The Griffin Federation
Nurture to Flourish

6th June 2025

Newsletter

Attendance

Weekly attendance for each school based on Friday - Thursday:
Holbeach St Marks –99%
Gedney Drove End –99%
Westmere –94%

Hot School Meals

The new school meals have been a great success this week. Meals for week commencing 16th June need to be ordered by next Tuesday 10th June. Please make sure you tick 'Complete Order' once you have chosen your meals, you will then receive a confirmation email.

Diary Dates

10th June – GDE Cricket Day
11th June – Trip China, Finland, Cuba
12th June – HSM Cricket Day
14th June – FOW Car boot
20th June – FOW Colour Run
4th-6th July – Hilltop Residential
10th July – Westmere Cricket Day
15th July – GDE / HSM Sports Day
17th July – GDE / HSM Celebration Services
21st July – Westmere Leavers' Service
21st July – FOW EOY Disco
22nd July – Westmere Sports Day
22nd July – End of Term 6

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) will be administered between Monday 2nd June – Friday 13th June, within school time. It is a statutory Key Stage 2 assessment that is taken by every pupil at the end of Year 4. The purpose of the MTC is to ensure the children's times table knowledge is at the expected level for Year 4, enabling them to fully access the upper KS2 Maths curriculum.
During the test, which is taken online, pupils are asked 25 questions on times tables ranging from 2x2 to 12x12. Children will have 6 seconds to answer each question. To help your child prepare for the test, they should continue to practise over half-term. The best way for them to do this is to log on to their Times Tables Rock Stars account and complete a Soundcheck, as this replicates the actual test. Your child's teacher will have sent home their log in details and the children are already familiar with how to play through practice in school. If you do have any questions, please read the attached parent information guide, ask class teachers or visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents

Cricket Enrichment Days

A cricket coach will be in school on the following dates: all children will need to wear their PE kit:

Gedney Drove End	Tuesday 10th June
Holbeach St Marks	Thursday 12th June
Westmere	Thursday 10th July

Trip to Lincolnshire Wildlife Park (Cuba, Finland and China)

Pupils from Cuba (HSM), Finland (GDE) and China (Westmere) will be attending Lincolnshire Wildlife Park on Wednesday 11th June 2025. The purpose of the visit is to learn about different types of animals and their features. Children should come to school in their school uniform with blue PE hoodies.

TIME DEPART SCHOOL:	Westmere 8.50am GDE 9.20am HSM 9.50am
TIME ARRIVE BACK AT SCHOOL:	HSM 2.30pm GDE 3pm **Westmere 3.15pm**

Enterprise Project – Canada, Spain and Portugal

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.

Canada Class PE Days

Canada class PE day will change to Tuesdays from next week.

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Transport to Secondary School

If your child is transferring to secondary school in September 2025, they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible, please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Early transport applications are encouraged to ensure that transport is in place in time for the start of the September term. Applications can be made online at the website below. Please do not apply until you have a formal offer of a school place. For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport. Queries can be emailed to schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Friends of Westmere Car Boot Sale

Friends of Westmere will be holding a car boot sale on Saturday 14th June (weather permitting) at school. The cost is £5 per car, with the arrival time being 8am. We will be open to buyers between 8.30am and 12pm. There is an entrance fee of 20p per person. FOW will also have refreshments, tombola and glitter tattoos you can purchase on the day. All money raised will go to FOW.

Friends of Westmere Colour Run

Following the huge amount of fun and success of last year's event, Friends of Westmere are holding a Colour Run on Friday 20th June at 3:30pm. All children from the federation are welcome to take part, as well as older siblings and parents / carers. Tickets are £6 per primary-aged child and £8 for secondary-aged children, and adults . Everyone who wishes to take part will need to provide their own white t-shirt. Please purchase your tickets from the school offices, by Friday 6th June. ALL UNDER 18s MUST BE SUPERVISED BY PARENTS. Refreshments will be available during the event. If any parents would like to help, please email nicola.wiles@griffinfederation.co.uk

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: **Perseverance**

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: **Be Honest**

Kind regards,
Sally Massey
Assistant Executive Headteacher

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Lincolnshire Wildlife Park – Wednesday 11th June 2025

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

I do / do not enclose a contribution of £10.

Signed …….. Date ……