

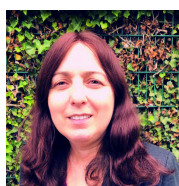


# CURRICULUM NEWS

2025 Spring Term 1 - Secondary West

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

## Deputy Headteacher's Welcome



As we approach the end of this half term, I am pleased to share some key developments and achievements at The Grove.

Our faculty and subject leads have been working hard to refine our curriculum, ensuring it continues to meet the diverse needs of our pupils.

We recently welcomed our School Improvement Partner, who visited lessons across all departments and highlighted the high quality of our teaching. Her feedback that "Teachers know their pupils very well" and that "Teachers' planning is designed to address pupils' needs and interests" reflects our staff's commitment to delivering high-quality learning.

This term has also included valuable educational visits, with pupils visiting the Aquarium Sea Life Centre, London Zoo, and the Science Museum, among others—each providing enriching real-world learning experiences. A particular highlight was the Prime VR workshop, which introduced cutting-edge technology into our classrooms. Pupils explored virtual worlds, immersing themselves in history, science, and geography in new and exciting ways.

These experiences continue to enhance our curriculum, making learning engaging, dynamic, and relevant.

Have a good half term! Helen Georgiades

## Teaching, Learning, Curriculum

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. I've got some exciting updates to share about what's been happening at The Grove.

Miss Amy has been working hard supporting staff and parents' knowledge on SCERTS. She's been busy delivering training to our staff during our INSET day and has run two online workshops for parents. It's great to see everyone getting involved and learning more about this important approach.

Mr Acquah has been hard at work too. He's been teaming up with our senior leadership to carry out Maths Quality Assurance across the school. It's all part of our ongoing efforts to make sure we're providing the best possible education for our pupils.

I'm thrilled to report that phonics in our Primary department is making a positive impact on our pupils' learning. Our pupils have settled well into their phonics groupings and are making progress, which is wonderful to see.

Lastly, I want to highlight our faculty leads. They've been working hard to develop their subject areas, fine-tuning curriculums and schemes of work. They have been sourcing and ordering the best resources to support teaching and learning across the school.

I hope you all have a great half term break.  
Lee Mills

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## Dates for your diary

| Date                 | Event                   |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 17th - 21st February | Half Term               |
| 24th February        | INSET - No Pupils       |
| 25th February        | Pupils back to school   |
| 25th February        | LGBTQ+ Month            |
| 25th February        | Women's History Month   |
| 3rd - 7th March      | Careers Week            |
| 4th March            | Shrove Tuesday          |
| 5th March            | Ash Wednesday           |
| 6th March            | World Book Day          |
| 13-14th March        | Purim                   |
| 14th March           | Holi                    |
| 20th March           | Grove Governor Meeting  |
| 21st March           | Red Nose Day            |
| 21st March           | World Down Syndrome Day |
| 7th April            | End of Term             |



## Safeguarding Lead News - Miss Huseyin

As we finish this half term off with Children's Mental Health Week and Internet Safety Day, I really want to urge all of our families to monitor their child / young person's internet use.

Children and young people are spending more and more time online. And whilst it provides more opportunities for creativity and connection, it also brings more risk too.

Please have open conversations, check their internet use and create an open space for questions.

Being reachable all the time, anywhere, can put young people at risk of bullying, grooming or heightened peer pressure. We know that spending too much time on social media can impact a young person's stress levels and sleep.

There are some great resources that can help you understand the risks of the online world, and the practical steps you can take to keep young people safe:

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

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

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

Best wishes  
Miss Huseyin

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## Pastoral and Behaviour - Mr Louis Maunder

Hi everyone,

This term has honestly whizzed by and I can't believe it is newsletter time again!

It has been lovely to share some of our SCERTS practice with parents this term as part of our ongoing Family Workshops. I hope it has given you an insight into some of the research based practices that we use in school and how we use it to support the pupils. Looking to the future, we are hoping to include more research based projects into our family workshop schedule.

This half-term staff across the school have been continuing to work on our new PSP documents, which are giving staff a clearer idea of how to support each individual pupil. Copies of these will now be coming home with Annual Review paperwork so you can also see how we support your child.

Enjoy your half-term break!

Best wishes,

Louis Maunder

Senior Leader for Wellbeing and Behaviour

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## Career News

As we look forward to spring, we continue to see pupils taking part in exciting opportunities and experiences. It's been a whirlwind of activity, with our young adults venturing out into the world of work and exploration.

Our Sixth Form pupils recently enjoyed an engaging work experience visit to Lush in St Paul's where they created their own face masks and learnt about the different

roles with the company. Jubilee class embraced the great outdoors at Kentish Town City Farm. Not to be outdone, our KS4 pupils have been making their mark in the local community, gaining valuable experience at the ['All Good Bookshop'](#).

The 'Learn to Work programme' at Southbank University, in collaboration with SCULPT, has been a fantastic opportunity for our Sixth Form pupils to develop essential skills for their future careers. Meanwhile, Northern class dove into an underwater adventure at the Aquarium, expanding their horizons and knowledge.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled about the upcoming 'Prime VR' experience, where our pupils will have the chance to explore the world through cutting-edge virtual reality technology. Bakerloo and Northern classes are also in for a treat with their upcoming visit to 'Frameless', an interactive art exhibition in central London that promises to ignite their creativity and imagination. We're also excited about Waterloo and Circle classes' upcoming trip to the Postal Museum on 20th March, which is sure to be a fascinating journey through communication history.

As we gear up for Careers Week from 3rd-7th March, we're reminded of the importance of preparing our pupils for their future paths. More details to follow about Career's week.

It's truly inspiring to see our pupils engaging so enthusiastically with the world around them, and we look forward to many more adventures to come.

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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## CLASS NEWS

It's been an exciting start to the spring term! Pupils have continued to

engage in their core subjects and responded positively to more hands-on activities and practical learning.

## SECONDARY WEST NEWS

### HEAD OF SECONDARY WEST

Dear Families, I hope you are all well? This term has been super short but highly eventful. Pupils have been focussing on our search value acceptance this term and it has been lovely to hear examples of how they have been demonstrating this value during our weekly assemblies.

Our overall theme in KS3 this term is "The Circle of Life" and we will be focusing on growth and food chains in science and PSHE sessions to complement this. In KS4 the theme is "Cultural Citizen" and pupils will be focusing on the arts, DT and technology during their AQA awards and travel themes in their english lessons.

All classes have continued to enjoy weekly food tech lessons, forest school and step into dance sessions. Northern class had a successful trip to the Aquarium and Jubilee enjoyed weekly work experience sessions at the Kentish Town farm and a successful trip to the Zoo.

I hope you all have a restful half term break, thank you again for your continued support this term.

Miss Jac.

### English

This term, we explored a travel theme, where pupils studied holiday pictures and created captions. They were able to identify the people in the pictures and could describe where they went and what they were doing. They also enjoyed imagining holiday scenes and pretending to go on holiday.

### Maths

Our focus in Maths this term was on money. Pupils practised recognising coins and understanding their values. They enjoyed handling real-life coins and worked on ordering coins from least to most and were able to use these skills in practical activities like shopping role-play.

### Science

In Science, we explored "Our Body," focusing on the senses and the human life cycle. Pupils learned about the senses and how we use them to explore the world around us. They also gained an understanding of how humans grow and change throughout their lives, from infancy to adulthood.

### Art

This term, pupils explored painting and mark making using a variety of equipment. They experimented with brushes, sponges, and other materials to create different textures and patterns in

their artwork.

### **Design and Technology (DT)**

In DT, pupils worked with clay and explored different techniques, including rolling, slab work, and coiling. They used these techniques to build clay pots and enjoyed experimenting with texture and shape.

### **ICT**

Our focus this term was an introduction to computer programming. Pupils practised following a series of instructions and combining commands to make a sequence.

## **HOME LEARNING**

- For home learning, continue reading books for pleasure and discussing the characters and events. Consider taking a trip to the shops with a focus on using real money to pay for items, and perhaps buying ingredients to cook recipes together at home. Also, encourage pupils to practice their drawing and craft skills, exploring new techniques and expressing their creativity at home.

**Well done, Bakerloo class, for engaging with our new subjects this half term! Enjoy your time off!**



## **CLASS NEWS**

We've had a fantastic start to the new term, with pupils engaging in exciting and interactive learning across all subjects.

Their enthusiasm and curiosity have made this a great half-term, filled with hands-on activities.

In English, we explored advertisements and how they use images, colours, and sounds to grab attention. Pupils looked at different printed advertisements like brochures and posters, watched video adverts, and explored objects related to persuasive advertising. They also had the opportunity to make choices about what should go into an advert, selecting colours, pictures, and words using coreboards. To finish the unit, pupils created their own advertisement through drawing, colouring and cutting, keeping the learning process creative and engaging.

Maths focused on number sequences, especially recalling and arranging four-digit numbers, which are useful for everyday tasks like entering PIN codes. Pupils worked on recognising and ordering numbers using cards and objects, progressing to inputting sequences on keypads such as toy cash machines or tablets. Through repetition and hands-on practice, they strengthened their understanding of number patterns.

Science was all about the five senses. Pupils explored how our eyes help us see, ears allow us to hear, and how our tongue, nose, and skin help us experience the world through taste, smell, and touch. They participated in sensory-based activities, identifying different textures, scents, and sounds, making this a highly interactive topic.

Our art lessons tied into this theme, as pupils created their own natural paint brushes using materials like sticks and leaves. They explored how different

materials made unique marks when painting and discussed which ones worked best. This hands-on approach allowed them to connect art with nature and creativity.

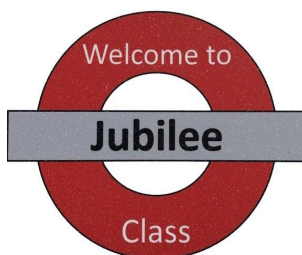
In PSHE, we focused on public and private spaces and behaviours, helping pupils understand boundaries. These lessons supported social awareness and personal safety, teaching them appropriate interactions in different settings.

## HOME LEARNING

To support your child's learning at home, you can:

- Talk about advertisements—ask what they like about posters or TV adverts, pointing out colours and sounds.
- Practice number sequences using household items like phone keypads or calculators.
- Explore the senses by smelling spices, feeling different textures, and identifying sounds in nature.
- Try simple cooking activities together, letting your child help with measuring or stirring ingredients.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting half-term ahead!



## CLASS NEWS

This term Jubilee have been out and about more than ever in the community.

As well as our regular trips to the supermarket to keep us stocked in snacks and Food Tech supplies we have undertaken weekly work experience at Kentish Town Farm. The whole class have interacted really positively with the animals and completed a variety of tasks around the site. We are so proud of their work ethic and commitment to their tasks. Jubilee also enjoyed a trip to London Zoo so that we could report on a day out for our Entry Level English assessment and to help with our learning about growth, young and adults in Science. Our wellies have been well used this half term!

Alongside all of this we have managed to fit in lots of classroom learning too!

In Maths we have been exploring shapes and angles. Jubilee have a wealth of knowledge about shapes and have enjoyed sharing what they know.

In PSHE we have been learning about keeping safe online. Jubilee know a lot about what is appropriate and not appropriate and have been able to give good advice about how to keep safe.

This term our additional subjects are ICT, Art and DT. In ICT pupils have been using Google Sites to create their own website designs on a topic of their choice. In Art we have been focusing on pencil skills and sketching while in DT we've been developing a key life skill and sewing on buttons!

## HOME LEARNING

- Maths: our next topic will be fractions and decimals so please do look out for opportunities for pupils to share objects/food etc into halves, quarters and more.
- English: we will continue to work on the topic of "places" so any opportunities to look at maps, leaflets and other non-fiction texts will really support their learning.
- Science: we will be looking at links between ourselves and our families so please do discuss with pupils the ways in which they are similar to siblings, parents, grandparents, noting where we might inherit our hair colour, height, eye colour and skin colour.
- Life Skills: We have been thinking about safety this half term so please do continue with conversations about how to use appliances safely at home and how to interact safely in the community.

We all hope you have a relaxing half term break.

Miss Mel and the Jubilee Class team



## CLASS NEWS

Our search value this term has been acceptance and we have been learning about why this is important and how we can demonstrate it in our daily lives.

Acceptance has been challenging in some circumstances for our pupils and they have been trying their best to demonstrate it.

### English:

This term we are studying some of the works of William Shakespeare. This half term we focused on a simplified version of Macbeth and this was still quite a challenging read for our pupils. We have completed a full read of the plot, developed our comprehension skills and prediction skills; now we are moving towards feeling confident enough to act out a short scene from the play.

### Maths:

This term we have focussed on subtraction and geometry. Pupils are now confident to complete both addition and subtraction questions and are making progress towards being able to decode and follow lengthier 2-3 part word problems. In geometry we have been focussing on recognising different types of angles and calculating the size of angles either by estimating, measuring with a protractor or completing addition/subtraction sentences.

### Science:

Our topic this term has been Animals including humans. We started the term by focusing on food chains and identifying producers, consumers, predators and prey. We are able to distinguish between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We also considered the impact of humans on different food chains and what might happen should a link in the food chain be broken. We have now moved toward beginning to focus on the digestive system, starting with the importance of

teeth and the purpose of different types of teeth for humans as well as animals.

Foundation subjects:

In PSHE this term we have been learning about how to keep safe when using social media and what information that we may put online is public or private. In computing we have been learning about algorithms and how to use computer programming. In RE our religion of the term has been Sikhism and in Humanities we have been learning about the prehistoric period. We have had two focus points in life skills this term, firstly in food tech we have been learning about the importance of mixing ingredients and then being able to spoon exact or equal measurements of a mixture. Secondly we have been taking part in some life skills based learning in the community. Pupils enjoyed visiting Downhills Park and also walking to Sainsbury's local in Lordship Lane to practice their safety awareness in the community.

## HOME LEARNING

Continue to take walks in your local area and practice safety awareness.

Plan a meal, write a shopping list and go to the shops together to practice planning and budgeting skills.

Practice wellbeing activities such as relaxing by taking time to be still and breathe, engaging in some mindfulness activities or gentle stretches such as doing some basic yoga poses. It is equally important for your child to feel rested and ready for the next term ahead.

Continue to read with your child, especially a variety of different types of text.



## CLASS NEWS

### English/Literacy

This term, pupils explored the world of Shakespeare, focusing on *Macbeth*. Using physical props and sensory resources, pupils brought key moments of the play to life through role-play, costumes and interactive learning activities. They developed their communication by identifying main characters and objects, using language boards and symbols to comment on photos from their role-play sessions. Pupils also learned to sequence events from the story and constructed simple sentences about the activities they engaged in, helping to make *Macbeth* an engaging, memorable experience.

### Maths

In Maths, pupils built on foundational concepts, focusing on 1:1 correspondence by learning to take or distribute one item at a time. They explored big vs. small objects, sorted items based on their characteristics and practiced using positional language such as "next to." As the term progressed, pupils distinguished between 'one' and 'lots' and practiced simple transactions by matching coins to items in role-play shopping activities.

### Science

Pupils explored the natural world by recognising similarities between themselves and their peers and classifying



living things. They identified common animals and noticed simple physical features, such as fur, feathers or scales.

### History

This term, pupils stepped back in time to explore Prehistoric Britain. They explored what “prehistoric” means and discovered how people lived, including what they ate, the tools they used and how they expressed themselves through art. Pupils engaged in activities that allowed them to explore prehistoric life firsthand, helping them understand how life has changed over time.

## HOME LEARNING

Please continue building their math skills with activities focused on shopping and transactions. At home, consider creating simple shop role-plays, setting out household items for your child to collect from a shopping list.



## CLASS NEWS

This term in maths, our main focus has been on shapes. Pupils have focused on describing 2D

shapes and 3D shapes, sorting them according to their properties, making patterns using shapes and finding lines of symmetry. Some have even challenged themselves to build 3D shapes using nets. Next term, we will move on to look at money.

In English, Piccadilly class have been focusing A Midsummer Night’s Dream by William Shakespeare. Pupils have been working hard to gain a good understanding of the story and all of its complexities! They have been working on

retelling the story, writing speech and thought bubbles and acting out parts of the story. Next term, we will be exploring another William Shakespeare play.

In history, Piccadilly class have been learning about prehistoric Britain. They have explored the landscapes, homes, diets and tools of prehistoric people. Next half term we will be moving onto geography and exploring West Africa.

In science, Piccadilly class have focused on skeletons. They have learnt the names of bones such as the skull, ribcage, spine, femur and pelvis and have labelled them on a range of human and animal skeletons. They have also explored animals with and without spines (vertebrates and invertebrates). Next half term, we will move onto look at light, sound and electricity.

In RE, our focus has been on key beliefs, rituals and festivals within Sikhism. Pupils have explored key Sikh beliefs, the 5Ks and some key Sikh festivals such as Vaisakhi. Next term, we will move onto focusing on key beliefs, rituals and festivals within Judaism.

Well done on a great term Piccadilly Class. Have a great half term break.

Ms Amy

## HOME LEARNING

- Please read daily with your child and ask them questions about what they have read to check that they understand.
- This term in computing, we have been using Bee Bot robots. Your child may enjoy using this [virtual version](#) at home.

- 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.

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## 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 skipping, hopping, jumping, throwing and catching skills. Pupils have also explored dance, table tennis and football this half term.

Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed exploring football focusing on dribbling skills, passing to a partner, shooting and working as a team. Pupils really engage well with dance lessons which have also included yoga movements and gymnastic skills. Table tennis lessons have also been a highlight of the half term with pupils working well in pairs and learning how to serve and how to perform a backhand shot.

Jubilee, Bakerloo, Liberty and Piccadilly class have started weekly sports sessions with the North London Football Academy who have recently started working at The Grove. They coach football as well as various other sports. This half term the North London Football Academy coaches have been focusing on football, basketball and teamwork skills.

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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymaska

### **Piccadilly & Jubilee**

In music, pupils have been learning to play and create music together as an ensemble on tuned percussion and Djembes. They have learnt how to follow simple musical cues and been able to perform a simple piece as a whole class.

In drama, pupils have begun to explore circus skills, learning how to use juggling scarves, balls and spinning plates.

### **Northern, Central & Bakerloo**

In Performing Arts, pupils have been following a theme based on *Winter*. Pupils have performed different types of musical patterns using tuned and untuned classroom percussion based on a piece called '*Winter Lament*'. 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, guitar and drum kit lessons to some of our 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 think your child might want to begin violin lessons please contact Miss Emily to discuss further.

## Haringey Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall

Some of our pupils are preparing to perform at the Royal Albert Hall as part of Haringey School's Music Festival on the 18th March. Choir are rehearsing six songs to perform as part of the massed choir and our gifted and talented Djembe drummers will be performing a specially written piece on the stage to open the show. It promises to be an incredible evening of music and fun!

