. Our emphasis during this term has centred on exploring diverse cultures, with a particular focus on Africa. The pupils have gained a new understanding of the continent and have really enjoyed learning about the stories, culture and food.

During this half term, in English pupils have explored the story called 'Anna Hibiscus Song.' Pupils used their knowledge relating to the book to answer the 'what,' 'who,' and 'why' questions. Additionally, students have explored the African culture, Through identifying the unique patterns of African attires and made pounded yam to relate to the African culture.

In Maths, Elizabeth's class took a deep dive into Subtraction, within this topic pupils engaged in problem-solving and understanding the structure of number

sentences. Pupils were able to develop their handwriting and fine motor skills through tracing and practising their number formation. Additionally, our focus has expanded to identifying 2D and 3D shapes and its key features.

In History, pupils learnt about 'The Great Fire,' understanding what events occurred and looking at the key characteristics of how houses were built in the past. In Cultural studies pupils explored the key aspects of France, pupils also used their 5 senses to explore different French foods (sight, smell, taste, and touch). In Art, pupils explored the works of Ben Eine, gaining an understanding of street art and expressing their observations using core boards to aid with their sentence structure. Finally, in Science pupils learnt about the key characteristics of animals and identity different groups of animals based on the key features of animals.

HOME LEARNING

- Next term will focus on the theme 'Stories from other cultures'. We will read different stories from various different cultures and write a diary entry . Pupils could look at different diary entries to start to familiarise themselves with the structure. In Geography we will be exploring the landscapes of London, in science we will learn about light and sound.
- Maths: Children could play [subtraction games](#) to refresh their knowledge. They could also listen to this [song](#). Pupils can also touch base on shapes using this [game](#) to use shapes making objects. Next half term, we will focus on using a

range of 2D shapes and weight and volume.

- English: Pupils could listen to their story from this half term, '[Anna Hibiscus Song](#)' you can ask your child who, what and why questions relating to the story. As mentioned before, pupils could also explore a diary and its layout.



CLASS NEWS

This term Victoria Class have been exploring the book 'Dumpling

Day' as an introduction to our theme of stories from other cultures. We have loved having the opportunity to touch, smell and taste some of the different foods from the story, such as samosas, apple pies and gyozas. We have worked hard to comment on what we can see, feel and taste using vocabulary boards, and build sentences using our AAC systems to create our own diaries, to record our experiences. Creating diary entries has also allowed us to become really confident in recognising and ordering the days of the week!

Maths has been good too! We've been developing our knowledge of shapes in a variety of ways. We have had lots of fun having a go at lots of different shape sorters and puzzles to help us work on our fine motor skills at the same time. We have become really good at matching and sorting symbols, photos and concrete 2D shapes. We loved finding shapes in sensory trays and labelling them using our AAC devices, as well as practising tracing and drawing shapes too. We have also had

fun learning about shapes in our environment by finding different shaped objects.

As well as working on core subjects, we have also been doing some fantastic work in subjects such as Art through exploring street Art, specifically the character 'Stik'. We have enjoyed looking at different animal street art and reassembling cut up photos to find the different animals. We've also had fun identifying colours and using paint to create our own versions of 'Stik' art. Another subject we have really thrown ourselves into is History, and the story of 'The Great Fire of London'. We have enjoyed listening to the story, dressing up, listening to songs such as 'London's Burning' and putting out foam fires!

HOME LEARNING

Next term we will continue exploring the theme of stories from other cultures, through 'Handa's Hen' by Eileen Brown, which you can listen to [here](#). Within the story there are lots of different animals that you could start thinking about by listening to '[The Safari Song](#)' or the '[Africa Conga](#)', or even take a day trip to the zoo! Or perhaps, for something more relaxing, you could have a go at making your very own hen (which you can find out how to do, [here](#)). We will be focusing on money in Maths. There are lots of ways you could start to think about money at home, such as playing shops, pressing coins in playdough to make prints, and listening to songs like '[5 Currant Buns](#)' and '[The Money Song](#)'. In Science, we will be exploring 'Light, Sound and Electricity', which is very exciting. You could start thinking about at home by looking around the house for things that light up or make sounds. You could even have a go at

making your own sounds to feel vibrations, such as banging a wooden spoon on a pot or hitting together two saucepan lids!

It has been so much fun this term learning lots of new things! We cannot wait for next term in Victoria Class! Have a fab break everyone.

The Victoria Class Team



CLASS NEWS

This term Waterloo class dove straight into their learning and

have been super engaged across the curriculum. I have been very impressed with their enthusiasm and interest in their new learning topics, particularly with history and science. It has been a short but sweet half term!

In English this half term, we have started a new theme of stories from other cultures. Our focus has been on 'the Saqid collection', starting with 'Sadiq and the Bridge Builders'. The pupils have read the chapter book and used their comprehension skills to answer questions about the story. We have developed our writing skills, focusing on techniques such as expanded noun phrases and postcard writing using the first person. Our end goal was to create a diary entry from the perspective of the main character Sadiq. To prepare for this we used 'hot seating' which allowed us to think like the character we were writing about. We also learnt the layout and techniques used in a diary which helped with developing our writing. I've been very impressed with

how dedicated the pupils have been to their learning and the extra effort they have put into their presentation and checking over their work.

During the first half of spring term, Waterloo class has been learning all about angles. We have learnt how to identify angles as well as developing our ability to use a protractor to measure angles too. We have built our understanding of subtraction, particularly focusing on exchanging numbers. We have also continued our focus on answering worded questions and how to break these down so they are easier to understand, now using our subtraction skills to answer the question.

In art, Waterloo class explored the works of street artist 'Phlegm'. The pupils have worked hard to recreate his work in their own style. Waterloo class have loved history this half term. We have focused on The Great Fire of London, learning all about the 17th century, Samuel Pepys and the Great fire itself. It has been great to see them so enthusiastic about a topic. In science we have learnt about the human body, focusing on the heart, lungs and brain and how they help to keep us alive!

HOME LEARNING

- Next term we'll continue learning about our topic of **stories from other cultures**. We have loved reading 'Sadiq and the Bridge builders' so will continue with a different book from the same collection next half term. We will continue to read 'The Explorers'. If pupils would like to revisit the

story over the half term, the whole book has been read aloud on [this youtube channel](#).

- Maths: Pupils could practise measuring angles using [this game](#). They can also use [this game](#) to practise describing turns. [Artistic angles](#) is a great game for recapping how to describe angles.
- English: In order to continue the solid progress pupils have made in their independent reading, I strongly encourage pupils to continue reading for pleasure over the break. Pupils will each be bringing home a book to read from our school library over the half term break.
- Subjects: Waterloo class can do their daily brain wake up with [wordle](#), [flagle](#) and [globe](#). They can also go on walks around their local area to explore street art- how many different artists can they find?

PE News with Mr Proctor

Primary department pupils focus on specific gross motor skills every half term during PE lessons. This half term pupils focused on developing their running technique, hopping, balancing, throwing and catching. Pupils have also explored table tennis, dance and yoga.

Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed exploring table tennis which supports hand eye coordination development and pupils have engaged very well with dance lessons which have included yoga movements throughout the sessions.

All primary pupils have the opportunity to attend weekly Rugby Works sports sessions which focus on social skills and

working as a team in a sports environment.

Circle and Elizabeth class have recently started dance lessons every Tuesday morning which are led by our Step Into Dance instructor. Victoria class have continued to attend swimming lessons this half term and pupil's water confidence, engagement and participation has drastically improved since the first session.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

Primary

Waterloo

In music, pupils have been following a theme based on Toys. They have begun to learn about how music can represent different types of toys and used voice, body percussion and classroom instruments to create music for different types of toys. In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

In drama, we've focused on the story of 'Where The Wild Things Are'. Pupils have been exploring different aspects of the story and it's themes through performing and devising their own ideas.

Circle

In performing arts, pupils have been following a theme based on Animals. They have begun to learn about how music can represent different types of animals and used voice, body percussion and classroom instruments to create music for different types of animals. They have also learnt how to use their voice and physicality to role play as different animal characters. In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

Victoria, City & Elizabeth Class

In Performing Arts, pupils have been following a theme based on An Indian Wedding. Pupils have performed different types of drumming patterns and have begun to learn a traditional Bhangra dance. They have also been singing familiar songs and learning how to play some of the different percussion instruments together. In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

Performing Arts Enrichment

Instrumental Lessons

Haringey Music Service have been continuing to offer one to one piano lessons to some of our gifted and talented music pupils. It is incredible to see how much progress they have been making in these lessons and how their confidence has grown. In addition, violin lessons are available provided by Miss Emily. As with piano, lessons take place during the school day but please note that pupils will need to provide their own instrument as these are not available in school .If you would think your child might want to begin violin lessons please contact Miss Emily to discuss further.

