



# CURRICULUM NEWS

2025 Spring Term 1 - Primary

*Inspire Excellence  
Challenge Potential  
Empower Learning*

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## 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

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## 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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# CLASSROOM NEWS

## PRIMARY NEWS

**HEAD OF PRIMARY: MR MILLS**

I hope this newsletter finds you all well. It's been a busy and exciting time at The Grove, and I'm thrilled to share some highlights with you.

Our pupils have been hard at work in their English lessons. Some have been putting pen to paper, crafting diary entries from a first-person perspective, while others have been looking at non-fiction texts. In Maths, pupils have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes, and some have been measuring angles with protractors.

Science has been really interesting, with our 'Animals including humans' topic capturing everyone's attention and engagement. It's been wonderful to see such enthusiasm in the classroom.

I'm particularly proud of how our pupils have embraced our SEARCH value of Acceptance this half term. They've really worked hard to demonstrate this important quality across all aspects of school life.

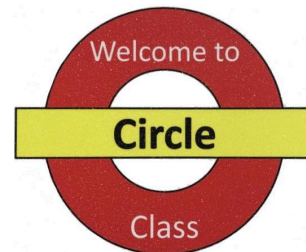
We've had some fantastic opportunities for physical activity too. Victoria and Waterloo Classes have been making a splash at their swimming sessions, while some pupils from Elizabeth Class have been enjoying horse riding. Circle Class has been reaching new heights with climbing sessions at Stronghold.

Looking ahead to the next half term, we'll be continuing our work with non-fiction texts, focusing on developing reading and

writing skills. Our budding scientists will be exploring Light, Sound and Electricity.

I'd like to wish you all a lovely half term break. Enjoy the time off, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for more learning adventures.

Lee Mills



## CLASS NEWS

Circle class had a lovely start to the Spring term at The Grove!

We have been learning about diaries and writing seed diaries in English, based on observations from runner bean seeds the pupils' have planted. Pupils have been working hard on writing their diary entries and have also been reading the story 'Pip and Egg'. Additionally they have been learning more about verbs and how and when to use them in their writing.

In maths this half term we have been learning about shapes. Pupils have been learning to identify 2D and 3D shapes, and have been able to count the number of faces, edges, and vertices. Pupils were also able to make their own 3D shapes using nets, and using spaghetti and playdough.

In science, we have been learning about the human body and how to stay healthy. Within this we have learnt about healthy diets, exercise, germs, and oral hygiene. Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed these topics and have engaged in lots of practical lessons, including using plaque

tablets to colour their teeth. Circle class have all done well to develop their knowledge of how to keep healthy!

The topic for history this half term has been The Romans. Pupils have been learning about the Roman's presence in Great Britain and how they developed the roads and architecture here. We have experimented with building our own mini Roman roads and aqueducts, as well as making Roman Centurion helmets.

In Art this half term we have been learning about the work of local artist William Morris, specifically his work with printing. Pupils have been observing his art and practicing printing with a variety of different mediums and materials.

Circle class have also begun weekly climbing lessons, with many pupils demonstrating their bravery and skills! We have also been able to go for walks to the local park as part of developing road safety skills.

## HOME LEARNING

- Pupils are all enjoying regular reading sessions in class. It would be great if you could take some time over the half term 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 shape so it would be great for them to continue with identifying different shapes and counting the faces.

- Circle class have all really enjoyed learning about keeping healthy in science and the break would be a good time for them to take part in activities that keep them healthy, such as using an outdoor gym at a park.



## CLASS NEWS

We are excited to share with you some of the wonderful learning

experiences that our pupils have taken part in so far this term.

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 non-fiction books about insects through a range of sensory experiences. They worked on exploring and labelling insects, and matching words to their initial sounds. We continued working on constructing 3 part sentences about their learning experiences, and they have been keeping a bug diary with weekly entries. In Maths, we focused on 2D and 3D shapes. Pupils practised identifying shapes, giving amounts of shapes, and manipulating shapes in accordance with language of position (in, out, next to).

In Science, the pupils learnt about Animals including humans. They explored different animal classes, and engaged with sensory trays related to each animal class, identifying and labelling animals. In Art, City class engaged in creating pieces of art inspired by nature. They practised making

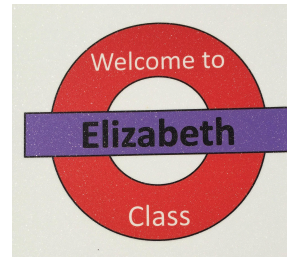
patterns and prints, shading, and prints on fabric using objects collected from nature. In RE, we explored the school's SEARCH value of Acceptance and ways to support each other, and we looked at Sikhism and Sikh stories. In History, pupils explored The Romans and their ways of living, including activities such as shopping and building. In Computing, the pupils explored programming and they learnt how to control simple devices. In PSHE, we explored recognising and identifying people who are important to us and people who look after us in the community. In Food technology we explored wet foods in a fun and engaging way.

Next half term we will continue to explore non-fiction stories 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 consolidating skills such as counting, one and lots, and identifying 2D and 3D shapes. In Science we will explore the theme of Light, sound, and electricity.

## 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, [shapes](#)
- Science - [habitats](#) - they enjoyed watching videos of different habitats

## CLASS NEWS



This half term, in Maths, we have been practising subtraction,

taking away 1 to 5 items. The pupils have used different methods, such as using number lines, removing counters and counting again, and crossing off to count again. We also revisited 2D shapes they already knew and introduced new ones, like pentagons, hexagons, ovals, stars, and diamonds. Additionally, we introduced 3D shapes.

In English, the pupils are working on creating a bug diary by exploring the different bugs that appear in the story. They are learning to build captions from images related to the story.

In History, we have been learning about Roman culture, their history, and daily life. Pupils have had the chance to explore different aspects of Roman civilisation, including their art and daily activities.

In Art, we explored natural forms through printing and patterns. The children worked on creating collaborative fabric artwork using textures, colours, and simple mark-making techniques.

In Food Technology, the pupils have been practising the skills of mixing and stirring. They have made recipes such as raisin cookies and muesli, and worked on combining ingredients more thoroughly, as well as whisking foods using a fork.

In RE, the pupils have explored some of the key beliefs, teachings, and festivals of

Sikhism. They have been introduced to important Sikh symbols.

In Computing, the pupils have explored and controlled different devices. They created media by exploring keyboards and made music by following patterns, helping them become more familiar with how to use technology creatively.

In PSHE, the children have been learning about trust. Through collaborative games, they have explored the difference between people they trust and people they like, helping them understand relationships better.

In Science, the pupils have been learning to recognise and sort different animals into classes, identifying humans as mammals. They also explored sensory trays and sorted animals based on their class, reinforcing their knowledge of the animal kingdom.

Have a lovely 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/addition-and-subtraction>

- Science - Animal classes Puzzles. Also children can explore the following web:

<https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/preschool/animals.htm>



## CLASS NEWS

Spring term has been fantastic! It's been lovely to see Victoria Class continue to 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 been engaging with *The Hungry Caterpillar*. Each week, they explored different fruits using their senses. This story allowed them to interact with everyday objects and fruits. It's been wonderful to see them explore and start to request different fruits.

In Maths, the pupils have been learning about one and lots, as well as big and small.

For Science, we've focused on different animals and their distinctive features. The pupils had the opportunity to sort different animals and explore playing with animal figures. This hands-on activity helped them better understand where animals live.

In History, they looked at the Romans and engaged in fun activities such as building roads and dressing as Romans.

In Art, the pupils have been using natural resources to make unique patterns. They demonstrated their fine motor skills and their ability to use different tools to create different patterns. 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 [number song](#)

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## CLASS NEWS

Waterloo class has had a great start to 2025! Waterloo class has had a very

busy and fun filled spring term. The pupils have begun swimming each Wednesday which they have adapted so well to. We are in very good routines now and their swimming is coming along excellently. We are all very proud of how the class coped with the changes and got fully stuck in too.

In English this half term, we have been focusing on diary writing. We have read 'The Emerald Forest' and learnt about deforestation and Orangutans in Sumatra. Our diary entries are from the Orangutan's

perspective. We have been learning to write in the first person from a different character's perspective and have also developed our literacy skills including fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. I am really pleased with the effort pupils have put into their writing and the end piece they have produced.

During the first half of spring term, Waterloo class has been learning all about angles. We have learnt how to identify angles and their degrees. We have also learnt to measure and draw angles using a protractor. We have also learnt about both 2D and 3D shapes. Pupils have developed their understanding of quadrilaterals and different types of triangles.

In science, we have focused on the human body. We have learnt about the vital organs and their functions. To finish the half term, we have been learning about teeth. We are currently observing how 'teeth' (eggshells) are affected by different types of beverages. In Art, we have explored the work of Henri Rousseau. We have created multi textured pieces of art work using weaving and printing techniques. History has been a highlight for Waterloo this class this half term, pupils have really enjoyed learning about the Romans, particularly their contributions to today's society.

Next term we'll In writing, we will be recapping our prior science writing instructions for how to plant a seed. We will explore money in maths and light, sound and electricity in science.

## HOME LEARNING

Maths: Maths: Pupils could practise measuring angles using [this game](#). They



can also use [this game](#) to practise describing turns. [Artistic angles](#) is a great game for recapping how to describe angles.

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 or post card of their half term to recap their English learning.

Subjects: Waterloo class can do their daily brain wake up with [wordle](#), [flagle](#) and [globe](#). They can also continue their learning about Romans by researching other inventions we still use in today's world.

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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 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.

Waterloo and Victoria class have started swimming lessons this half term and pupil's water confidence is already improving.

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## Performing Arts News with Ms Dydymka

### Victoria Class

In Performing Arts, pupils have been singing familiar songs, and learning how to play some of the different percussion instruments together. In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

### City & Elizabeth Class

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.

In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

### Circle Class

In music, pupils have been following a theme based on marching music. Pupils have performed familiar marching songs and explored some of the instruments used in this style, consolidating their key musical skills of playing simple patterns in time with their class. In addition, pupils

have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

### **Waterloo Class**

In music, pupils began a topic on sea shanties but as they are now attending swimming lessons until Easter, this unit will start again in the summer term.ss. In addition, pupils have also continued participating in the Drumming Workshops every week with Ben, the drumming teacher.

### **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 gifted and talented music pupils. It is incredible to see how much progress they have been making in these lessons and how their confidence has grown. In addition, violin lessons are available provided by Miss Emily. As with piano, lessons take place during the school day but please note that pupils will need to provide their own instrument as these are not available in school. If you 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!

