The Griffin Federation
*Nurture to Flourish*

20th June 2025

# Newsletter

## Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:
Holbeach St Marks –99%
Gedney Drove End –95%
Westmere –95%

## Diary Dates

4th-6th July – Hilltop Residential
9th July – GDE Play Village Hall 5.30pm
10th July – Westmere Cricket Day
15th July – GDE / HSM Sports Day
17th July – GDE / HSM Celebration Services
17th July- Westmere Y5/6 Play 5.30pm
21st July – Westmere Awards:
EYFS / KS1 – 9.30am. KS2 – 10.30am
21st July HSM Play 5.30pm
21st July – FOW EOY Disco
22nd July – Westmere Sports Day 9.30am
22nd July – End of Term 6

## Collecting Children

When you pick up your children at the end of the day, please ensure they remain in your care, and close by. Recently, several children have wandered off or have gone off to play in areas away from the person who has collected them. Once children have been collected, please leave site straight away so the gates can be closed and the site secured for the children who have after-school clubs. Thank you.

## Hot Weather

Please ensure your child is wearing sun cream, has a hat and plenty of drinks as the weather is getting hotter.

## Westmere – Year 5 Taster Day UALS

Year 5 Pupils from Westmere will be attending UALS on Tuesday 8th July 2025. Packed lunches will be provided for FSM children. Children should come to school in their PE kit with blue PE hoodies. Please sign and return the permission slip below or email your permission for your child to be transported by coach to UALS.

## Jewellery, false nails, nail varnish, makeup and toys

Children may only wear studs or sleeper earrings and a watch (no smart watches). They should not wear necklaces or bracelets of any kind. We do not allow makeup to be worn in school. Some children recently have had false nails – these should not be worn, especially as long ones can cause injury to the person wearing them if they are caught, or to someone else if they are scratched. We also do not allow nail varnish to be worn. Children should not bring toys or resources into school as these can get lost or broken and can cause arguments and upset. We know sometimes children try to sneak these things into school, so we ask that you please speak to your child and check they don't have any of these things – Thank you!

## Class Photos

If you would like to order a class photo, please scan the QR code on your proof to order directly from Wrates. To get free delivery to school, your order will need to be placed by the date shown on the proof. At Westmere the photographs are on display on the wall in the office.

## Hot School Meals

If you would like to order hot meals but need a reminder of how to set up your account, please speak to the office.

## Westmere Cricket Enrichment Day

A cricket coach will be in school on Thursday 10th July. All children will need to wear their PE kit:

## Enterprise Project – Canada, Spain and Portugal – From Monday 16th June

Canada, Spain and Portugal classes will begin their enterprise project by selling ice poles to raise money for school funds. This project is run to help the children understand the meaning of money and how to run a business. They will begin to sell their ice poles after half term and will be after school each day, except for Wednesdays.
Ice poles will be priced at 50p each - please ensure that your child brings in the correct money if they wish to buy anything.

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## Year 6 Transition Days

Please find below a list of transition days for children in year 6 to visit their new secondary schools.

| | |
|---|---|
| UALS | 1st and 2nd July |
| UAH | 10th and 11th July |
| Spalding High School | 4th July |
| Spalding Grammar School | 4th July |

## Attendance

The Department for Education has updated school attendance guidelines, effective from 19th August 2024, stressing the importance of regular attendance for academic and social development. Parents must report absences by 8:30am daily and provide proof for medical appointments during school hours. Term-time holidays are no longer allowed and will be marked as unauthorised unless exceptional circumstances apply. Unauthorised absences, including late arrivals or unapproved holidays, will lead to penalty notices after 10 sessions (5 days) of absence within a 10-week period. Parents could face fines or legal action if absences persist. Please read the information sent home this week for further details. If you are struggling with attendance in any way, please come and talk to us as we can often offer some kind of support.

We will publish attendance figures from next week based on Friday - Thursday:
Each week, one child from each class will get the attendance award and become an attendance hero, and one class from each school will get the class certificate for the week. Our weekly target is 95%.

## Value of the Week

Each week we have a value of the week where we focus on one of our federation values. We discuss what this value is and how we can live this out in our everyday lives. At the end of the week, certificates are awarded to children who have who have shown evidence of that value during the week.

Our Value for the first week back is: **Koinonia**

## Golden Behaviours

Our Golden Behaviours in school are:

- Good manners and be polite
- Good listening
- Kind hands, kind words, kind feet
- Respect people and property
- Be honest

Each week, we will focus on one of the behaviours, discussing what this means, modelling it and looking out for children who demonstrate that behaviour. Certificates will be awarded to the most noticeable pupils each week. Our Golden Behaviour for the first week back is: **Good Listening**

**Kind regards,**
**Sally Massey**
**Assistant Executive Headteacher**

## Westmere Year 5 Taster Day UALS – Tuesday 8th July 2025

I give / do not give permission for my child(ren) …… to attend UALS.

Signed …… Date ……