GREEN RIDGE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2018 | Edition 10 | Friday, 23rd November

A note from the Headteacher

The temperature has really plummeted this week, with the frosts and minus zero temperatures over the last few days; winter is very nearly upon us! Please help us to ensure that the children have got their hats, scarves, gloves and coats with them in school each day and that they are clearly and securely named. It is important our children have an opportunity get fresh air each day for break and lunchtime and we simply cannot let them go outside without the appropriate clothing. Similarly, for those children in YR-Y3, please ensure your child has appropriate PE clothing for the time of year – a tracksuit or a jumper and tracksuit bottoms is really important so that the children can still go outside and do their lessons.

On Wednesday this week, Mr. English, Mrs. Mackie and I undertook a teaching and learning review across the academy, visiting all classes and seeing just how well our children are learning. We are extremely impressed with the learning we see with our children – their resilience, attitudes to learning and their conduct in and around school, as well as how well they are challenging themselves. However, we can still do even more to enable every child to achieve the very best they can be. One part of this improving our children's presentation further; whilst we've done a lot already, this still remains an ongoing area for us to focus.

Have a great weekend,

A. A. Wanford

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher

"It was a pleasure to visit the school, the children were amazing and asked brilliant questions.

Feel free to invite me back anytime!"

Feedback from Police Officer Visit to Reception Classes

(ABOVE); One of our first frosts at Green Ridge, and this led to lots of learning about weather and the temperature in each of our classes!

In This Issue

- Crackers
- EYFS Stay and Play sessions
- Late arrivals
- Car parking
- Food allergies

REAch2 ACADEMY TRUST

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:

	Certificate of Achievement	*For...*
Birch (YR)	Sreejan	Writing a super police report in literacy. He identified the initial sounds in the words and tried extremely hard with his letter formations!
Willow (YR)	Lilly	Being such a great role model to her peers, helping her friends and always trying her best with her work!
Beech (Y1)	Keyan-Lee	Excellent work in maths using the part whole model to create number sentences!
Elm (Y1)	Alfie	Moving on to challenge 3 and X in Maths in most lessons!
Cedar (Y3)	Bella	Fantastic work in maths this week on some tricky addition and subtraction!

	Certificate of Progress	*For...*
Birch (YR)	Joshua	Persevering in phonics and now using his sounds when writing, especially in his fantastic police report!
Willow (YR)	Orla	Having a go at spelling words independently – her police report this week was fantastic!
Beech (Y1)	Oliver	A great improvement in reading skills and reading out loud clearly and confidently!
Elm (Y1)	Amelia	Making progress in her sounding out and blending in Phonics!
Oak (Yr 2)	Lana	Making improvements in both her spelling test score and cracking times tables score. Keep it up!
Cedar (Y3)	Leon	Making progress in his writing and working hard to include subordinate clause and fronted adverbials!

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:

Name	*Level*
Urvi	3
Jake	4
Anya	4
Callum	4
Shannon	4
Auben	4
Imogen	5
Gloria	6
Mayookha	6
Kanuyan	8

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)	Niamh	Beech (Y1)	Eva
Oak (Y2)	Aimee-Leigh	Cedar (Y3)	Joseph

Crackers!

We would like to extend our thanks to one of our parents who has kindly donated 250 crackers for our children to enjoy when having their Christmas lunch. Thank you also to other parents who have brought in crackers, which we will still use as part of our Christmas festivities. We do not require any further crackers at this time, so please do not bring us in any more!

Early Years Stay and Play Session

We will be holding our next Early Years Stay and Play session next Tuesday with the theme of 'Time to Talk.' You are welcome to stay after drop off for as long as you would like, please don't feel you have to stay until 10.30 if it doesn't work for you. You will be able to join the daily phonics sessions for those children learning phonics and then play alongside your child looking at ways we develop communication and language in the Early Years. We look forward to seeing you then!

Late Arrivals

If your child is going to be late into school, please let the office staff know before 9am. Children arriving to school after 8.50am will be marked as late and those after 9am will be given an unauthorised absence for the morning unless there is a genuine medical absence. When you bring your child into school, through the main entrance, it is vital that you sign them in using our electronic system as this updates the registers. It has been brought to our attention that a few parents have indicated that they are signing their child in but have not. This is a safeguarding issue and so must be done before parents leave the building. Thank you.

Absence from Nursery

If your child is going to be absent because of illness or a medical appointment, please let the school office know before 9am each day. You can leave a message on the answerphone at any time. To take your child out of nursery for any other reason, please ask for a leave of absence form which needs to be returned to the school office. Please remember that we encourage good attendance in our nursery and missed sessions during term time are still payable.

Car Parking

Our car park is not yet open to parents/carers for drop-off and pick-up. Our builders are still working in this area and the designated area for drop-off/pick-up have not yet been designated. Gates to the car park will remain closed at the beginning and end of the day for the time being. We hope that within the next few weeks we will be able to open the car park for parents/carers to use. More information will follow about this.

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.

Junior Parkrun

Every Sunday morning at Meadowcroft open space at 9am, there is a Junior Parkrun where families can join together to run or walk in family friendly 2k events. It is suitable for children aged 4-14 and free to all. You can register at Parkrun.com, why not give it a go!

Plea from Little Acorns

Next term our Little Acorns will be learning all about dinosaurs. If you have any dinosaur books, fossils, dressing up items or any other dinosaur themed resources that you would be willing to donate we would be very grateful.

Bartlett's Visit

This year our children in KS1 and KS2 will be lucky enough to be visiting Bartlett's residential home in Stone. Oak Class, along with the Pupil Parliament, will be the first children to visit in December with other classes visiting throughout the rest of the year. The children will be sharing songs, stories and playing games with some of the residents while Barkley attends in his Pets as Therapy role. The school will be funding the cost of the coach hire for these trips and we hope that both the children and the residents will benefit hugely from the interactions.

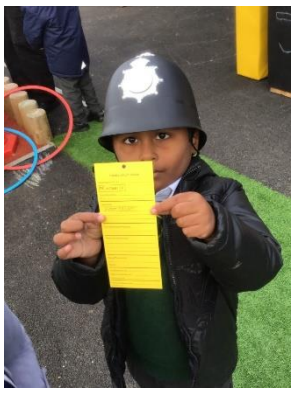
Little Ridges Nursery

This week Little Acorns have been learning the nursery rhyme "Humpty Dumpty". We were all really excited to come in on Monday to see the crime scene outside; which became a great talking point, discussing what had happened to Humpty Dumpty. We grew our brains towards the middle of the week, making predictions of what would happen if an egg fell off a wall, protected by different materials. We then tested this and gathered all our results.

Little Berries have had another great week learning about the different transport we see in the sky. We started the week by decorating our own hot air balloon to hang in the classroom. All of the class have been working on independently naming one mode of transport we have learnt, including reading our transport books and discussions over the last few weeks. Now we are discussing where we would see that mode of transport. Towards the end of the week we used the junk modelling we had collected to create our own transport. We have chosen different shaped boxes for the vehicle, counted how many wheels it would have and began choosing different colours to decorate it.

Another brilliant week in Little Ridges, more exciting opportunities to be had next week.

Reception



Willow and Birch class have had an extremely busy week, we have had to investigate in our outdoor area and in our classroom! Someone, or something, had created a mess so we had a police inspector visit to try to help us solve the mystery... The children looked for clues and evidence and did well to write police reports for us! After reading the book, 'Aliens Love Underpants', the children assumed it was the aliens that had caused the mess due to spotting some slime! In Maths, the children have developed their number knowledge through the 'part part whole' approach. We have been really proud of how well the children have picked this up!

Year One

This Friday Year One have been on a trip to College Lake. We wore our outdoor clothes and took our teddies with us to meet the chief teddy and have a picnic! We went on a sensory walk and an autumn walk to see, feel, hear and smell the different textures and colours of the outdoors. Then we had hot squash with a biscuit, before coming back to find our lunches had been taken! Our teddies had taken them and set up a picnic for us. Finally, we built dens for our teddies using the natural materials we could find and working together with our friends. What a great day!

Year Two

This week Oak class received vital information regarding the break-ins that recently occurred both in their classroom and the main office. Thanks to Mr. Morris recovering CCTV footage, Oak class successfully identified the intruder the be Goldilocks! After weeks of investigating, we were relieved to have finally solved the case. We were assured by Thames Valley Police that she had been arrested and remanded in custody, following an attempted break-in at another school. As part of our English work, we completed witness recount reports. Jasper wrote *'Finally, Detective Andrew Mason thanked us for our help and said he couldn't have done it without us. Then he told us we should be police officers in the future or when we grow up. What a fantastic few weeks we've had!'*

Year Three

This week Year 3 wrote their final recounts for the current writing unit. On Monday, Miss Chalmers told the children she had prepared a surprise for them and they were very excited. However, once they found out the surprise was a 20 minute HIIT session, they were less than amused! The children have written some very passionate recounts and many have used some fantastic descriptive vocabulary. They have worked very hard on their writing this week so well done Cedar Class!

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	51	582
Pratchett	99	644
Austin	21	562
Redgrave	17	567

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	95.9%	Willow (YR)	94.6%
Beech (Y1)	98.6%	Elm (Y1)	98.5%
Oak (Y2)	97.5%	Cedar (Y3)	95.%

PTA News

Paying for events

We are all looking forward to the PTA Cinema event today and the children are all excited. However, it has been brought to our attention that some parents have made late payments and had to be reminded to pay or return the forms. Such events are kindly run by a group of volunteers who work tirelessly to arrange them successfully but this does take hard work and planning. The PTA have to budget for and buy all the snacks and drinks in advance so it is important that payments and forms are handed in by the deadline.

Christmas Cards

Thank you to all those parents/ carers who handed in their forms and money for the Christmas gifts. They have been ordered and we will let you know how much we have raised for your PTA shortly.

Bring a Bottle for Non uniform day

Please remember to bring a bottle, big or small for the non-uniform day on Friday 30th November. We welcome all bottles from washing up liquid to champagne!

PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting will be Thursday 29th November at 7pm at the Miller and Carter Pub.

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

26th	2.30pm – Y2 Oak Class Assembly
27th	9.00am – EYFS Stay and Play sessions
28th	
29th	
30th	Non Uniform day, Bring a bottle

Letters sent home this week

Year One College Lake Trip reminder 19 11 18
Christmas Lunch 20 11 18
Countdown to Christmas 20 11 18
PTA Meetings letter 20 11 18
PTA Festive Fun 20 11 18
Small Talk- Mix96 Radio – Yr's 2 & 3. 22 11 18
Year R Trip to Waddesdon Manor – 22 11 18
PTA Easy Fundraising Flyer 22 11 18