

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term 2019

Edition 20

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## A note from the Headteacher

The whole school has been non-stop this week and so many great things have been happening. We began the week with our Pupil Learning Reviews and it was once again great to see so many families and children, attending these to see and hear the progress children are making. Thank you for the many positive comments I personally received on behalf of staff and the academy, about how well we are doing and how pleased you are with your child's education. These comments really do mean a lot, and we are always keen to hear how we can make things even better! Don't forget your Parent Forum class reps to feedback any ideas and suggestions for the future.

On Wednesday afternoon, it was lovely to see so many parents, carers and family members come along to see our children take part in our Sign2Sing event. I'm sure you'll agree, the children were fabulous and represented the academy brilliantly in this extremely worthwhile cause, raising £79.99 for Sign Health. Our half-term ended with our enrichment morning, with each class taking part in different activities which would normally fall 'outside' the normal curriculum, including a health and fitness boot camp, baking and first aid life skills! Just this afternoon, all our children took part in a house activity to win more house points, with a cake decoration competition, and it's great to see some bake-off stars in the making!

Have a great half-term and enjoy the break.

*A. A. Wanford.*

Mr. Aaron Wanford  
Headteacher



*"The children are so engaged and happy".*

*"These sessions are a great opportunity for us to gain an insight into what the children are learning."*

*"I am so pleased with how confident my child is on the carpet during phonics. It was lovely hearing her friends tell me she is funny. I feel she is very happy to be herself now and loves learning."*

Feedback from our EYFS  
Stay and Learn Session  
06/02/19

### In This Issue

- Volunteers needed
- Hay bales request
- Alice in Wonderland
- Staffing Update
- After school clubs - snacks



(LEFT) Tyla sharing his great writing this week; (MIDDLE) James joins Mr. Wanford for 'always' lunch; (RIGHT) Sign2Sign event on Wednesday

# 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)	Myrtle	Being motivated every day to apply her phonic skills and complete independent writing!
Willow (YR)	Harry	His 'can do' attitude in the classroom, always having a go at the Maths challenges!
Beech (Y1)	Ava	Writing an interesting traditional tale in English!
Elm (Y1)	Jacob	A well written fairy tale and for writing another one at home!
Oak (Y2)	Aimee-Leigh	Pushing herself towards trickier challenges in Maths and showing resilience!
Cedar (Y3)	Leon	Writing a fantastic limerick!

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Imogen	Making huge progress with her reading and is now confidently blending her single sounds and digraphs!
Willow (YR)	Logan	Logan for consistently applying what he has learnt in class to his writing,

		including trigraphs and onomatopoeia words!
Beech (Y1)	Julia	Excellent progress in phonics!
Elm (Y1)	Sophia	Trying hard in Maths and working well with her friends to help solve problems!
Oak (Y2)	Laila	Making a huge effort to write independently in English and making use of classroom resources!
Cedar (Y3)	Keira	Making progress in her problem solving and reasoning skills in all areas!

## 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>
Raisha	1
Jess, Bella, Maia, Ivy-Grace	3
Paige, Patryk, Ramaa	4
Anisa, Harry	6
Anya	8
Ingrid, Imogen	9
Kanuyan, Jasper	11
Mayookha	12
Vincent	13

## PAP Stars

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

Elm (Y1)	Taya	Beech (Y1)	Riley
Oak (Y2)	Katie	Cedar (Y3)	Callum

## '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, Mr. Wanford and Mrs. Mackie had the pleasure of sharing lunch with six children from across the academy and some of the highlights are shown here!

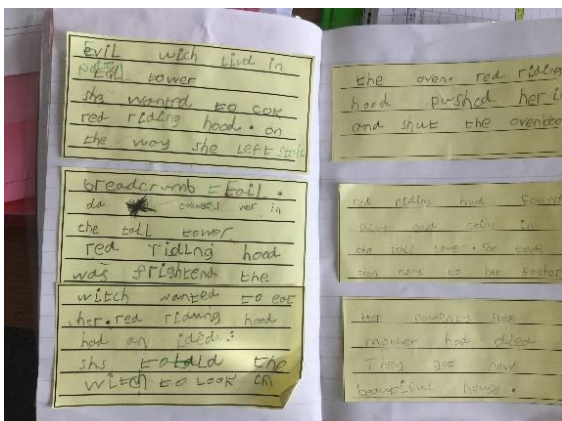
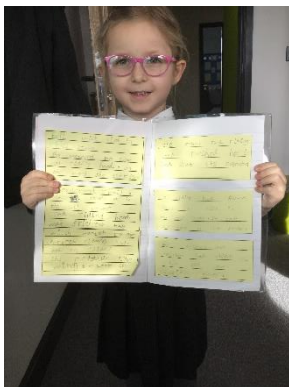
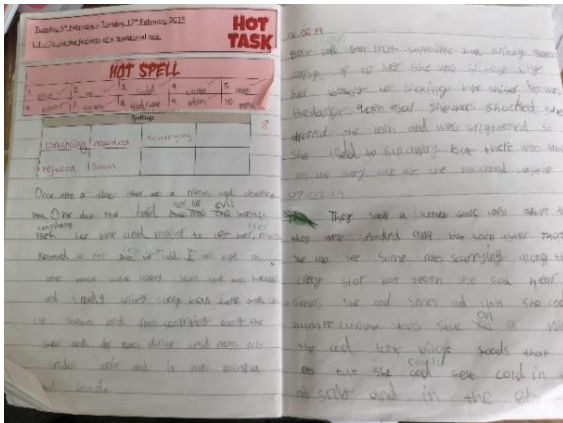
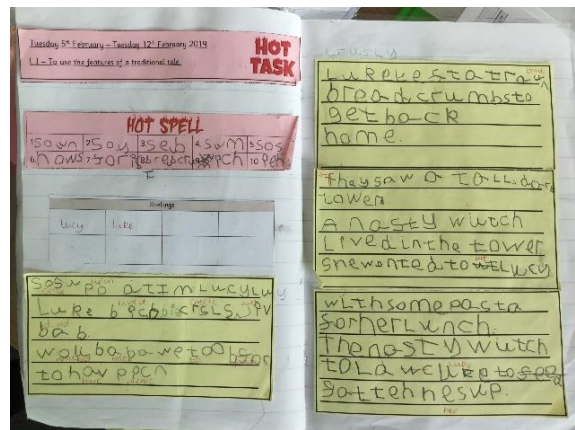
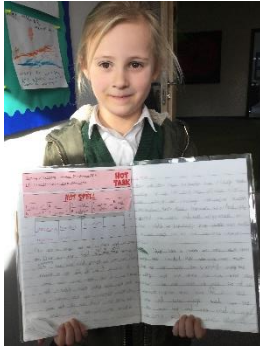
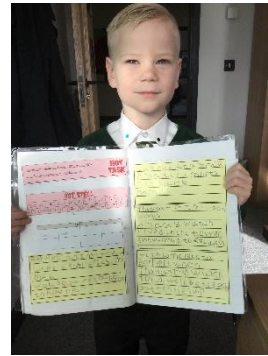
This week our 'always' children are as follows. They will have lunch with Mr. Wanford and Mrs. Mackie on the Wednesday after half-term:

Willow (YR)	Miggy	Birch (YR)	Charlotte
Elm (Y1)	Olly	Beech (Y1)	Grigorios
Oak (Y2)	Jacob	Cedar (Y3)	Ingrid

# News items from this week

## Progress in Writing

Mr. Wanford had some special visitors to his office this week to showcase some of the great progress in writing in Year One. Niamh, Julia and Tyla visited Mr. Wanford and shared their writing about traditional tales they have been working on in their English lessons over the last few weeks. We also looked at the progress they had made since September – fantastic!



## Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	99.3%	Willow (YR)	96.0%
Beech (Y1)	93.7%	Elm (Y1)	98.0%
Oak (Y2)	95.6%	Cedar (Y3)	94.3%

## House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	98	1273
Pratchett	89	1084
Austin	48	1019
Redgrave	14	1163



# What have we been learning?

## Little Ridges Nursery



As we near the end of another amazing term for Little Berries, we have completed looking at 'Jungle Animals' finishing up by learning the Makaton sign for 'crocodile', this one we all got really quickly; see if I can show you at home! We also celebrated 'Valentine's Day', talking about who is special to us and what we want to do to show them. This involved lots of glitter and card making, as well as baking yummy Valentine's biscuits. Well done Little Berries. We hope you all have a lovely half term.



This week in Little Acorns we have been making the most of the nice weather by spending lots of time outside. We have been using sponges and window wipers on the Perspex board to help build our gross motor skills. We have been getting messy making lava on the tuff spot by using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, and loved seeing it fizz up and cover the dinosaurs. The dinosaur we have been learning about this week is a Pterodactyl. We have also been recapping all of the facts that we have learnt about all of the other dinosaurs.

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evening. It was lovely to talk about all of the progress Little Acorns have made. We hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you in a weeks time.

## Reception



This week, in Maths, Willow and Birch class have been learning all about positional and directional language! It's been great to see the children use the Bee-bots to direct them

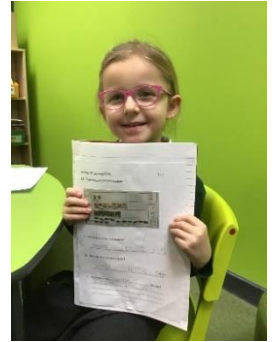
around the class and some children have even completed a treasure hunt outside! In Literacy, the children have been learning about onomatopoeia words! They have done well to think of different onomatopoeia words linked to our topic of Superheroes such as, 'crash', 'pow', and 'boom'.

## Year One

Elm and Beech have been learning about the senses over this half term in Science. They have been

Sweet		2
Salty		7
Sour		5
Bitter		13

exploring lemons using their five senses and they tasted it, with many really enjoying the taste! Last week they looked at smell and they had to try and identify what different smells were. This week they have been looking at taste in particular and have learnt about the different taste buds we have. They then had to work out which food belonged to which category and created a pictogram as a class. Finally, they answered questions about the pictogram that they had created. They loved doing the tasting!



## Year Two



On Tuesday, we proudly opened our doors to our parents and families to show off our fantastic home learning projects. This term, we chose our favourite Roald Character and created puppets that we could use to make a short movie. Once again, Mr.

Ladyman was blown away by the quality in the children's work, which he is hoping to share with the rest of the school in an assembly. Thank you to everyone who came on Tuesday, as well as your support at home on another fantastic project.



## Year Three



Over the last half term the children have delved into the history of the Romans and their takeover of Britain starting in 43AD. They have learned about Julius Caesar's attempts to invade Britain and Emperor Claudius's success in making Britain part of the Roman Empire. As I'm sure the children are able to tell you, we discovered that the Roman's success was due to their preparation and innovation of weaponry. Next term the children will be designing and making a Roman shield and will therefore need a collection of large pieces of cardboard. If you have anything at home that you can spare we would greatly appreciate it.

## 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!

<i>w/c 08/02/19</i>	<i>Word of the day</i>
Monday	between
Tuesday	erase
Wednesday	defend
Thursday	peaceful
Friday	medicine

<i>w/c 25/02/19</i>	<i>Word of the day</i>
Monday	weep
Tuesday	tearful
Wednesday	miserable
Thursday	foolish
Friday	mischief

# What's coming up?

## 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.

## Collection List

If someone will be regularly collecting your child from school, please ask the office to add them to your child's approved list on Arbor to ensure children are safely collected. If they are not on your list, children have to be brought to the school office to wait while we try to contact parents for confirmation. As you can imagine this is very time consuming and can be distressing for the child and the person collecting. If someone is collecting your child as a 'one off', please let your child's Class Teacher or the school office know in the morning so lessons are not disrupted.

## Staffing Update

This week we were delighted to welcome Miss. Amy Crown and Miss. Nadine Hussain who have joined our staffing team at Green Ridge. Miss. Crown joins us as a Special Educational Needs Teaching Assistant, providing support to individual children and small groups within the academy to support their learning needs. Miss. Hussain has joined our Little Ridges nursery team and is one of our Early Years Practitioners working in Little Berries. We are sure you will get to see them around the school very soon!

## Alice in Wonderland

We are very excited to announce that on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm, as part of our World Book Week build up, we will be hosting M & M Theatre Production Company. They will be coming into school to perform Alice in Wonderland to the whole school, including Little Ridges Nursery. If your child is not normally in nursery that day then you are welcome to bring your child along to see the show as long as you stay with them. We are looking forward to a fantastic performance and who knows, you may even see some of the characters during World Book Day!

## After School Clubs – Snacks update

Following feedback from our after school club leaders, could we now ask you NOT to send in snacks with your child to have at the club. We have had lots of inappropriate snack sent in, such as crisps, chocolate biscuits and cookies (some of which we are unsure are nut free) rather than a healthy option and it is becoming very time consuming at the beginning/end of the club making it difficult to get the activities done in time. If you feel your child will be very hungry when

staying for an extra hour at school, please bring a snack with you when you collect them to have on the way home. Children are able to have a drink as they have their water bottles with them from the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

## Time Keeping

Please be reminded that the school gates open at 8:30am and close at 8.50am. Children arriving after this time are late and should be signed in by their parent/carer at the front office. Please ensure you arrive at school in plenty of time to allow your child to enter through their classroom. Late arrival after 9:00am will affect your child's attendance record and make them miss their focussed phonics sessions, which give them vital skills to use in other subjects throughout the day.

Please also ensure that you are prompt to collect your child from their classroom at 3.15pm or from the back playground at 4:20pm (4:35pm for Cookery club) at the end of after school clubs. It is not acceptable to regularly collect your child from the school office and children should be signed out when this becomes necessary. If you know you will be delayed unavoidably, please call the school so that we know you are on your way. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

## Uniform

Please take the time over the school holidays to check your child hasn't accidentally brought someone else's uniform home from school. Please also make sure that everything is labelled with your child's name. Sticky labels can come off and uniform may not be returned to your child if it is not labelled.

## 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 no longer need, 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.

## Hay Bales Needed

Next half term Little Acorns have a farm topic and would really appreciate it if anyone could donate two hay bales for the classroom. If you are able to please speak to Miss. Ladyman or Mrs. Linney in Little Acorns. Thank you!

### 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

#### 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!

#### Thank you!

A big thank you to all the parents/carers for all the very generous toy donations this morning for our summer fete. If anyone is having a toy clear out any time soon, the PTA will happily accept any donations until June.

#### Cinema Club

Thank you for supporting the Cinema Club last week. Everyone who attended had a great time and we look forward to the next one!

#### 'EasyFundraising'

Don't forget when doing you're shopping, booking your holiday or getting insurance to use 'Easyfundraising.' The school get funds every time you do. Use our easy link to join and start raising money! [http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h1c9a7558.554bab75.555a02ad&utm\\_source=adobecampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=referral-2019&utm\\_content=referral-supporter\\_oldnur\\_20190210&origin=R1860&p1=HWUN9D](http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h1c9a7558.554bab75.555a02ad&utm_source=adobecampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=referral-2019&utm_content=referral-supporter_oldnur_20190210&origin=R1860&p1=HWUN9D)

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?

25 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school 9.00am – Little Acorns Parent Library session PM – Whole-school performance of Alice in Wonderland in hall
26 <sup>th</sup>	
27 <sup>th</sup>	
28 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am – PTA Committee meeting
1 <sup>st</sup>	

### Letters sent home this week

Times Table Rock Stars – Year 3 - 12 02 2019  
Year 3 Parent Cooking Course – 12 02 19  
Year 1 Parent Writing Course – 12 02 2019  
PTA Non Uniform Day 12 02 2019  
World Book Day, Read-A-Thon Booklet - 14 02 2019