

Columbia Grange Weekly Newsletter

12th June 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Columbia Grange...

Rainbow

Rainbow class were absolutely fantastic during their first swimming session! They explored the water at their own pace, showed great courage and sought support from adults when needed. When the session came to an end, they listened carefully, left the pool promptly and worked hard to help with getting dressed. Well done, Rainbow!



Blossom

This week in Blossom Class, the children impressed staff with their engagement during a cookery session. The children took turns to press the lever down on the toaster and wait for the toast to cook before buttering each slice. Raj thoroughly enjoyed the session, requesting 'more' and even enjoyed eating the toast! This is huge progress and the staff are extremely proud. Well done, Raj!



Rose

The children have been practising their independence and communication skills this week while out in the community. The children enjoyed a trip to Woodridge Gardens Cosy Café where they used communication boards to request what they wanted in the café then worked on their social skills while sitting at the table eating their snack. Well done!



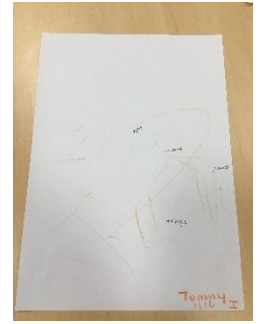
Pink

James has been showing off his precision skills this week during his maths sessions where he has been filling and emptying containers. Goldilocks and The Three Bears were very happy with their bowls of porridge and drinks from James!



Scarlet

Tommy has shown huge progression in his MatMan sessions and throughout the year, he has moved from learning how to build MatMan with physical objects to drawing elements of MatMan independently. Well done, we are super impressed!



Ruby

Freddie has worked extremely hard this week and enjoyed using the tyres and scales to explore making the scales 'heavy' and 'light'. Freddie realised very quickly that the more tyres he adds the heavier one side is! Well done, Freddie; super exploring!



Lavender

This week, the children in Lavender class have been exploring different types of houses and enjoyed making their own house using lollipop sticks and glue. Luke wanted to create his own design and made it completely independently. Well done, Luke.



Sage

Mahad has been making excellent progress in his Food Technology sessions recently and is increasingly able to identify ingredients from a choice of two. He is also developing greater independence and confidence when using the microwave, following adult prompts to switch it on and off safely. Well done, Mahad!



Mint

Mint class have had a brilliant week focusing on their communication skills. On Wednesday, they enjoyed a sensory story and used communication boards to request desired items or activities related to the story. They had lots of fun and did a great job asking for more!



Jade

The children have had a great week in Jade class and have enjoyed exploring, tasting and chopping fruits and vegetables in the outdoor mud kitchen. They also enjoyed exploring our Hungry Caterpillar sensory story and had fun recreating it independently within the provision.



Emerald

Children have been learning why it is essential to brush their teeth twice a day, use the correct brushing technique, and how to make healthy food choices to help keep their teeth strong and clean. They enjoyed discussing ways to care for their teeth, taking part in practical demonstrations, and confidently sharing their own experiences of visiting the dentist. The activity helped to promote healthy lifestyle choices and supported the children's understanding of the importance of good oral hygiene.



Forest

This week, children have been working very hard following the Mastering Number Programme, learning about greater than, less than, and equal to. They have used a variety of counters and practical resources to compare quantities and have learnt to read and create number sentences using the correct mathematical symbols. Courtney excelled during these sessions, participating with confidence and demonstrating a strong understanding of each concept



Teal

Teal class had a great visit to Beamish on Thursday. The class enjoyed a ride on the vintage bus to the 1940s farm and also had a ride on the tram. Children demonstrated excellent skills of patience whilst waiting and children sat seated whilst travelling on the vehicles and were great passengers! Well done, everyone.



Navy

Navy class have been learning about healthy eating habits. Aaron and Martha showed off their excellent communication skills by explaining why they needed to eat more fruit and vegetables. Aaron told the class that oranges "help to heal us!" Great work!



The Nest

The children in The Nest have been learning about a range of occupations as part of their Understanding the World lessons this week. They particularly enjoyed learning about firefighters, taking part in a themed bucket time activity where they put out the chalk 'fires' with water! The children also enjoyed exploring the firefighter themed small world and role play opportunities.



Reminders/Key Dates

Date	Event	Year Group
23.6.26	Newly ADDED: Coffee Morning for Mams/female carers @ Washington Mind, 9:30-11:00 <i>*We will look to organise further sessions both inside and outside of school hours</i>	Mams/female carers of whole school
26.06.26	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED	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 Ruby and Navy with 100% attendance this week!

Class	Rainbow	Blossom	Rose	Pink	Scarlet	Ruby	Lavender
Attendance	96%	98%	98%	98%	88%	100%	98%
Class	Sage	Mint	Jade	Emerald	Forest	Teal	Navy
Attendance	89%	96%	98%	87%	82%	94%	100%

Class	Star of the Week
Rainbow	Zara: For developing greater tolerance towards waiting during activities and interactions.
Blossom	Elijah: For wonderful interactions with staff, being kind to friends and showing positive engagement all week!
Rose	Luna: For fantastic effort and communication in maths lessons this week!
Pink	Zack: For having a fantastic week, joining in all sessions and showing an interest in a range of resources.
Scarlet	Lucas: For working hard in his early writing session, putting the four moves “up, down, left and right” together in Squiggle While You Wiggle.
Ruby	Georgia: For initiating conversations with staff with support from her communication book.
Lavender	Ruben: For completing great work during mark-making lessons, well done!
Sage	Oscar: For fantastic work in his phonics sessions and applying his phonic knowledge when writing words.
Mint	Sophia: For brilliant reading both at school and at home! Well done Sophia, keep up the good work!
Jade	Cass: For having a calm and settled week in school and using communication boards to request. Well done!
Emerald	Kray: For brilliant effort in maths! Kray is developing his confidence when contributing during group work, well done!
Forest	Logan: For doing a great job tidying away items when asked by adults. He has been listening carefully and making positive choices. Well done!

Teal	John Joe: For working hard this week and making good choices.
Navy	Mathew: For writing great sentences using capital letters and full stops.
The Nest	Lilly: For fantastic engagement within all aspects of her learning this week, well done!

Class	Lunch Time Stars
Rainbow	Theo: For trying new foods at lunch time. Well done!
Pink	Will: For eating pasta at lunch time, well done!
Ruby	Ugo: For using Makaton to request at dinner time. Keep it up!
Emerald	Morire: For good sitting in the dinner hall. Well done!

It has been another busy week at Columbia Grange. You should have received sponsor forms this week ahead of the upcoming Colour Run. This event will be raising money for resources across school. If you need an additional sponsor form, please let class staff know.

Enjoy the weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday.

J. Lines

Headteacher