Griffin Park Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Date: 23rd October 2026

Newsletter Number: 7

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

As we reach the end of the first half-term of the school year, I would like to express thanks to you all for your support. It has been a busy half-term but it seems to have flown by.

Thank you for ensuring your children come into school every day, for working in partnership with us to support their learning and wellbeing, and for the kindness and trust you show our school team.

Griffin children have worked incredibly hard this half term and I know I speak on behalf of all the staff when I say we are incredibly proud of them. The youngest children in school, in nursery and reception, have settled in so well and got used to school life very quickly. Throughout the school, children have behaved beautifully; it is wonderful to see them approaching school life with such positivity and enthusiasm.

There have been a number of examples of this through this last week of half-term. On Thursday, Year 3 put on a lovely assembly for harvest and Reverend Jason who came to share the occasion with us was blown away by how good the performance was. Well done to all the children and thank you to Mr Johnson and his year 3 staff team for their efforts putting the assembly together. Thanks also to all the families who donated harvest food for the school and local food banks.

On Monday I took a team of Year 2 pupils to the Soccerdome where they took part in a football tournament against 4 other schools from the local area. The children's behaviour was exemplary and their team spirit was impressive. They battled hard and scored some amazing goals in each of the matches they played.

On Thursday this week, 4 girls from Year 6 went to Clitheroe to take part in 'This Girl Can.' This was a sports festival where primary school girls can take part in sporting activities that they may not get to try through other means. They got to have a go at Spinning, a treasure hunt (orienteering) and neon dodgeball. They really enjoyed all the events although they did say in the car on the way back that neon dodgeball was their favourite. The girls gave it their all in each of the events and represented Griffin Park brilliantly.

When we return after half-term, we will be gearing up for Christmas. There will be lots to look forward to so please keep your eyes n the newsletter and Class Dojo for upcoming important events.

In the meantime, have a lovely half-term break and we look forward to welcoming you back on **Tuesday 3rd November 2026**

Best Wishes,
Mr Chapman

KEY DATES

23/10/26 – Y6 PGL Residential – 2 nights
23/10/26 – School Closes for Half-Term

02/11/26 – School Closed INSET Day
03/11/26 – School Reopens 8:45am
3/11/26 – Poppy Appeal begins
5/11/26 – Non-Uniform Day – memorial
30/11/26 – Panto in School – Robin Hood
30/11/26 – Christmas Art Day
8/12/26 – Christmas Jumper Day
09/12/26 – Infant Nativity AM & PM
15/12/26 – Infant Party Day
16/12/26 – Junior Party Day
18/12/26 – Awards Assembly – 1:00pm
18/12/26 – **School Closes End of Term 2:00pm**

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children who will receive their certificates on **Friday 6/11/26**

YR: Zainab

Y1: Spencer

Y2: Maahi

Y3: Keegan

Y4: Noah

Y5: Deedee

Y6: Leighton

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FUNDRAISING

I am pleased to report that Griffin Park managed to raise £158 for Stand Up to Racism by wearing red for the non-uniform day last Friday. Thank you to all those who took part and donated to the worthy cause.

The Pumpkin Party on Tuesday was another roaring success. We raised a total of £869.85 for the school fund. This money helps us put on trips and other exciting learning experiences for the children and to subsidise the cost of these for families. We are very grateful to those who came along, dressed, had a dance and enjoyed some party games. Thanks go to the staff who, led by Mrs Aspinall, gave up their time to put on the event. Pictures of the event can be seen on Class Dojo.

ATTENDANCE

In the newsletter every week, we report the attendance figures for each class throughout the school. These are celebrated in an assembly led by Mrs Aspinall each week. This week we are pleased to report that two classes in school got **100% attendance**. **Well done to Year 3 Starlings and Year 6 Sparrows.** Not onl;y that, this is the first week I've ever seen where all the classes achieved over our target of 96% attendance – AMAZING!

We are very proud of you all for turning up every day, on time at a quarter to nine. You have set a fantastic example to the school. Currently, whole school attendance is **97%.** This is an AMAZING figure and we must keep working hard to maintain it throughout the year. Well done and thank you to everyone who works hard to ensure that the children are here every day.

POPPY APPEAL

We are proud to be supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal again this year. Poppies and poppy related accessories will be on sale in school from 3rd November for a small donation.



MEMORIAL APPEAL

Three years ago, a former pupil of Griffin Park lost his mum, Charlotte Elizabeth Wilcock, in tragic circumstances. The family are raising money for a memorial bench to be placed at Pleasington Cemetery and we have offered to help raise much needed funds.

As a community school, we are here to support one another so we are having a non-uniform day on **Thursday 5th November**. We are asking for a **suggested donation of £1 per pupil** but feel free to give as much as you can to this worthy cause."

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Earlier this week, Mrs Aspinall posted a list of activities available to local children from 0-8 years old. Please see Class Dojo for more information.

Tennis Sessions

Looking for a fun activity this half term? Join us for a free junior tennis session packed with games, activities and plenty of smiles!

Ages: 5–10 years' Time: 10:00–11:00am Date: Monday 26th October Location: Corporation Park

No experience is needed, and all equipment is provided—just bring comfortable clothes, trainers and lots of energy!

Places may be limited, so book your child's free place today: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CorporationPark/EventsV2/Book/5e855793-fb13-4e27-ab6d-4cad1d798dd7

We can't wait to see you on court!

Kick-start half term with a FREE Family Fun Tennis session at Corporation Park!

🗓️ Monday 26 October ⏰ 11am–12pm 📍 Corporation Park

Enjoy an hour of fun games and activities for the whole family. No tennis experience is needed, and all equipment is provided—just wear comfortable clothes and trainers.

Bring the family, get active and have fun together on court!

Book your free place: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CorporationPark/EventsV2/Book/057e77b4-7a2f-4968-89f9-fee7cc7529cf

We can't wait to see you there! 😊

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Weekly Attendance Results (%) – Target 96%

Rec.	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
96.7%	97.2%	96.4%	100%	97.1%	98.7%	100%

	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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