



CURRICULUM NEWS

2024 Autumn Term 1 - Secondary East

*Inspire Excellence
Challenge Potential
Empower Learning*

Headteacher's Welcome



As we begin the new school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the successes of the past year. We take great pride in our pupils' remarkable accomplishments.

Every pupil who took accreditation exams met or exceeded their predicted grades, reflecting their dedication and hard work. I was also pleased to report to our LGB the sustained and improved progress our pupils made—last year, an impressive 92% of pupils achieved expected progress in both English and mathematics. The year featured a wonderful prom, a cherished tradition enjoyed by all. It was a pleasure to welcome back former pupils who shared their experiences with Supported Internships and the successes they have achieved since.

With the new academic year underway, our dedicated faculty and subject leads are fully committed to offering a curriculum that is both knowledge-rich and engaging. Recognising the individuality of every pupil, The Grove curriculum is thoughtfully designed to address the diverse needs of all learners. Both faculty and subject leads are working diligently to ensure the curriculum is carefully sequenced, building on each pupil's prior knowledge and delivering a well-structured, cohesive learning experience.

Helen Georgiades, Deputy Headteacher

Teaching, Learning, Curriculum

Unbelievably, I find myself writing this article for the first curriculum newsletter of the 2024/25 academic year! It's been a long but action packed first half term. The new staff who started in September have been taking part in induction training which is supporting them to learn all of The Groves processes and systems. New pupils have made a good start to their time at The Grove, developing relationships with staff and peers alike.

The start of the new academic year has seen the Curriculum Development Team meet with a range of subject leads and faculty leads to continue our fantastic work of creating, enhancing and developing our wonderful bespoke curriculum pathways across the school. Myself and Mrs Groome, the Food technology subject lead, have already completed the food tech quality assurance which gave us a chance to observe food tech lessons across the school which was fantastic. It was great to see so many functional lessons allowing pupils to develop their skills in preparing food but also developing and expanding their engagement in different tastes, textures and smells.

Have a lovely half term, best wishes. -

Lee Mills, Assistant Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
28th October - 1st November	Half Term
1st November	Diwali
4th November	INSET - No Pupils
5th November	Pupils back to school
5th November	Guy Fawkes
11th November	Remembrance Day
11th - 15th November	Anti-Bullying week
14th November	Grove Governors
15th November	Children in Need
17th - 23rd November	Road Safety Awareness Week
28th November	Thanksgiving
9th December	Human Rights Day
13th December	Pupil Progress Day - School is closed to Pupils
20th December	End of Term
6th January	INSET - No Pupils
7th January	Pupils back to school



Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

It's been a super busy half term! I have managed to meet many of you this half term; it's been good to catch up!

After this October half term all pupils will be bringing home the attendance letter. The government recently changed guidance around attendance, with attendance codes also changing. Any pupil with attendance below 95% will be invited to meet me during the next half term. The meeting is designed to be supportive and helpful and improve attendance, please do not be concerned. However, I must note that the wording in the letter may feel challenging as it refers to possible next steps. Meetings last just 20 minutes initially; unless there are bigger concerns.

During half term if you have a safeguarding concern please use the numbers below to contact staff at Haringey's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for advice:*

Monday to Thursday 8.45am to 5pm;
Friday 8.45am to 4.45pm Tel: 020 8489 4470

Out of office hours, including weekends the Emergency Duty Team Tel: 020 8489 0000

If you need to speak to the CAMHS crisis team please contact:

CAMHS crisis number: 0800 151 0023.

You can call this number to get help or advice in a crisis from trained mental health advisors and clinicians, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

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

Pastoral and Behaviour - Mr Louis Maunder

Hi everyone,

It has been a long, busy but successful half-term! Autumn 1 is always a shock to the system, and whilst the rain hasn't helped, it has been so wonderful to meet all of the new pupils across the entire school and start to build relationships with them. It has also been great to meet some of the new families too.

This half-term I have really enjoyed training our new staff members, and seeing the commitment, dedication and skill that is already in evidence across the school.

I will be contacting you all soon regarding Family Workshops and it would be great if new families and those who haven't attended before were able to make it to some of the sessions. We are looking to run our training via zoom this year to see if this makes it more accessible.

Enjoy your break,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Behaviour and Wellbeing

Career and Enrichment News

It has already been a busy start to Careers and Enrichment this term across the school. We have welcomed Jackson Lane Circus skills which pupils in secondary are really enjoying. Pupils in year 10 and 11, as part of their STEM curriculum, are again going to Blackhorse Road which continues to develop their carpentry and building skills. We have hosted the 'Communication Pod' for Primary and secondary pupils, had African Storytelling sessions for the whole school as part of

Black History month and pupils in primary have attended 'Frameless' - an immersive art exhibition in central London. Sixth form have started their work placements at Kentish Town City Farm, Boots and Five Guys. We have continued with African Drumming sessions and are hopefully working towards a performance at the Royal Albert Hall! There are also Piano and guitar lessons for more pupils this year, horse riding and Young Enterprise.

In Addition to the Grove Sixth Form, we have also opened The Grove Pre-Supported Internship, in partnership with Haringey and Mencap, this year for pupils aged 16-19 with EHCPs. This is an employment pathway for young people who are ready to move into the world of work. It is developing their skills and allowing them to move onto a full Internship. This is open to young people in Haringey and based in Rising Green (A youth hub in Wood Green). You can find out more information on our website under 'Sixth Form and Careers - Pre-internship. It is a very exciting opportunity to get young people with SEND needs into the workplace.

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 in what seems to have been the longest half term ever! We have welcomed new staff to the department who have settled into their respective classes. We are also looking forward to staff returning from maternity leave after the half term break.

We have also welcomed lots of new pupils who have engaged really positively with the curriculum offer both at KS3 and 4. Existing pupils returned to school positively, ready to learn, 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 have had our first group going offsite weekly for their STEM sessions at Blackhorse Workshop and there are more exciting trips and activities to come this Autumn term. These are across all subjects as part of our ongoing enrichment offer, which all pupils will have access to throughout the year. We have our first enterprise spooky sales to look out for as well as the Winter Show which is always a highlight of the term.

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

Computing

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

District and Hammersmith class have been showing off their skills with presentation software. They have created their own all about me presentations which will aid their annual reviews as well as helping us get to know each other better. Pupils have used presentation software to create an interactive game, adding animations and hyperlinks. The games were very exciting, including: fire exits, escape prison, escape a haunted house, helping Mickey find his friend and helping James Bond save the Beatles!

Metropolitan class has 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 been learning 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 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.

English

District and Metropolitan

This half term District and Metropolitan classes have been developing their reading and writing skills in a unit themed around adventure. They have explored a range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, as well as different text *types*, including newspaper articles, extracts from classic novels and comic books. Pupils have also been given opportunities to develop their creative writing skills. A highlight of the unit this half term has been the lessons centred around group work, where pupils worked together to wrestle with difficult questions such as 'which person would you save?' and 'what objects would you choose to survive on a desert island?'

Additionally, time has been set aside each week for pupils to work on a 'Personal English Project'. At the start of the year each pupil wrote a proposal for something that they would like to do in English that relates to their own interests or targets. This has been a fantastic success, and it has been lovely to see so many pupils so engaged with the subject. This half term has seen: Research projects on cars and footballers, a range of short stories, time for quiet reading, comedy sketches and movie scripts, to name just a few. Well done everyone!

Docklands

For the first half term we have focused on developing core English skills, while building confidence and engagement. Every pupil has been working towards an English project of their choosing, where - one a week - they have had the opportunity to access English in a way that makes sense to them as individuals. In Docklands, several pupils chose to work on their creative writing, and a significant highlight of the year so far has been the level of creativity I have seen in their fantastic, imaginative work. Some pupils have chosen to focus on reading a novel for their project, and we have also seen some great research, which has required both reading and writing skills.

It has been lovely to teach Docklands this half term, and I will miss my lessons with them greatly when Ms Hogan takes over the class after half term. However, I know that they will be in excellent hands, and I look forward to watching the progress that they make. Great work this half term, Docklands class!

Marylebone

This half term Marylebone pupils have begun working towards the GCSE English Language qualification by completing a unit themed around insects and bugs. Although we have been developing the skills needed to tackle the GCSE, we have focused on our theme rather than exam-style questions, so that pupils are not overwhelmed or intimidated. They are currently in the process of building up not just their core skills but also - crucially - their confidence.

English is a skills based subject, rather than a content based one, like science or maths. Because of this, pupils will work on

a small number of key skills each half term, rather than covering more content (although we do use themes or class texts to make sure that learning is linked and consistent). In time, these 'key skills' will directly relate to the 'Assessment Objectives' (or 'AOs') of the GCSE exam. This half term we have worked on developing comprehension (AO1), close reading and analysis (AO2), comparing different texts (AO3) as well as their writing skills (AO5 and AO6).

Additionally, all pupils have been given the opportunity to propose and work on their own personal project for English, where they can develop their reading and writing skills in a way that links to their interests. This half term we have seen: In depth critique of film and television, detailed research on historical events and some fantastic creative writing. It has been great to see all pupils engage so well with the subject, both when working on their own projects and when developing their skills in the bugs unit. Well done Marylebone class!

Maths

KS3

This half term, *Hammersmith, District, and Metropolitan* classes have been working on two exciting topics: Sequences and Algebraic Notation. We're delighted to share that they have shown incredible progress and have a much stronger understanding of these areas. It's been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they have tackled new challenges. They should all be very proud of their achievements!

Understanding sequences has helped our pupils recognize patterns and relationships between numbers, which is a skill they can use in many different areas of learning. They have also been exploring algebraic notation, which means using letters and symbols to represent numbers. This might sound tricky, but our pupils have done brilliantly, and it's clear they're getting the hang of it.

After the half term break, we'll be building on this knowledge by looking at Equality and Equivalence. This topic will help our pupils to compare and balance different expressions, which is a key skill in mathematics. Following that, we will move on to Place Value and Ordering, where we'll focus on understanding the value of each digit in a number and learning how to sort numbers accurately.

KS4

This half term, *Docklands* has been focusing on Ratio and Scale, and they have started exploring the concept of Multiplicative Change. We are incredibly proud of the progress they have made, not only in their understanding of these topics but also in their resilience and willingness to learn. It has been wonderful to see them approach their lessons with enthusiasm and determination, and they have truly done a fantastic job!

Learning about Ratio and Scale has helped our pupils understand how quantities compare and how to work with different proportions, which can be applied in real-life situations, from cooking to map reading. They have also begun to explore Multiplicative Change, where they are learning how quantities increase or decrease by a specific multiple.

After the half term break, we will continue to build on Multiplicative Change before moving on to Multiplying and Dividing Fractions. This will further develop their skills in handling numbers and calculations, and we are confident that they will tackle these new challenges just as brilliantly as they have done so far.

This half term *Marylebone* has been making excellent strides in Forming and Solving Equations and learning how to work with Straight Line Graphs. We're so impressed with their focus and determination, especially as they have been challenging themselves with more complex tasks. It has been inspiring to see how they have embraced these new concepts, pushing themselves to grow and succeed.

Forming and Solving Equations is a vital skill that helps pupils understand how to find unknown values, and they have done a great job at mastering it. Additionally, they have been learning how to plot and interpret Straight Line Graphs, which is a key part of understanding relationships between variables. These are important building blocks for developing more advanced mathematical concepts, and the pupils have shown great perseverance in mastering them.

When we return after the half term break, we will be introducing a new topic: Testing Conjectures which involves understanding factors and multiples as well as the creation and interpretation of venn diagrams. These skills will help pupils to develop a deeper understanding of number properties and how to organise and compare information in a visual way. After that we will shift our focus to Three Dimensional Shapes.

Art

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

District and Hammersmith class

District has had a great time experimenting with a variety of printing methods this term and studying how print is used in the real world. District pupils have made some excellent calligraphy and monoprints. In the last week of term, they will be using what they have been learning about William Morris to design their own poly print. Next term, pupils will be looking at perspective.

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.

Docklands

Pupils have been working towards their qualification creating work for their portfolio that is 60% of their end grade. This is something that they will build over the next two years. For this, pupils will be given a topic and must use a variety of materials to create responses to the topic. This term, the topic is Dia de los Muertos,

the Mexican festival of the Day of the Dead. We have been drawing skulls, as well as creating them out of clay...spooky!

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

This term Hammersmith and District class have been hard at work developing their Geography Map Skills. This has included using atlases, starting to recognise map symbols and reading grid references. Pupils also worked hard using their research skills on a country research project of their choice. They looked at location and both human and physical geography of their chosen place. After half term break, both classes will continue to focus on map skills and building their geography foundation knowledge needed for their secondary studies!

This term Metropolitan class started a unit of study called 'Amazing Places'. This unit has them focusing on a different geographical area of wonder each week while being introduced to different geography topics. This has included looking at Yellowstone National Park and the idea of tourism, Stonehenge and the idea of conservation and Mount Everest and tectonics. Pupils also worked hard using their research skills on a country research project of their choice focusing on wonders of the world. After half term

break, pupils will continue their study of Amazing Places to include areas near and far!

Entry Level Geography

Some KS4 pupils have started their Entry Level Geography qualification this term. They began by looking at the difference between the British Isles, United Kingdom and Great Britain. They then started their first topic called 'Destructive World'. Pupils have discovered how the Earth's structure is linked to features like volcanoes and earthquakes. They have worked hard learning new keywords and have put a great deal of effort into diagrams in their workbooks.

Entry Level Geography pupils will continue their study of tectonics by researching a case study before moving onto flooding. Pupils might find it useful to look at real world events related to volcanoes, earthquakes or flash floods.

History

Entry Level History

Some KS4 pupils have started their Entry Level History qualification this term. They have started to analyse crime, punishment and law enforcement throughout Medieval England. They have worked hard to develop their subject vocabulary and analyse how effective systems were in this time period.

Entry Level History pupils will be continuing their study of crime and punishment by moving onto Early Modern England. They will start to recognise instances of change and continuity through time and analyse why these changes occurred.

RE

This term pupils in the East have been working hard discovering the concept of worship. They began by understanding why something might be worthy or sacred to people and then dived into learning about different religions and their worship practices, objects and artefacts. Pupils also worked hard using their research skills on a mini project about religious celebrations in October.

Science

Hammersmith and District

This term, KS3 pupils were introduced to lab safety rules: they learnt the hazards and risks when using equipment and chemicals; they learnt how to safely use the Bunsen burner and how to name and handle the equipment we normally use during practicals. We then moved on to learning the basic building blocks of living things: the cells. They memorised the differences and similarities of animal, plant and bacterial cells. They learnt the differences between tissues, organs and organ systems. They observed some specialised cells under the microscope and they successfully prepared a slide to identify the main characteristic of the onion skin cells.

In the next half term, we will focus on human reproduction and DNA.

KS3 Metropolitan

Metropolitan class brushed up their knowledge on working safely in the lab, then we started to learn about nutrition. They understood what a balanced diet is and which essential nutrients we must get

every day. They have conducted a few practical experiments to identify starch, proteins and fats in different foods we eat every day. They have been learning about biochemistry, specifically focusing on the enzymes in our bodies that break down starch, proteins, and fats. This was linked with cellular aerobic respiration, the process cells use to make energy from food. Towards the end of the half term, they learned about the source of the oxygen necessary for cellular respiration: photosynthesis. They studied how plants make food and oxygen for all living things, and also what plants need to grow strong and healthy. Unfortunately, the abuse of fertilisers leads to eutrophication, an important environmental disaster which was the topic of the last lesson.

Docklands

Docklands pupils have been learning how to work safely in the lab. They have studied the main structures of animal and plant cells, explored the differences in specialised cells, and focused specifically on nerve cells. They learnt how the sensation is transferred to the brain and from the brain to the muscles. In this topic, we conducted a practical experiment using a drop ruler test to measure our reflexes.

We then moved on to studying the DNA, its structure and how the mutations are linked with variation and evolution. Towards the end of the term, Docklands studied artificial selection, focusing on how to select individuals with desired characteristics. In the next half term, time will be dedicated to revising all the topics studied so far in preparation for the assessment, which will take place just before the Christmas break

Marylebone

In Marylebone class, the term began with a lesson on lab safety and equipment. Following this, the pupils compared animal, plant, and bacterial cells, observed various tissues under the microscope, and prepared a slide using onion skin cells

Pupils investigated the activity of the enzyme amylase on starch and the effects of osmosis during practicals. We also studied enzymes in the digestive system and conducted food tests to identify proteins, starch, and fats.

They then learned about the stages of cell duplication. To help memorise the names of each stage, they created diagrams using yarn to simulate DNA and chromosomes. In the next half term, we will focus on the nervous system and DNA.

HOME LEARNING

English

The best way that pupils can continue to develop their **English** skills over the half term is **independent reading** - ideally reading for pleasure. This can mean reading a book that they enjoy, but it can also be part of real world activities such as using a recipe or playing a game.

Pupils can also brush up on their core **English** skills here:

[Spelling](#)

[Punctuation](#)

[Grammar](#)

Maths

We are excited to see all of our pupils continue to excel in these upcoming topics, and we appreciate all the support from parents and carers in helping them succeed.

All pupils can visit <https://trockstars.com> to brush up on times tables.

(All pupils should have been given their login details.)

Please visit BBC Bitesize and use the below resources to your advantage.

KS3

Hammersmith, District, and Metropolitan

Sequences

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwg4d2p>

Algebraic Notation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9yb4wx>

Equality and Equivalence

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z83rkqt>

Place Value

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zc3d7ty>

KS4

Docklands

Ratio and Scale

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpq3r2p>

Multiplicative Change

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn7bcmn>

Multiplied and Dividing Fractions

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsxhfg8>

Marylebone

Forming and Solving Equations

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z83rkqt>

Straight Line Graphs

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdbc87h>

Testing Conjectures (Prime Numbers, Factors, and Multiples)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6j2tfr>

Testing Conjectures (Venn Diagrams)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3x2h4j>

Three Dimensional Shapes

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwckjxs>

Computing

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"](#)

["Bake a cake with HTML"](#)

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 sketchbook 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 how 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, learnt the different types of passes, the techniques to shoot into the hoop and participating in basketball games.

District, Metropolitan, Hammersmith and Liberty Class have been attending weekly circus skills sessions run by Jacksons Lane which is a North London based organisation which promotes contemporary circus theatre. Pupils have really enjoyed these sessions and have found the sessions extremely engaging.

Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

Metropolitan & Hammersmith

In music, pupils have focussed on improvisation. They have used a variety of different classroom instruments to do this and have had the opportunity to explore improvising in different musical styles.

In Drama, pupils have been taking part in Circus Skills workshops run by Jacksons Lane Theatre. They have been able to try out a variety of skills as part of this including Juggling, Plate Spinning and Uni-Cycling.

KS4 Music

A new group of pupils have started their course this year which will enable them to gain accredited music qualifications from AQA. Pupils will spend this year focusing on developing their skills on their focus instrument and deepening their musical understanding.

They will work at their own pace to complete relevant units for their instrumental level.

Christmas Shows

As our school has grown the performances have grown as well and this year there will be three separate events taking place in December. With so many pupils now at the school this will mean they have more opportunity 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 - 'Adventures in Wonderland'
Thursday 5th December 10:30am Main Hall

Secondary West - 'Adventures in Wonderland'
Thursday 5th December 2pm Main Hall

Secondary East - 'Christmas Showcase'
Thursday 12th December 2:00pm Activity Studio

We look forward to seeing you at the performances to celebrate the fantastic work of our pupils together.

