

# Columbia Grange Weekly Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Columbia Grange...

## Rainbow

In Rainbow, the children have been trying really hard to learn their new letter sounds (phonemes). They thoroughly enjoyed exploring the different food items, as well as tracing the letter card (grapheme) using their fingers and a range of sensory materials. Super work!



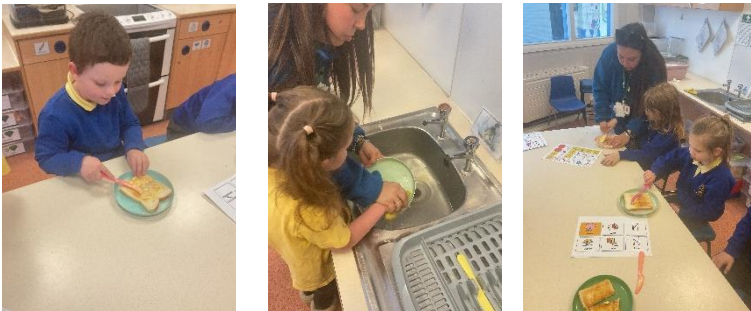
## Blossom

During mark-making, Noah has been working on his 'up' and 'down' movements. This week, he made his marks in squirty cream and has been exploring this as a new texture, tolerating it very well! Well done, Noah!



## Rose

Rose Class enjoyed making and trying toast in cookery this week. The children did a great job at practising waiting, spreading, and washing up after themselves. Some of the children even tried eating toast for the first time, well done!



### Pink

This week, James has shown a keen interest in visiting the library. He enjoyed looking at a range of books independently as well as sharing them with an adult and especially liked the noisy books. Well done, James!



### Scarlet

Tommy worked really hard in our Understanding the World session. The children filled the pots with soil and sprinkled some wild flower seeds into the soil then gave them lots of water. Tommy independently pointed to everything we needed using a communication board. Well done, Tommy!



### Ruby

During science this week, Hunter listened to the sunflower song and then followed the instructions to plant his own sunflower. He took it home to watch it grow. Well done, Hunter!



### Lavender

While exploring a range of outdoor environments, Lavender class have been exploring big and small things in the world around them. Marc has been working very hard to identify different sized objects such as sticks and soft toys. Well done, Marc!



### Sage

Sage class had a great visit this week to Bill Quay Farm! The children enjoyed walking around the farm and did a great job at identifying both the big and small animals.



### Mint

A huge well done to Dillon who was brave enough to get on stage during the Easter holidays to show off his singing talents.



Mint class also kicked off this term with a brilliant trip to Jesmond Dene Park to see the big and small animals. All children showed amazing listening skills and were fantastic representatives of our school.



### Jade

Ella has had a great first week back at school; she loved looking at Google Earth and making her own Earth picture in art using paint and a range of tools to make different textures. Well done, Ella!



### Emerald

This week, children in Emerald Class represented the school in a bowling competition at a local bowling alley. During the bowling games, the children demonstrated fantastic teamwork, turn-taking, and encouragement of one another. They behaved exceptionally well and showed great sportsmanship throughout the event. At the end of the competition, the children were very proud to receive a certificate and medal for their participation. They represented the school brilliantly and were excellent role models. Well done!



### Forest

This week, the children in Forest Class visited Morrisons Café and requested the items they wanted to eat. They also looked around the shop, finding items from their shopping list in preparation for their picnic next week. Kaden was very helpful placing items in the shopping basket.



### Teal

Teal class enjoyed exploring pattern in maths this week. They explored pattern by through drawing, using cubes, playing matching games and interactive pattern games on the whiteboard.

Well done Olivia for her hard work at AB Patterns!  
Nathan also did really well at matching the shapes!



### Navy

Navy class went on an adventure to the garden centre this week to choose plants to grow in the school garden and loved exploring the different plants and flowers. Daniel, William, Martha and Mathew were amazing at identifying the different types of plants and knowing which ones would grow fruit that we can eat.



## The Nest

The Nest have had a lovely week learning all about plants and what they need to grow! The children planted radish seeds in soil and have watered these each day. The children especially enjoyed playing in the soil and getting muddy. I wonder what they will grow next?



## Reminders/Key Dates

Date	Event	Year Group
20.04.26	School re-opens	Whole School
23.4.26	Dad's Group @ Columbia Grange 1-3pm	Dad's/male carers welcome
04.05.26	BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED	Whole School
7.5.26	Dads Group @ Wearside Farm 5-7pm	Dad's/male carers welcome
20.5.26	National Numeracy Day and Whole School Picnic	Whole School
21.5.26	Dad's Group @ Columbia Grange 1-3pm	Dad's/male carers welcome
22.5.26	Coffee Morning for Parents and Carers 9:30-11:00	Parents and Carers of whole school
25.05.26	HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED	Whole School
01.06.26	School re-opens	Whole School
3.6.26	SALT Parents Session 9:30-11:00 (The same session will be ran twice, please only attend one session)	For parents and carers of children who started Columbia Grange in September 2025
26.06.26	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED	Whole School
9.6.26	9:30-10:30 Phonics and Reading Parent Workshop 17:00-18:00 Phonics and Reading Parent Workshop <i>No children to attend</i>	Parents and Carers – whole school
1.7.26	SALT Parents Session 1:30-3:00 (The same session will be ran twice, please only attend one session)	For parents and carers of children who started Columbia Grange in September 2025
3.7.26	1:00-2:30 Colour Run - Parents welcome <i>No siblings/additional children to attend Colour Run</i>	Whole School
14.7.26	Whole School Trip <i>We are hoping to book a whole school trip on this date. More information to follow.</i>	Whole School
22.7.25	Last day of Term	Whole School
22.7.25	Year 6 End of Year Celebration 10-12 at Washington Art Centre <i>More information to follow regarding this event</i>	Year 6
23.07.25	SUMMER HOLIDAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED	Whole School
1.9.26	School Opens	Whole School

**Attendance:** Well done to Rose, Jade and Teal who all had 100% attendance this week!

Class	Rainbow	Blossom	Rose	Pink	Scarlet	Ruby	Lavender
Attendance	97%	96%	100%	88%	94%	94%	92%
Class	Sage	Mint	Jade	Emerald	Forest	Teal	Navy
Attendance	96%	86%	100%	96%	96%	100%	95%

Class	Star of the Week
Rainbow	Thomas: For trying hard to be independent during toileting. Excellent, Thomas!
Blossom	Oscar: For using Makaton to sign 'more' when communicating with adults.
Rose	Roman: For showing off his sense of humour with his new communication file!
Pink	Jojo: For developing positive relationships with staff members and showing this through seeking hugs and initiating interactions.
Scarlet	Luna: For using her voice to say the names of peers and adults in class as well as being a super star on our trip to the café this week.
Ruby	Freddie: For joining in with phonics and attempting to use a communication board to make his needs and wants known.
Lavender	Harry: For following routines and being able to predict what will happen next.
Sage	Fynley: For fantastic work during his maths session!
Mint	Myla: For great participation across all lessons this week and improved independence skills.
Jade	Ella: For excellent art work, making her own Earth picture.
Emerald	Zac: For working hard on his early writing skills and beginning to form letters correctly.
Forest	Lily: For excellent independent skills while making toast.
Teal	Lily: For a great swimming session even though she was reluctant.
Navy	Aaron: For excellent reading this week and explaining what was happening in the story.
The Nest	Mason: For fantastic transitioning and walking around school!

### Lunchtime Stars

This week marks the start of our 'Lunchtime Stars' recognition. These children have been chosen by the lunchtime staff and have been identified as making good choices and showing great progress at lunchtimes. Each week staff will select a small number of children together who have impressed them. Children were so amazing this week that 8 'Lunchtime Stars' were chosen.

Class	Lunchtime Stars
Rainbow	Max: For trying new foods.
Pink	Jojo: For trying new foods.
Ruby	Hunter: For using a fork and spoon to eat his lunch as well as drinking from a cup.
Sage	Fynley: For increasing the amount of food he is eating at lunchtime.
Mint	Sheridan: For trying new foods, including curry.
Jade	Phoebe: For responding well to lunchtime staff and waiting patiently in the queue.
Emerald	Max: For good sitting in the dining hall this week.
Teal	Franky: For being consistently well behaved and having excellent manners.

It has been a great first week back at school after the Easter holidays. Children have been settled and have been able to get straight back into routines and learning which has been great to see. Enjoy the weekend and we will see you on Monday.

*J. Lines*  
Headteacher