

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Summer Term 2019

Edition 30

Friday, 17th May 2019

A note from the Headteacher

It's been a busy week at Green Ridge this week, and it has been wonderful that the sun is shining, at long last! Our week got off to a terrific start on Monday when we had the great pleasure of having Mr Vanags, from Humanists UK, lead our school assembly. He talked to the children about his own belief systems, including the golden rule of 'treating others as one would expect to be treated'. This was further explained through David McKee's Two Monsters book. We hope this opportunity allowed the children to experience another belief system, with the aim of the children understanding other people's points of view as they form their own values. On Wednesday, our Year One children went on their 11B411 experience to ride a horse, and I know the children really enjoyed their day and being able to experience some things they wouldn't ordinarily get the chance to do, either in school or outside. The children were buzzing with excitement, and it's great to hear how some of the children gained resilience and conquered their fears about getting on and riding.

The Early Years stay and play session yesterday morning was also another success, and the great outdoors was certainly used for some creative learning opportunities for the children (and adults!) Thank you, as always, for coming along and supporting your child's learning.

Remember next week is Global Diversity week for us – more details later. Have a wonderful weekend.

A. A. Wanford

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"I really enjoyed riding the horse and going on a ride in the carriage with Pumpkin, the horse!"

Norah, Year One Talking about her experience at the 11B411 horse riding experience

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(LEFT) Our assembly on Monday about Humanism; (RIGHT) Casey enjoys her first horse riding experience 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) | Adeena | such confidence when answering questions during whole class time. |
| Willow (YR) | Henley | completing some great addition work independently with the coins to find out how much is in the purse! |
| Beech (Y1) | Tyler L | showing excellent courage during our horse riding trip - he really conquered his fears! |
| Elm (Y1) | Maddison | overcoming her fear to ride a horse and groom them! |
| Oak (Y2) | Jacob | his fantastic phonics work with Miss Hodge and successfully being able to recognise all the phase 3 sounds. |
| Cedar (Y3) | Zack | expertly adding and subtracting fractions. |

| | <i>Certificate of Progress</i> | <i>For...</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Birch (YR) | Myrtle | blowing us all away with her independent writing. |
| Willow (YR) | Amelia Y | always applying what she has learnt in her work; this was seen in her letter to Jack which was fantastic! |
| Beech (Y1) | Dexter | working so hard in English this half term, he has been so focussed and his handwriting is really improving! |
| Elm (Y1) | Dennie | writing independently and sounding out her words phonetically! |
| Oak (Y2) | Ramaa | progressing in confidence and participating in this week's reading discussions. |
| Cedar (Y3) | Jess | making excellent progress in her narrative writing and using some exciting vocabulary. |

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> |
|-------------|--------------|
| Niamh | 1 |
| Jessica | 2 |
| Katie | 5 |
| Anisa | 7 |
| Norah | 9 |
| Shannon | 11 |
| Urvi | 11 |
| Glorioa | 16 |
| Mayookha | 16 |
| Vincent | 17 |

PAP Stars

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

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|------------|--------|
| Elm (Y1) | Zian | Beech (Y1) | Julia |
| Oak (Y2) | Alexander | Cedar (Y3) | Ingrid |

'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) | Archie | Birch (YR) | Alicja |
| Elm (Y1) | Sophia | Beech (Y1) | Kenzie |
| Oak (Y2) | Jasper | Cedar (Y3) | Joseph |

Weekly Attendance

Well done to Willow class for the best attendance this week!

| | | | |
|------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Birch (YR) | 97.0% | Willow (YR) | 99.3% |
| Beech (Y1) | 97.1% | Elm (Y1) | 96.0% |
| Oak (Y2) | 96.8% | Cedar (Y3) | 97.2% |

House Points

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

| House | Points this week | Total |
|-----------|------------------|-------|
| Disraeli | 153 | 2129 |
| Pratchett | 63 | 1869 |
| Austin | 106 | 1760 |
| Redgrave | 129 | 2049 |

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 13/05/19 | Word of the day |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Monday | waddle |
| Tuesday | echo |
| Wednesday | feast |
| Thursday | undulate |
| Friday | heed |

| w/c 20/05/19 | Word of the day |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Monday | pungent |
| Tuesday | dissipate |
| Wednesday | facetious |
| Thursday | evade |
| Friday | entrance |

What have we been learning?

Little Ridges Nursery

This week Little Berries have had an exciting new visitor, in the form of a stick insect! We were extremely interested in watching it move and talked about how small and delicate it was. We have put it in a plant so it can eat and we continue to monitor them, to see if anymore eggs hatch to keep this one company. Following on our mini beast theme, we also had a look at Little Acorns butterflies before they were set free. We talked about the life cycle of a butterfly and watched a video on it. We discussed the different patterns on their wings



and even made our own symmetrical butterfly painting. We would like to say thank you to all our parents that came for our stay and play session, it was lovely to see so many faces.



Next week is our Global Diversity Week, and we will be doing lots of art work, food tasting and discussions on our country, see

if your Little Berry can tell you what country we're learning about? Another great week everyone, well done!

This week our caterpillar chrysalises have continued to harden, and we have been patiently waiting for the butterflies to



arrive. Luckily, we haven't had to wait too long as they hatched on Tuesday morning! Little Acorns have been very excited to release them but we all discussed how important it was for them to strengthen up their wings before we could set them free! Finally, during our stay and play session, on Thursday morning, we let them go. This was such a lovely experience for Little Acorns to encounter as they used their courage to hold the butterflies before they flew off into the sky. Our insect focus this week has been ants. Little Acorns have loved learning some new facts and were all so surprised at how strong they are.

Due to the fantastic weather this week we have spent most of our time learning outside. We have particularly enjoyed being in our water tray outside, filling and emptying containers with some bubbly water. Building our fine motor skills by drawing and writing our sounds

on the perspex board, hula hooping and throwing the bean bags at targets. What a busy week we have had!



Reception

This week, Willow and Birch class have been improving their writing skills with a challenge to write a letter to Jack to thank him for our magic beans and ask him some questions! The children are becoming so much more independent with their writing. We have been impressed with the

children applying their phonic knowledge, writing phonetically plausible sentences. Please continue to encourage this independent writing at home! In Maths this week, the children have continued to learn about the value of coins and have found the total of the coins in our purses by applying our addition skills.

Year One

This Wednesday, Year One took part in one of their 11B411 experiences and they rode a large animal – a horse! Elm and Beech went to Horseywise and had a day full of activities that involved the ponies and horses on the farm. They made hay bales to feed the horses, groomed them by brushing and combing them and they all rode



one of the beautiful horses there. They learnt how to get on and off a horse safely and they enjoyed walking them around. 'Pumpkin' pulled them around on a cart so they could see the entire farm, and they even got to see some lambs and jump in some

puddles! It was great that so many of them overcame their fears to take part, whether it was just for a few minutes or longer, we are proud of them all.

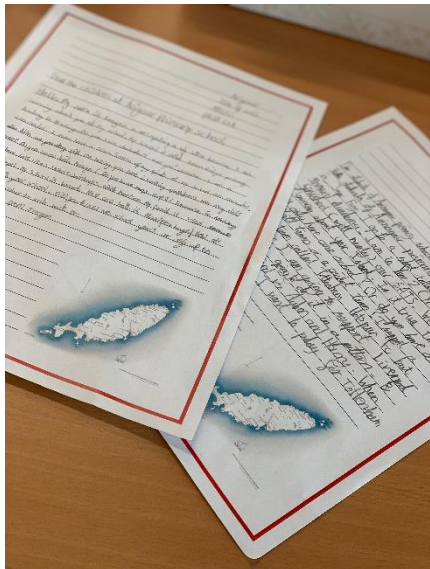


can be below sea level without being under water. Finally, the children used their internet detective skills to find out key information such as the location and height of the three peaks. The children also found out some interesting facts about each peak. Perhaps they can tell you what they learned at home!



Year Two

This week Oak class completed the last of our KS1 SATs. Despite our timetable being very different these past two weeks, the children have taken all in their stride, showed endurance and worked incredibly hard. A big thank-you too, to all of our parents and families who have



also been showing so much support at home. *In our theme lessons this week, we had the exciting opportunity to write letters to a school in the Isle of Coll that we have been learning about in our Geography.* With a total population of around 200 people, the Sottish isle is very different to our home town of Aylesbury, so Oak class were armed with lots of fantastic questions to ask them! We look forward to them hopefully writing back to us!

Year Three

To link with our theme this term of The Great British Road Trip, Cedar Class went on a digital hike to find out about the three highest points in the UK; Mount Snowdon, Skafell Pike and Ben Nevis. First, we looked at a map and discussed how the height of the land is colour coded to show the change in landscape. The children quickly identified that Scotland has the largest area of land over 1000m above sea level. We also discussed how land in the middle of our island

News items from this week

EYFS Stay and Play – Exploring Outside

It was fantastic to see so many parents and carers come along to our sunny stay and play on Thursday. The children all enjoyed showing off how we can utilise the outside area for our learning with the highlight seeing Little Acorns release their butterflies. Thank you to everyone who came along.



11B411 – Riding a large animal

On Wednesday this week, Year One continued their 11B411 journey with our first ever Ride a Large Animal experience. The day was filled with different activities including creating hay squares for the horses to eat from, mucking out the stables, tacking the saddles, riding a horse and touring the stables in a horse drawn carriage. The day was topped off with a short walk down to a field to see some lambs. Overall it was a real pleasure to visit Horsewyse and the children had a fantastic time, we will be counting down the days until the next 11B411 experience!



Parent Volunteers

We are always on the look-out for additional volunteers who are happy to give up a few hours a week to help us out in school, with doing things such as listening to children read, changing books and general admin and resource preparation. We really do value the tremendous support we receive from our parent body, and without it, we just would not be able to do all the things in the school day we do!

If you are able to commit to a few hours each week on a regular day/time, then please do e-mail admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk or speak to Mrs. Mackie or Mr. Wanford who can then provide an application form for you.

Parent Forum Meeting – Home Learning survey

Mr. Wanford met with the Parent Forum group yesterday afternoon, and a copy of the minutes can be found on our website [here](#). There were some important topics discussed, including attendance

rewards and home learning. Please do look at the minutes, particularly about home learning where we have prepared a Survey Monkey questionnaire which should only take a few minutes to complete to gain your views about how we move forwards in the new academic year. The survey will remain open until Monday, 3rd June. Please do give us your views; this is your chance to have your say! To access the survey, please [click here](#). The survey is predominantly focussed on those children who are in Year One and up, and so is not applicable for parents within the Early Years at present. However, if you wish to take part in the survey to give your views, please feel free to do so.

Bucks Primary School Duathlon

On Sunday, some of our children from Green Ridge partook in a Duathlon and Sports Fest at Wooburn Green. It was run by the Sports Nut and was a fantastic fundraising event which saw our children run, scoot, run or run, bike, run! I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to attend myself and it was great seeing the perseverance from every child continuing to run, scoot and bike even when they got tired! The children also had the opportunity to try out different sporting activities such as, climbing, rowing and hockey! A HUGE Thank You to those children who took part – they have raised around £500 for the school. Another big thank you to Mr and Mrs Small and their team, as well as Green Ridge PTA, for running the event and giving Green Ridge the opportunity to take part. It was a great day and we are already looking forward to the next one!



Book Donations

Do you have any unused/unwanted children's books at home that you would like to give to a new home? We are always on the lookout for book donations to supplement our class library areas that the children access each day in their reading for pleasure.

If you have books which are generally in good condition and you are happy to donate, please do bring them into the school office or pass them to your

child's class teacher. Even if everybody was able to donate one book, that would still give us 250 extra books! Thank you for your support.

PE Kits/Uniform

There are still many children who do not have their PE kit in school, despite returning from the Easter break some five weeks ago. This is not acceptable, particularly as in the warmer weather, children need to be able to change into separate clothes for hygiene reasons, as well as safety. There are also several children without ties or other uniform garments, which parents/carers agree to provide their child with upon joining the academy. Letters will be being sent home to parents/carers as reminders and followed up after half-term. Thank you for your support in ensuring our children wear their uniform with pride.

Nut Allergy Reminder

Please be reminded that Green Ridge is a Nut-Free Zone and children should not bring any nut containing foods in their lunch boxes - this includes sending in a packed lunch for school trips, as vulnerable children (or adults) may be with them on the coach/trip. Please be mindful that many foods contain nut products in their ingredients and these are just as harmful to someone with a nut allergy. Some examples of this are cookies, chocolate spread and cereal bars. Please also remember to send in a healthy, nutritious lunch for your child.

What's coming up?

Global Diversity Week

Just a reminder that next week we have our 'Global Diversity Week' taking place across the academy, including Little Ridges Nursery.

Each class will 'champion' a country for the week – as specified below:

| Class/year-group | Country to champion |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Little Berries | France |
| Little Acorns | Poland |
| YR Willow | India |
| YR Birch | China |
| Y1 Elm | Switzerland |
| Y1 Beech | Netherlands |
| Y2 Oak | Kenya |
| Y3 Cedar | Brazil |

On Tuesday, Years 1-3 will be taking part in storytelling workshops linked to their chosen countries, and then on Tuesday and Thursday Years R-3 will be taking part in dance workshops to create a cultural dance based on their countries being studied!

On the afternoon of Thursday, 23rd May, at 2.40pm, parents and carers are also invited into school to watch the children perform the dances they have been creating in front of an audience. This will take place on the rear playground, and the gates will be open for parents to enter from 2.35pm. Following this, at the end of the day, we are holding an open event from 3.15-4.15pm, where you will be able to visit all the classrooms in the school, see what your child has been learning through the week and see some of the creations they have made, as well as sample some traditional foods as well!

We really hope that as many of you as possible can join us for the showcase assemblies and open afternoons to recognise the hard work the children will have put in during their week. Please do come along and support!

Pyjamarama- Friday 7th June

Children are invited to come to school on this day wearing their pyjamas or onsie for a minimum donation of £1. If your child would also like to bring their favourite story to share on the day they are more than welcome. All the money raised will go towards providing free bedtime stories for those children who may go without; please do help us to support this fantastic cause. The children will still be going outside on this day so will need to wear suitable shoes and bring a coat. Many thanks.



PTA News

Ice Cream Friday Returns!

Next Friday, 24th May, weather permitting; the PTA will be selling ice-creams in the playground after the school day from 3.15pm. All profit will go straight to the school to invest in resources for the children. Please do remember to bring some change with you on Friday, and if you have any special requests for ice creams, let us know!

Hartbeeps

A big thank you to Stacey from Heartbeeps for running another fab session for the Little Ridges pupils. Much fun was had by all and thank you to the parents/carers who came along.

Local Berryfields businesses

Calling all local businesses on or around Berryfields. Are you looking to gain new business in the area through advertising? We're looking for a limited number of local businesses to advertise in our Event Booklet at the upcoming Green Ridge Academy Summer Fete on Saturday 29th June.

This year will be our first Summer Fete in our new building and grounds, and we hope to attract a large number of local 'Berryfielders' and their families, as well as our own Green Ridge Community. If you are interested in purchasing a half A5 or full A5 page of advertising, please email us (pta@greenridgeacademy.co.uk) or get in touch on Facebook @GreenRidgePTA to receive further details.

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 20 th | Global Diversity week begins – all classes |
| 21 st | Y3 Cedar out am, swimming Y1 Beech out pm, Bartletts Home |
| 22 nd | |
| 23 rd | 2.40pm – YR-Y3 Dance performances on playground (parents invited to watch) 3.15-4.15pm Global Diversity open afternoon for parents/carers in classrooms (all classes) |
| 24 th | Enrichment morning Children finish for half-term |

Letters sent home this week

Charity dance-a-thon, Year 2 – 16 05 19