



Griffin Park Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 24TH October 2025

Newsletter Number: 6



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

We have reached the end of the first half term of the year and what a wonderful half-term it has been here at Griffin Park. I am always impressed by how well the children behave, how enthusiastic they are for their learning, and how much the staff here put into making things exciting and enjoyable for all the children.

There's lots of information to pass on this week so the newsletter is a bit longer than usual. Please take the time to read and digest all the bits below and please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or ideas. I've split it up into sections this week to try to make it easier to read for everyone.

Have a lovely half-term break and I look forward to seeing you when we return to school on the 3rd November 2025.

Best Wishes,
Mr Chapman

5 STAR FOOD

Well done to Janet and her team in the kitchen who were recently inspected by the local authority and received five stars again for the food safety in the kitchen. Janet and her team prepare wonderful, fresh cooked meals every day. These are free to children in the infants and only £1 per meal for children in the juniors. If you are interested in your child having a school meal for some or all of the days each week, please order on Parent Pay

PARKING

We have taken some measure to try and alleviate the traffic problems out at the front of school in a morning. We notice that there are some cars stopping and parking on the yellow zig-zag lines and some cars being driven into the car park. Please note that the car park is for staff use only at all times. There are time restrictions to parking on the Zig Zag lines and any cars parked on there are liable to receive a fine and penalty points if spotted by the authorities.

We have started putting cones out to help people see clearly where the zig zag lines are and members of staff will be standing out front to monitor the traffic each morning. You may have already seen myself and Mr Murphy (site supervisor) greeting people as they arrive at the gate.

To assist those who may end up parking further down the road, we have started opening the gate at the side of the playground at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you to the parent who suggested this good idea.

KEY DATES

- 24/10/2025 – Y6 to PGL for 2 nights
- 24/10/2025 – School Closes for Half-Term Normal Time
- 3/11/2025 – School Re-opens
- 4/11/2025 – Pumpkin Party 5:30pm – 7pm
- 1/12/2025 – Christmas Panto AM/Christmas Art Day PM
- 3/12/2025 - Y1/2 Gymnastics Performance (Y1 – 10am/Y2 – 11am)
- 9/12/2025 – Christmas Jumper Day
- 10/12/2025 – Infant Nativity (AM)
- 11/12/2025 – Infant Nativity (PM)
- 15/12/2025 – Infant Christmas Party
- 16/12/2025 - Junior Christmas Party
- 19/12/2025 – Awards Assembly 1:15pm
- 19/12/2025 – School Closes End of term 2pm

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children who will receive their certificates on **Friday 7/11/25**

YR: Tahira

Y1: Kelsey

Y2: Kiegan

Y3: Muhammad Ahmed

Y4: Hamza

Y5: Elijah

Y6: Ahmad



Griffin Park Primary School
Cavendish Place
Blackburn
BB2 2PN

Head Teacher: Mr. D. Chapman

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs R. Schofield

Assistant Head Teacher: Mrs S. Aspinall

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www.griffinparkprimary.co.uk

POPPY APPEAL

After the half-term break, we will be selling poppies to support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. There is a suggested donation of 20p for a stick on poppy and there will be other items available ranging from 50p to £1.50 for children to purchase.

RECORDING IN ASSEMBLIES

Each week we invite parents and carers in to see their children pick up their star of the week certificates if they have been chosen for that week. We also love to invite parents in when we have class assemblies and on other special occasions. We politely ask that any visitors to school refrain from recording or taking pictures during the assemblies. We have a number of children for whom we do not have permission to record and it is important that we protect the digital privacy of anyone in the hall during these special occasions. We will always try to give people an opportunity to take a picture with their child at the end of the assembly where we can ensure that no-one else is in the picture.

GOODBYE TO MRS TONES

Today we say a fond farewell to Mrs Tones as she finishes to go on maternity leave. We are all very excited to meet Baby Tones once they are welcomed into the world and I am sure you will all join me in giving Mrs Tones best wishes as her family grows. Mrs Holden is going to be looking after all things SEND related whilst Mrs Tones is absent. If you have anything you would like to discuss in relation to SEND, please contact Mrs Holden through the school office.

GRAPES

Grapes, and other similar sized foods, present a choking hazard to children. The NHS reports that grapes are the third most common cause of death in food-related accidents. The size and shape of them can completely plug a child's airway. Always chop grapes in half lengthways and ideally into quarters.

We have noticed that an increasing number of children are bringing whole grapes into school. **If you are sending grapes into school, please cut them lengthways into quarters.** This is to minimise the choking risk for your child and other children in school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, they are due to start secondary school in September 2026. You must apply for a secondary school place. There is no automatic transfer from primary to secondary school.

You can apply from 4 September 2025. The closing date to apply for a primary school place for September 2026 is 31 October 2025. You can apply for places at <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/>

Please note that Griffin Park has no say in the schools that are offered and cannot influence the decision at any point in the process.

HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES

Mrs Campbell has shared some information from BwD authority about free family activities that are taking place over the half-term break. Please see the information poster below for more details. Some activities will need booking and that can be done through the following link. <https://refreshbwd.com/events/active-seasons/>

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

Last week I shared a Wake Up Wednesday poster as part of the newsletter. These information posters are designed to help parents and carers stay up-to-date with the latest technology and help keep children safe online. I will now be sending these out as separate emails on a Wednesday. The full back catalogue of posters can be found by clicking this link: [National College Wake Up Wednesday Posters](#)

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OCTOBER HALF TERM

re:refresh your health and wellbeing ActiveBwD **ACTIVE AUTUMN**

27TH OCTOBER - 1ST NOVEMBER

DARWEN VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE 12:00pm - 3:00pm Monday 27th	CORPORATION PARK 12:00pm - 3:00pm Tuesday 28th	QUEENS PARK 12:00pm - 3:00pm Wednesday 29th	MILL HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE 12:00pm - 3:00pm Thursday 30th	MILL HILL PARK 10:00am - 12:00pm Saturday 1st
SPOOKY FAMILY FUN & GAMES BIRKBEORN DARWEN An @n@l@th youthZone	XPLORER & PUMPKIN PICKING BOOK Deaf Village	SPOOKY SKATEBOARDING BOOK	HOCUS CROCUS Halloween Bulb Planting BOOK	THE LAUNCH OF PARK PLAY REGISTER ParkPlay The BILD Project
NATURAL CRAFTING Family Hub	SPOOKY CRAFTS ASDA	CARD MAKING & LEGO @weirdPlace	INTERACTIVE STORY TRAIL 2:00pm - 3:00pm BOOK	
HALLOWEEN SCAVENGER HUNT BOOK purplepatch	NATURAL CRAFTING Family Hub	FAMILY FUN DAY Inflatable Goal Info Stalls Community Trust	SPOOKY FAMILY FUN & GAMES Death by Dodgeball Indoor Cursed Curling YOUTHZONE	
		FACE PAINTING @weirdPlace	SPICED PUMPKIN SOUP BOOK BLACKBURN WOODS & WATER LEASING	
		BIKER TOTS 1:30pm - 2:30pm Health with @weird HEALTH & WELFARE	SPOOKY CRAFTS ASDA	
		XPLORER TRAIL XPLORER purplepatch	NATURAL CRAFTING Family Hub	
		NATURAL CRAFTING Family Hub	BAT WALK 4:30pm - 6:30pm Witton park. BOOK Ribble Rivers	

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