

# Columbia Grange Weekly Newsletter



9<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Columbia Grange...

## **Blossom**

This week, the children had fun welcoming parents and carers into the classroom for their 'Stay and Play' session. It was lovely to share activities with people from home and to observe children with their adults in school. Thank you to everyone for coming along!



## **Rose**

Rose Class have had a great time creating Halloween artwork this week, using paint, cups and washing up liquid. Leo showed great independence during mark-making activities this week, particularly enjoying this activity!



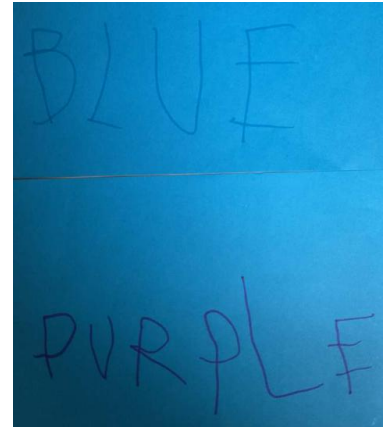
## **Raspberry**

This week, in maths, the children have been exploring '5 Little Penguins' to develop their number awareness. They enjoyed a '5 Little Penguins' tuff tray before taking part in a variety of penguin-themed activities. Elias did a fantastic job creating his own penguin, using his fine motor skills. Fantastic work, Elias!



### **Strawberry**

James wowed everyone in Strawberry class this week by choosing a coloured pen and writing the relevant colour word. Well done, James!



### **Cherry**

Cherry class enjoyed welcoming their parents into the classroom for a Family Tree Stay and Play. The children enjoyed showing their family what they enjoy playing with in the classroom and loved taking part in family tree related activities such as making tissue paper trees, building shape houses and writing the names of their family members on leaves. It was lovely to see both the children and parents engaging. Thank you to everyone who came along!

### **Poppy**

Sheridan impressed staff in Poppy class this week by sitting with the group for increasing periods of time during routine sessions such as good morning welcome time, snack time and phonics. Keep it up, Sheridan!

### **Sunflower**

The children have been using objects of reference and communication boards to request desired items, helping to develop their communication and independence skills. It has also been wonderful to see positive social interactions, with Evan sharing a ball with Freddie and taking turns appropriately during play. Well done, boys!



### **Lavender**

This week, the children in Lavender class have had a lovely time using their hands to create spooky spiders. They enjoyed brushing the paint onto their hands before squashing it onto the paper and adding facial features. Well done, everyone!



### **Mint**

Mint class enjoyed colour mixing in science lessons this week. They carefully used pipettes to extract different coloured water before mixing the colours together. The children loved seeing the results and carried on exploring colour mixing independently in our outside area,



### Lime

A special shout out to Myla Rose in Lime class this week! Through her determination and hard work in swimming sessions, Myla has shown fantastic balance and safety awareness and has now progressed to swimming without her armbands in the pool. Well done, Myla!



### Apple

Pressley has impressed staff this week during phonics sessions, spelling CVC words with more independence. Well done!



### Olive

This week, the children have worked extremely hard in maths. They have shown growing confidence in using their fingers to represent quantities to 5, carefully counting and matching each finger to the correct number. Many children have also started to represent quantities to 10, demonstrating an increasing understanding of number and quantity.

The children enjoyed exploring different ways to show the same amount and worked thoughtfully to match a range of representations of 5, including fingers, counting objects, and numeral cards. They showed excellent counting skills, used mathematical language confidently, and demonstrated great concentration and perseverance throughout the activities.



### Forest

Forest Class have enjoyed using an electric whisk during their cookery session this week. They made Victoria sponge cupcakes, carefully following a set of instructions. The children took turns mixing the ingredients with the electric whisk, showing great care and enthusiasm throughout the activity. Once the cakes had cooled, the children added jam before enjoying their delicious creations at snack time.



## Peacock

Peacock Class have been learning about the artist Pablo Picasso and his unique portrait style. Using photographs of themselves, the children created their own colourful self-portraits inspired by his work. They showed fantastic creativity and enjoyed exploring different shapes and colours. A special well done to Mariam for her amazing artwork and wonderful effort throughout the project!



## Reminders/Key Dates

| Date     | Event                                                         | Year Group                            |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 15.10.26 | Dads/Male Carer Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30                     | All Dads/Male Parents and Carers      |
| 16.10.26 | School Photograph Day                                         | Whole School                          |
| 21.10.26 | Halloween Disco (after school)                                | Whole School                          |
| 26.10.26 | HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED                                     | Whole School                          |
| 2.11.26  | School re-opens                                               | Whole School                          |
| 5.11.26  | Outdoor Classroom Day                                         | Whole School                          |
| 6.11.26  | Inset Day – School Closed to Children                         | Whole School                          |
| 12.11.26 | Parent Stay and Play (2pm)                                    | Lime, Mint and Apple                  |
| 13.11.26 | Parent Stay and Play (2pm)                                    | Peacock, Forest and Olive             |
| 16.11.26 | Odd Sock Day                                                  | Whole School                          |
| 19.11.26 | Dads/Male Carer Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30                     | All Dads/Male Parents and Carers      |
| 20.11.26 | Children in Need                                              | Whole School                          |
| 23.11.26 | Parent Stay and Play (2pm)                                    | Lavender, Sunflower and Rose          |
| 24.11.26 | Mams/Female Carer Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30 @ Washington Mind | All Mams/Female Parents and Carers    |
| 25.11.26 | SALT Parent Information Session for New Starters              | TBC                                   |
| 26.11.26 | Parent Stay and Play (2pm)                                    | Blossom and Raspberry                 |
| 27.11.26 | Parent Stay and Play (2pm)                                    | Strawberry, Cherry and Poppy          |
| 2.12.26  | SALT Parent Information Session for New Starters              | TBC                                   |
| 9.12.26  | Christmas Disco (after school)                                | Whole School                          |
| 10.12.26 | Christmas Lunch<br>Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day     | Whole School                          |
| 14.12.26 | Christmas Party                                               | Peacock, Forest, Olive and Sunflower  |
| 15.12.26 | Christmas Party                                               | Apple, Lime, Mint and Lavender        |
| 16.12.26 | Christmas Party                                               | Poppy, Cherry and Strawberry          |
| 17.12.26 | Christmas Party                                               | Raspberry, Rose, Blossom and The Nest |
| 18.12.26 | Last Day of Term<br>Pyjama Day                                | Whole School                          |
|          | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED                            | Whole School                          |

### Key dates for the wider school year

5.3.27 INSET Day (school is closed to children)

30.4.27 INSET Day (school is closed to children)

25.6.27 INSET Day (school is closed to children)

Schools will close to pupils on Tuesday 20th July 2027.

**Attendance:** What a great week for attendance! Well done to Blossom, Rose, Sunflower, Olive and Forest who all had 100% attendance this week!

| Class      | Blossom  | Rose | Raspberry | Strawberry | Cherry | Poppy  | Sunflower |
|------------|----------|------|-----------|------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Attendance | 100%     | 100% | 85%       | 99%        | 86%    | 92%    | 100%      |
|            | Lavender | Mint | Lime      | Apple      | Olive  | Forest | Peacock   |
| Attendance | 90%      | 90%  | 92%       | 98%        | 100%   | 100%   | 96%       |

| Class      | Star of the Week                                                                                                                      |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Blossom    | Theo: For engaging well this week with all activities, well done!                                                                     |
| Rose       | Oscar: For showing great independence during lunch time by carrying his own lunch box to the dinner hall, well done!                  |
| Raspberry  | Max: For wowing class staff by saying his very first word, "Mam", well done!                                                          |
| Strawberry | Poppy: For fantastic effort in mark making sessions this week, well done!                                                             |
| Cherry     | Beau: For impressing staff with his communication this week, well done!                                                               |
| Poppy      | James: For showing a keen interest in Rhyme Time sessions. He especially loves it when we sing fast, slow, loud and quiet, well done! |
| Sunflower  | Freddie: For staying focused on tasks while using the therapy ball to help keep himself regulated, well done!                         |
| Lavender   | Lincoln: For interacting with class staff and using his loud and proud voice! Well done, Lincoln!                                     |
| Mint       | Jack: For his great effort and progress in maths and phonics this week, well done!                                                    |
| Lime       | Leo: For his brilliant determination and resilience in all aspects of learning this week, well done!                                  |
| Apple      | Jacob: For fantastic reading during his guided reading session, well done!                                                            |
| Olive      | Adyan: For initiating lovely interactions with peers, well done!                                                                      |
| Forest     | Vinnie: For having such lovely manners, always saying 'please' and 'thank you'. Well done!                                            |
| Peacock    | Mason: For working incredibly hard to create his Picasso inspired art work!                                                           |

| Class    | Lunch Time Stars                                                                        |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lavender | Dilara: For trying new food, well done!                                                 |
| Mint     | Roman: For being helpful at lunch time, well done!                                      |
| Apple    | John: For making good choices over dinner time, well done!                              |
| Forest   | Vinnie: Being sensible in the dinner hall when requesting food at the hatch, well done! |

It has been a great week in school with lots of things going on! It was wonderful to hear Sarah talk so positively about the Mam/female carer coffee morning this week, as well as seeing so many of you in school joining us for Stay and Play. It is always great to have parents and carers in school.

Enjoy the weekend, and we look forward to seeing you next week.

*J. Lines*

Headteacher