

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2019

Edition 8

Friday, 25th October

A note from the Headteacher

It was great to see so many parents and carers this week for our Pupil Learning Reviews and thank you for the positive comments and messages that were passed on. We hope that these meetings provided you with useful information about how well your child is doing in school, and what they need to work on to progress further. There was a short survey to complete after the meetings, and if you missed your chance to do this, please see later in the newsletter for the link.

The children have had a wonderful end to the half-term today with their House team afternoon in their classes, working on collages in relation to the school values or the famous person linked to their house. These are being displayed in the hall on the house noticeboards, so please do look out for these after half-term when you are in school.

I know many of the children will be tired by the end of today; it has been a very busy (and long) first half-term at Green Ridge this year, settling all our children back in, as well as getting to grips with our large expansion of pupil numbers once again. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you all for your support and words of encouragement over this half-term and for working with us and keeping up with tweaks and changes we've had to make along the way. And of course, thank you to your children who have worked exceptionally hard!

Have a well-deserved rest next week, and we look forward to seeing you back on Monday, 4th November!

A. A. Wanford

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



"We are so happy that our child has joined Green Ridge, since moving from another country and school. We were really nervous, but the school, staff and building are amazing so thank you!"

Year 3 parent/carer feedback from Pupil Learning Reviews

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(LEFT) Vincent was super proud of his 100 Cracking times-tables questions this week! (RIGHT) Our children taking part in their house afternoon art activities

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)	Lexi	remembering all of her sounds and blending them really well.
Willow (YR)	Shaylan	applying his phonic knowledge to his independent work and always trying hard to label his drawings.
Beech (Y1)	Charlotte	her wonderful rhyming couplets she created.

Elm (Y1)	Kowsik	having an excellent attitude towards learning and for trying so hard to keep his handwriting on the lines.
Oak (Y2)	Eva	her work at home on times tables and spellings.
Plane (Y2)	Jessica	achieving her cracking number bonds after all her hard work at home.
Cedar (Y3)	Veera	a great effort during science this week and for sharing everything she has learned.
Rowan (Y4)	Urvi	excellent understanding of Maya life and culture.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Stokely	making improvements to his attitude to learning and joining in with the class.
Willow (YR)	Darcey	working hard to improve her letter formation and listening to the phonics rhymes.
Beech (Y1)	Kobe	his beautiful progress in his handwriting.
Elm (Y1)	Izzy	writing a fantastic poem for our hot task in English.
Oak (Y2)	Tyler L	using fantastic description in his Candleflame poem.
Plane (Y2)	Kyi Michael	his progress in behaviour, handwriting and application in maths this half term.
Cedar (Y3)	Maia	being resilient when writing her limerick poem.
Rowan (Y4)	Jake	great understanding of food chains in Science.

Cracking Number Bonds & Times Tables Awards

Each week during our celebration assembly, we also award certificates to children for their progress with Cracking Number Bonds and Cracking Times Tables. This week the following awards were given:

Cracking Number Bonds

<i>Name</i>	<i>Level</i>
Ethan	1
George	1
Jessica	1
Kenzie	1
Kyi Michael	1
Tegan	1

Cracking Times Tables

Name	Level
Oliwia	1
Arthur	2
Billy	2
Faith	2
Riley	2
Ava	3
Kallie-Rae	4
Luciana	4
Theodore	4
Eva	5
Patryk	6
Sam	7
Ema	9
Seshan	9
Samprithi	11
Katie	14
Ingrid	16
Shannon	19
Vincent	20

PAP Stars

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

Beech (Y1)	Myrtle	Elm (Y1)	Kiera
Oak (Y2)	Arthur S	Plane (Y2)	Ayah
Cedar (Y3)	Auben	Rowan (Y4)	Rhylee

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	93.5%	Willow (YR)	99.3%
Beech (Y1)	99.3%	Elm (Y1)	98.6%
Oak (Y2)	99.0%	Plane (Y2)	93.3%
Cedar (Y3)	99.0%	Rowan (Y4)	98.0%

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	138	807
Pratchett	100	708
Austin	118	838
Redgrave	162	767

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 21/10/19	KS1	KS2
Monday	Gallop	Contraption
Tuesday	Plucky	Paraphernalia
Wednesday	Stride	Blithering
Thursday	Prefer	Guttle
Friday	Certain	Reprimand

w/c 04/11/19	KS1	KS2
Monday	Tussle	Recuperate
Tuesday	Ready	Visceral
Wednesday	Soak	Rebel
Thursday	Wry	Nestle
Friday	Inflate	Evocative

What have we been learning?

Little Ridges Nursery

This week we have been exploring pumpkins, decorating them with glitter and investigating shapes whilst carving it. We did a shape hunt around the classroom which we really enjoyed. We've also been exploring spiced playdoh and lots of spooky activities. Our Makaton signs this week were 'please' and 'thankyou'. There has been lots of mark making with Lego and car painting and the children have been getting more involved in Helicopter stories, well done Little Berries! We also made pumpkin spiced biscuits- hope you enjoyed them!

Could we please ask if our Little Berries could bring in their hats and gloves as the weather becomes colder, thank you.

We hope you have a lovely half term break, see you in a week Little Berries.



Some fantastic learning happening this week in Little Acorns. Firstly we have been getting into the Halloween theme, by trying to free the spiders from the spaghetti using the tweezers. We have also been carving pumpkins and looking at their 'gooey' insides. Little Acorns have been getting creative by painting some hedgehogs with forms to create their spikes. We have also been creating some fireworks with the kitchen towel tubes and glitter. Little Acorns have also been discussing Diwali, what it means and what's happens during this time. Thank you to all of the parents and careers that came to Little Acorns pupil Reviews, it is so lovely to hear how you feel they have settled in.

Reception

This week, Willow and Birch have continued to learn the story, 'Dinosaurs Love Underpants' through Talk4Writing. We have looked at different dinosaur names in detail, including discussing why a triceratops is called a triceratops! In Maths, the children have been finding 'one less' using different resources to support them.



Throughout the week, the children have used different senses to explore different things in the 'tuff' spot including jelly, ice and pumpkins. They have talked about what it feels and smells like too!

Year One



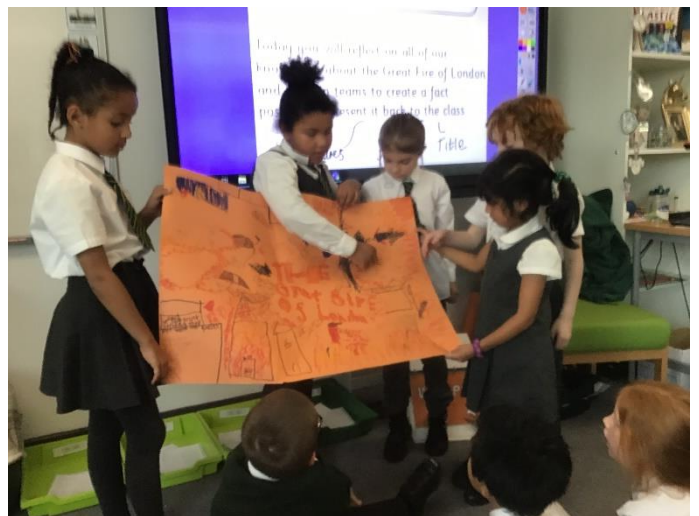
Year 1 have had a great week thinking about how the season has been changing, the atmospheric fog has been very timely. The children spotted lots of signs of Autumn on a walk around our grounds finding trees with all shades of leaves. They have also been writing their innovated poems based around the

poem they learnt last week. We have been impressed by how hard the children have been working despite being so tired! Have a wonderful half term and we will look forward to seeing you raring to go for another fantastic term.

Year Two



Year 2 have been fab team workers this week! In Theme, we worked in groups to do posters all about our learning on the Great Fire of London. We did a class quiz to recall all our facts learnt so far. Once we had finished our posters, we took it in turns to present them to the class, using our best speaking and listening skills. Well done Year 2!



Year Three

This week Cedar class had a visit from Waddesdon Manor. We decorated lanterns ready to be displayed in the light festival! Our lanterns will be put into a tree ready to everyone to see them. They will be displayed at "Miss Alice's Drive" from the 16th November.



Year Four

This week, Year Four have enjoyed learning about food chains in Science. As part of this unit, we have:

- Sorted animals into herbivores, omnivores and carnivores
- Created our own food chains
- Used appropriate scientific vocabulary to describe living things (e.g. producer and consumer)
- Created a performance that teaches people about how food chains work

Take a look at our performances below!



News items from this week

Pupil Learning Reviews

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who came along to these meetings on Monday and Wednesday evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you here to talk to your child's teacher and see all that your child has been learning to do this half-term and hear how well they have settled into their new classes.

Thank you as well to all those parents/carers who gave us a few minutes of their time to provide us with some valuable feedback about the academy. The survey is completely anonymous (unless you give your details to us when completing the survey in the comments), and we hope that you will be able to give us a picture of what parent/carer views are, and how we can continue to improve based on this.

If you didn't have a chance to complete the survey, or simply want the opportunity to provide additional information, please find the link to the survey [here](#). The survey will close on Monday, 4th November.

Attendance

Now that the colder weather has descended, there are a number of children with colds and flu like symptoms. Now that almost all children have had their flu immunisation, we hope that the instances of these will be heavily reduced. We continually ask children to wash their hands every time they go to the toilet to develop good personal hygiene, and we would be grateful if you could continue to reinforce these messages at home.

Our attendance as a school is currently 97.4%, in-line with our own target of 97%, which is fantastic! Please continue to work with us to ensure that this good level of attendance continues across the school next half-term.

Any child who has irregular attendance (including children who are persistently late and those with less than 95% attendance) are monitored closely by the school and the Local Authority. The academy will contact individual families where there is irregular school attendance to support them to ensure their child is at school regularly. Attendance is so important for our children and their learning, so that they can make progress. One day really can make a difference to a child, so please help us to ensure that they are at school. The academy will notify you should your child's attendance drop below 95% and may request a meeting with parents/carers and the Local Authority and Governing Body in order to work with you to improve your child's attendance so that it is at least 97% or better.

Parents/carers should note that if attendance drops significantly below the minimum 95% requirement, the

academy may not authorise any absences without medical evidence, and as such parents/carers could receive fixed penalty notices for irregular school attendance without good reason for absence.

Lockdown Drill

We are pleased to inform you that our practice lockdown drills went extremely well last week and yesterday. Our children remained calm, listened to the adults and knew exactly what they needed to do when the alert was given. Most importantly, our children understood the reason for doing this and know how to keep themselves safe should the need ever arise. We will continue to do these practices each term to ensure all staff and children are familiar with the procedures, in the anticipation that we never have to put them into practice for real.

Parent Forum Meeting

Mr. Wanford met with the class reps last week for the first Parent Forum meeting for 2019/20. A copy of the minutes can be found on our website [here](#).

Please remember that we have a drop box in our lobby area by the main entrance should you have any ideas or feedback that you would like the Parent Forum to discuss.

As part of the Parent Forum discussion, we agreed to set up a survey monkey questionnaire for any ideas/suggestions which parents/carers may not be able to otherwise communicate to the school about. The link to the anonymous survey is [here](#), and will remain 'open' to complete if and when you have any thoughts and ideas; however, please note that the responses are not monitored daily, and if your feedback or suggestion relates to an individual pupil or requires a response, please communicate to the school through the normal channels of your child's class teacher or the school office. The link is [here](#).


A Parent Forum flyer will be sent out soon to make you aware of who the class representatives are. However we do still have the following vacant spaces.

Class	Year	Representative
Little Berries	N1	1x vacant
Cedar	Y3	1x vacant
Rowan	Y4	2x vacant

If you are interested in putting yourself forward to be a member of the Parent Forum, please e-mail admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk stating your interest.

The next Parent Forum meeting is on Thursday, 28th November at 9.00am at the school.

Bucks Schoolwear Plus

Don't forget that Bucks Schoolwear Plus will be  closed from Monday, 28th October – Monday, 4th November as they are moving to a new premises. They will still be fulfilling web orders throughout the week and posting them out daily, but unfortunately customers will not be able to 'click and collect' throughout this week.

The new location is a 10-minute walk/2 minute drive away from their current shop in Kingsbury Square. In the new premises they will be able to offer customers free parking and customer toilets and they have also invested in their own embroidery machine!

Achievement Boxes

Celebrating children's success is at the heart of the Green Ridge way and we have recently been exploring how we can extend this beyond our achievement assemblies and in-class celebrations. We recognise that many of the children are involved in clubs and groups outside of school and we want to encourage children and parents to share any achievements a child may have had by bringing in any recognition of these to the class teacher. They will then store any certificates or medals within a class achievement box and incorporate this into their weekly class assemblies. We look forward to seeing what the children present!

Clubs

Don't forget that bookings for our before and after school clubs for the second half of the autumn term will be reopening on Saturday.

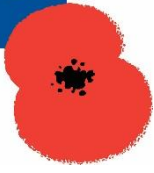
Please log in to (or create) your Clubbly account [here](#) and sign your child up to the chosen club before the bookings close at midnight on Sunday, 3rd November.

School Lunches

The menu for Winter/Spring for 2019/2020 can be found on our website [here](#).

What's coming up?

The Royal British Legion Poppy Merchandise



The Royal British Legion have provided us with poppies to sell and also a range of other small merchandise for parents/carers and children to purchase in aid of donation to their charity. The poppies and merchandise will be available at our Reception desk and some of our Year Four pupils

will be going around classes to sell the poppies. There is a suggested donation amount for some or the merchandise, but poppies are for any donation which you would like to give. If you or your child would like to purchase one of the items, please send the donation in a named, sealed envelope.

Merchandise items:

Zip pull	50p
Reflector	50p
Silicon wristband	£1.00
Snap band	£1.50
Poppy	Donation

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

- Wednesday, 5th February 2020 – 9.15am (for entry to Nursery from April 2020)
- Thursday, 12th March 2020 – 9.15am (for entry to Nursery from September 2020)

Main School (Reception, September 2020 intake)

- Tuesday, 5th November 2019: 7.00-8.30pm
- Thursday, 14th November 2019: 9.15-10.45am
- Thursday, 9th January 2020: 1.45-3.00pm

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, register your interest, or to find out about availability in other year groups, please email admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk or call the school office on 01296 326320.

PTA News

Fireworks Night – Saturday, 9th November

We only have a few tickets remaining, so get yours [here](#) today before it's too late!

Bottle Donations

Thank you for the very generous donations this morning! It's great to have such an amazing variety of bottles and it makes the tombola a lot of fun!

If you did forget to bring in a bottle this morning please leave it with the school office and the PTA will collect it from there.

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

4 th	Children return to school
5 th	AM – Y4 swimming lesson 7.00pm YR Prospective Parent/Carer Open Evening (2020)
6 th	Y1 trip to St Albans Cathedral
7 th	
8 th	

Letters sent home this week

Year 2 Trip to the Radlett Synagogue 22 10 19

Year 3 Head Lice 24 10 19

School Lunches 24 10 19



**GREEN RIDGE
PRIMARY ACADEMY PTA
PRESENTS**

**SATURDAY 9TH
NOVEMBER 2019**

GATES OPEN 5.30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON

FIREWORKS





Bucks
Schoolwear *Plus*

Exciting news.....

WE ARE MOVING!

From **Monday 4th November our new
address will be:**

Unit 11

Aylesbury Vale Industrial Estate

Southern Road

Aylesbury

HP19 9EW

**Please note we will be closed from Monday 28th October until we
reopen in our new premises on Monday 4th November. All web
orders will still be processed throughout our move.**

We will be able to offer:

Free customer parking

Customer toilets

On site embroidery

Plus lots more... Only a 10 minute walk from our old address.