

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018

Edition 04

Friday, 5th October 2018

A note from the Headteacher

It has been a great week for us at Green Ridge and we have had so many memorable moments in our new building with all of our children. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers come along and support us in our Harvest Festival yesterday morning. On behalf of Aylesbury Foodbank, I want to personally thank you for all of your generous donations and supporting this worthwhile local cause. We gave an important message to our children about helping those less fortunate individuals and families by offering the food and supplies we did, and Heather who joined us from the Foodbank was truly overwhelmed at what we were able to donate.

On Tuesday, we also welcomed many parents and carers to our phonics stay and learn sessions, which were really well received. Parents told me that they really enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with their child and see how they are taught in this specific area. We are running these types of stay and learn sessions throughout the year and so if you were unable to attend this time, check our website for next event.

Have great weekend and enjoy your family time,

A. A. Wanford.

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"I really enjoyed watching my child and all the children learning phonics; it's great to see all the learning methods. Can't wait for further sessions; it was also good to see what she does as when I ask what did you do today, she replies "I can't remember!"

Parent feedback

Phonics Stay and Learn session



(LEFT) Our wonderful Harvest Festival display; (RIGHT) Children in Reception this week hunting for dinosaur fossils!

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Celebration Assembly

Each week, the school comes together and celebrates a variety of achievements across the week. Our certificate of achievement is awarded to children who have demonstrated that they have applied their learning and put in great effort. We also have a certificate of progress, which is awarded to children who have shown a marked difference in their learning over the last week or so, and have made great progress in their learning and development.



Celebrations this week were:

	<i>Certificate of Achievement</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch	Adeena	Showing courage in the Harvest Festival performance!
Willow	Stephanie	Already beginning to apply her new phonics skills to her learning around the classroom!
Beech	Elijah	Writing a great poem about Green Ridge and working hard on his handwriting!
Elm	Shannon	Writing a fantastic poem with her partner and coming up with great ideas!
Cedar	Talia	Settling in really well in her first week at Green Ridge Academy!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch	Lissy	Showing courage throughout the school day, all week!
Willow	Aiden	Building his confidence to discuss his own ideas with his peers around the classroom!
Beech	Ema	Writing a brilliant character description about Duffy Driver!
Elm	Niamh	Working well in a pair to create a wonderful poem and generating great adjectives!

Cedar	Isla-Rose	Making great progress in her effort and attitude to learning!
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Early Years Stay and Play: Motivational Motor Skills

We are inviting all parents/carers from Little Berries, Little Acorns and Reception to come and join their children for our first Stay and Play session from 9.00 to 10.30am on Monday 8th October. You are welcome to come in with your child and join them for the session to see how we build gross and fine motor skills through learning opportunities. If your child is in nursery and does not normally attend on this day, you are welcome to come in with them as long as you only stay for the session. We look forward to seeing you there!

Talk4Writing Parent Workshop – 12th October

Next Friday, Miss. Imbriano will be leading a parent information session and workshop in order for you to understand how we teach writing across the academy, in our approach called 'Talk4Writing'. Many parents asked us to run these workshops last year so that they can support their children at home. The session will last approximately an hour and will take place in the hall. The session takes place from 9.00am, and parents/carers should enter through the main front reception. For any parents/carers who are unable to make this session, we will be running another one again on Wednesday, 17th October at the same time. Please come along and find out more!

Harvest Festival

Thank you for all your wonderful donations for our first Harvest festival yesterday. We were overwhelmed by how much support you gave in attending and the donations you gave



which are going to the Aylesbury Foodbank. The children have, in a few short and busy weeks, learned lines, songs, actions and began to understand what it is like to 'perform' in front of an audience – no easy task for some of our children who have just joined us!

Thank you to Revd. Gareth Lane, Vicar on Berryfields, who came prayed for us at the end of the assembly.

Dinosaurs in Reception!

Some naughty dinosaurs visited Willow and Birch this week and left their footprints and marks all over the place! The children had a great time in their learning building dinosaur traps, digging for dinosaur fossils and hunting for pre-historic clues! The large footsteps were discovered just after lunch on Monday – it appeared the dinosaur had taken the opportunity to break in during the break!



Phonics Stay and Learn

Some of our parents, carers and families came along to learn phonics with their children this week and see how we teach our children to read!



Lockdown Drill – Wednesday, 10th October

The safety and welfare of our students and staff are our highest priority at Green Ridge. We practice safety drills throughout the year to help our children know what to do in an emergency. We have already conducted two fire evacuations which were very successful and children now understand what to do if they hear an alarm and how to exit the building quickly and safely.

Next Wednesday, we will be conducting a lockdown drill. A 'lockdown' procedure may be activated in response to any number of situations at the academy, but some of the more typical might be:

- A reported incident / civil disturbance in the local community (with the potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the academy)
- An intruder on the school site (with the potential to pose a risk to staff and children)
- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, of air pollution (smoke plume, Gas cloud etc.)
- A major fire in the vicinity of the school

The goals of the drills are to improve our ability to protect children, save lives, and reduce injuries. These practice drills allow us to evaluate our emergency operation plans and improve our response skills. Whilst we would not ordinarily notify you about such drills, as this is the first one your child may have experienced we wanted you to be aware. You would only be notified if there were a real emergency.

The academy will conduct one lockdown drill each term. In this type of drill, we will secure the school building and safely shelter all children, staff and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the children safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During a lockdown drill, all of the perimeter doors to the school building will be locked and will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To enable everyone to remain safe, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building until a member of the senior leadership team authorises such a release.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to call the main office.

Illness and Sickness

Over this week there has been an increased amount of illness and sickness across the school, which is not surprising now the weather is getting slightly colder and the children are building up their immune systems in a new school environment.

That said, we would ask that even if your child is feeling unwell but there have not been any clear indications of illness (e.g. sickness) that the children attend school wherever possible. We can always let you know later on if they do need to go home if they are unable to stay in school.

A number of absences this week have also not been correctly reported to our office. Each day your child is absent, you must call the school by 9.10am to let Mrs

Rosser know (even if you called the day before). We will then be certain that your child is being cared for and not on their way to school. This does not change the requirement to send a letter into the school explaining the absence when your child returns.

Tissues

We would be grateful if you have boxes of tissues you could donate to the school. Particularly at this time of year, there are lots of running noses and we get through a lot of tissues! It would really help us if you could donate a box so we have a bank ready to use – we inevitably always need more, particularly as we teach the children about the importance of good personal hygiene. If you can bring in a spare box, please do just pass to your child's Class Teacher, thank you.

Personal Water Bottles

We have noticed that some children are bringing fruit drinks or squash in their water bottles. Please only fill their bottles with water as it is a really important that children get into the habit of keeping themselves hydrated for their health and wellbeing.

Little Ridges Nursery

This week in Little Ridges we have all been super busy! As the weather is now changing we have focused on Autumn. Little Berries have been exploring a tray full of different leaves and conkers, discussing the various colours and using magnifying glasses to take a closer look!



Little Acorns have also been investigating a tray full of various leaves, sticks and conkers but have shown their artistic flare by using the sticks and leaves to paint with! They focused on using colours such as red, yellow, brown and orange.

A fantastic week had by all and we look forward to learning lots more next week!

Reception

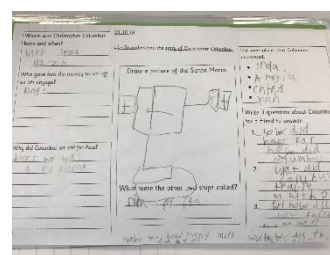
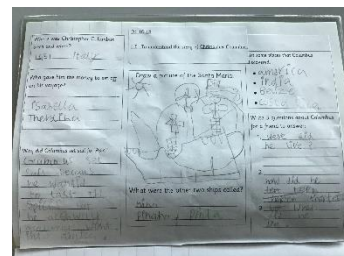
On Monday, Willow and Birch class came into school to find some footprints on the floor; the children were encouraged to discuss who and where they had come from and they decided on dinosaurs! Throughout the week the dinosaurs have continued to cause chaos in the classroom, building using our construction materials and making



a mess in the book corner. It has been great to see the children using their imagination to design and build traps for these cheeky dinosaurs, working as a team! The children have also identified the new phonemes we have learnt in their footprints and been encouraged to find one more than a given number. I wonder what may happen in the classroom next week...

Year One

This week Elm and Beech have been learning about the explorer Christopher Columbus. We learnt why he was an important individual and what he did to become a famous



explorer! After learning about how he landed on the Americas during an exploration intended for India, we visited 'information stations' around the classroom to gather pieces of

information about him, including drawing the Santa Maria and finding out which other places Columbus discovered. Next week we are going to find out more about Columbus' exploration to the Americas and look at how history can be represented in different ways!

Year Two



This week each of Oak class received a personalised postcard from Sunny the Meerkat! Sunny lives far away in the scorching hot Kalahari Desert with his loving family.

Unfortunately, Sunny feels his family are just a bit 'TOO close' so is on the search for somewhere perfect to live. Harry's postcard asked if we serve scorpions on toast for lunch here as that is his favourite and he is thinking of making Green Ridge the next stop on his travels! We've had great fun writing all about his adventures and will next week be writing postcards back.

Year Three

This week Cedar class have been working on subtraction in maths. We have been focussing on subtracting hundreds, tens and ones from 3 digit numbers up to 999. We have been using our place value and a number of different methods such as number lines, regrouping and compensation to help us. This has been a really tricky concept for some of the children but they have worked really hard to

understand and apply the methods. If you can do some further practice at home this will help with next weeks maths!

Parking around the School Site

We have had reports from residents in Worcester Street that people are parking along the pavement blocking access for pushchairs and wheelchairs. Cars parked in this street also make it difficult for the bus to get past and block the traffic flow. Please be mindful of where you leave your car at the beginning and end of the day, maybe park a little further away and walk, scoot or cycle with your child(ren)!

Prospective Parent Information events

We are holding a number of open events for prospective parents, carers and children to come and visit the school and meet Mr Wanford and the team of staff. The events are as follows:

Little Ridges Nursery

- Wednesday, 19th September 2018, 9.15-10.30am (for January 2019 intake)
- Monday, 7th January 2019, 9.15-10.30am (for April 2019 intake)
- Tuesday, 19th March 2019, 1.45-3.00pm (for September 2019 intake)

Main School (Reception, September 2019 intake)

The events are as follows:

- Wednesday, 10th October 2018, 9.15-10.45am
- Wednesday, 17th October 2018, 1.45-3.15pm
- Tuesday, 30th October 2018, 7.00-8.30pm
- Thursday 15th November 2018 9.15-10.45am

The open event will give you an opportunity to have a tour of the school. Mr Wanford will give a short presentation at all events about the academy, its vision and ethos, and helpful information to those parents and carers who apply to Green Ridge.

To book a place at one of the open events, or to find out about availability in other year groups, please e-mail admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk or call the school on 01296 326320.

Cracking Times Table Awards

Each week during our celebration assembly, we also award certificates to children for their progress in knowing and recalling their multiplication facts. This week the following awards were given:

Name	Level
Shannon	1
Jessie	6

Well done on your fantastic achievement!

House Points

Well done to Disraeli House for gaining the most points this week!

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	134	341
Pratchett	105	278
Austin	119	314
Redgrave	128	292

Weekly Attendance

Well done to Willow Class for the best attendance this week!

Birch (YR)	98.3%	Willow (YR)	99.3%
Beech (Y1)	99.0%	Elm (Y1)	97.3%
Oak (Y2)	95.4%	Cedar (Y3)	97.7%

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

8 th	9.00-10.30am, EYFS Stay and Play, Motivational Motor Skills
9 th	9.00am, PTA Committee Meeting
10 th	9.15am, Prospective YR 2019 Parent Information session
11 th	
12 th	9.00am, Parent Workshop – How we teach Writing

Letters sent home this week

Head Lice- Cedar Class 02 10 2018

How to Join the PTA 05 10 2018

Pupil Learning Reviews 05 10 18