

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term 2019

Edition 19

Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## A note from the Headteacher

Thank you for your understanding last week when we had to close the school due to the snow; it is never something we want to do but sometimes it is necessary for everybody's safety. We are in the process of re-arranging the Year Two trip which had to be cancelled, so please bear with us.

The start of February has brought many things for us to focus on at Green Ridge, and I was extremely impressed that when I asked the children in assembly on Wednesday why our assembly might be special that day; I had a range of responses asking was it because of Chinese New Year, or was it because it was LGTB History month, or was it because it was Safer Internet Day? For the children to recognise these as significant events taking place right now and articulate what they were significant for was just brilliant. I did then say that for that day, we were focussing on staying safe online as part of our wider focus that week – but it just goes to show how much our children take in and learn from everything around them! You can find more out about some of these things later on in the newsletter. Sadly, only a few parents/carers attended the extremely informative internet safety talk this week, but if you were unable to make it and want to see some of the resources shared, please check out the help sheet available on the e-Safety page of our website [here](#).

Enjoy

*A. A. Wanford.*

Mr. Aaron Wanford  
Headteacher



*Thank you for yesterday; it was amazing!*

*Our residents are still talking about it.*

*Looking forward to see you all next term!'*

**Feedback from our Year 3 visit to Bartlett's Residential Home**



(LEFT) Year Three children share a story with the residents at Bartlett's; (MIDDLE/RIGHT) EYFS Stay and Learn Marvellous Maths!

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# Celebrations and Achievements

## 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)	Scarlett	Being able to verbally explain two single digit subtraction sentences with ease and then confidently writing it down!
Willow (YR)	Ayaan	Applying his number work learnt in class to help free Supertato!
Beech (Y1)	Dexter	Settling into Green Ridge so well and for trying so hard in every lesson!
Elm (Y1)	Norah	Demonstrating good behaviour choices and being a role model to her friends!
Oak (Y2)	Alexander	Using some fantastic descriptive language throughout his traditional tale this week!
Cedar (Y3)	Rosie and Rhylee	Collaboratively writing a perfect limerick in our first lesson of the unit!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Katherine	Showing an improvement with her confidence with whole class discussions and

		when communicating with her friends!
Willow (YR)	Darcie	Consistently applying her phonic knowledge to her writing, even trying hard to remember her finger spaces!
Beech (Y1)	Charlie	Making excellent progress in phonics and recognising lots of new sounds!
Elm (Y1)	Harry	Putting in a lot of effort to make his handwriting small and neat!
Oak (Y2)	Katie	Making a huge effort to up-skill her writing and add more detail and description!
Cedar (Y3)	Isla	Making great progress in her engagement with phonics!

## 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>
Katie, Noah, Theodore, Jacob, Leon	1
Taya, Sanuga, Ramaa, Ivy, Maia, Katie, Samuel, Bella, Leon, Janet	2
Norah, Alexander, Olaf, Talha, Ramaa,	3
Veera, Rosko	4
Anisa	5
Shannon, Mustapha, Jake	6
Auben, Lukas, Anya	7
Imogen, Urvi	8
Emmeleia, Gloria	9
Mayooka, Jasper, Kanuyan	10
Mayookha	11
Vincent	12

## PAP Stars

'PAP' stands for Presentation, Accuracy and Productivity. Well done to the following PAP stars this week at Green Ridge!

Elm (Y1)	Kyi-Michael	Beech (Y1)	Eva
Oak (Y2)	Kanuyan	Cedar (Y3)	Samprithi

### 'Always' award

Our 'always' reward recognises 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 week. This week our 'always' children are:

Willow (YR)	Oliver	Birch (YR)	James
Elm (Y1)	Raisha	Beech (Y1)	Jessie
Oak (Y2)	Ramaa	Cedar (Y3)	Mustapha

### Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	98.6%	Willow (YR)	93.0%
Beech (Y1)	97.3%	Elm (Y1)	93.3%
Oak (Y2)	98.4%	Cedar (Y3)	92.7%

### House Points

Well done to Disraeli House for gaining the most points this week!

<i>House</i>	<i>Points this week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Disraeli	101	1175
Pratchett	94	995
Austin	78	971
Redgrave	64	1149

# News items from this week

## Word of the Day

The words we used this week are below; please do ask your child about them (they should be able to tell you what they mean and use them in a sentence). You'll also find next week's words as well, so if you can, get ahead and talk to your child about them!

w/c 01/02/19	Word of the day
Monday	Voyage
Tuesday	direction
Wednesday	recharge
Thursday	explore
Friday	recommend

w/c 08/02/19	Word of the day
Monday	between
Tuesday	erase
Wednesday	defend
Thursday	Peaceful
Friday	medicine

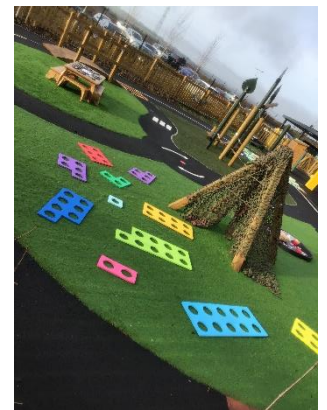
## Bartlett's Visit – Year Three

Cedar Class brought a little happiness to the residents of Bartlett's this week. The children shared some stories they had been writing as well as singing our Sign2Sing song. The residents were delighted to see them and are already looking forward to the next visit from Year One!



## Marvellous Maths – Early Years

On Wednesday morning, we welcomed lots of parents and carers of children in Nursery and Reception into the school to join their child for their morning of 'Marvellous Maths'. It was really great to see so many of you coming in to see how your children move their learning forward with the types of mathematical activities, games and provision they have access to on a daily basis. Remember, little and often, making it as fun as you can!



## Little Ridges Plea

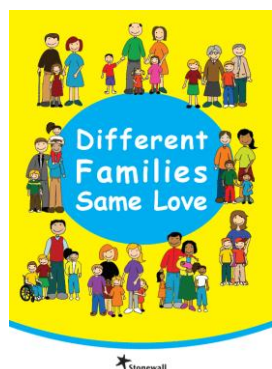
The children in Little Berries and Little Acorns will be learning all about the farm and farm animals next term. If you have any farm related toys, books or games that you don't need any more, then we would be very happy to take them off your hands! Please bring them in when bringing your child into nursery. Thank you in advance.

## Medication in School

All inhalers and Epipens will be sent home with children on the last day before half term. We would kindly ask all parents to check the expiry dates and supply a new one to school when necessary. Forms are available in the school office if the date has changed. Please do ensure you fill the form in and return it with your child's medication on the first day back.

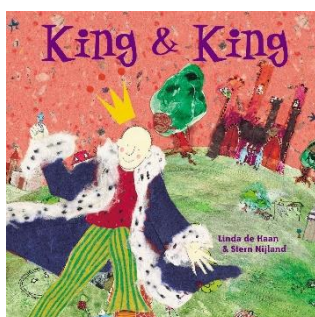
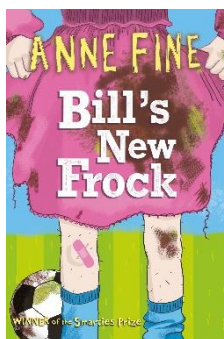
## LGBT History Month

This month, schools across the country are marking LGBT month. The overall aim of LGBT History month is to promote equality and diversity for the benefit of everyone. In particular, our aim has been to raise awareness of those people who might identify as LGBT, and also increase visibility of LGBT people, their history, lives and experiences.



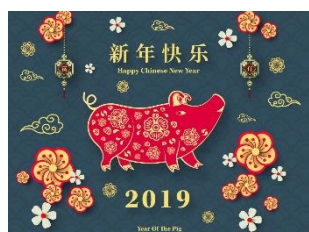
Naturally, we have age-appropriate conversations and learning for children across the academy, but one common thread we have is the motto of 'different family, same love'. We recognise that children are brought up in families where there may not always be a stereotypical 'mum and dad', and some children might have two mums and two dads, for

example. We have been reading a range of age-appropriate texts with the children to reinforce these messages, and please do speak to your child's class teacher if you would like some more information.



## Chinese New Year

Miss. Gardiner and Miss. Imbriano led an assembly on Monday about Chinese New Year which began on Tuesday, with this, the year of the pig. Children learned about some of the Chinese traditions for New Year and how these compared to those children may have experienced themselves at New Year after Christmas.



## Safer Internet Day

Throughout the week, children have been focussing on how to keep themselves safe online as part of Safer Internet Day on Tuesday. In their special assembly led by e-Safety adviser, Richard Maskery, children were

told about the age restrictions on particular apps, games and online software. Staff were surprised to see just how many children used or had access to some of the apps and software which was well beyond the age ratings given. We asked the children to not use, or even better – delete, apps such as Instagram or Snapchat if they had them on a personal



device of their own, because they were unsafe for children to use. For those children in Year Three, we discussed how these apps can give away your exact location, meaning that anyone could find you if you were talking online.



As a reminder for all parents and carers, should children disclose or report that they are accessing games, videos or apps which are inappropriate for their age, our

academy has a duty to safeguard all children and one of the staff will talk to you about how we can support you to reduce the risks of your children using these until they are the correct age.

Children have been reminded that they should always have an adult around them if using the internet, and that they should always tell an adult if they get that 'butterfly' feeling that something isn't right. We have encouraged the children to tell an adult, and that an adult will not be angry to take your device away if something is wrong, but instead try and help you so that you stay safe and it doesn't happen again.

Overall, we tried to reinforce to the children the internet is a great thing, but we have to use it safely and know what to do if something goes wrong. If you were unable to attend the parent/carer information session on Wednesday afternoon, please do take a look at the list of links [here](#) which will help you keep your children safe at home on the devices they have access to. Our website has its own e-Safety page with a range of useful information and magazines, designed for parents/carers to give some helpful advice about supporting your children to be e-Safe. Take a look [here](#).

# What have we been learning?

## Little Ridges Nursery



This week in Little Berries, we have continued our focus on jungle animals; focusing on a 'tiger' this week; and learning the Makaton sign to accompany it. This week we also celebrated 'Chinese New Year'; we did lots of fun activities, including mark making in glitter, learning how to use chop sticks to pick up noodles as well as fun food tasting with lots of traditional foods. Also, a huge thank you to those parents that came to our 'Marvellous Maths' stay and play session, it was lovely to see you all and Little Berries enjoyed showing off our maths skills all morning. Well done everyone, another fantastic week!



This week Little Acorns have been busy growing their brains learning lots of facts about Velociraptors. We would like to thank everyone who attended our Marvellous Maths stay and play on Wednesday. We enjoyed showing you how we start our day, and how we incorporate maths into our learning. We have been very

lucky to finally have our sandpit up and running for us to start using this week, and we have had lots of fun exploring in it. We have still been continuing learning our talk for writing story "How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight" and we will be finishing it next week. This week we also made a trip to our school library, which we all really enjoyed and are hoping to do it more often.

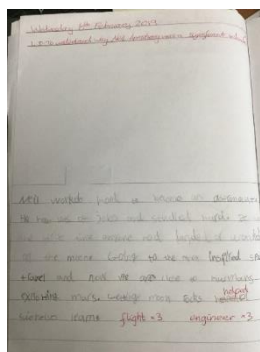
## Reception



Willow and Birch class have continued to apply their phonic knowledge through writing letters back to the Evil Peas! On Thursday we got a surprise when we found cucumbers in Birch class and carrots in Willow class both trapped in ice! There were some great discussions about how to rescue the vegetables including, turning the

temperature up in the classroom, putting the ice in the sun, placing it near a light and even putting it in the oven! The children in Reception have continued to develop their subtraction skills and we have been impressed by how well they have picked this up.

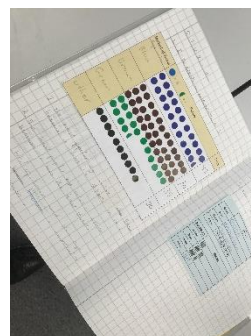
## Year One



This week Beech and Elm have been learning about why Neil Armstrong was a significant individual and how walking on the moon was an important event in our history. We came up with ideas after discussing in groups and watched some videos about how it has impacted our lives now. Beech and Elm then worked hard to

write a paragraph explaining why they thought he was a significant individual. They worked really hard to make sure they spelt their words correctly and kept their writing neat with finger spaces, capital letters and full stops!

## Year Two



Throughout Maths this week Oak class have been looking at statistics. We began by collecting data and putting it into a tally chart, before converting our findings into a pictogram. We then began to compare the data to see which was the most and least popular, as well as the differences between them. Here is Anisa's

where she was comparing eye colours.

## Year Three

We are now 5 weeks into Cedar Classes swimming and there are already signs of progress in all of the children. One group have been learning how to float effectively which is an



important live saving skill. Another group have been learning how to move efficiently by kicking their legs correctly. The final group have been learning how to breath underwater without upsetting their noses. It is a delight to see the excitement the children have on a Tuesday morning! PS please can I remind parents that swimming lessons have taken the place of Wednesday PE lessons. Cedar class need swimming kit and PE kit on Tuesdays. They do not need PE kit on Wednesday.

# What's coming up?

## Pupil Learning Reviews

Our learning reviews will be taking place again next week, and for parents/carers in YR-Y3 the meetings will take place in the hall as they did in the autumn term. Please enter via the main entrance in the foyer. For children in Little Ridges Nursery, you will have your meetings in your child's classroom, and enter the nursery via the nursery entrance. We look forward to seeing you all next week!

## We Need You!

We Need You! We have a fantastic team of parent volunteers who are helping with a variety of things across the school. However, we still need more help to change reading books on a Monday and Thursday. If anyone has got any spare time and would like to join our team please can you let us know. Many thanks.

## Sign2Sing – Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February

Our Sign2Sing performance will be taking place at 2.40pm on Wednesday next week. Parents/carers can come and watch the school perform the song 'Greatest Day' before the children finish for the end of the day. The performance will take place in the main hall, and parents will be able to enter via the external fire exit door leading out to the front entrance. Doors will be open from 2.30pm. Please remember to bring any loose change for our fundraising for Sign Health!

## Home Learning Celebration – 12<sup>th</sup> February

Just a reminder that all parents/carers are warmly invited in to school at 3.00pm on Tuesday next week to celebrate and share some of the fantastic home learning the children have been completing in classes this half-term. Please come into your child's class via the normal classroom door.

## 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.

## PTA News

### Heartbeeps

Thank you to all the Little Ridges children and their adults who came to our first PTA event just for them. A big thank you to one of our parents, Stacey Ashwell, who gave her time to run a special Heartbeeps session for us. Everyone that came agreed it was great fun!

### Non Uniform Day

Next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February we would like to invite all pupils to wear their own clothes and instead of the usual donation we are asking for all pupils to bring in a toy of any sort, new or old, in good condition for the toy tombola at Summer Fete in June.

### Lottery

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:

- 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?

11 <sup>th</sup>	4.00-7.30pm, Pupil Learning Reviews
12 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm, Y1-Y3 Home Learning Project Celebration
13 <sup>th</sup>	2.40pm, Sign2Sign performance (all parents welcome) 4.00-6.30pm, Pupil Learning Reviews
14 <sup>th</sup>	
15 <sup>th</sup>	Non-uniform: Bring a Toy (PTA) Enrichment morning House afternoon

## Letters sent home this week

Little Ridges Early Years Update - 05 02 2019

Reception Early Years Update - 05 02 2019

World Book Day - 07 02 2019