



# CURRICULUM NEWS

2024 Autumn Term 2 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

## Deputy 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're really focusing on helping our pupils express themselves through the written word, and Miss Lottie's efforts are making sure we're 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 linked to English as pupils had to write a letter to convince me to allow them to go and finally a wonderful trip to Jacksons Lane Theatre as part of the performing arts curriculum. I hope you all have a wonderful winter break.

Mr Mills, Assistant Headteacher

## 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
20th March	Grove Governors
4th April	End of Term
22nd April	INSET - No Pupils
23rd April	Pupils back to school



## 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.

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## 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've hosted onsite workshops with local employers and career professionals, giving pupils insight into various industries.

We've 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're 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 don't 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

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# CLASSROOM NEWS

## PRIMARY NEWS

HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS

I'm excited to share some highlights from our fantastic first term back at school.

The Primary Department has been buzzing with activity, and I'm thrilled to see how well our pupils have settled in. Our SEARCH value this term has been empathy, and it's been fantastic to see how our pupils have embraced this concept in their daily interactions.

In English, our Pathway 1 and 2 classes have been diving into the world of poetry, while Pathway 3 have been honing their persuasive writing skills through letter writing. It's amazing to see their creativity and confidence grow over the half term.

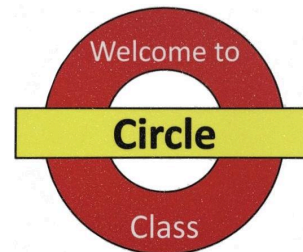
In Science, we've been investigating living things and their habitats. Our pupils have shown such curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about the natural world around us.

I'm also delighted to share some exciting off-site activities. Circle Class and City Class have been making a splash at their swimming sessions at Tottenham Green. It's been fantastic to see their water confidence grow week by week. Meanwhile, Waterloo Class has been enjoying horse riding at Chigwell Riding Centre.

These experiences are so valuable for our pupils, helping them develop new skills and build confidence in different environments. We're always looking for

ways to enrich their learning and provide diverse opportunities.

It's been a brilliant start to the year, and I can't wait to see what next term brings.



## CLASS NEWS

Circle class had a great Autumn term at the Grove!

We have continued working on poetry in English. Pupils have been working hard on writing their own poems this half term based on their senses and the autumn season. They have been exploring different sights, sounds, tastes, smells and feelings associated with autumn to help them with their writing. Additionally the class have been learning more about adjectives and how and when to use them to make their writing more exciting.

In maths this half term we have been learning about addition. Pupils have been working on adding 2 and 3 digit numbers using a number of methods and have been building on their prior learning on partitioning numbers. Pupils were able to represent and add numbers using concrete objects initially, before moving on to pictorial and abstract problems.

In science, we have been learning about living things and animal groups. Pupils have had lots of opportunities to explore how different animals have adapted to different habitats and what makes them all different. We have had some great

discussions and Circle class are proving to be very inquisitive young learners!

The topic for geography this half term has been The United Kingdom. Pupils have been learning about the four countries of the UK and have loved learning all about the fascinating places of interest people visit. Pupils have been able to make connections between places across the UK and have been really eager to learn more about them.

Circle class have been learning about technology during our computing lessons and have developed their typing and internet safety skills.

In DT this half term, Circle class have been busy making props for their winter show! Pupils have also been making their own decorations including mini trees.

Circle class all worked really hard in the build up to the winter show and displayed a wonderful performance!

## HOME LEARNING

- Pupils are all enjoying regular reading sessions in class. It would be great if you could take some time over the holiday 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 addition so it would be great for them to continue with doing some basic addition at home. They could also start doing

some basic subtraction in preparation for next term.

- Circle class have all really enjoyed learning about living things and the break would be a good time for them to watch some nature documentaries such as Planet Earth III to continue building on their interest and understanding of living things.



## CLASS NEWS

We are excited to share with you the wonderful learning experiences our pupils have been engaging in. Our theme this term has been 'Poetry'. Across all subjects of the curriculum our focus has been communication, in particular making requests and commenting. In English, the pupils have enjoyed engaging in exploring sensory activities around different acrostic poems related to senses. They worked on exploring and labelling props, and matching words to their initial sounds. We also started working on constructing 3 part sentences about their learning experiences, from filling in the gaps with the missing word to putting words in order to make a sentence. In Maths, we focused on developing number knowledge through counting and 1:1 correspondence tasks, identifying and making amounts to match one, two and lots, and we explored size in geometry.

In Science, the pupils learnt about Living things and habitats. They explored sensory trays related to each habitat,



identifying and labelling animals and other items related to each habitat. In Design and technology, City class engaged in prop making for the winter show, developing and practising the use of different tools such as fabric paints, scissors, stapler, single hole punch. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Empathy and ways to support each other, and we looked at Christianity and Christian stories. In Computing, the pupils explored creating media and they practised colouring and mark making on digital devices. In PSHE, we explored identifying and labelling simple emotions and strategies that we can use to help us when we feel sad or angry. Finally, this half term we continued attending swimming lessons up until December. Our pupils enjoyed their weekly swimming sessions, which have come to an end for now.

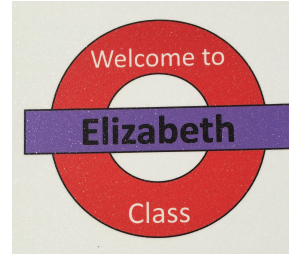
Next half term we will explore stories related to the theme Living things in English. We will continue to work on developing reading and writing skills through phonics and fine motor skills sessions. In Maths, we will focus on counting, one and lots, and simple elements of geometry, and our theme will be Shopping. In Science we will explore the theme of Animals Including Humans, Evolution and Inheritance.

## HOME LEARNING

- English - read with your child for at least 5 minutes a day (in phonics we have been focusing on words beginning with SATPIN and matching words to their initial sounds)
- Maths - practise counting (up to 5 or 10): give/take one, two, lots
- Science - [habitats](#) - they enjoyed watching videos of different habitats

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## CLASS NEWS



This term, our theme has been poetry. In English, the pupils have been exploring poems based on the five senses.

They have added descriptive words to their writing and identified the different senses. The pupils also practised generating creative vocabulary linked to the senses and explored and responded to a range of different poems

In Maths, the focus has been on differentiating between whole, part, half, and quarter, as well as writing number sentences using different methods, such as counting items and grouping them. They started adding, achieving this in small steps, including understanding that addition is commutative. Pupils from Elizabeth class engaged well during these lessons and they are making great progress towards fully understanding these new concepts.

In Science, the pupils have been learning about habitats. They identified different habitats and engaged in a sensory exploration, naming animals and features specific to each environment. The whole class has shown particular engagement and interest in science, and their enthusiasm has been evident throughout.

In Geography, Elizabeth class explored the four countries of the United Kingdom. They had a sensory immersion experience,

discovering what they can find in each country, adding new vocabulary, and tasting typical foods. The children showed great interest in tasting the foods, feeling different textures, and listening to typical music from each region.

In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Empathy and discussed how to be empathetic towards peers and adults. We also looked at Christianity and Christian celebrations, giving the children a deeper understanding of these traditions.

In DT, the pupils created props for the Christmas show and also developed their creativity by making their own Christmas decorations. This was a fun and engaging way to express their artistic skills.

In PSHE, the children delved deeper into understanding different feelings. We explored the four zones of regulation and discussed how we might feel in different situations, as well as what can help us overcome challenges.

Finally, in Food Technology, the children practised following recipe instructions and became wonderful chefs. They made different flavours of shortbread and cheesy biscuits, developing their skills with rolling pins and creating various shapes.

Next half term, we will work at subtraction and shapes in maths. In English the theme will be about living things/plants.

In Science we will focus on Animals Including Humans, Evolution and Inheritance.

Have a lovely Christmas break!

## HOME LEARNING

- English - read with your child or listen to them reading for at least 5 minutes a day. They will take home their reading books or visit the following links  
[https://www.abcya.com/games/childrens\\_book\\_for\\_smartboard](https://www.abcya.com/games/childrens_book_for_smartboard)  
<https://www.abcya.com/games/lily-pad-pond>  
To consolidate fine motor skills and letter formation you can use the following link  
[https://www.abcya.com/games/letter\\_trace](https://www.abcya.com/games/letter_trace)
- Maths - to consolidate some of their learning you can use the following link  
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>
- Science - Animal Habitat Puzzles, take our child for a walk and explore the different animals that live in the area.



## CLASS NEWS

The second school half term has been fantastic! It's been lovely to see Victoria Class settle in as they get used to the routine. Throughout this term, Victoria Class has been engaging in a variety of activities focused on their senses.

In English, we've concentrated on exploring our four senses—touch, sight, smell, and hearing. Each week, we used sensory stories to help the children experience the world around them in new

ways. These stories allowed them to interact with everyday objects and learn more about the world through their senses. It's been wonderful to see them enjoy this sensory journey and expand their understanding. In Maths, the pupils have been learning about numbers in a fun and engaging way. They practised taking away one object at a time, and songs like "Five Little Frogs" and "Five Green Bottles" helped them explore subtraction in a musical and concrete way. This has made learning numbers even more enjoyable for them.

For Science, we've focused on different animals and their habitats. The pupils had the opportunity to explore sensory trays filled with various materials that represented different animals and environments. This hands-on activity helped them better understand where animals live. In Geography, we explored different cities around the world. Using sensory trays again, the pupils were able to explore different cities, using their senses. Learning about their unique features through touch and sight. It was a fun way to bring the subject to life.

In Design and Technology, the pupils were busy preparing for the Winter show. They demonstrated their fine motor skills and their ability to use different tools to create props for the performance. It has been fantastic to watch them work together and show their creativity while practising important skills.

Overall, this term has been full of exciting and educational experiences, and Victoria Class has enjoyed learning through their senses in every subject. We're looking forward to more fun and learning in the weeks to come!

## HOME LEARNING

Pupils can listen to [5 little speckled frogs](#) and [5 green bottles](#).



## CLASS NEWS

Waterloo class has had a very busy but fantastic Autumn term! The pupils have coped really well with lots of changes to their schedule due to the school show but this was well worth it. I am so proud of how well all of our pupils performed and how dedicated they were to their roles throughout our many rehearsals!

In English this half term, we have been focusing on persuasive letter writing. We have been writing our letters to Mr Mills, to convince him to let us go on an end of term trip to bowling. We have focused on different aspects of persuasive writing including exclamation sentences and rhetorical questions. We have also explored using research in our writing. I am really pleased with the letters we have produced. They were so convincing that Mr Mills let us go on our trip!

During the first half of Autumn term 2 in maths, Waterloo class focused on addition. They have expanded their skills by learning how to cross 1 and 10 when using addition. We have also focused on answering worded questions and how to break these down so they are easier to



understand. In the latter half of the term, pupils have focused on measuring length and height. We have explored converting between metres, centimetres and kilometres as well as developing our understanding of what we use these measurements for.

In design and technology, we created bows, wrapping paper and paper bags, perfect for the Christmas season. We have explored lots of different origami techniques whilst doing this. In geography, we focused on the United Kingdom. Each week we investigated the different countries within the U.K. and went on 'tours' of famous places within them. Waterloo class loved learning about new places and doing their own research on these too.

Next term we'll begin learning about our new topic of '**live and let live**'. In writing, we will be recapping our prior science learning by writing a seed diary. Following this theme, in art, we will be creating nature collages. We will explore different textures and materials to create a wall hanging.

## HOME LEARNING

Maths: Pupils could practise their multiplication, division, addition and subtraction skills with this [game](#). They could also explore different ways of measuring in their environment over the Winter holidays. For example, the height of different family members or the distance travelled when going on a trip.

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. Pupils could also keep a diary of their winter break to prepare for our English unit.

Subjects: Waterloo class can do their daily brain wake up with [wordle](#), [flagle](#) and [globe](#). They can also practise their [origami techniques](#) learnt in design and technology.

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## 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, jumping with two feet, balancing, hopping, throwing and catching. Pupils have also explored handball and tag rugby. Pupils have learnt how to dribble, pass and score in handball. This has been a new sport added to the PE curriculum 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 from Waterloo class have been attending horse riding lessons every Tuesday morning which the pupils find very exciting! City class and Circle class have been attending weekly swimming lessons which pupils look forward to every

week and pupil's water confidence has drastically improved over the term.

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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

In Performing Arts, pupils have been working hard to prepare their performances for the Christmas Show, *'Adventures in Wonderland'*. In the show, a bored Alice accidentally follows the White Rabbit into Wonderland and then has to undertake a series of adventures to find her way home. pupils created costumes and props to support their performance and really enjoyed taking part, especially celebrating with a dance at the end of the show! The fantastic performances they gave on Thursday 5th December were a joy to see and it was incredible to see the progress that they have made.

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