

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018

Edition 05

Friday, 12th October 2018

A note from the Headteacher

Another week has flown by at Green Ridge and it's been another busy one for us. It was great to see so many of our new parents/carers in Nursery and Reception join us for the stay and play session on Monday morning; I know the children really loved having you join them for their activities and learning, and I hope that it enabled you to see the types of sessions the children take part in each day. We really want to be a setting which welcomes our parents and carers in, to work with your children so that you can better support them, knowing what we do within the academy so that you can replicate this at home.

Thank you as well to those parents/carers who attended the Talk4Writing workshop this morning with Miss. Imbriano; I hope this gave you a valuable insight into how we 'teach' writing and how you can support your child at home as well.

There has been large amount of communication that has come your way this week; sometimes, it just happens this way - it is not intentional! Please do check our newsletter carefully to ensure you haven't missed any.

Have a wonderful weekend,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"It's been great to see what my son does at nursery, to see him interacting with staff and pupils."

"Was wonderful to see all of the different activities for motor skills. Especially loved Jump Start Jonny!"

Parent feedback

**Early Years Stay and Play Session
8th October**



(LEFT) Early Years Stay and Play in Nursery on Monday; (RIGHT) Year Two Oak Class on their visit to London and St. Paul's Cathedral!

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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 (YR)	Casey	Working really hard to blend his new sounds learnt this week!
Willow (YR)	Darcie	Being a kind friend, supporting others and always persisting with challenges!
Beech (Y1)	Kenzie	Fantastic work finding one more and one less in maths!
Elm (Y1)	Tommy	Amazing sounding out, blending and writing in Phonics!
Cedar (Y3)	Amelia	Excellent participation and imagination in our dance session for PE!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Myrtle	Using her courage in whole class discussions and participating confidently in Talk for Writing!
Willow (YR)	Bella	Practising her phonics independently and showing great

		improvement in her letter formation!
Beech (Y1)	Tyler L	Always being polite and being an excellent role model!
Elm (Y1)	Alex	Making progress in his independent learning in Maths AND English by completing his work on his own!
Oak (Y2)	Ivy-Grace	Making progress with her number line addition!
Cedar (Y3)	Zack	Increased independence in writing this week!

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:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Level</i>
Sophia	1
Shannon	2
Kanuyan	5
Jasper	5

PAP Stars

We have also introduced a new certificate this week for our children called the 'PAP' start certificate. 'PAP' stands for Presentation, Accuracy and Productivity, and our children are aware of this terminology from Year One onwards in relation to their work. Each week, we're looking for someone who ensures their work is presented neatly and takes pride in it, ensures they do the right amount of work, and take care to ensure their learning is accurate.

Well done to the following PAP stars this week at Green Ridge!

Elm (Y1)	Jacob	Beech (Y1)	Ema
Oak (Y2)	Lana	Cedar (Y3)	Ingrid

Talk4Writing Parent Workshop – 17th October

Just a reminder for any parents/carers who were unable to make today's Talk4Writing information session, Miss. Imbriano will be running another one on Wednesday morning at 9.00am after drop-off. The session will last approximately an hour and will take place in the hall.

Black History Month

As part of our assemblies this half-term, the children across the academy have been commemorating Black History month which takes place every October. The children have been learning about equality and fairness for all in history, and how some people have been treated differently because of their race. We have also spoken specifically about those black men and women throughout history who have been treated unfairly, such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. Please do talk about this important topic with your children and why it is so important that we mark their achievements and recognise injustices.

Parking in Disabled Bays

Unfortunately, we have had to remind several parents who are parking inconsiderately in the disabled bays at the front of the school that these spaces are only for those who have a valid Blue Badge. We have families and children who need constant access to these spaces and would remind all parents that these spaces are not to be used to run and drop things into the office or bring children in or out of the school or nursery.

Late to school

If your child is going to be late to school for any reason, please be reminded that it is your responsibility to call the school before 9am to order a school lunch (if required). After this time, you will be required to bring them to school with a packed lunch. This is because our lunches are ordered early enough each day to allow the kitchen to prepare sufficient meals in advance, and they are unable to accept adjustments part-way through the morning.

Also, if children are late to school after the gates have shut, scooters and bikes are unable to be left in the designated places and you will be unable to access these as the site is secured. We are unable to accept any bikes or scooters into the office or allow you to take these through the school and so if these are brought in after 9am, we will ask you to take these home with you until the end of the day.

Data Collection Sheets

Yesterday, your child would have brought home a data collection sheet. Please ensure you look carefully through the information and amend any details needed. Please return the forms to the school office by 19th October so they can be processed. Please bear with us, as we will be processing one for every child in our school.

Poppies Remembrance

As an academy, all the children will be learning about remembrance day, ahead of 11th November and doing some artwork as part of this in an age-appropriate way. As 2018 marks the 100 years since the end of World War One, there is an increased national focus on this, and within the academy, we will be ensuring we teach our children about the reason we mark this particular day, linking it to our British values of Individual Liberty and Mutual Respect.



The Royal British Legion have provided us with poppies to sell and also a range of other small merchandise such as rubbers and pencils for parents/carers and children to purchase in aid of donation to their charity. The poppies and merchandise will be available at our Reception desk, and some of our Year Three pupils will be going around classes to sell the poppies and merchandise from next week. There is a suggested donation amount for some of the merchandise, but poppies are for any donation which you would like to give. If you or your child would like to purchase one of the items, please send in the donation in a named, sealed envelope with your child to avoid any loose change going missing and children being upset should money get lost!

Merchandise items:

Ruler	£1.00
Pencil	50p
Eraser	50p
Pencil Sharpener	50p
Poppy Reflector	50p
Poppy	Donation

Lockdown Drill

We are pleased to inform you that our practice lockdown drill went extremely well this week. Our children remained calm, listened to the adults and knew exactly what they needed to do when the alert was given. Most importantly, our children understood the reason for doing this and know how to keep themselves safe should the need ever arise. We will continue to do these practices each term to ensure all staff and children are familiar with the procedures, in the anticipation that we never have to put them into practice for real.

Pupil Learning Reviews - Arrangements

There are still some parents/carers who have not yet signed up to a consultation appointment with your child's Class Teacher next Monday or Wednesday evening. These meetings are really important in order that we can work with you to best support your child and give you an update on their learning. If you have not already made an appointment, please do so before 14th October when the online system closes. We look forward to seeing you all next week for these meetings.

There is a change in arrangements this year, so existing parents please be aware of this. To facilitate parents/carers moving between several classes and finding their way around the school, we will be holding the meetings for Reception, Year One, Year Two and Year Three in the Nightingale Hall (our larger hall). Your child's workbooks will be available here, along with tables for you to sit and wait whilst waiting for your appointment. Staff will then meet with you in the hall at a designated table. We hope that this will provide a more efficient system for all. Please enter the school via the main front entrance and you will then be directed to the hall.

Nursery parents will still have their meetings within the Little Berries and Little Acorns classrooms and parents/carers should enter through the nursery entrance for these meetings.

Whilst at the meetings, you will be asked to take a few minutes to complete an online questionnaire on behalf of our governors to ascertain your views about the academy. This is really important to us in order to gain feedback about what is working well and provide an opportunity for any feedback you may have. Staff will direct you to complete this on one of the school devices when you are in the building. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Non-uniform day – Friday 19th October

Next Friday we will be having a non-uniform day at Green Ridge. This is part of our fundraising for the academy and for particular good causes. We would ask that children bring £1 in return for wearing non-uniform for the day. This money should be handed to your child's Class Teacher in a named envelope on Friday morning. This half-term we are raising funds to contribute towards our new library books and resources which should be ready to use for our children after half-term. Our aim is to raise at least £200 towards new resources. Please ensure your child still brings their coat and normal school belongings as necessary. Thank you.

'Sparkle Day'

Next Friday, children in Reception - Year Three will be taking part in one of our enrichment mornings at Green Ridge. As part of our continued efforts to ensure children have the opportunity to develop both personally, socially, academically and creatively, we will continue to have half a day each half-term set aside specifically for the children to take part in activities/lessons which may not necessarily be part of the 'normal' curriculum, giving them a chance to 'sparkle' – for example, cooking, art and design work, first aid skills etc. The children will be undertaking this within their individual classes for this half-term but our aim is that over the year the children will get to benefit from our staff expertise and interest and rotate around different enrichment activities. Each half-term, one class will have the opportunity to have a whole-morning of multi-skills enrichment with our PE coaches. Over time, we hope that we will be able to raise funds to have greater external visitors and companies come in to work with the children on these specific days.

House Afternoon

Next Friday afternoon, children in Reception - Year Three will be going into their respective house groups as part of our enrichment day, giving them an opportunity to take part in activities with fellow children in the same house. Next week, the children will work specifically with their house to revisit and learn more about why their house has been given its name and create their new flag/emblem (which will be then used as a symbol throughout the school). We really hope that the afternoon will provide opportunities for the children to mix with children across the school and develop wider friendships.

During the afternoon, each house will be voting as part of teaching them about our British Value of democracy in order to elect a male and female House Captain in Year Three to work with the house staff. House Captains will be part of our leadership development for our eldest pupils and so this role will be open to our Year Three pupils and they will have the role for one year. House Captains will lead their respective houses and help to organise and lead events and encourage inter-house healthy competition! Our Year Three children will be nominating themselves next week and giving a short speech about why they should be elected.

Home Learning Project Showcase Events

Just a reminder that next Monday at 3pm, Year One and Year Two parents/carers are invited in to share your child's half-termly home learning project, and the same for Year Three on Tuesday at 3pm. We know the children have been really excited by the things they

have been designing, making and writing about at home and so would like to invite you come into school in order to share all children's work within the class on their home learning projects. Please just enter through the external door to your child's class via the playground at 3.00pm.

Volunteer Readers

We are now beginning to think about further building our bank of volunteers who come in to support us during school time with a range of activities, including listening to children read, helping with displays, preparing resources etc. The list is endless in schools!

Anyone wishing to become a regular volunteer (e.g. coming into school once a week or more than four times in a 30-day period) should complete a Volunteer Application Form which is available from the school office and the Volunteer Agreement which sets out the school's expectations of its volunteers and confirms that they have received a copy of this Agreement. We will then contact you to arrange how we can best utilise your support and time. Volunteers will likely need to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Check (DBS) to ensure the safeguarding of all our pupils. This will need to be completed and verified before volunteering can begin. There is also a requirement for all volunteers to have a safeguarding training session before you are able to work with the children individually.

Volunteers will be asked to support in classes/areas of the school where there is the most need for support. Parent volunteers who support on a regular basis should be aware that our school policy is that parents/carers do not work/support in their child's class or with their own child, as for some children this can be distracting and can place the class teacher in a difficult situation.

Volunteers do not have to stay for a full morning or afternoon session, even an hour would be appreciated but we do prefer for volunteers to attend on a regular basis to ensure continuity and aid planning.

If you have recently picked up an application from the office, please come in to collect the relevant paperwork. 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 really important that children get into the habit of keeping themselves hydrated for their health and wellbeing.

Little Ridges Nursery



Little Ridges kicked off the week with our 'Motivational Motor Skills' Stay and Play session. It was lovely to see many of the parents joining in with the activities and having lots of fun too!

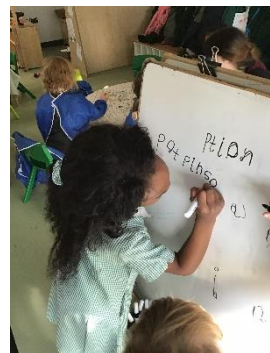
Little Berries have been getting creative by participating in a variety of messy activities such as cling film painting and collaging. We continued to focus on learning about

Autumn and the children made lovely pictures by printing leaves and have explored water play with coloured water and conkers. Little Acorns have been growing their brains this week with a focus on maths and numbers. They have been working on number recognition and singing number rhymes-



5 Little Monkeys has been a favourite this week and the children had a great time acting out the song!

Reception



On Tuesday, Willow and Birch class received a letter from Dennis, a dinosaur owner! Dennis apologised for the dinosaurs' mischief and we wrote a letter back to Dennis as a class. The children have been beginning to apply their phonic knowledge to write their own letters to Dennis and the dinosaurs. The children have

also been developing their number knowledge through finding 'one less' than a given number. We have been extremely impressed by their number work! We wonder if 'less' dinosaurs will be back next week...

Year One



Year One have been working extremely hard in Maths this week. We have been focusing on using our wonderful resources independently and making sure we use them to support us in our learning. Elm and Beech have been

looking at place value and what numbers are made up of. The children started the week thinking that the number 16 is



made up of a '1' and a '6', but they now know that it is a '10' and a '6'! The children have used visual resources to separate their numbers into their 'tens' and 'ones' using Base 10 (sometimes known as diennes). Try playing a game on

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=diennesandcoinsv3> and split numbers into tens and ones!

Year Two

This week Oak class went on a school trip to visit St. Paul's Cathedral and The Monument in London in order to enrich our learning about The Great Fire of London. We walked all around the beautiful cathedral and learned about how it was re-built after being burned down in 1666. We then climbed 311 steps all the way to the top of The Monument, which was built on the site where the fire began to remember those that had died. The view from the top was incredible and we had a fantastic day!



Year Three

Over this term, Cedar Class have been learning about light in science. Last week we discussed the effects that light, particularly UV light has. We talked about how UV light is used by plants to help them grow and make food and how we feel happier when it is sunny. But we also discussed the negatives of UV light and how it causes sunburn and can damage our eyes. The children had some fantastic ideas about how to protect themselves with sun cream and sun glasses and covering sensitive areas with long sleeves and hats. To demonstrate the effects of UV light we carried out an experiment which you can see in the picture.

The children stuck shapes onto a piece of pink paper to see how the UV light effected the paper. As you can see from the picture it was very effective!



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 chid(ren)!

Earrings during P.E

If your child has pierced ears and they cannot remove them for P.E lessons, they will need to bring in micropore tape to cover them to make it safe. Please put your child's name on the box and hand in to the class teacher.

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

- 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, 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.

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	71	412
Pratchett	91	405
Austin	118	432
Redgrave	73	365

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	94.8%	Willow (YR)	93.9%
Beech (Y1)	97.0%	Elm (Y1)	98.7%
Oak (Y2)	99.1%	Cedar (Y3)	97.7%

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

15 th	3.00pm, Y1 & Y2 Home Learning Celebration 4.00-7.30pm, Pupil Learning Reviews
16 th	3.00pm, Y3 Home Learning Celebration
17 th	9.00am, Talk4Writing Parent Workshop 1.45pm, YR Prospective Parent Information meeting (for 2019) 4.00-6.30pm, Pupil Learning Reviews
18 th	7.00pm, PTA Meeting
19 th	Non-uniform day 'Sparkle' enrichment morning (YR-Y3) House activities afternoon (YR-Y3) Children break for half-term

Letters sent home this week

Nursery Sessions (Nursery only) 09 10 18
Beacons of Light Remembrance Service (Yr 2 & Yr 3)
09 10 18
Parking 09 10 18
Speak Out, Stay Safe (Yr1, Yr2, Yr3) 11 10 18
Data Collection Sheet 11 10 18
Cancellation of Family Baking Course (YrR & Yr1)