

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term 2019

Edition 16

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## A note from the Headteacher

As usual, there has been much going on across the academy this week in each of the classes and year groups; sometimes it can be hard to keep up with all that is going on! On Monday, we were very fortunate to welcome Ben from Mix96 who came to interview some of our children in Year Two and Three for the Small Talk radio programme which airs, I believe, the week after next. The children had a great opportunity meeting the radio presenter and being recorded – so please do keep your ears open when it comes on in a few weeks. Who knows what interesting questions they have answered!

Green Ridge was also buzzing on Tuesday this week with a visit from Ross Montgomery, children's author, who came in to lead a writing workshop with each of the classes and share his creative skills. The children really enjoyed the workshops and gave some fantastic feedback, and it is just wonderful that the children were so inspired to continue to go and write after their session finished. We are currently working with Ross to see whether he may be able to work with us more regularly, as this is something the children clearly got lots of great learning and inspiration from. Ross spoke highly of Green Ridge, commenting how organised, positive and supportive everyone was. He said he visits hundreds of schools and very rarely has such a lovely day. Such wonderful feedback!

Enjoy your time with the family this weekend,

*A. A. Wanford.*

Mr. Aaron Wanford  
Headteacher



*"It was just the best day ever... even including my birthday."*

**Children's comments following our author visit from Ross Montgomery on Tuesday**



(LEFT); Visiting author Ross Montgomery talks to the pupils about his writing; (RIGHT): Pupils in Year Two following their recording on Mis96!

### In This Issue

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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)	Grayson	Showing curiosity with his maths skills and measuring different objects successfully and independently when choosing his own learning.
Willow (YR)	Kowsik	Applying his phonic knowledge to write all about his superhero power!
Beech (Y1)	Max	Giving excellent suggestions when we were innovating our story of Hansel and Gretel.
Elm (Y1)	Millie	Following the recipe for a good setting description to describe the gingerbread house!
Oak (Y2)	Finlay	Taking pride in his work and making huge efforts in both the quality and presentation of his writing.
Cedar (Y3)	Kallie-Rae	Her application of times tables to some tricky problem solving questions.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Harrison	Now applying his phonic skills and choosing to write independently.

Willow (YR)	Kawthar	Developing her confidence within the classroom, offering good comments to discussions and answers!
Beech (Y1)	Arthur S	Excellent progress drawing a number line to add in maths.
Elm (Y1)	Rio	Trying really hard in Maths to set out his number line correctly and filling it in independently!
Oak (Y2)	Jasper	Constantly striving to achieve more and up-level his work.
Cedar (Y3)	Leon	Improvements in his independent writing and producing a fantastic opening paragraph.

## 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>
Bella, Alexander, Ramaa, Sanuga	1
Talia, Amelia, Olaf	2
Jess, Lana, Veera	3
Anya, Lukas, Urvi, Auben	6
Jasper	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)	Raisha	Beech (Y1)	Theodore
Oak (Y2)	Imogen	Cedar (Y3)	Bella

## 'Always' award

We are introducing a new award into our celebration assembly each week, in order to recognise children who are always going above and beyond in whatever way they can – whether this be in their learning, their manners, their helpfulness or general daily life at Green Ridge. Children who are nominated for this award each week are invited to have lunch with either Mr. Wanford, Mrs. Mackie or Mr. English on the following Monday – but with a twist! Children are invited to have a school lunch (if they wish, paid for) but it will be served to the children by the staff, using 'real' plates, glasses, condiments, tablecloth and some little extras

as well, including some fruit juice! If your child brings a packed lunch this does not matter, than will still enjoy the reward of the 'fine dining' experience, and a chance to have some time with one of the senior leaders (and get their lunch even earlier!)

This week our 'always' children are:

Willow (YR)	Lilly	Birch (YR)	Imogen
Elm (Y1)	Alfie	Beech (Y1)	Julia
Oak (Y2)	Lana	Cedar (Y3)	Paige

### Cold weather

We are aware that the weather has once again turned and the temperature had dropped, with some forecasting of heavier snow. We will always endeavour to keep the academy open to pupils, despite the weather, and only close in exceptional circumstances because either staff are unable to make it in (as not all staff live locally), or because the conditions are too dangerous to expect parents/pupils/staff to travel. Should we make the decision to close, we will update you via e-mail and text from Arbor, as well as alerting you on the front page of our website. Unless you hear otherwise, please always assume we are open and operating as normal.

### Clubs Update

We had our first ever **After School Clubs** start this week at Green Ridge and they were thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part! There may still be a few spaces left in some of the clubs, please check the 'Clubs for Schools' website [here](#) for availability and booking. Game On will be contacting anyone who signed up for their new Thursday club shortly, which is due to start next week.

### Keeping Children Safe out of School Hours

Thank you to parents/carers for collecting promptly from the back playground at the end of the after school clubs and just a gentle reminder that children attending Busy Living after school club should also be collected from the external door of their room. We cannot allow adults to walk through the school unescorted while we still have children (as young as two) on site until 6:00pm. Please understand that entry through the main entrance is not possible in order to keep our children safe. Similarly, if you collect your child from a club (or Busy Living) and they have left something in their classroom, they will have to collect it the next day. Classrooms are being cleaned at this time and there are too many chemicals and trip hazards around the site for the children to go back safely. There may also be sensitive information regarding children on the Teacher's desk or a surprise activity for the next day! Thank you for your help and understanding with this.

### Car Park Safety

If you are using the school car park, could you please pay attention to the one-way system at the front of the school. Please exit the car park along the front of the school (not by turning right onto the road) so that the entrance to the car park doesn't become blocked. We need to keep the traffic fluid at this junction as only one car can fit going in or out at a time. Mr Morris is outside most mornings and evenings to guide you, thank you for your attention to this.

### Cleaner vacancies

We are now recruiting for cleaning staff to join us as soon as possible. Hours are between 7.00-9.00am, and 3.00-6.00pm. If you, or anybody you know are interested in the role, please see our website [here](#) for further information and the application form to complete. The closing date is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 12.00noon.

### Little Ridges Nursery

This week in Little Acorns we became explorers! We started the week by working together to dig for dinosaur fossils. We have also been learning about a



Stegosaurus and how they are herbivores unlike a T-Rex who is a carnivore!

We continue to develop our mark-making and have even learnt a few more sounds, extending the words that we can segment and blend. A few of Little Acorns have also been

looking at the add sign and counting two groups of objects to see how many they have altogether.

Not forgetting we have been using our imagination and building our confidence by taking part in helicopter stories.

Another fantastic week of limitless learning!

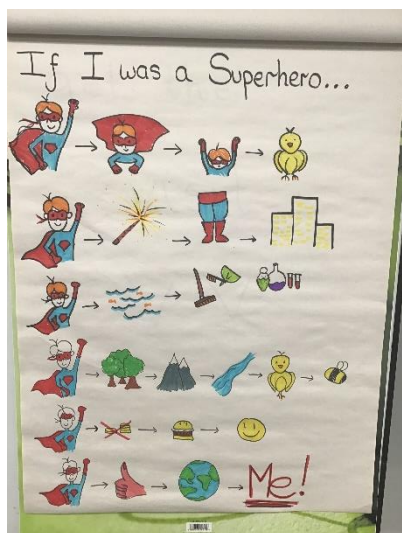
This week Little Berries have had great fun exploring a Bush Tucker Trial style challenge, collecting stars in different sensory boxes "I'm a Little Berry Get me Out of Here!".



We have also been adding art work to our display, making jungle animals such as parrots, monkeys and tigers. The children have also been baking this week, making jungle animal inspired biscuits, we have had roaring fun!

### Reception

This week, Birch and Willow class have continued to enjoy their theme of the term 'I need a Hero'; they have finished learning a lovely poem called 'If I was a Superhero...' The children have learnt this poem



through Talk4Writing and have done extremely well to learn the actions to help them remember the poem. It has been great to observe some of the children recite the poem, using the pictures and actions, independently during choosing time!

### Year One

Last week and this week Elm and Beech were visited by Hansel and Gretel! They came in through the toilets and left a trail of breadcrumbs in our school that led to a basket with letters in. First they gave us some fantastic WOW words to use in our writing. Yesterday they read our descriptions and asked us to rewrite the story by changing the resolution. Both classes have come up with new ideas to trap the evil witch!

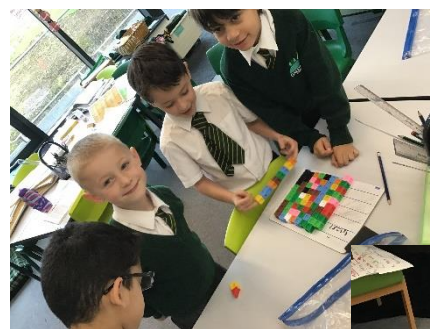


We are going to leave our new fairy tales in the basket for Hansel and Gretel to read.

### Year Two

This week Oak class have been multiplying in Maths. On Monday we were using concrete objects to represent arrays. This hands-on approach created fantastic visual representations of our number

problems, which helped to deepen our understanding and solve the answer.



### Year Three

This week, Cedar Class had their first full swimming lesson. The children have been split into groups and, over the next few months, they will start to learn how to execute the different strokes as well as how to keep themselves safe in the water. This week they learned



how to breathe under water and who could make the most bubbles! The children are very confident in the water and it was lovely to see their excitement!

### 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

- 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](mailto: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	110	965
Pratchett	55	847
Austin	92	830
Redgrave	57	978

### Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	94.3%	Willow (YR)	92.7%
Beech (Y1)	90.0%	Elm (Y1)	95.9%
Oak (Y2)	95.8%	Cedar (Y3)	99.3%

### PTA News

Green Ridge PTA is excited to announce we are joining the Vale Lottery scheme. Vale Lottery was created in 2015 by Aylesbury Vale District Council to support community projects in the local area. Each Vale Lottery ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! A ticket for the Vale Lottery costs £1 a week, with Green Ridge keeping 50p of every ticket sold from their page.

To buy lottery tickets, click [here](#) - Good luck!

Please be aware of the forthcoming dates for PTA meetings:

- Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> January, 7.00pm  
(All parents/carers invited, Miller and Carter)
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am  
(PTA Committee only, in school)
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am  
(PTA Committee only, in school)
- Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am  
(All parents/carers invited, in school)

### What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

21 <sup>st</sup>	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	AM – Year Three swimming
23 <sup>rd</sup>	
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.00-11.00am – Fun with Stories workshop for Nursery parents 1.00-3.00pm – Reading and Phonics workshop for Y1 parents 7.00pm – PTA meeting at Miller and Carter
25 <sup>th</sup>	

### Letters sent home this week

Curriculum Booklets – Years R, 1, 2 & 3 - 15 01 19

Home Learning Projects – Years 1, 2 & 3 - 15 01 19

Parent/Carer Survey Feedback - 17 01 19