



CURRICULUM NEWS

2024 Spring Term 1 - Secondary West

*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. This is 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](mailto:office@thegroveschool.co.uk) or on 020 3876 6555

Bronja Elton - Director of Sixth Form/Careers Lead

CLASSROOM NEWS

SECONDARY WEST NEWS

HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST

It's been a very quick half term and life in the secondary west department has been full of action. Key Stage 3's overall theme this term is "It's a wonderful world", pupils have been learning about animals in science and reading literature from around the world in English alongside discovering the black death and life in the middle ages in Humanities. In Key Stage 4 the overall theme is "creative citizens" and pupils are focussing on subjects within the arts for their AQA awards.

This term Jubilee class have begun climbing lessons on Monday afternoons and are thoroughly enjoying it. Some pupils from Bakerloo and Northern Classes have started to go to horse riding lessons on Tuesdays and are making great progress. Piccadilly class enjoyed a trip to the Natural history museum to participate in an interactive workshop and all classes have continued to enjoy forest school lessons.

I hope you all have a lovely restful half term break.

Miss Jac



CLASS NEWS

Maths:

The two strands in math this half term were subtraction and shape. For some, pupils began by identifying which group has fewer. For others, they would subtract using physical resources such as ten frames, cubes etc. As their confidence grew, word problems were introduced to build on their comprehension knowledge. We finished the term learning about shapes and their properties.

English:

The story book this half term has been the inspiring true story by Floella Benjamin "Coming to England". Pupils wrote about characters and pictures in the book and made sure to include adjectives. To finish, pupils explored and practiced writing in the first person and wrote simple diary entries based on *Floella* and what she saw in London.

Humanities:

In **history**, pupils were learning about the *Black Death* and how it was spread. With symbols and language boards, pupils wrote sentences to effectively communicate symptoms as well as the cause.

In **religious education**, Pupils explored the Sikh story of celebrating *Vaisakhi Day* with the intention of building an understanding of the story. Pupils explored the storyline, key vocabulary and engaged with props - they loved climbing in a tent as well as having photos trying on Sikh turbans. Pupils were then able to write about their experience. As part of **independence and**

life skills, pupils continued to use the food tech room once a week, reading adapted, pupil-friendly recipes to practice skills such as mixing, pouring and weighing. Pupils followed recipes to make raisin oatcakes and muffins.

HOME LEARNING

- Pupils will be choosing books for pleasure to take home as well as having their *Little Wandle* phonics reading books - Please read these with your pupil.
- For geography pupils will be learning 'place knowledge' on a region in South America. Pupils could use the internet to pre-research somewhere like Brazil, Chile, Peru etc and draw landmarks, beaches etc.



CLASS NEWS

Hello Central Class families!

We hope this newsletter finds you all well and we wish you a very happy new year. It's been such a quick half a term and we have been very busy trying to fit everything in. As I'm sure you're now aware, we are continuing to work hard to get AQA certificates in all our subjects. In English, we have been working on a reading module and have been reading a selection of folk-tales from Africa such as 'How the Rhino got his grey skin' and 'Anansi and his skinny legs. We will be

continuing with this module after the holidays before completing another short unit award with a focus on reading. In Maths, we have completed a module on fractions and will be moving on to learning more about number 'facts'. In Science, we have been learning a lot about types of animals, how they adapt, classifying them and looking at food chains as part of our topic on 'animals including humans, evolution and inheritance'. Next half term, we will be completing a module under the topic of 'light, sound and electricity'. We hope this might be a fun topic to explore with practical applications. In PSHE, we have been learning about safety - both in terms of personal safety and knowing when to seek medical attention or apply simple first aid as well as the green cross code and knowing how to stay safe when walking in the community. We hope to follow this up with some local area trips in the coming months. As part of our thematic learning in KS4, we are currently 'Creative Citizens' and have been focusing on Art. Next half term, we will be moving to complete another creative module in DT which will be about eco-art and junk modelling - we will be requesting you to save items we can recycle for our DT project soon. As part of our SEARCH values, we have been focussing on Acceptance and have talked a lot about accepting help and support. Next half term we'll be focussing on Resilience which means not giving up.

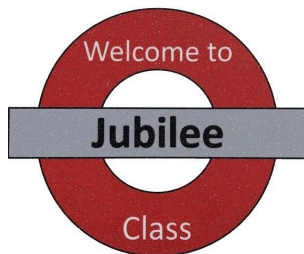
HOME LEARNING

Keep enjoying reading together at home. Reading a well-written book will expose you to more words, and this will help you be a better communicator. There are also lots of resources available online that can

help support our learning. Try some number fact games [here](#) and listen to simple versions of African folk-tales [here](#). Why not have a go at making a fun [recycled craft project](#) together. Try these out with your child to make learning fun! You might also find some useful information and resources [here](#) about crossing the road safely.

We hope you all have a restful half term break.

Warm regards,
The Central Class Team



CLASS NEWS

Jubilee have been getting arts and crafty this half term with our termly topic

all about the arts.

We have been exploring artworks by a range of artists and creating our own marvellous pieces. We've also been focused on planning and evaluation in DT, making sure to learn from and improve on our builds so that we can make even better ones the next time.

In ICT we have been focused on word-processing and formatting, creating a range of documents and using formatting to enhance the meaning.

We have also been lucky enough to visit Stronghold climbing centre each week. The pupils are making fantastic progress in confidence and listening skills and have been really enjoying the visits.

In our core subjects we have been focusing on accreditation. In Maths pupils continue to prepare for AQA units or Entry Levels but we've also taken a little time out to focus on telling the time as it is such an important life skill. In English we've been reading fiction and practising for the assessments and in Science we've been completing an AQA unit all about the human body, conducting a range of experiments and drawing conclusions from them.

Finally in PSHE we have been looking at risk, accidents and emergencies. Pupils have been encouraged to problem-solve and identify situations that they can resolve themselves and to recognise when they need to ask for help.

It has been a really busy half term with so much to squeeze in but the class have continued to always try their hardest - well done Jubilee!

HOME LEARNING

- Draw pupils attention to the clock when starting a new activity. Show them what time it will start and finish and encourage them to tell you the time.
- Keep reading! Pupils have their Guided Reading books every weekend, but enjoy as many stories together as you can.
- We know the pupils enjoy using technology. Explore formatting options with them and see if they can make text bold, italic and more.
- Keep using websites such as TopMarks to practise key maths skills including number bonds and times tables.



CLASS NEWS

A big welcome back and happy new year to all the pupils in Northern class, and what a great start to

the year we have had!

This half-term we have had a big emphasis on communication which has influenced each of our subjects. Within English, we have explored literature from other cultures. Pupils have demonstrated their mastery over new vocabulary through reenacting powerful verbs, leading to the use of new action words to write and follow a recipe to make chapati. Art introduced the work of Camille Walala, her geometric street art inspired our approach to using stencils and had excellent cross curricular links to our topic of shapes in Maths this half term. Science focussed on identifying parts of the body and developing an understanding of our senses. Finally, history was a fun and messy adventure through the middle ages, exploring herbal medicines, how homes were made and the 'black death'.

Next half-term we will continue our focus on communication and the use of core-vocabulary in the classroom. We will be looking into adjectives and their meanings through a new culturally diverse story in English. Maths will see pupils have further exposure to the concept of money and exchange as well as looking into weight and volume.

HOME LEARNING

- To continue our focus on core-language at school, I highly recommend core-language to be used at home to give instructions, a core-language board will be sent home to all pupils for the holiday including: give, want, go, look, help and stop.
- Top Marks money games are free and easy to access on a tablet or laptop:
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/math-s-games/3-5-years/money>



CLASS NEWS

This term in maths, our main focus has been on subtraction. Pupils have focused on lots of skills including subtracting a one digit number from a two digit number and subtracting two two digit numbers using column subtraction. We are now also looking at shape, particularly the properties of 3D shapes.

In English, Piccadilly class have been reading *Grace and Family* this half term. Pupils have been working hard to gain a good understanding of the story and of the characters emotions. They have been working on writing in first person and in the past and present tenses in preparation for writing a diary entry at the end of this term.

In History, Piccadilly class have been learning about the Black Death. Pupils have explored what life was like in the middle ages, how the Black Death came to England and the symptoms and

treatments of the Black Death.

In Science, we have focused on animals. Pupils have explored mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles. They have compared the physical features of these groups and classified different animals into these groups. We are now moving on to exploring omnivores, carnivores and herbivores and comparing these different diets.

In Art, we have been looking at street art. We have focused on the local street artist, James Traffon. We hope to go and see some of his work in the local area early next term.

Well done on another excellent half term Piccadilly Class. Have a lovely 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 money games can be found [here](#). You may also wish to explore coins and notes with your child and practise using these to pay for small items at a shop.
- This term in computing, we have been using Bee Bot robots. Your child may enjoy using this [virtual version](#) 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 table tennis, dance and yoga this half term. Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed exploring table tennis which supports hand eye coordination development. Pupils have engaged very well with dance lessons which have included yoga movements throughout the sessions.

Bakerloo, Jubilee and Piccadilly classes have also enjoyed attending weekly dance lessons every Tuesday led by our Step Into Dance instructor. Jubilee class have attended climbing lessons at Stronghold Climbing Centre every Monday afternoon 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. Pupils from Northern and Bakerloo class have been attending horse riding lessons every Tuesday morning which the pupils find very exciting!

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

Piccadilly & Jubilee

In music, pupils have been continuing to develop their Ukulele skills. After reviewing the pieces they learnt last year they have been learning how to play the chords of C Major and A Minor. We've also been singing songs together and learning about how different instruments sound.

In drama, we've focussed 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.

Northern, Central & Bakerloo

In Performing Arts, pupils have been following a theme based on An Indian Wedding. Pupils have performed different types of drumming patterns, begun to learn a traditional Bhangra dance and decorated rangoli patterns. They have also been singing familiar songs and learning how to play some of the different percussion instruments together.

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.

