

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018

Edition 09

Friday, 16th November 2018

A note from the Headteacher

This week has been a great opportunity for the children to openly discuss what bullying is (and is not) as part of our anti-bullying week focus. Through assemblies, class discussions and drama workshops, our children have been exploring the issue of bullying for both victims and perpetrators, and how bullying is never right. Our aim is to empower the children to tell an adult if they have a concern or worry. That being said, we have reminded all our children that bullying is not a one-off occurrence, accidentally getting hurt or feeling sad because you may not be playing with who you want to. Please help us to reinforce these messages at home.

It was lovely to see all the children coming into school this morning in their sea of yellow outfits and thank you for your donations towards Children in Need and the toy swap shop – more on this later in the newsletter. I was joined at the gate this morning by Gill Ellyard, the Regional Director for REAch2 who oversees the academies within our area. She was extremely impressed with the punctuality of the children, their politeness, exemplary behaviour and their focus in lessons. I felt very proud to show her around Green Ridge and everything we have to offer.

Have a lovely weekend,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"I had the pleasure this morning of visiting Birch and Willow class to talk to them about being a nurse as part of their 'people who help us'. I just wanted to pass on how delightful all the children were, they sat still, listened and asked wonderful questions and are all a credit to the school. I feel very privileged to have had this opportunity to visit them."

Parent feedback

Visitor to Reception



(ABOVE); Our children across the academy came together for our Remembrance Service last Friday at 11.00am

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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)	Imogen	Being a super role model in the class, especially when using her Makaton and learning our new Makaton song! She is energetic and encourages everyone to join in!
Willow (YR)	Archie	Building the confidence to have a go at writing his name independently many times in the last week!
Beech (Y1)	Sienna	Using a number line to add 2 numbers together!
Elm (Y1)	Ayah	Sharing her ideas and telling the whole class what she thinks!
Oak (Y2)	Harry	Sharing some fantastic answers in our reading skills sessions this week!
Cedar (Y3)	Rosie	Showing perseverance when tackling some really tricky maths!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Charlie	Applying his phonic skills in literacy lessons, segmenting

		words and persevering to identify all the different sounds!
Willow (YR)	Ruby	Working hard and making huge progress in phonics, blending words independently!
Beech (Y1)	Nathan	Excellent writing in English and using time connectives!
Elm (Y1)	Zian	Using finger spaces in Phonics and independently writing sentences in English!
Cedar (Y3)	Gloria	Increased concentration in all lessons!

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>
Fergus	1
Aryan	1
Alfie	1
Talha	1
Norah	2
Aimee-Leigh	2
Anisa	4
Imogen	4
Mayookha	5
Kanuyan	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)	Dennie	Beech (Y1)	Jessie
Oak (Y2)	Ivy-Grace	Cedar (Y3)	Callum

Speak Out, Stay Safe Parent Workshop

We recently held an O2 and NSPCC free online safety workshop for parents and carers at our school. The hour-long workshop was aimed to help parents and carers understand more about their child's online

world and build confidence to have conversations with them about it.

Whether you attended or planned to attend but couldn't, your views are important. They help O2 and the NSPCC improve the experience of the workshops for parents and carers joining them in the future. Please take a few minutes to complete a short online survey. The survey can be accessed here: www.nspcc.org.uk/ParentO2feedback

Don't forget this isn't the end of your online safety journey. Children need continual help learning how to navigate the risks online and enjoy the online world safely. Having regular conversations with your child is the most important way to help and it's never too early to start.

Until then, if you need any support or guidance about keeping children safe online, here are a few things you could do:

- Visit the [NSPCC](#) and [O2 NSPCC website pages](#).
- Call the free O2 NSPCC Online Safety Helpline on 0808 800 5002
- Download the Net Aware app on the App Store or Google Play
- Pop into your local O2 store for free online safety help from a [Guru](#) – you don't even have to be an O2 customer!
- Sign up to our [icebreaker email series](#).

The NSPCC is committed to helping you keep children safe. Please visit www.nspcc.org.uk to find out more about its work and how you can get involved.

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.



Children in Need 2018



Green Ridge was a sea of yellow today as children came wearing something yellow in aid of the Children in Need appeal. Thank you to all those families who donated £1 or more to this worthwhile cause and we raised a total of **£312.85** combined with the proceeds from our successful toy sale!

Today the children were able to purchase a donated toy if they brought in an additional pound. There was a tremendous amount of donations so the children had a broad range to choose from and hopefully picked up something that they can take away and enjoy. All purchases from the toy sale will be going towards



Children in Need so I wanted to say a big thank you to all parents, carers, children and members of the community that donated toys and purchased them.



Remembrance Service

Last Friday, all the children in the academy took part in our Remembrance service, which we held at the front of the school where we displayed our poppy wreath and poppies the children had made. Children stood silently for two minutes at 11.00am, and showed their respect for those that have fought in wars and died, particularly in World War One. Following this, our Year Two and Three



children performed their song, 'You Raise Me Up', which they had learned as part of the Berryfields Parish Council Remembrance Service which they attended last Sunday.

Thank you to all those parents/carers who brought their children along to the Remembrance service on Sunday evening for the beacon lighting ceremony. The service was particularly inspiring, making us think about all those who have died in service for our yesterday, our today and our tomorrow. A special thanks to Kallie and Harry from Cedar and Oak who laid the wreath on behalf of Green Ridge during the service.



Food Allergies

Parents and Carers are reminded that if their child has a food allergy, that it is their responsibility to inform not only the school office but also Herts Catering Ltd. who supply all of our school meals. You can apply for a special menu tailored for your child by registering your child's allergy [here](#) or contact them by phone on 01707 292500 or by email hcl.info@hcl.co.uk.

PTA Christmas Cards

This week copies of your child's Christmas card were sent home with your child with the return slip on how to order. If you would like to order any products please return the slip and correct payment (no change can be given) in the marked envelope to the school office by 10am on Wednesday 21st November. We regret that we cannot accept any late forms or payment as the PTA need to send them off before the deadline.

Phonics and Reading Workshop for Nursery Parents

We will be running a workshop on Wednesday 21st November at 5pm and then again on Tuesday 27th November at 2.30pm at the academy where all parents and carers of nursery children are warmly invited, particularly for those in Little Acorns. We ran this session successfully earlier this year and parents commented on how helpful it was. During the workshop, we will explain in more detail about how the nursery teaches our children to read through our phonics system. Please do come along if you can

make it; younger siblings are also welcome of course! Please note, if you attended earlier this year you do not need to attend again.

Scooter Found

During the half term holiday, a pink scooter was found at Paradise Orchard Park. A neighbour of the school has kept it safe. If anyone lost a scooter at that time please let the school office know and they can pass on the details.

Anti-Bullying Week & Odd Sock Day

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we joined many other schools across the country to hold an 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday to kick-start our week focussed on 'Choose Respect'. What was really interesting was how difficult some children (and adults!) found it to wear odd socks, having always worn matching pairs. We have had lots of lessons and activities this week to teach the children about equal opportunities and how bullying is not acceptable just because someone may be seen as 'different'.

We have positively reinforced to the children that bullying is not acceptable and never right. Please do ask your child what they have been learning about this week, and help us to teach the children that they need to ask for help if ever they experience any kind of bullying.

Parent/Carer Book-Look opportunity

Next Thursday after school, we are holding an open classroom event where parents/carers and family members are welcome to come into classes to have a look at their child's exercise books and learning so far this term. Classrooms will be open from 3.15-4.15pm and parent/carers can simply turn up at any point during this hour to their child's class, via the external classroom door. Your child's class teacher will be available, as well as your child's workbooks. This is an informal opportunity for you to see how your child is doing, look at your child's learning alongside them and ask any questions you may have to the class teacher.

We do ask however that if you require a specific meeting with your child's teacher which is not something general, that you ask to make a separate meeting for this.

Please do come along and share in your child's learning!

Anti-Bullying workshops

Over the past week, the children have been learning about bullying. Within these sessions, the children have explored what bullying looks like, how to respond to it and who to talk to if you need support. They have also taken part in an anti-bullying workshop that took place today. The children warmed up with a few exercises, where they explored finding new partners within their class. Next, they reflected on themselves and their own emotions and reactions. The session finished with the children learning how to be firm and confident when responding to bullies. I want to say a big thank you to Hannah and Perform for Schools who delivered the workshops.



Little Ridges Nursery

This week in Little Acorns we have been focusing on the nursery rhyme "Miss Polly Had A Dolly". We have even learnt all of the Makaton signs to go along with our rhyme. We have been using our imagination in our Doctor's role play area and making sure we are looking after the babies when they are poorly!



We have also been learning some new sounds this week and the rhymes to help us form them correctly. We have all had such a brilliant week growing our brains!

Little Berries have had a great week learning about public transport! We started the week by making different vehicles out of various shapes and reading transport stories. All of the class were able to remember at least one mode of transport that we have discussed over the past weeks! We have also enjoyed making a large train out of building blocks and pretending we are off on an exciting adventure. We've made tickets, packed our bags and even had real credit cards to play with!



Again another fantastic week had by all of the children in Little Ridges, more exciting activities planned for next week...

Reception



This week, Birch and Willow class have continued to secure their 2D shape knowledge through a shape challenge with some string! The children worked together to create different shapes with the string, discussing the properties of each shape. The children also went on a shape hunt outside; there were many different shapes they could spot! For our topic, 'Helping Hands' we have discussed what police do and how they help us. The children have been great at applying their phonic knowledge to label police uniform. We



look forward to a Policeman visiting today to find out more!

Year One

This week Elm and Beech have been looking at addition in Maths. All of the children have been using part-part-whole models to understand number bonds, and using their mastery skills to write them in different ways by moving the equals sign or drawing a bar model. We then compared number bonds and tried to balance the scales by making them equal, for example, we had $4 + 3$ on one side and we could have had $5 + 2$ on the other! Elm and Beech have also been using speaking frames to explain their reasoning in all of their lessons this week, such as 'I know this because' or 'I worked out ___ so ___'.



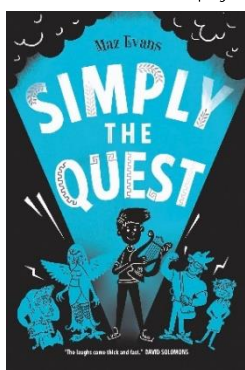
Year Two



As part of our Science lessons we have been looking at different materials and their properties. This week (at the children's request) we have been making slime to test its elasticity. As predicted, it was incredibly flexible and we discovered that when stretched it becomes translucent!

Year Three

This week in Cedar Class, we finished our first class novel of the year. The children REALLY enjoyed listening to *Who Let the Gods Out* by Maz Evans and following Elliot on his mission to save his home, help his mother and defeat Thanatos, King of the Demons. Many of the children asked for information on the sequel to *Who Let the Gods Out* as they wanted to continue the series. The next book is called *Simply the Quest* and continues Elliot's adventure to find the Earth Stones and defeat Thanatos. It was lovely to see the children enjoying and engaging in the story so we voted as a class for our next novel. The children chose *The Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher: a brilliant book with hilarity, heart and a whole lot of Christmas!



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 and Reception

- Monday, 7th January 2019, 9.15-10.30am (for April 2019 Nursery intake)

Little Ridges Nursery

- Tuesday, 19th March 2019, 1.45-3.00pm (for September 2019 intake)

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	28	531
Pratchett	20	545
Austin	33	541
Redgrave	75	550

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	97.6%	Willow (YR)	97.3%
Beech (Y1)	93.8%	Elm (Y1)	98.7%
Oak (Y2)	98.1%	Cedar (Y3)	97.7%

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

19 th	
20 th	
21 st	5.00pm, Phonics workshop for Nursery parents
22 nd	3.15-4.15pm, Parent/Carer Book-look in classrooms YR-Y3
23 rd	Year One trip to College Lake 3.15pm PTA Cinema Event

Letters sent home this week

Head Lice - Yr 3 - 12 11 18

Data Collection Sheets – Nursery – 13 11 18

Story Museum Workshop – Yr 1 – 15 11 18