

Columbia Grange Weekly Newsletter

4th September 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Columbia Grange...

Blossom

Blossom Class have had an amazing first week at Columbia Grange! The children have been settling into their new routines and becoming familiar with classroom expectations. Children were absolutely brilliant during our first music session, enthusiastically exploring a range of instruments and joining in with the activities. Well done, everyone!



Rose

Rose Class have had a lovely first week in school exploring their new classroom. The children have particularly enjoyed getting messy using paint to make ducks on the windows. They used yellow paint and their hands to make their masterpieces. Leo in particular, was able to independently make his own duck using his hands, well done!



Raspberry

Raspberry Class have had an amazing first week back! The children have settled in with new friends and routines and are making staff extremely proud! The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring different areas of the classroom and engaging with the provision linking to each area of learning.

Strawberry

Strawberry Class have blown staff away with how well they have coped with the transition into their new class this week! A special mention goes to Oscar who has demonstrated amazing behaviour and shown his peers how to follow routines!

Cherry

Cherry class have had a brilliant first week back. They've picked up our new routines well and have begun to tolerate their peers playing in their space. The children had a great PSHE lesson playing some turn taking games.



Poppy

We are so impressed with how well the children in Poppy class have settled into their routines this week. Alia has worked really hard to manage her emotions with a lot of changes, including a new environment and new children. Well done, Alia!



Sunflower

Children enjoyed exploring Rhyme Time, listening to the 1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a Fish Alive song. They then explored the song using a sensory approach. Tyler particularly enjoyed exploring the 'splash' sound and showed great interest during this part of the activity.



Lavender

Lavender have had an amazing first week back to school. The children have loved exploring the environment while learning new daily routines. They visited different areas around school including the Sensory Room, Hedgehog Hideaway and the Discovery Park. However, their favourite activity has definitely been Rhyme Time! All children demonstrated excellent listening skills and began to explore the different actions of the rhyme, Incy Wincy Spider. This linked wonderfully to our attention everyone session where the children were able to explore the phoneme 'S'.



Mint

Mint class have had a fantastic week settling into and exploring their new classroom. The children enjoyed exploring the mud kitchen in our outdoor area and also enjoyed carrying out activities in the sand and water. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time in the cookery room this week where they made sandwiches which they then enjoyed for snack. Well done!



Lime

Children in Lime class have blown staff away with their behaviour this week. All children have worked well together to adapt to their new environment and routine, as well as making their new teaching assistant Claire feel very welcome at Columbia Grange! A clear class favourite this week has been squiggle while you wiggle where the children have practised their pre-writing lines in the air, on carpets and then in the shaving foam. Oscar has worked very hard in this session every day this week. Well done Oscar!



Apple

John impressed staff this week with his one-to-one correspondence. He demonstrated accurate counting of concrete objects as well as using his fingers to support his counting. Well done, John!



Olive

Olive Class have enjoyed a wonderful start to the new school year and have settled into their new environment exceptionally well. The children have been busy exploring the classroom and outdoor areas, becoming familiar with the routines and resources available to them. They have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity as they engaged in a variety of activities and discoveries. It has been lovely to see new friendships beginning to form, with the children playing cooperatively, sharing experiences and building positive relationships with their peers. The Olive Class team are very proud of how confidently and happily the children have embraced their first week and look forward to all the exciting learning ahead.



Forest

Children have had a wonderful start to the year and have enjoyed their first week in Forest Class. They are beginning to develop positive relationships with their peers and are becoming more comfortable and confident when playing alongside others. Staff have been delighted to observe some lovely examples of turn taking, sharing and cooperative play.

Peacock

What an amazing start Peacock Class have had this week! Everyone has shown enthusiasm, resilience and a positive attitude as they have returned to learning. A special mention goes to Lyla, who has made a fantastic start in her new school and class. She has settled in brilliantly, embraced new experiences with confidence and has already begun to make friendships with her classmates. Well done, Peacock Class, on a wonderful first week back!



Reminders/Key Dates

Date	Event	Year Group
25.9.26	Macmillan Coffee Morning 9:00-11:00	Whole School
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 Raspberry, Strawberry, Poppy, Apple and Olive who all had a fantastic 100% attendance this week!

Class	Blossom	Rose	Raspberry	Strawberry	Cherry	Poppy	Sunflower
Attendance	95%	90%	100%	100%	90%	100%	85%
	Lavender	Mint	Lime	Apple	Olive	Forest	Peacock
Attendance	98%	93%	97%	100%	100%	91%	96%

Class	Star of the Week
Blossom	Caleb: For beautiful sitting in the dinner hall and for trying to use cutlery at lunchtime.
Rose	Gabrielle: For completing her PSHE puzzle with reduced adult help. Well done, Gabrielle!
Raspberry	Phoebe: For engaging in all of her jobs throughout the day with a lovely big smile on her face.
Strawberry	Joshua: For engaging so enthusiastically with our Rhyme Time sessions, well done!
Cherry	Jack: For independently signing our word of the week “help” when he wanted an adult to open the door for him. Well done, Jack!
Poppy	Sheridan: For accepting changes to his environment and starting to build positive relationships with new people. Well done, Sheridan!
Sunflower	All of Sunflower class: For having a great first week, settling into their new class and becoming familiar with their new routines. Well done!
Lavender	All of Lavender class: For having a fantastic first week back to school. All children have listened and tried their best with new routines. Well done!
Mint	Lilly E: For settling well into school this week and participating in all activities, well done!
Lime	Harriet For trying extremely hard with her mark making every day this week. Well done!
Apple	Liam: For fantastic participation when re-enacting our rhyme this week!
Olive	Max: For a fantastic first week, Max has settled straight back into school routines!
Forest	Morire: For fantastic engagement during our Maths sessions, showing quantities up to six using his fingers. Well done, Morire!

Peacock	Emre: For being kind by helping his friends in the new class. Well done!
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Class	Lunch Time Stars
Raspberry	Marc: For excellent behaviour in the dinner hall.
Lavender	Luke: For amazing counting and adding whilst playing Snakes & Ladders at lunchtime play!

It has been a wonderful first week of term. Children have settled in exceptionally well, especially new starters who have made a positive start to their Columbia Grange journey. Attendance has been good this week and we look forward to seeing it further increase next week with all families returning to school. Autumn term is looking to be busy so please take note of the key dates within this newsletter.

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

J. Lines

Headteacher