

Columbia Grange Weekly Newsletter



2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Columbia Grange...

Blossom

This week in phonics, Aiden impressed staff with his engagement in Phonics during his 'Silly Soup' activity. He identified a pig, pizza and Paw Patrol, but his favourite was the purple glitter! Aiden engaged with the activity for 5 minutes and copied actions from the adults as the song was sang. He also used the symbols to identify the item that was next to go into the silly soup! Well done, Aiden!



Rose

The children in Rose class enjoyed listening to their new rhyme this week, '1,2,3,4,5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive'. Brooklyn enjoyed exploring the props and taking part in the "what's that sound?" activity, reacting to interactive items such as the water spray and the fishing rod.



Raspberry

The children in Raspberry class thoroughly enjoyed their mark-making sessions this week, exploring different ways to mark make, holding different materials and creating their very own MatMan. Phoebe enjoyed singing the MatMan song, while creating her own character, putting the body parts in the correct place. Well done!



Strawberry

The children in Strawberry class have explored mark making outdoors this week, using paint sticks, paint and chalk. Benjamin showed such curiosity and even used hand leading to request adults to join him in drawing with chalk!



Cherry

The children in Cherry class have impressed staff with their engagement in phonics and rhyme time sessions this week. The children have used communication boards to fill in the missing words when listening to 'Ring a Ring a Roses', then looked at objects that began with /g/. Their favourites seemed to be grapes and the Gruffalo!



Poppy

Lennox has recently started to guide an adult's hand to indicate that he would like his hair to be stroked or his hands and arms tickled when he is feeling upset or dysregulated. This is a fantastic development in Lennox's ability to seek support from the adults around him, demonstrating growing use of co-regulation strategies to support his emotional wellbeing.



Sunflower

This week, the children in Sunflower class have been learning about Harvest through music therapy and an Attention Everyone session. Nyrie showed great engagement during the activities and participated well throughout. Well done, Nyrie!



Lavender

This week, Lavender class has been incredibly busy and full of creativity! During our Attention Everyone session, we had a blast splatting shaving foam "currant buns," and we even practised our drawing skills by tracing MatMan in shaving foam and blue glitter.



Mint

The children in Mint class did a brilliant job making soup this week. They listened to and followed instructions well and handled equipment carefully, chopping and peeling vegetables. A lot of the children were keen to try the soup and it was a big hit with those that did!

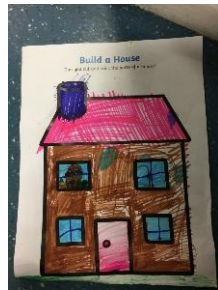
Lime

A special shout out to Matthew for his fantastic maths this week. When representing the number of spiders on a web, Matthew confidently began with ten spiders. When he was then given a web asking for nine spiders, he carefully took one spider away from his group of ten and moved the remaining spiders onto the web to match the quantity. Well done, Matthew!



Apple

Emily created a fantastic piece of artwork this week inspired by the Supertato vs Evil Pea story. While listening to the story being read aloud, Emily independently drew wonderful pictures of Supertato and the Evil Pea, showing great creativity and imagination.



Olive

Some children in Olive class independently accessed the writing and mark-making area during choice time this week, showing great enthusiasm for early writing. They confidently selected magnetic letters and used them to build familiar words, exploring letter sounds and word formation, well done!



Forest

The children in Forest class have been learning about 'more' and 'fewer' in their maths sessions this week. The children shared groups of items and identified who had more and who had fewer, developing their abilities to use the following stem sentences, ____ has more than ____ / ____ has fewer than ____.



Peacock

Lyla has been working hard to develop her independence skills and has made fantastic progress with her swimming routine. This week, she showed great confidence by getting herself fully changed for swimming with increasing independence. We are so proud of her determination and growing self-help skills. Well done, Lyla!



Reminders/Key Dates

Date	Event	Year Group
5.10.26	Parent Stay and Play (2pm)	Lime and Apple
6.10.26	Parent Stay and Play (2pm)	Peacock, Forest and Olive
7.10.26	Mams/Female Carer Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30 @ Washington Mind	All Mams/Female Parents and Carers
7.10.26	Parent Stay and Play (2pm)	Sunflower, Mint and Lavender
8.10.26	Parent Stay and Play (2pm)	Poppy, Cherry and Strawberry
9.10.26	Parent Stay and Play (2pm)	Raspberry, Rose and Blossom
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 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 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: Well done to Apple class who had a fantastic 100% attendance this week!

Class	Blossom	Rose	Raspberry	Strawberry	Cherry	Poppy	Sunflower
Attendance	98%	98%	96%	94%	88%	94%	90%
	Lavender	Mint	Lime	Apple	Olive	Forest	Peacock
Attendance	84%	91%	96%	100%	84%	91%	81%

Class	Star of the Week
Blossom	Andrew: For building his confidence in P.E. and jumping from the higher beam!
Rose	Noah: For developing his communication and starting to tap symbols to request more of a favoured item such as bubbles, well done!
Raspberry	Ariana: For staying engaged throughout an activity, showing excitement when it is her turn! Well done, Ariana!
Strawberry	Alfie: For trying hard to build sentences on communication boards this week!
Cherry	Connor: For using clear communication to answer questions, well done!
Poppy	Louis: For excellent progress with his communication skills, using Makaton signing, verbal attempts, gestures and visual supports, including communication boards. Well done, Louis!
Sunflower	Zara: For using her communication board effectively and responding to objects of reference when transitioning around the school.
Lavender	Dilara: For great self-help skills and independence with her personal care. Well done!
Mint	Alexander: For making great progress in phonics this week!
Lime	Oscar: For excellent transitions around school, keep it up!
Apple	Emily: For great independence when completing artwork. Well done!
Olive	Kit: For showing excellent self-awareness in P.E. by recognising that feeling "sweaty" was a sign that he had been working hard and exercising his body effectively.
Forest	Cole: For fantastic progress in phonics and making such wonderful choices all week. Super well done, Cole!
Peacock	Mariam: For working hard to develop her confidence in swimming, well done.

Class	Lunch Time Stars
Raspberry	Theo: For tolerating new food on his plate. Well done!
Sunflower	Will: For good sitting while eating his dinner, well done!
Peacock	Mason: For eating all of his dinner, well done!

Another busy week in school! Look out for information about our upcoming Halloween Disco, we hope to see you there! Enjoy the weekend and we will see you on Monday!

J. Lines

Headteacher