



President Road | Aylesbury | Buckinghamshire | HP18 0YA
Tel: 01296 326320 | e-mail: admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
Website: www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk | Twitter: @GreenRidgeR2

Headteacher: Mr. Aaron Wanford MA, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

Tuesday, 20th November 2018

Countdown to Christmas at Green Ridge – December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are aware that as the festive season draws ever nearer, there are many events and activities taking place within school which need to be clearly communicated at this busy time of year. We hope that this letter should give you the information you need so that you know what is happening over the coming weeks in the lead up to the end of term.



Christmas Performances

This year, there will be two different performances, depending on which year-group your child is in. Children in Reception (Willow and Birch) will be performing their own Christmas production, separate to our children in Years One, Two and Three (Elm, Beech, Oak and Cedar) who are doing their own performance, where our children in Year Two will take the lead with narration supported by all the other children. The performances are as follows:

Reception Performance of *Whoops-a-Daisy Angel*

Tuesday, 11th December, 2.00pm and Wednesday, 12th December, 9.15am

Key Stage One/Two Performance of *Lights, Camel, Action!*

Wednesday, 12th December, 2.00pm and Thursday, 13th December, 9.15am

Parents/Carers will need to enter via the external hall door, in front of the visitor drop-off bays at the front of the school. Please note that we will only open the doors fifteen minutes before each performance. The PTA will be providing refreshments after each of the performances at the back of the hall. Each performance should take around 45 minutes.

Your child will be performing in both of the performances, so you can choose which time is most convenient for you to attend. A maximum of 2 tickets (plus 2 reserve tickets) can be ordered per family. Tickets must be booked using the booking form which will be sent home next week. Please note that tickets are free of charge but we will be asking for voluntary donations at each of the events towards school resources.

Children in Little Ridges Nursery will be having a Christmas sing-a-long afternoon as well, on Monday, 17th December at 2.15pm where all children will be singing some festive songs. Parents/Carers are welcome to attend and join in!

Christmas Craft Afternoon – Tuesday, 4th December (Early Years); Friday, 7th December (KS1/KS2)

Each of the classes across the school will be taking part in a Christmas Craft/Art activity where they will be making a personal gift/decoration which we will then be selling to parents/carers at the PTA Festive Fun event. Each decoration will be personal to your child; they will have made and designed it themselves and will be a lovely keep-sake. We would really appreciate if you could purchase your child's decoration and these will be sold for £2.50 at the PTA Festive Fun event (see below).

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday, 14th December



We are encouraging the children to dress festively and wear their Christmas jumpers or other appropriate festive or 'wintery' top – Santa hats, Elf hats and antlers are also welcome! Green Ridge will be taking part in [Christmas Jumper Day](#) in aid of Save the Children charity. Children will still need to come in wearing the rest of their school uniform but can supplement their school jumper or cardigan as appropriate. For this day, children do not have to wear their shirt, blouse or tie. We would kindly ask for a donation of £1 on this day to put towards the Save the Children Charity.

Christmas Lunch – Monday, 17th December

Christmas lunch will be available for children in Reception, Year One, Two and Three in place of the daily lunch options on this day. There will be a meat option (turkey with pigs in blankets) or a vegetarian option (vegetarian feast with stuffing) each coming with all the trimmings. The lunch will be served by staff and all children will come together to have this special lunch together. Due to the increased numbers of children this year, we are asking for parents/carers to pre-order Christmas lunch, so we know how much turkey and potatoes we need to cook! A separate letter will be sent home to order this. For those children bringing a packed lunch, you may wish to send your child in with a festive treat for this special lunch.



If anybody would be willing to donate some crackers to us or knows a business that could provide us with about 250, please let Mrs Rosser in the School Office know. Every little helps to make the occasion! If you are able to donate any to us, please just drop them into the school office. Thank you in advance.

PTA event *Festive Fun!* – Monday, 17th December, 3.15-5.00pm

The PTA are organising a Festive Fun event for all parents/carers, family members and children to enjoy which will take place at the end of the day on Monday 17th December. The PTA will be setting up during the afternoon and they are currently making arrangements so that groups of parents/carers from each class take the lead on organising and running a stall/activity for the fair. There will of course be refreshments, raffles, craft activities and more! The PTA committee will be communicating further with you about this event.

Christingle Assembly – Tuesday, 18th December



Revd. Gareth Lane, Vicar on Berryfields will be assisting me with holding a Christingle Assembly for the children in Reception, Year One, Two and Three in the school on this day in order to broaden their understanding and experience of this special activity in the Christian calendar. The school will be providing all the resources for this assembly but would like to ask if parents/carers could send their child in with an orange on Monday, 17th December – this would really help us with costs and also bulk-buying! The children will be bringing home their Christingles at the end of the day on the 18th.

Christmas Panto 'Cinderella' – Wednesday, 19th December

We are keen to ensure that the children experience a 'live' theatre production each year and one of the ways we want to provide this is by getting a theatre company in to perform a pantomime for the children at Christmas. Children will be watching 'Cinderella' on the last day of term during the morning the panto will be starting at 9.30am and finish by 11.00am.

For those children in Little Ridges, all children are welcome to attend. If it is not your child's normal day or session to attend, a parent/carer will need to remain with them. For our youngest children, please be prepared to step out of the performance if your child is finding it hard to sit for that long.

End of Term – Wednesday, 19th December, 3.15pm

School finishes at the normal time of 3.15pm on Wednesday, 19th.

We will of course update you with any further additions to the published dates and times above, but hope that these will be useful over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher