

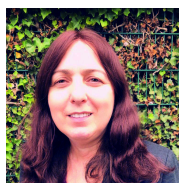


# CURRICULUM NEWS

2024 Autumn Term 2 - Secondary East

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

## Headteacher's Welcome



As we conclude a busy term, I am pleased to share highlights from our activities. The school production of *Adventures in Wonderland* showcased outstanding performances by our Primary and Secondary West pupils, leaving the audience with a memorable experience. The Secondary East Autumn Showcase also highlighted the creativity and talent of our pupils, who presented an impressive array of work.

Another notable moment was the success of the TGS Young Enterprise Team, whose dedication was evident. Their biscuits were a hit, selling out during performances and earning well-deserved praise.

After working alongside teachers during Pupil Progress Day last Friday, I feel incredibly proud to be part of this team. The in-depth knowledge and understanding that our teachers have of their pupils is exceptional, and it continues to drive significant progress for those they teach. We celebrated outstanding achievements across various curriculum areas, and it was truly inspiring to witness our pupils' dedication and remarkable progress, which consistently exceeds expectations.

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

## Teaching, Learning, Curriculum

As we draw near to the end of the Autumn term, it is really good to reflect on the hard work going on behind the scenes to ensure our pupils are receiving the highest quality teaching and learning from staff at The Grove.

Miss Amy led our science quality assurance earlier in the term, taking a good look at how we're doing in lessons across the school. Her feedback highlighted all the positive attributes of science but more importantly gave us areas we need to elevate and improve upon. We continually strive for excellence!

Over in the English department, Miss Lottie has been heading up the writing quality assurance across the school. We are really focusing on helping our pupils express themselves through the written word, and Miss Lottie's efforts are making sure we are on the right track. It is also worth mentioning all of the fantastic off-site trips that have taken place this half term which are linked to a range of subjects across the school. Trips include London Zoo as part of the science curriculum, numerous Church visits and a visit to a Buddhist Temple as part of the RE curriculum. A bowling trip connected to English required pupils to write persuasive letters convincing me to approve the outing, and finally a fantastic visit to Jacksons Lane Theatre supported the performing arts curriculum. I hope you all have a wonderful winter break!

Mr Mills, Assistant Headteacher

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## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
6th January	INSET - No Pupils
7th January	Pupils back to school
20th January	Martin Luther King Day
23rd January	Grove Governors
27th January	Holocaust Memorial Day
29th January	Chinese New Year
February	LGBTQ+ Month
3rd - 9th February	Children's Mental Health Week
11th February	Safer Internet Day
17th - 21st February	Half Term
24th February	INSET - No Pupils
25th February	Pupils back to school
4th March	Shrove Tuesday
5th March	Ash Wednesday
6th March	World Book Day



## Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

Thank you all for yet another productive term!

Please find here some information for services that you can use during the winter break:

\*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.

## Pastoral and Behaviour - Mr Louis Maunder

Hi everyone,

It has been a very long, but very successful term! I always love the build up to Christmas in school and it has been wonderful to see staff, pupils and families all pull together recently for the shows. Everyone involved should be very proud of their achievements.

I have really enjoyed running the Family Workshops this term and getting to meet some new parents. Our conversations have been insightful, thought-provoking and honest and I really appreciate everyone's contributions during these sessions. Off the back of these sessions I am hoping to meet with some of you 1:1 to explore support options further.

I hope you all have a lovely break and can come back feeling refreshed in the New Year.

Best wishes,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Wellbeing and Behaviour

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## Career News

This half term has been filled with a range of exciting Careers and Enrichment activities across the school! Our 6th Form placements continue to provide valuable real-world experiences, with pupils working at Kentish Town City Farm, Boots, and Five Guys.

Our primary pupils have been exploring the local community, with regular trips to Markfield Park every Friday, as well as visits to a bowling alley and Westbury Church. Additionally, we have hosted onsite workshops with local employers and career professionals, giving pupils

insight into various industries.

We have also taken our pupils on exciting trips, including visits to the British Museum and London Aquarium. Jackson's Lane Circus Skills workshops were a big hit with the pupils, and 30 of our staff and pupils had a fantastic time attending "*The Moomins*" at Jackson's Lane Theatre. Secondary West pupils enjoyed a cultural trip to a Buddhist Temple, as well as a fun day out at London Zoo.

Ongoing enrichment activities include African Drumming sessions, piano lessons, horse riding, and Young Enterprise, which continue to be hugely popular.

Looking ahead to the spring term, we have an exciting lineup of activities, including a packed Careers Week! We are also working on a variety of new opportunities to enhance our pupils' learning and personal growth.

As always, if you have any ideas or suggestions for future activities, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

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

[bronja.elton@thegroveschool.co.uk](mailto: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

We have made it through what feels like the longest term on record, and I want to extend a huge congratulations to all of our pupils for their remarkable resilience. We have welcomed new staff and pupils who have now firmly settled into life at The Grove. This term has seen pupils across the department embark on exciting new projects offsite, including ventures like Blackhorse Workshop, while also continuing their enrichment activities and local community trips on a more frequent basis. A special shout-out goes to everyone involved in the East Showcase and our Enterprise team, what a lovely way to end the term and showcase the talent in the department. The progress our pupils have made this term is evident, as highlighted by teachers on our recent pupil progress day, and we look forward to another productive term after a well-deserved break.

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### Computing

Wow, what a fantastic term it has been for computing! This term's focus has been on programming, and I have seen some remarkable efforts from across the department, with pupils exploring Python by creating their own virtual barman and others using Scratch to develop fun games. Well done to everyone for your impressive coding efforts this term; your hard work and dedication truly shine through!

**District and Hammersmith**, pupils have enjoyed learning how to instruct computers to create results. They have used robots and programmed them to navigate around the classroom. Additionally, they have tested their understanding of programming using Scratch by taking existing programmes and improving them. They have truly excelled in Computing this term. Well done!

**Metropolitan** pupils have been continuing their understanding of text-based programming by exploring Python. They have learned how to use inputs, variables, arithmetic operations, randomness, selection, and looping, including how to troubleshoot and handle common syntax errors. Throughout the term, they have created programmes that ask users for their age and favourite films, generating different outcomes based on the variables they set. Pupils have done exceptionally well and should be very proud of their programming skills. To further extend their abilities in Python, they are encouraged to explore the home learning activities.

### Docklands and Marylebone

Pupils went on a school trip to a local green space, Lordship Recreation Ground. The purpose of this trip was to gather information and photographs for the information booklets they are creating about the park as part of their ICT/Computing coursework.

Pupils are making excellent progress towards this qualification, and I hope that many will achieve their Entry Level 2 certification very soon.

## English

### District and Metropolitan

This half term, District and Metropolitan classes have been developing their reading and writing skills in a unit themed around different types of texts. They have explored the importance of identifying audience and purpose, and have used their understanding to create their own texts, ranging from advertisements targeted towards teenagers to letters explaining dramatic events.

Pupils then focused on speeches, first by exploring some examples, including Malala's speech to the UN, and then by writing their own persuasive speeches, using the skills that they have been practising.

We ended the half-term by considering the specific ways that each of us talks, and how this can change depending on who we are talking to. It was great to see pupils explore the difference between formal and informal language, as well as the importance of their unique voices, such as how they may speak differently when talking with their parents compared to their friends. Well done to everyone for a productive and fun half term. It was great to see so much creativity and dedication, and I look forward to seeing everyone again after the break.

### Marylebone

This half term Marylebone pupils have been reading *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, with a focus on writing to describe and writing to explain. The pupils have responded really positively to the text, and it has been lovely to see such high

levels of engagement. I have heard pupils make numerous perceptive and interesting points, often backed up by a knowledge of historical context that far outclasses my own! Pupils have focused on expressing these ideas in writing, with an emphasis on *developing* their points. This will be an ongoing area of focus, but everyone has made good progress and the class is in a good position going forwards.

In addition to textual analysis, pupils have worked on their own creative writing. From creating propaganda posters based on the events of our class text to writing detailed descriptions, all pupils have focused on extending their ideas. In many cases, pupils had a good technical understanding of descriptive writing techniques (such as adjective, metaphor, simile and personification use) but did not use the full range of what they knew when writing. This half term I have seen many pupils go out of their comfort zone to add detail, and as a result they have made good progress. Well done Marylebone class!

## Maths

### KS3

This half term, *Hammersmith, District, and Metropolitan* pupils have been diving into Equality and Equivalence as well as Place Value and Ordering. I am pleased to see the progress they have made, showing a solid improvement in their understanding of these key topics. Their hard work and dedication in tackling these concepts have been truly commendable!

Understanding Equality and Equivalence has helped pupils develop the ability to compare and balance mathematical

expressions. In addition, their work on Place Value and Ordering has strengthened their confidence in understanding the value of digits within numbers and arranging numbers in the correct order.

After the half-term break, we'll begin exploring Fraction, Decimal, and Percentage Equivalence, an essential topic for linking different forms of numbers and understanding their relationships. Following this, we'll move on to Solving Problems with Addition and Subtraction, further building their problem-solving skills.

We are proud of the effort our pupils have shown this term and are excited to see them continue to progress and succeed in the weeks ahead. Thank you for your continued support!

#### **KS4**

This half term, *Docklands* have been focused on Multiplicative Change and have moved on to Multiplying and Dividing Fractions. We are thrilled to see their dedication and resilience, which have resulted in significant improvements in their understanding of these challenging topics. Their hard work and perseverance are truly paying off!

Exploring Multiplicative Change has equipped pupils with the skills to analyse and work with proportional relationships in real-world contexts. Building on this, they have started to explore the processes of Multiplying and Dividing Fractions, a topic that lays the foundation for many areas of mathematics.

After the half-term break, we will continue developing their confidence with

Multiplying and Dividing Fractions before moving on to an exciting new topic: Working in the Cartesian Plane. This will involve understanding and plotting coordinates, as well as solving problems involving graphs and geometric relationships.

This half term, *Marylebone* pupils have been exploring Testing Conjectures, including topics such as prime numbers, factors and multiples, prime factors, and Venn diagrams. They have also been delving into Three Dimensional Shapes, developing their understanding of properties like faces, edges, vertices, and nets. Their focus and creativity have been outstanding, with many pupils going the extra mile to tackle more complex and imaginative tasks.

Testing Conjectures has helped pupils enhance their understanding of number properties and how to organise and compare data in a visual way. Meanwhile, their work with Three Dimensional Shapes has strengthened their spatial awareness and ability to visualise and solve problems involving real-world objects.

After the half-term break, we will continue to build on these topics before moving on to Constructions and Congruency, where pupils will learn how to create precise geometric drawings and explore the principles of congruent shapes.

We are proud of how our pupils have embraced these challenges, and we look forward to their continued growth in the upcoming term. Thank you for your ongoing support in their learning journey!



## Art

What a creative term we have had! Some wonderful textiles and drawing skills have been displayed. It was truly delightful to see all the pupils' hard work showcased.

### **District and Hammersmith class**

District pupils have had a great time learning about textiles. They have studied different fabrics and patterns, how to understand fabric labels, and the differences between synthetic and natural fibres. This term's focus artist is Billie Zangewa, who uses fabrics to create artworks depicting important moments in her life.

Pupils were also introduced to the Mexican celebration of "Día de los Muertos" (the Day of the Dead). They used this theme to create their own textile artworks, including T-shirts and bags.

### **Metropolitan**

Pupils have been working on their illustrated recipes. Each pupil selected a recipe that was either a family tradition or something they really enjoy eating. They have learned various skills to create and lay out their recipes to achieve the best design.

Pupils have studied how food is represented in art and asked questions about why artists use specific imagery. They have learned classical composition techniques, such as the golden spiral and crescent shape. Additionally, they have explored the artwork of lettering artist Jed Chisholm and used his ideas as inspiration.

We are all very excited to see how the recipes will look when they are finished next term!

### **Docklands**

Pupils have been creating work for their portfolio, which accounts for 60% of their end grade. They have been studying street art and identifying what distinguishes it from graffiti. Pupils have explored a wide range of street artists, including Banksy, Keith Haring, Indie 184, Eduardo Kobra, and Shepard Fairey. They have been given the theme 'Icons,' researching their own interpretations, which they will then use for their final piece.

*Have a great half term and don't forget to try and be creative. Draw some Christmas cards! Or make some art as a present. 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 continued their work on developing their Geography Map Skills. This has included six figure grid reference and contour maps to better understand relief. Pupils can look at BBC Bitesize [KS3 geographical skills](#) if they want to practise at home. This term Metropolitan class continued their 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 Fairy Pools in Scotland and Machu Picchu in Peru. Map skills such as map symbols and grid reference were also incorporated in these lessons so pupils in Metropolitan class worked towards developing these

fundamental skills as well. Next term, KS3 classes will begin their History studies by focusing on the impact the events of 1066 had on medieval England.

### **Entry Level**

Some KS4 pupils have continued their first topic called 'Destructive World'. This involved pupils looking at different case studies around the world including Iceland and studying the different structures of composite and shield volcanoes. Pupils undertook a project to design models of volcanoes. They have been very resourceful and worked hard to keep their models as accurate as possible! 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**

Some KS4 pupils have continued their Entry Level History qualification this term. They have worked towards analysing crime, punishment and law enforcement throughout Early Modern England this term. 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 Industrial England in the new year. They will start to recognise instances of change and continuity through time and analyse why these changes occurred.

## **RE**

This term pupils in East have been working hard discovering different places of worship. This included learning about Churches, Mosques and Synagogues. Pupils studied the activities that might occur in these places of worship as well as the features both inside and outside the building. Pupils gathered all their knowledge from the term to create a model of a place of worship. Most pupils created clay model churches and mosques but some Metropolitan pupils challenged themselves to create 3D printed models. Pupils in Hammersmith class worked on learning about the main beliefs, key individuals and holy books of Christianity. They looked at the ten commandments to understand how they guided Christians to behave and also undertook a research project on important places around the world for Christians like Rome, Canterbury and Bethlehem.

## **Science**

### **Hammersmith and District KS3**

At the beginning of this half term, the KS3 classes spent the first two weeks learning about the structure of DNA and how mutations can affect the information it carries. This was linked to the variation observed in living organisms, resulting from inherited characteristics passed down from parents.

In the following weeks, pupils expanded their vocabulary and understanding of processes involved in human reproduction. They mastered the names and functions of the anatomical parts of the female and male reproductive systems. They also learned about fertilised eggs and the crucial roles of



implantation and the placenta in sustaining a pregnancy.

In the final part of the half term, we focused on the menstrual cycle and the many changes puberty brings to their bodies during this significant stage of life. While this was not an easy topic to tackle, the majority of pupils approached it with focus, maturity, and attentiveness, making it a pleasure to teach this important aspect of their future lives.

### **Docklands KS4 and Metropolitan KS3**

The class explored the structure of DNA and how it plays a crucial role in regulating the information that makes us who we are.

They also examined mutations, discovering how changes in DNA can lead to new traits and influence evolution. The discussions highlighted how mutations contribute to genetic diversity, shaping the differences we see within and between species.

By the end of the term, the classes developed a better understanding of the complexities of evolutionary theory and gained a new appreciation for how genetic variation, natural and artificial selection work together to drive the evolution of life on Earth.

Docklands class became familiar with a few more key concepts of genetics, learning about alleles and using Punnett squares to uncover how traits are inherited and how genetic variation arises. We spent several lessons revising the content covered so far in preparation for the Biology 1 exam.

Metropolitan class studied the effects of air pollution on the environment and on humans, in particular they became more

familiar with asthma: triggers, effects and treatments of it.

### **Marylebone KS4 GCSE**

During this half term Marylebone class learnt about the transmission of the impulse in the nervous system through the brain or through the spinal cord.

Then we started to study the DNA, its structure and functions. They explored the mechanisms of mitosis and meiosis involved in cellular division and human reproduction respectively.

During the next term we will study chemistry starting from the atoms and elements.

## **HOME LEARNING**

### **Maths**

We're 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://ttrockstars.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*

Place Value

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

Fraction, Decimal, and Percentage Equivalence

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsxhfq8/articles/z4ymtv4#znncg7h>

Solving Problems with Addition and Subtraction

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

Encourage your child to solve real-life problems, like calculating shopping bills or working out change, to reinforce these skills.

## KS4

*Docklands*

Multiplying and Dividing Fractions

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsxhfq8>

Working in the Cartesian Plane

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

*Marylebone*

Three Dimensional Shapes

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

Constructions and Congruence

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdr9wmn/articles/zqw4wsg>

## General Tips Across All Key Stages

- Daily Practice: Set aside 10–15 minutes daily for a quick quiz or exercise from BBC Bitesize to build consistent learning habits.
- YouTube Channels: Channels like Math Antics explain many concepts in an engaging and visual way.

- Interactive Apps: Platforms like Khan Academy and Geogebra offer free, tailored lessons and activities.

These resources make learning accessible and fun while reinforcing the topics taught in school.

## Computing

Brush up on your design skills, try these tutorials

[“Google drawing tutorials”](#)

Want to brush up on some **Python** skills?

Try this tutorials

Push your Python skills with this self lead course to create your own version of the “flappy bird” game in Python.

[Python course](#)

## ART

Or improve your sketchbook work and research an artist

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

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## PE News with Mr Proctor

Secondary East pupils have explored handball and tag rugby this half term. Pupils have learnt how to dribble, pass and score in handball. This has been a new sport added to the PE curriculum which pupils have thoroughly enjoyed and engaged with.

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

Pupils have also worked on their teamwork, communication and sportsmanship skills.

Many Key Stage 4 pupils are supporting Mr. Proctor in primary PE lessons and are actually leading weekly primary sports sessions. Pupils are working extremely hard during these sessions and are showing great maturity and leadership skills during these sessions.

Also, pupils across the Secondary East department have been attending weekly sports sessions every Monday led by coaches from the London Sports Academy which have recently started working at The Grove. Pupils have been focusing on basketball and football skills with our new coaches.

cube solving skills it really was an afternoon to remember and a testament to the incredible progress that they have all made.

### KS4 Music

Pupils are continuing to work on developing their skills on their focus instrument and deepening their musical understanding. Some have also been supporting the Christmas Shows in Primary and West as well as preparing their own work for the Secondary East Showcase.



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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymska

In Performing Arts, pupils have been working hard to prepare their work for the Secondary East Showcase. This featured work from across all departments and was a real celebration of both the creativity of our pupils the Curriculum Development Team and teachers in designing a curriculum that allows them to develop their many talents and abilities.

In addition, the Enterprise Teams from Marylebone and Hammersmith worked hard selling Christmas treats and a range of unique badges. A student from Metropolitan ran a stall selling crafted art pieces to raise money for the charity Stonewall. Along with some incredible performances of musical pieces and rubiks