



Griffin Park Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 1st May 2026

Newsletter Number: 27



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

This week has seen the sun shining every day on Griffin Park Primary School and the children have loved their outdoor play – especially as we are now able to go on the field at lunchtimes.

Year 5 and 6 have done very well this week with the adaptation to the uniform policy meaning they come into school in their PE kits on the days they have PE. We will continue this as a trial until the end of the year. Well done to all pupils in year 5 & 6 and thank you to parents and carers for supporting this.

As we are now experiencing warmer weather, we ask that children come into school prepared for being outdoors in the sunshine. They should have a water bottle in school with them every day (only water in these bottles please – no juice!). Clear, plastic, reusable water bottles are best for this. We encourage them to bring in a sunhat to help keep the sun off their faces and necks. If you think they will need suncream, please put it on in the morning before school. Due to potential allergic reactions, we do not allow suncream to be brought into school.

Lastly, you will have hopefully seen my message through Parent Pay regarding the school's vision and values. We would really like your help in setting these for Griffin Park and ask that you take a few minutes to fill in a questionnaire to tell us your hopes for your child and what you already love about the school. Please follow the link below or scan the QR codes outside the classrooms to access the questionnaire.

[Parent Pulse Questionnaire - Vision and Values – Fill in form](#)

Best Wishes,
Mr Chapman

Y1 VISIT TO ST LUKE'S CHURCH

On Thursday morning Year 1 walked down to St Luke's church to learn more about Baptism in the Christian faith. We met Vicar John and Sarah who told us more about Baptisms. They were very impressed with our knowledge already though, and thought we knew lots! We had a pretend Baptism and Ruqayyah and Abdullah were the mother and father and Asad and Jasmin were doting Godparents to 'Baby Nick!' We even had juice and biscuits before we headed back to school.



SCHOOL TRIPS

Please can we ask for any outstanding school trips to be paid via Parent Pay as soon as possible. If we do not receive enough donations, these trips may have to be cancelled. Please speak to your class teacher or the office if you have any problems with donations as we may be able to set up a payment plan or accept a part payment. The trips are subsidised by school but without your support we cannot run them.

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
- 20/05/26 – Sponsored Welly Walk
- 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 08/05/26**

- YR: Mayzie
- Y1: Maahi
- Y2: Nicolas
- Y3: Anaya
- Y4: Muhammad Hashim*
- Y5: Alina
- Y6: Ahmad

(* To be awarded in assembly on 15th May)



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Assistant Head Teacher: Mrs S. Aspinall

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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.

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

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. 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

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at 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

Weekly Attendance Results (%) – Target 96%

Rec.	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.9	95.6	96.3	95.9	91	92.4	93

	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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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.

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/health-protection-and-managing-specific-infectious-diseases). 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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