

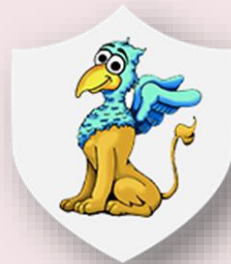


# Griffin Park Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Newsletter Number: 25



### HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Welcome back to the first half of the Summer Term,

We have hit the ground running this week as we have been enjoying science week throughout school. I cannot believe how many exciting things have been taking place in each classroom. Yesterday we had the Wonderdome in the school hall and all the children went in to learn lots about space. I had the pleasure of joining the Year ones for their session and was amazed at their knowledge of space and the planets.

In EYFS we have had chicks hatching throughout the week and in year 2 children were inspecting owl pellets to see what they had been eating. They even found some animal skulls amongst the droppings. This is just a small selection of the fabulous activities that have been taking place this week. Thank you to all the staff for planning fun learning opportunities and a particular thanks to Mrs Aspinall who has organised the whole week.



On Wednesday, we were joined by Aileen, Olu and Ian who came into school to work with the school council to plant some fruit trees and hedges. The school council were brilliant at digging the holes, fluffing up the root balls and ensuring the trees were securely staked in the ground. Aileen said

that the pupils were lovely, and polite and a credit to the school. Well done to the school council and thank you to Aileen, Olu, Ian and Mrs Otter for organising the planting session.

Uniform – Please ensure that all children are in the correct uniform every day. As we are heading towards warmer weather, it is vital that each item of clothing is clearly marked so that misplaced items can easily be returned.

We have lots more exciting things coming up this half-term. Please keep an eye on the school website and the newsletter for more information.

Best Wishes,  
Mr Chapman

### CAR PARKING

Please note that both car-parks, front and rear, are for staff vehicles and deliveries only. Please do not come onto the car parks when dropping children off or collecting them. This includes when dropping off for breakfast club. Please could we also ask that drivers are considerate of road marking when driving around school. Lots of cars are stopping on the yellow zig-zag lines at the front and side of school. these are there to ensure that all our children are kept safe and they should not be used to stop on – even for a few moments.

### KEY DATES

30/04/26 – Y3 Class Assembly 9am

4/5/26 – School Closed – Bank Holiday

7/5/26 – School Closed- Polling Station

8/05/26 – Y4 Trip to Martin Mere

11/05/25 – SATS Week – Y6 Good Luck

15/05/26 – Y2 Trip to Martin Mere

21/05/26 – Y4 Class Assembly 9am

22/05/26 – Eid Party. School closes at 3:15/3:20pm for half-term

01/06/26 – School Closed – INSET Day

02/06/26 – School Reopens

01/01/26 – Y4 Multiplication checks this week

### STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children who will receive their certificates on Friday 24/4/26

YR: Eddie

Y1: Reggie

Y2: Jesse

Y3: Arlo

Y4: Mohammed

Y5: Khadeeja

Y6: Umaymah



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## CHARITY SKYDIVE



You will have seen on the newsletter over recent months that Mr Grieve has been doing a charity skydive to raise money for Griffin Park School. During the holidays he jumped out of a plane somewhere over the north west of England and I am pleased to report that he landed safely! Not only that, but he raised a whopping £320 for the school. Thank you to everyone who donated and especially to Mr Grieve for taking on this challenge!



## CUTTING UP FOOD IN PACKED LUNCHES

Please could we ask that any fruits, vegetables and other foods that may present a choking hazard are cut up appropriately if being sent in a lunchbox. For example, grapes, cherries, berries, and tomatoes should be cut into quarters lengthways to minimise the risk of choking. This applies to all children bringing food into school, whatever their age/year group. Please click on the link below for more information on food preparation for children.

[https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2021/09/Early-Years-Choking-Hazards-Table\\_FINAL\\_21-Sept-2021.pdf](https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2021/09/Early-Years-Choking-Hazards-Table_FINAL_21-Sept-2021.pdf)

## COOL MILK

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you may be aware Griffin Park Primary School has a milk scheme, now being administered by Cool Milk. Midmorning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised\* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents). Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5th birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late – our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents)

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contract](http://www.coolmilk.com/contract) or give us a call on the number listed below – we're here to help!

Kind regards

Griffin Park Primary School, on behalf of Cool Milk

0800 321 3248

**Please do not make any further milk payments via ParentPay as the arrangement is now directly between parents and Cool Milk – via their website.**

## SCHOOL FUND APPEAL

We kindly invite families to support our school fund if they are able. Donations, no matter how small, make a meaningful difference to our children's school experiences, particularly in our EYFS and nursery. We also greatly appreciate any contributions of useful items, for example cooking ingredients to make playdough that helps support learning and school activities. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. Any donations can be made through the school office

	Attendance	Description
Exceptional (1)	Attendance is 100%	Excellent. This will help a child's progress and life in school. This will give them a good start in life and a positive work ethic
Good (2)	Attendance is 96% or higher	
Room For Improvement (3)	Attendance is below 96%	Poor. There is a threat. Absence is affecting attainment and progress in school. Parents/carers will be expected to have a conversation with school staff to discuss attendance and early help will be offered. A plan will be put in place to help with improving your child's attendance.
Cause For Concern (4)	Attendance is below 85%	Unacceptable Absence is causing a serious concern. Absence is affecting attainment and progress in school. Permitting absence without an appropriate reason is being offered by the parent/carer. Steps will be taken by school to manage the attendance issue. This may result in a fine.

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## Weekly Attendance Results – Target 96%

Rec.	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
94.1	97.5	96.7	97.7	99.7	92.7	93.7



East Lancashire Hospitals  
NHS Trust

### Vision Screening in Lancashire

Vision screening is an integral part of the universal delivery of the national Healthy Child Programme.

Every child in the Reception class will receive an invitation to have their vision tested in school.

A detailed letter will be sent home with your child closer to the screening date.

Safe | Personal | Effective



East Lancashire Hospitals  
NHS Trust

### Vision Screening in Lancashire

Vision screening will be taking place for the reception class children on

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

An Opt-out consent form will be sent home with your child closer to the screening date. If you do not receive one and wish to Opt-out, please contact the school.

Safe | Personal | Effective

## Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/health-protection-and-managing-specific-infectious-diseases-at-school). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.



For advice on specific medical conditions that may affect your child, please click the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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## Live and Kicking Out of School Club

For almost 23 years, a well-established childcare provider has been operating from Immanuel Church Hall in Feniscowles, offering high-quality wraparound care over two floors with access to a large outdoor field (weather permitting). They currently support children from four local schools and are happy to welcome new families who may need the service.

The **Breakfast Club** opens at 7:15am and includes a varied breakfast menu such as pancakes, cereals, toast, potato cakes, waffles, crumpets, fruit, and yoghurts, followed by supervised transport to school. Sessions are priced at **£5.50**.

**LIVE AND KICKING**  
OUT OF SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB

At Immanuel Church Hall  
710 Preston Old Rd, Feniscowles, Blackburn, BB2 5EN

We provide the highest quality of childcare and aim to strive for excellence! We take pride in providing childcare excellence in a safe and nurturing environment. With engaging activities, nutritious meals, and qualified staff!

**BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**  
BREAKFAST CLUB STARTS AT 7:15AM  
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB FINISHES AT 6:00PM

Follow us on facebook: Live and Kicking Out of School Club  
**01254 202075 / 07737647639**  
**liveandkicking20@hotmail.com**

**LIVE AND KICKING**

Out of School and Holiday Club

Join us at our Breakfast, After School and Holiday Club! We combine educational support, fun activities and childcare excellence. We are dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of children and families, and we look forward to welcoming your child to our vibrant community.

**BREAKFAST CLUB**  
**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**  
**HOLIDAY CLUB**

**HOLIDAY CLUB**  
FULL DAY SESSIONS  
7:30AM - 6PM  
HALF DAY SESSIONS  
9AM - 3PM

**01254 202075 / 07737647639**  
**liveandkicking20@hotmail.com**

The **After-School Club** collects children from school and provides a home-cooked meal—examples include sausage, mashed potato, peas and gravy; chicken curry with rice; and jacket potatoes with a range of fillings. Flexible hourly session prices are available at **£4.00, £8.00, and £12.50**, with the club open until 6:00pm.

They also offer **full-day holiday provision**, including a wide range of activities and summer day trips. Families can find out more by visiting their Facebook page or viewing their Ofsted reports.

For additional information, please contact **Fiona Wilson** on **07737 647639/01254 202075**

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## OPERATION ENCOMPASS

We would like to remind families that our school is part of *Operation Encompass*, a national initiative that supports children who may have been affected by domestic incidents. This means that, when appropriate, the police share relevant information with our designated safeguarding leads so we can provide timely care and support in school. Our involvement helps ensure that every child feels safe, understood, and supported. More information can be found on the following website

<https://www.operationencompass.org/>

## Could Your Child Be Eligible for Free School Meals?

### Could Your Child Be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Applying is quick, confidential, and could bring vital benefits not just to your child, but to the school too:

- **Daily nutritious meal** for your child
- **Extra Pupil Premium funding** to boost school clubs, resources, and support
- **invites to the summer school** when in juniors
- **Additional support from the authority** during school holiday

### Why You Should Apply

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1, or Year 2 (where Universal Infant Free School Meals apply), registering makes school eligible for additional funding via Pupil Premium.

### Who Can Apply?

Your child may be eligible if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, with annual gross income under £16,190 and not receiving Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on, for up to 4 weeks after it stops
- Universal Credit, with household income under £7,400 per year after tax and excluding benefits

Additionally, children receiving these benefits directly (instead of through a parent) are also eligible.

### How to Apply

1. Visit <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx>
2. Have your National Insurance and benefit details ready
3. Or ask at the school office, and they'll help you apply
- 4.

If you think there is the slightest possibility that you may be eligible for free school meals, we strongly encourage you to apply, even if you have tried in the past. Once an application for free school meals is accepted, your child will continue to get free school meals throughout their time at primary school, even if your circumstances change.

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