

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018

Edition 06

Friday, 19th October 2018

A note from the Headteacher

The children have had a fantastic end to the half-term today with their 'Sparkle Day' and House team afternoon – the children have been learning to do all sorts of different things, from first aid, to multi-skills games to dance! As part of their House teams, each House has chosen its new House Captains for 18/19 to represent and lead them this year – another great way to show our children how democracy happens even at such a young age.

I know many of the children will be tired by the end of today; it has been a very busy first half-term at Green Ridge this year, settling all our children and getting used to our routines in our new building, as well as getting to grips with our large expansion of pupil numbers! On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you all for your support and words of encouragement over our half-term and for working with us and keeping up with tweaks and changes we've had to make along the way. And of course, thank you to your children who have worked exceptionally hard. Have a well-deserved rest next week, and we look forward to seeing you back on Monday 29th.

Have a great half-term,

A. A. Wanford

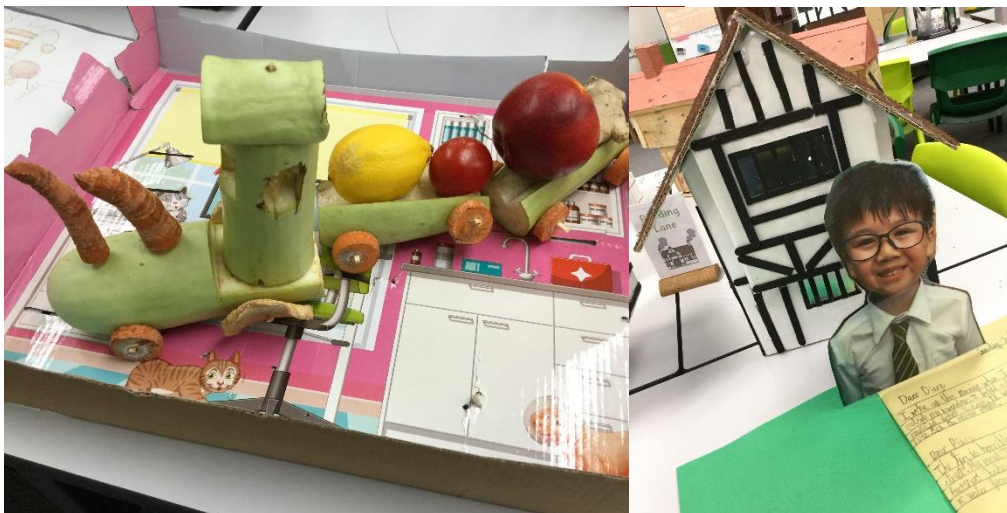
Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"Thank you for working so hard at keeping my child's school a great safe place! He has come along leaps and bounds at Green Ridge! Long may that continue!"

Parent feedback

**E-mailed to the academy
October 2018**



(LEFT); Shannon's sustainable travel vehicle in Year One for her home learning! (RIGHT); Jasper creates his own 17th century house for Year Two!

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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)	Megan	Showing a huge improvement with her letter formations and sounding out CVC words!
Willow (YR)	Wynn timer	Always having a go at the challenges, applying what she has learnt in the classroom.
Beech (Y1)	Pola	Excellent work in maths understanding greater than and less than!
Elm (Y1)	Olly	Always being well behaved, polite and a great role model to his peers.
Oak (Y2)	Aimee-Leigh	Writing a fantastic story about a lion who goes on an adventure.
Cedar (Y3)	Paige	Persevering and applying column addition perfectly.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Aayan	Using his phonic skills to decode and blend words in his brand new reading book!
Willow (YR)	Henley	For working hard in phonics, beginning to blend sounds together to help him read.
Beech (Y1)	Tyla	Working so hard in every lesson this week and being focused on his learning!
Elm (Y1)	Kayden	Writing words and sentences in phonics.
Cedar (Y3)	Patryk	Increased independence in his 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>
Aimee-Leigh, Auben	One
Auben, Mayookha	Two
Auben	Three
Jasper, Kanuyan	Five
Daniella	Six

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)	Shannon	Beech (Y1)	Ema
Oak (Y2)	Anisa	Cedar (Y3)	Rosie

Non-Uniform Day

The children all really enjoyed wearing their own clothes today for our good cause of raising money for our library. We are really pleased to say that we have raised a total of £129.50 which will contribute towards all of our new library equipment and resources. Thank

you for your support with this – watch this space to see what we can get when the library is completed after half-term!

Parent Drop Off Arrangements – Class doors

Now that all children have settled into the new school routines, we ask that you no longer accompany your child into the classroom each morning – particularly for those children in YR and Y1. Instead, it would support us and your child's independence to wait just outside the door, under the canopy, or even letting them walk in by themselves once in the wooden fenced area by the Y1 classrooms. In the same way, if your child has forgotten something at the end of the day can you ask them to come back independently to collect what they need rather than an adult coming in with them. A huge part of our role in Early Years and Key Stage 1 is fostering independence and this change will greatly help with the progress the children make in this area. There will, of course, be members of staff on hand within the classrooms to help the children locate things or to provide distraction if they need it. If you do need to catch us at the start or end of the day, then this is absolutely fine but we may ask you to wait until the initial rush of children arriving/leaving is over.

Please note as well if you do need to catch the Class Teacher for an urgent message in the morning, you may not be able to do this the closer it gets to 8.50am when doors shut. Staff have a responsibility to keep our children safe and start their daily learning – they are unable to leave a class unattended in order to have a conversation. If you do need to speak to someone then please ensure you arrive in sufficient time, or alternatively pass your message on through the school office.

House Afternoon

The children spent the afternoon in their House teams, learning more about why their house has been given its name, creating their new flag/emblem (which will be then used as a symbol throughout the school).

During the afternoon voting occurred for our House Captains from Year Three. We are pleased to announce the following roles for this academic year:

House	House Captains
Disraeli	Leon & Paige
Pratchett	Rosko & Ingrid
Austin	Emmeilia & Finley
Redgrave	Zack & Urvi

'Sparkle' Day

Our first 'Sparkle Day' for this academic year was a great success at Green Ridge, and there was an array of all sorts of different activities going on across the school including dance lessons, mosaic and team-work lessons, multi-skills lessons and first aid for children! (The children have even been shown how to support someone who may be choking as with the pictures below!) We hope that the children enjoyed these activities, and that they have had an opportunity to do something they may not have had experience of before. We will have another 'Sparkle Day' next half-term with the children having a go at different activities that they did not get a chance to do this half-term. Over the year, all classes will have a go at trying all the different enrichment opportunities.



Pupil Learning Reviews

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who came along to these meetings on Monday and Wednesday evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you here to talk to your child's teacher and see all that your child has been learning to do this half-term, and hear how well they have settled into their new classes.

Thank you as well to all those parents/carers who gave us a few minutes of their time to provide us with some valuable feedback about the academy. The survey is completely anonymous (unless you give your details to us when completing the survey in the comments), and we hope that you will be able to give us a picture of what parent/carer views are, and how we can continue to improve based on this.

If you didn't have a chance to complete the survey, or simply want the opportunity to provide additional information, please find the link to the survey [here](#). The survey will close on Monday, 22nd October.

Early Years Play Equipment

Please could we remind you that no children or siblings should be touching, playing with or climbing on any of the Early Years resources at the start or end of the day. We set things out specifically for learning throughout the day and work hard to tidy up at the end of the day and it would help us hugely if things were not moved or played with.

Academy Parliament

On the 10th October, Mr. English had the great pleasure of meeting our 2018/19 academy parliament members from Year One to Year Three. With British values in mind, these children were democratically voted for by their classes and I am pleased to announce that the following children have been successfully voted in to represent their classes this year:

Class	Boy	Girl
Elm	Kyi-Michael	Shannon
Beech	Theodore	Jessie
Oak	Harry	Anisa
Cedar	Lukas	Rosie

They had a range of agenda items during the meeting, including playground equipment, fundraising, safety and the school values. Although Year Two could not attend, as they were on a trip, they were still able to contribute their recommendations for school equipment through a class coach debate! The children had fantastic ideas for equipment and fundraising so expect to hear more about those developments soon. Mr. English would like to say a huge thank you to our Academy Parliament as they conducted themselves in a respectful and thoughtful manner during the meeting. He is very much looking forward to our next meeting. Look out for the new academy parliament badges coming to our reps soon!

Waddesdon Greenway Project

The Waddesdon Greenway Project Team would like to invite you, your friends, relations and children to join them in planting hedges and trees along the Waddesdon Greenway on 29 and 30 November and 1 and 2 December. Everyone is welcome - the more the merrier. With this newsletter, further information is given in a separate flyer about the planting day. Please do take a look!



Winter Uniform

When we return after half-term, 'winter' uniform will then be required, meaning that summer dresses and shorts are no longer to be worn. Please would we also ask that you ensure your child has a coat (and if necessary, gloves, scarf etc.) in school each day so that they are able to play outside whatever the weather.

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 after half term. 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

Talk for Writing

Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to make the Talk for Writing sessions this week to learn more about how English is taught across the school. If you were not able to make it, we will share the presentation and helpful guides on our website.

Home Learning Project Showcase Events

Thank you to all those parents and carers who came along to support their child in the showcase event for the home learning projects this week in Y1-Y3. There has been such a great range of creations and designs – from Stonehenge models made of custard cream biscuits, to our very own Green Ridge airways form of transport! Thank you to all our parents and carers for your support with all of these projects; without you, they would simply not happen, and we really do appreciate the time you take to spend with your child and support them.



Attendance

We are aware that some children have been affected by Chicken Pox over the last few weeks, and there is a rise in the number of children with colds and flu like symptoms. Now that almost all children have had their flu immunisation, we hope that the instances of these will be heavily reduced. We continually ask children to wash their hands every time they go to the toilet to develop good personal hygiene, and we would be grateful if you could continue to reinforce these messages at home.

Our attendance as a school is currently 97%, meeting our own target of 97%, which is fantastic! Please continue to work with us to ensure that this good level of attendance continues across the school next half-term.

Any child who has irregular attendance (including children who are persistently late and those with less than 95% attendance) are monitored closely by the school and the Local Authority. The academy will contact individual families where there is irregular school attendance in order to support them to ensure their child is at school regularly. Attendance is so important for our children and their learning, so that

they can make progress. One day really can make a difference to a child, so please help us to ensure that they are at school. The academy will notify you should your child's attendance drop below 95%, and may request a meeting with parents/carers and the Local Authority and Governing Body in order to work with you to improve your child's attendance so that it is at least 97% or better.

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.

Jewellery Safety During P.E

If your child has pierced ears and they cannot remove their own earrings, could they please bring in some micropore tape (with their name on the box) in their PE kit, to cover the piercings during PE lessons.

Little Ridges Nursery



Another busy week in Little Ridges filled with lots of fun and learning. Little Berries have been super busy doing various activities such as painting Autumn trees using corks, practising pouring water with jugs and we rounded up the week by making

delicious gingerbread men which we decorated with icing and chocolate beans.

Little Acorns have been working hard on their listening skills this week during their focused group times. They have continued to practise number recognition and have all worked together problem solving different number challenges.

A fantastic week had by all of the children in Little Ridges. They have all settled well over this half term and we are incredibly proud of them all. More fun to be had after half term!



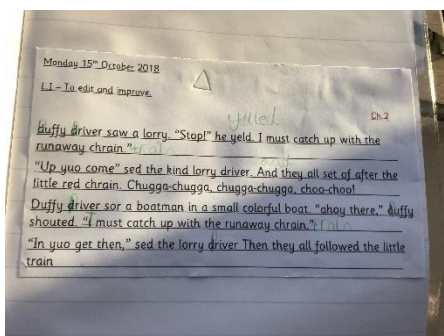
Reception

This week, in Willow and Birch class, we had different sized dinosaurs to measure. Our challenge was to put them in height order and begin to use the key vocabulary, 'tall' and 'short', to compare the heights. The children also measured the dinosaurs using cubes and it was fantastic to see the children applying the knowledge they had learnt from the last two weeks! Many children were able to explain that the taller dinosaurs were measured using 'more' cubes and the shorter dinosaurs were measured using 'less' cubes. We have also been extremely impressed seeing the children begin to apply their phonic knowledge in their writing; we are looking forward to seeing them continue to progress after half term!



Year One

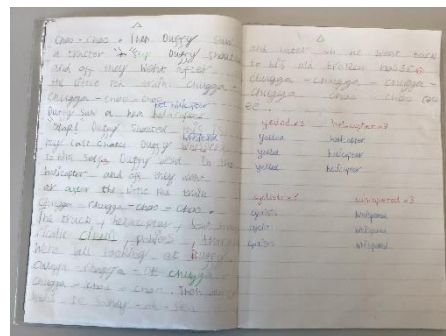
Elm and Beech have been editing and improving their work in English this week. They have practised editing some sentences that needed improving using their green editing



pencils, and then they edited and improved their innovated stories from last week about

Duffy Driver. Elm and Beech know that they use their green pencils for

reading through and editing their work independently, and they use blue pencil to respond to teacher's feedback. It's great fun sending our sentences to the sentence doctor to get diagnosed, sometimes she prescribes some capital letters and full stops, and sometimes an injection of adjectives!



Year Two

A huge thank you those to all of those who paid a visit to Year 2 this week to celebrate our home learning projects! The effort that went into the designing and creating of our 17th century houses was amazing, and they are a great representation of how houses looked before The Great Fire of London. Well done Year 2!



Year Three

This week Cedar class celebrated the children's Home Learning projects. It was lovely to see the children taking pride in their work and showing excitement about our gallery style celebration on Tuesday. There were some fantastic models of Stonehenge and the children had done lots of research about the landmark's history. We look forward to seeing what the children show us next term!



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:

- 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!

<i>House</i>	<i>Points this week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Disraeli	247	412
Pratchett	128	405
Austin	120	432
Redgrave	121	365

Weekly Attendance

Well done to Oak Class for achieving 100% attendance this week!

Birch (YR)	96.2%	Willow (YR)	96.5%
Beech (Y1)	94.8%	Elm (Y1)	76.0%
Oak (Y2)	100%	Cedar (Y3)	96.3%

What's happening after Half Term at Green Ridge?

29 th	Children return to school AM – School photos (individual and siblings)
30 th	
31 st	
1 st	9.00am, PTA meeting PM – Y2 & Y3 parent/carers family first aid
2 nd	

Letters sent home this week

Chicken Pox 16 10 18