

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term 2019

Edition 24

Friday, 22nd March 2019

A note from the Headteacher

What a week! On Monday, we made history with the official opening of Green Ridge. It was wonderful to see some of our parents and carers attend this very special assembly and event with all the children. Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher officially cut the ribbon during the ceremony, and along with Cathie Paine, Deputy CEO of REAch2, Mike Appleyard, Cabinet member for Education at Buckinghamshire County Council, we formally thanked all those who had made Green Ridge possible since its inception back in 2016, well-before the school even opened. It was an honour to lead the opening event, and the children were stars throughout – sitting very patiently and listening for a fairly long time! We planted our commemorative tree, and filled our time capsule ready for burying as well during the ceremony. Just in case anybody forgets, the capsule is to be dug up on the 18th March 2044... It is almost incomprehensible at this point to think our children in Reception will be turning 30 at this point, but I am sure one or two will still be around locally and be around for its retrieval from the ground! Our guests gave some wonderful feedback during the visit, commenting on the exemplary behaviour and learning environment we have, and I have to say it is an absolute privilege to lead Green Ridge; we have such wonderful children, staff and group of parents who definitely make Green Ridge an exciting and rewarding place to be!

Have a fantastic weekend,

A. A. Wanford.

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



“Just to write a quick note to say your site and resources are amazing, the staff and pupils all looking happy and fulfilled.

What an excellent example of superb leadership.”

***Stephanie Payne
Bucks County Council
Feedback on opening ceremony***

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(LEFT) Our official opening and ribbon cutting on Monday; (RIGHT) Lukas enjoying his hot chocolate and always lunch 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. This week we have been recognising the children's work in Science.



Celebrations this week were:

	<i>Certificate of Achievement</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Oliver	Writing a fantastic imaginary lunch order for his friends. Oliver used his phonic skills to segment each word and remembered his digraphs and tri-graphs!
Willow (YR)	Ruby	For building the confidence to answer questions during class discussions and reading!
Beech (Y1)	Jessie	Writing a fantastic, beautifully presented explanation text, as well as including all the features in our toolbox.
Elm (Y1)	Lily-Rose	Her explanation text that included the correct punctuation, spelling and grammar!
Oak (Y2)	Jessica	For taking pride in her presentation
Cedar (Y3)	Amelia	For amazing work in maths on statistics.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Talha	Showing resilience with his reading in school and at home and now reading with more fluency and recognising his tricky words!
Willow (YR)	Stephanie	For always having a go at independently writing in so many different areas of the classroom!
Beech (Y1)	Sienna	Making a real effort to re-read through her work to check for errors and adding adjectives that are more interesting!
Elm (Y1)	Ayah	Working independently in all of her lessons and writing her reasoning in Maths!
Oak (Y2)	Veera	For working particularly hard in maths this week to recognise $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ fractions
Cedar (Y3)	Rosie	For making progress in her confidence and representing our school at a sports event.

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>
Keyan-Lee, Dexter	1
Finlay, Rhylee	2
Sam	3
Raisha	4
Kian, Sienna, Keira	5
Norah, Callum	6
Mustapha, Rosie	9
Daniella, Imogen	10
Ingrid	11
Gloria	12
Kanuyan	14
Mayookha	15

PAP Stars

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

Elm (Y1)	Olly	Beech (Y1)	Junior
Oak (Y2)	Ivy-Grace	Cedar (Y3)	Anya

'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 Mr. English 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 next Monday:

Willow (YR)	Kawthar	Birch (YR)	Sreejan
Elm (Y1)	Shannon	Beech (Y1)	Eva
Oak (Y2)	Katie	Cedar (Y3)	Samprithi

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	93.2%	Willow (YR)	99.3%
Beech (Y1)	97.0%	Elm (Y1)	93.0%
Oak (Y2)	100%	Cedar (Y3)	98.0%

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	147	1742
Pratchett	48	1507
Austin	76	1408
Redgrave	43	1596

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 will also find next week's words as well, so if you can, get ahead and talk to your child about them!

w/c 18/03/19	Word of the day
Monday	horizon
Tuesday	werewolf
Wednesday	phantom
Thursday	thrive
Friday	wondrous

w/c 22/03/19	Word of the day
Monday	unlikely
Tuesday	shatter
Wednesday	bundle
Thursday	grouse
Friday	meander

What have we been learning?

Little Ridges Nursery

This week Little Berries' focus has been 'pigs'. We have again learnt how to sign 'pig' in Makaton, as well as making pig masks from paper plates. We have been



doing good listening and learning new facts about pigs, see if we can tell you a fun fact we have learnt? In the middle of the week, we went on a three little pig hunt. The big bad wolf left footprints in the classroom and Little Berries had to help find the three little pigs he had scared

away. Towards the end of the week, we had our 'Let's get creative' stay and play session, thank you to all the parents that came along to join us, we hope you enjoyed all our creative activities and had fun learning with us.

Another busy week for Little Acorns this week. On Monday, we felt proud to be part of Green Ridge Primary Academy during our official opening ceremony.



We sang the REAch2 song loudly and many of our visitors were impressed with how amazingly we sat and how well-mannered we were. This week we have all continued to enjoy watching the chicks grow. We cannot believe how

big they have gotten over the weekend and how much their wings have changed since they first hatched. The animal we have been learning about this week is a goat. We have learnt many interesting facts and lots of us were surprised that goats produce milk. Little Acorns are excited to look out for goat's milk in the supermarket on their next visit.

On Thursday, we were really excited to have some of our parents join us for our library session. We love celebrating the importance of books and listening to stories in small groups, especially on the comfortable beanbags in the library!

We would like to thank all of the parents/carers who came along to our stay and play session on Friday

morning where the focus was "Getting creative". It is such a lovely opportunity for you all to see how our day works and how you can support our learning at home, especially with our phonics. We also hope this has given you some creative inspired ideas that you can do at home. Thank you again for all of your feedback from these sessions.



Reception

When we arrived into school on Monday, Birch and Willow class had a surprise! An egg had appeared in



the classroom. The children received a letter from a 'Dragon Keeper' and were eager to write some questions as they were

curious about where the egg had come from! It has been amazing to observe the children applying their phonic knowledge in their writing – they are all currently working towards using digraphs in their writing. This week in Maths, the children are learning about time, including how we measure time. They have estimated how many times they can write their names, or run around our outdoor area, in one minute using a timer!

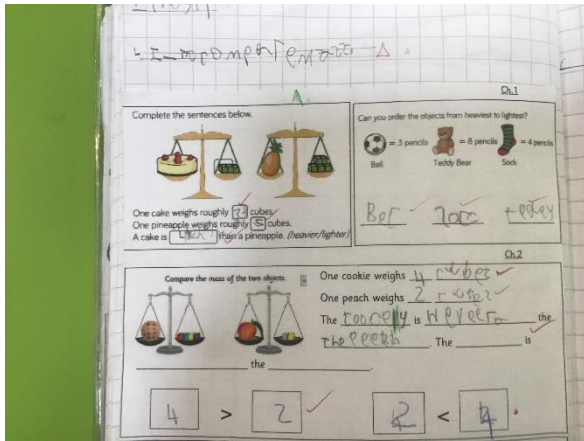
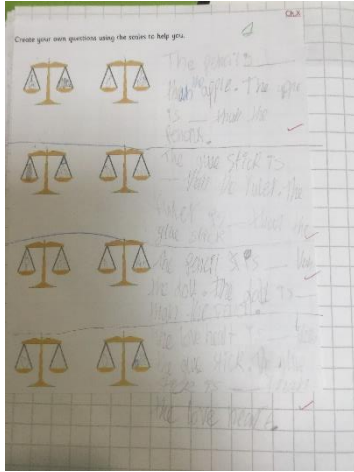


Year One

In Maths this week, Elm and Beech have been looking at measurement. They have been using scales to measure mass and compare mass. The children have been using cubes and other objects to see how much things weigh, and using speaking frames to describe them such as

"The bottle weighs 15 cubes.

The teddy weighs 10 cubes. The bottle is heavier than the teddy." They have also been using their reasoning skills to explain how they know this by describing whether the scale is up, down or level. Some children have even begun writing their own questions using the speaking frames they have learnt!



Today Year One had their 'dress as an animal day' to raise money for their two charities, Blackberry Farm for Beech and St Tiggywinkles for Elm. The children looked fantastic and have made a great effort to dress as a wide array of animals! Thank you to all parents, carers and children for donating money. **We have raised £46!** The money will be split and shared between the two charities.



Year Two

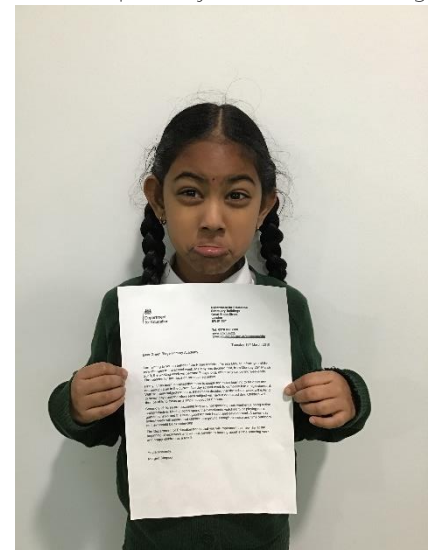
Oak class have had a very busy and exciting week this week. A few weeks back, Mr. Ladyman entered the class into a dance competition, organised by Dame Darcey Bustle which we were successful in being accepted to enter.

The theme for our entry is 'Line Dancing' which we have begun learning, even Mr. Wanford joined us this week for a bit of do-si-do in the dance studio! We submit our round one video submission next week so wish us luck!



Year Three

This week, Cedar Class began a new English writing topic. The class received some post on Tuesday from the Department for Education stating that Teresa May had decided to cancel weekends and make the school week 7 days long. As you can imagine, the children were outraged at this idea and promptly wrote letters in response as a cold task. The children then identified the features of a persuasive letter as well as discussing the specific vocabulary they had to use and experimented with persuading someone NOT to eat a whole chocolate cake. Perhaps they have been using their powers of persuasion at home...



News items from this week

Official Opening Ceremony – 18th March

Our 'official' pictures of the days event will be available in the following weeks, but for now some information is available via the Bucks Herald [here](#) and on [Mix96](#).



Year Three Gymnastics Competition

This week Janet, Abdul, Rosie, Bella and Talia took part in a Year Three/Four gymnastics competition at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. The competition included a vault, floor and body management activity, which required the children to create different performances that would be judged by a panel. The children showed excellent resilience, body control, team work and balance and thoroughly enjoyed themselves throughout the morning. The children were prepared for the event through frequent rehearsal sessions with Miss Lazarou, who organized the event. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are keen to continue to compete in over events.

EYFS Stay and Play

It was fantastic to see so many parents and carers joining us this morning to share their creativity. "A wonderful, productive morning with a calm and stimulating environment."

Extreme Reading Challenge

A huge well done to Joshua Hood who was the only child to send in a photo of him reading in an extreme location. Joshua I have no idea how you could read hanging from a climbing wall but I am most impressed!

EYFS drop-off/collection request

Please could we ask all parents and carers dropping off at nursery, reception or Beech Class to ensure children or siblings do not play with the resources that have been set up for the day. If your child does touch one of the activities please could we ask that you put it back as it was before you leave. Many thanks for your support with this.

Parent Governor Elections

Just a reminder that yesterday your eldest child would have been sent home with a copy of the ballot paper for our parent governor election. You will have received one vote per family. Please ensure you return the ballot paper to the school office or your child's class teacher by next Friday, 3.00pm.

200 Million Minutes

Don't forget to record your number of minutes read either on the bookmarks on a separate piece of paper and send in to Mrs Mackie.

Packed Lunches

We have noticed that some of our children in Little Ridges and school are not following our guidance for healthy packed lunches. Please can we remind you that:

- Parents/carers are required to send their child with an appropriate packed lunch in a sealed container which is clearly named.
- We would encourage you to provide a healthy, balanced lunch in support of our healthy eating policy.
- No fizzy drinks, glass bottles, confectionery or sweets; limited or low-fat crisps.
- ***WE DO NOT ALLOW ANY NUT-BASED PRODUCTS IN SCHOOL.***

Many thanks for your support with this.

Plastic Bottles

Please could you send any large, empty, clean plastic bottles into school for Little Acorns to use after Easter- we will be making something very exciting! Thank you.

Gardening Donations

Next term YR are learning all about gardening. We would like to set up a role play garden centre so are looking for donations of plant pots, plants, watering cans, gardening equipment and anything else you think we might find useful. Many thanks in advance for your support.

The Law for Children Travelling by Car

Whilst we are aware that many of our families live near the school and are only making a short journey, it is still your responsibility to ensure your child is travelling safely, and legally, within your car. We regularly witness children travelling without the proper restraints, using an adult seat belt in the front passenger seat, standing in the back of the car and even riding in the boot! No journey is too short to ignore safety advice and you could receive a £100 fine if caught travelling with your children in this way. For further guidance, please check Government information pages [here](#).

What's coming up?

Relationships and Sex Education Consultation meeting

Just a reminder that we would like to invite you to an informal session as part of our consultation with parents and carers about our RSE curriculum. We hope to outline the details of the RSE curriculum for each individual year group, in order to give you a greater awareness of what your child is going to be taught, when they will be taught this curriculum and what language they may encounter as part of this learning. During the session, we will also discuss how a parent can request that their child is withdrawn from some or all of the sex education delivered.

The meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 26th March** at 2.30pm and repeated at 6.00pm. Please do just turn up, via the main front entrance.

SPAG Parent Workshop

Next Monday at 2.30pm and 6.00pm, Miss. Imbriano will be running a workshop for parents and carers on SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and how this is taught throughout the school. In this we will look at different elements of SPAG such as words types and sentence types and the different punctuation that children will learn as they progress through the school. We will also look at how you can support your children at home and share what is being taught in each year group. The focus will be on KS1 and KS2, however, parents and carers of Nursery and Reception children are also welcome. We look forward to seeing you there! Entrance will be via the external hall doors.

PTA News

Easter Bonnets

Two weeks to go until our Easter Bonnet competition, don't forget to make the £2 payment through Arbor (under clubs) to have a chance to win! Nursery children, who are not in that day, are of course welcome to come with their adults to join in the parade at 2.40pm. Their bonnets should be left at school that week when they are at nursery so they can be judged Friday morning.

Easter Disco Years R – 3

You can now book your tickets for the Easter Disco on Friday 26th April (£4 including a glow stick) and also to purchase the refreshment pack which includes a drink and a hot dog. There is a vegetarian option available. Please return your consent form as soon as possible. Looking forward to seeing some amazing dancing to rival last year!

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 [here](#) to join and start raising money!

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

25 th	2.30/6.00pm – SpaG workshop for parents in the hall
26 th	10.45am – Y3 Swimming 2.30/6.00pm – SRE consultation meeting for parents in the hall
27 th	PM – Year One trip to St. Mary's Church
28 th	AM – Year Two multi-skills festival PM – Year Two/Three parent cookery course
29 th	

Letters sent home this week

Swimming, Year 3 – 19 03 19

PTA Easter Disco – 19 03 19

Head Lice, Year 3 – 20 03 19

Election of Parent Governor – 21 03 19