

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018

Edition 08

Friday, 9th November 2018

A note from the Headteacher

This week has been particularly eventful at Green Ridge, with many events taking place and many learning opportunities for the children. The week started with Bonfire Night and the whole school learned about the origins of the 5th November and why it is marked with fireworks following the attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament by Guy Fawkes back in 1605. The children were surprised to make the connection that the 'guy' on top of the bonfires many attended last weekend was meant to represent Guy Fawkes himself!

On Wednesday, the children also celebrated and learned about the Hindu festival of Diwali. As well as a whole-school assembly, many of the children enjoyed lots of activities in their classrooms in connection with this – making Diya lamps, learning the story of Rama and Sita or making some wonderful Rangoli art patterns. The children were most intrigued to learn about the ten-headed demon Ravana who came and captured Sita! Next week is another important week for our children as we mark Anti-Bullying week along with other schools across the country. More information about this is contained in the letter sent our earlier

today. I look forward to seeing many of our Year Two and Three children at the Remembrance Service on Sunday evening.

A. A. Wanford.

Mr. Aaron Wanford



"I'm really happy with taking my child out of her previous nursery and sending her to Green Ridge. I feel that you go above and beyond with what the curriculum expects and have given my child so much more. A very big thank you!"

Parent feedback

**Little Acorns Nursery
Class Feedback on
Tapestry**



**(LEFT); Our new library is now ready for use and to borrow books from!
(RIGHT); Year Three NSPCC workshop 'Speak out, Stay Safe'**

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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)	Charlotte	Using her phonic skills to write a fantastic sentence in her Literacy Book as well as a super sentence for the display!
Willow (YR)	Liam	Creating a fantastic shape pizza, recognising all the shapes we have been learning about!
Beech (Y1)	Kian	Working so hard in English all week and using great time connectives in his writing!
Elm (Y1)	Aryan	Neat handwriting and working hard in all English lessons!
Oak (Y2)	Daniella	Using fantastic vocabulary in her recount writing this week!
Cedar (Y3)	Samprithi	Writing a fantastic recount from the perspective of Mrs Twit!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Corey	Always being polite and now reminding

		everyone in the class to say 'please' and 'thank you'!
Willow (YR)	Harry	Trying extremely hard in phonics, showing increased independence in his reading and writing!
Beech (Y1)	Oliver	Brilliant number bond work in maths!
Elm (Y1)	Kayden	Sounding out and blending words in Phonics!
Cedar (Y3)	Patryk	Making great progress in his independent writing

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>
Ivy-Grace	1
Urvi	1 & 2
Shannon	3
Imogen	3
Mayookha	4
Jasper	6
Jessie	7

PAP Stars

'PAP' stands for Presentation, Accuracy and Productivity. 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)	Alfie	Beech (Y1)	Grigorios
Oak (Y2)	Kanuyan	Cedar (Y3)	Isla

Diwali



The children across the academy have been learning about and celebrating the festival of Diwali which began on Wednesday. Through assemblies, lessons and various activities, the children have learned about the story of Rama and Sita, and its importance in the story of Diwali and why it is known as the 'festival of light'. Happy Diwali to our families who celebrating at this time!

Speak Out, Stay Safe Parent Workshop



Thank you to all those parents and carers who came to our safeguarding information session on Wednesday afternoon. This followed on from the workshops with the children in Year One, Year Two and Year Three from the NSPCC about how to keep themselves safe.

Children learned about the rule of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can also find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe

The parent/carer workshop gave lots of useful resources and tips about how to keep your child safe online, particularly with the many apps and web-based programmes or games they access at home. Those who attended said they found the session extremely useful in giving them ideas of how they could ensure their child stayed as safe as they could whilst in their care.

We are running another parent/carer workshop on how to keep your child safe whilst online on **Wednesday, 6th February 2019 at 2.15pm**. Put this in your diaries now and please do try to come along. This

is being led by an online safety advisor and follows lessons that children will be receiving that day about how to keep themselves safe online as well.

Remembrance Service – Two minutes silence

This morning, at 11am, all the children across the academy, including those in Little Acorns, went outside the front of the building where our Remembrance wreath and poppies were, in order to hold a two minute silence in memory of those who died during the First World War and all those since.

Children have been learning during this week the importance of remembrance and the significance of the 11th November and 11.00am for armistice. The children conducted themselves brilliantly and showed their compassion by remaining silent for the two minutes. Thank you to Berryfields Parish Council for donating the remembrance wreath for us and to all the children who have made their own poppies to contribute towards our whole-school displays.

Crackers!

We are once again beginning to think about our arrangements for Christmas lunch day at Green Ridge which is scheduled to take place on Monday, 17th December. We would like to make this a special lunch for the children and are going to have table decorations to make it as festive as we can! We would also like each of the children to have a cracker to pull with their friends – 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.



Governor Visits to Green Ridge

Our Local Governing Body (LGB) meet twice each half-term to review the school and its progress and part of their role is to visit the school, meet with children and staff and undertake monitoring activities.

Over the past few weeks, many of our Governors have visited including:

- John Shirley (Chair of Governors)
- Rachel Leach (Vice Chair of Governors)
- Bina Varsani (Parent Governor)
- Laura Nunn (Parent Governor)
- Sophy Davies (REAch2 Governor)

Governors have come into school in order to monitor various areas of the academy's key performance indicators, including finance, safeguarding and Pupil

Premium. All governors have been extremely complimentary about our children, their behaviour and learning behaviour and their politeness and friendliness. The Local Governing Body will be updating you with their termly update at the end of this term, with more information about their visits to Green Ridge.

Children in Need 2018

Green Ridge will be marking Children in Need next Friday (16th) with a non-uniform day and a £1 donation towards the extremely worthwhile charity. We



would really like the children to wear something yellow for the day as part of their non-uniform; it could be a hair band, socks, a T-Shirt or even some Pudsey ears! This money should be handed to your child's Class Teacher in a named envelope on Friday morning. Please ensure your child still brings their coat and normal school belongings as necessary. Thank you.

This year, the children have decided that they would also like to raise money through a donated toy sale. This will rely on your donations so if you have any toys or books at home which you think need a new home then please send them in with your child on the morning of Friday, 16th November.

Throughout the day the Academy Parliament will be selling these donated toys at a price of £1 per toy so please send your child in with £1 in a named envelope, if you wish for them to purchase a toy.

For any toys that you do wish to donate, please ensure the following:

- They are clean
- They are in working order
- They are age appropriate

PTA Cinema Event – 23rd November

The PTA committee met this week to finalise arrangements for the first Cinema event taking place on Friday, 23rd November after school. You should have received a hard copy of the letter which went in your child's book bag this week with a reply slip to sign up for this. Please return your slip to the school office and make payment through Arbor. We really hope as many children can come to this event as possible and it only costs £4.00.

Anti-Bullying Week & Odd Sock Day



As part of Anti-Bullying Week, on the first day, (Monday 12th November) we are joining many other schools across the country to hold an 'Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week'. Aimed at early years and primary school children, the day encourages young

children to wear odd socks for the day, celebrating their uniqueness. Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity for children to express themselves and appreciate individuality. All they have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler!

Beacons of Light Remembrance Service – 11th November

To commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War, Berryfields Parish Council are holding a service of remembrance and lighting of Beacons on Sunday, 11th November. The service will be taking place at Roman Park (at the top of Aylesbury Vale Parkway Station).

Mr Wanford and other staff will be attending the event, along with children in Oak and Cedar Class who are singing during the service. The service will finish by 7.15pm. The Remembrance service is open to everyone to attend. Please do come along and join us for this important commemorative event.

Thank you's

A big thank you to all of the Parents and Grandparents who have donated books, resources and dressing up items to our Early Years Classes. The children have been really enjoying using them in their learning.

Little Ridges Nursery



Another super busy week in Little Ridges which all of the children have enjoyed thoroughly!

Both classes started the week by talking about bonfire night, Diwali and Remembrance day. So many beautiful crafts have been made such as firework paintings, Rangoli patterns and Poppies. There's also been some dressing up in Indian clothes!

Little berries have continued to focus on a transport theme and we have had great fun playing the traffic light game in the hall where we had to stop when we saw red and run when we saw green!

Little Acorns have been practising letter formation this week also of the sound 'a' which the children are doing fantastic at!

All of the teachers are very proud of how hard the children have been working in both Little Berries and Little Acorns this week so a big well done to everyone!



Reception



This week, Birch and Willow class have been developing

their 'Understanding the World' knowledge through learning about Diwali and Remembrance. The children have created wonderful, colourful rangoli patterns using coloured rice and they have also created patterns with different shapes. All children have created their own poppies for Remembrance Day. They were thoroughly engaged when planting their poppies – please take a look at them under our canopy in between Birch and Willow class! Another exciting part of the week has been making 'shape pizzas'! We are currently discussing the properties of 2D shapes and look forward to a shape hunt next week! We wonder if you can spot any 2D shapes in your home environment...



Year One



Year One have been investigating materials this week and finding objects in the classroom that are made out of different things such as wood, plastic, glass and metal. We are focusing

on understanding which materials an object is made from. They enjoyed sticking post-it notes and flashcards around the classroom. They then described the objects using their properties and stuck these around the classroom on the correct item. The children came up with great vocabulary of their own to put on our Science boards to describe the objects

in our mysterious boxes – including fragile, squashy and breakable!

Year Two

Oak class visited our brand new library for the first time this week. We explored all of the amazing books available to us, and Mrs Mackie came to teach us some valuable library skills. We enjoyed hearing some stories together before testing our super comfy beanbags and reading for pleasure. Next week we will be taking a book home!



Year Three

This week in ICT Miss Chalmers introduced the children to a website called Top Marks. The children spent time exploring the maths games and doing activities that helped them practice their mental maths skills. A particular favourite was Hit The Button where children were able to practice their times tables. Knowing, understanding and using their times tables fluently will help them in all areas of maths so it is important that the children continue to practice them at home.



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:

- 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 Redgrave House for gaining the most points this week!

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	31	503
Pratchett	46	525
Austin	50	508
Redgrave	83	475

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	93.9%	Willow (YR)	99.0%
Beech (Y1)	93.8%	Elm (Y1)	98.3%
Oak (Y2)	100%	Cedar (Y3)	95.3%

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

12 th	Anti-bullying week begins Odd Sock Day
13 th	
14 th	
15 th	
16 th	Children in Need Non-uniform (wear yellow for £1) Toy shop sale (bring £1) Anti-bullying workshops for children in school

Letters sent home this week

Data Collection Sheet reminder (Yr's R-3) 05 11 18

Parent/ Carer Class Rep 2018/2019 06 11 18

PTA Cinema Event Yr's 1-3 'Elf' 06 11 18

PTA Cinema Event Yr R 'Paddington' 06 11 18

Children In Need 08 11 18

Year One Trip to College Lake 09 11 18

Anti-Bullying Week – w/c commencing 12th

November 09 11 18

Top Anti-Bullying Tips 09 11 18