

# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term 2021

Edition 19

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## A note from the Acting Head of School

Hello and welcome to all parents and carers to this week's newsletter. Again, I wanted to start today's newsletter by sending out my thanks to all parents and carers for their continued support during this current lockdown. I'm sure many of you have seen the national news that schools won't be opening before the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Although this is still quite far into the future, at least it gives us something to work towards and as soon as any news about reopening is verified we will let you know. Resuming face to face learning is something we will all be working towards and we hope that this time frame is something that doesn't get moved further into the year.

In the meantime, we are going to continue the roll out of Teams across the school with Year Three and Two moving to this learning platform next week. We have found that this move has allowed us to provide children with more resources to support them with their learning as well as scaffolds to help all children access what is being taught. With all of these changes in mind, I am looking forward to meeting with class representatives during the parent forum meeting next week and thank you to those who have sent questions ahead of the meeting.

Throughout this year we have been exploring how we can support children and parents/carers with their mental health and wellbeing. Miss. Lazarou has been working hard on finding different resources that children and families can use, which I expect will be much needed during this time. Much of the information can be found within the wellbeing newsletter that was sent out yesterday but Miss. Lazarou will also be holding an assembly on Monday too. We encourage all children to watch this, especially any children who are finding the lockdown difficult.

I hope you all have a restful weekend and I look forward to seeing the children's learning next week.



Mr. Sean English  
Acting Head of School



**"My son is really missing school and cannot wait to return. This is testament to the engaging atmosphere and environment in class. Lockdown has shown us how much learning goes on each day and how the Reception team makes this fun yet challenging."**

*Some more fantastic feedback from one of our Reception parents/carers*

### In This Issue

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(ABOVE) We are supporting Children's Mental Health Week next week and the theme is 'Express Yourself'. Further information can be found later on in the newsletter.

# Celebrations and Achievements

## Achievement & Progress Certificates

Each week, the school come together to celebrate a variety of achievements from 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. Well done to following people for being awarded with achievement and progress certificates this week!

	<i>Certificate of Achievement</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Pranamyia	explaining her knowledge of number bonds to ten so perfectly.
Willow (YR)	Archie	being so engaged with his learning this week and for providing excellent examples of new vocabulary.
Beech (Y1)	Ezra	his fantastic Hot Task, using some really interesting adjectives to describe Goldilocks
Elm (Y1)	Elise	her incredibly imaginative story for her Hot Task – Goldilocks and the Three Butterflies.
Oak (Y2)	Darcie	going above and beyond in her remote learning this week!
Plane (Y2)	Harrison	working incredibly hard at home and producing some amazing home learning.
Alder (Y3)	Sophia	great use of IT for her home learning, particularly when creating bar charts!
Cedar (Y3)	Theodore	working scientific to find the most absorbent nappy and recording his results.
Rowan (Y4)	Brayden	taking great pride in his work and improving the level

		of detail in his independent writing.
Maple (Y5)	Zack	doing a really good job of independently practising his spellings.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Sophia	building up her confidence and independence to work at home.
Willow (YR)	Daisy W	super progress with her presentation, reading and phonics.
Beech (Y1)	Ella S	trying so hard with all her learning at home.
Elm (Y1)	Lily-Sue	making excellent progress with her writing at home – keep up the fantastic work!
Oak (Y2)	Henley	his wonderful progress with his presentation and fantastic imagination.
Plane (Y2)	James	his amazing progress in his story writing, including a range of adjectives and using speech correctly.
Alder (Y3)	Alfie	persevering with his Science learning and making sure his investigation was fair.
Cedar (Y3)	Sianna	using her imagination when writing a traditional tale.
Rowan (Y4)	Ivy-Grace	incredible effort in all of her work on Microsoft Teams
Maple (Y5)	Ingrid	showcasing her amazing art work in a number of different lessons.

### PAP Stars

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

Beech (Y1)	Esmay & Harrison	Elm (Y1)	Sophie
Oak (Y2)	Stephanie	Plane (Y2)	Vidhi
Alder (Y3)	Niamh	Cedar (Y3)	Ema
Rowan (Y4)	Lana	Maple (Y5)	Rhylee

### Times Tables Rockstar Awards

Every fortnight, teachers award two certificates per class. One is awarded to the 'Quickest Rockstar' based on how much their speed of recall has improved over the two-week period. The other is awarded to the 'Hardest Working Rockstar' based on a variety of factors, such as number of coins earned, number of questions answered and the number of levels they've progressed through.

	<i>Quickest Rockstar</i>	<i>Hardest Working Rockstar</i>
Alder (Y3)	Raisha	Malachi
Cedar (Y3)	Kian	Arthur S
Rowan (Y4)	Thomas	Jessica
Maple (Y5)	Rosko	Anya

### House Points

Well done to Austin house for gaining the most points this week!

<i>House</i>	<i>Points this week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Disraeli	17	3021
Pratchett	17	2730
Austin	26	2888
Redgrave	24	2898

### Remote Learning Engagement

We would like to celebrate the children who are engaging with the Remote Learning that we are providing. It is great to see so much work being sent in via the class email addresses, Team and Tapestry. This all contributes to the % for your year group. Well done to Reception for the most engagement this week. Keep up the hard work!

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Engagement Percentage</b>
Nursery	69%
Reception	96%
Year One	94%
Year Two	56%
Year Three	65%
Year Four	88%
Year Five	88%

# What have we been learning this week?

## Little Ridges Nursery



Another fantastic week of learning Little Berries. This week we have been focusing on Big Cats. The children have loved exploring the different types of big cat, what they look like and the sounds they make. Thank you for the wonderful home learning you've been doing, it looks like you have been having so much fun and thank you for

sharing. The Berries have enjoyed having a Tiger Who Came to Tea party with real cups and saucers. This was a real hit! The snow and ice encouraged lots of talking about what happens to water when it's cold and where snow comes from. The Makaton for this week was tiger and we have been recapping all the signs we have learnt over the last few weeks. Next week's focus is exotic animals. Thank you again and have a lovely weekend!



theme. We have seen some incredible castles made out of all sorts of materials! From Oreos and ice cream cones, to junk modelling materials! We are very proud of the creative minds we have in Reception! As well as being creative, the children have been flexing their problem solving muscles in maths to investigate number bonds to 10. They were given the challenge to find all of the number bonds on Tuesday and then over the rest of the week they have been playing games and learning songs to help them remember them all. Once again we are all so proud of how hard the children of Birch and Willow are working and we love seeing all of their videos and pictures. Keep up the good work!



## Year One

Here is my year 1 write up - This week Year 1 have been working on their Hot Task in English, producing their own Goldilocks stories. It has been a lot of hard work and has taken a lot of resilience but the stories they have created are fantastic! Well done Year 1! In Maths we have been looking at tricky subtractions and using our knowledge of number bonds to help. In Science we went bird watching and found some fantastic wildlife. In Geography we went for a walk to search for Geographical features. The children have been working on their computing skills using PowerPoint and have thoroughly enjoyed creating their own page on fish. We have also been keeping as active as possible trying to earn lots of points for the GRPA become an athlete initiative. Well done Year 1, you are doing a brilliant job!

## Year Two

This week in PSHE, Miss Schembri spoke to Year 2 all about the importance of balancing 'screen time', with time spent doing other things that make us happy and that are good for our wellbeing. Year 2 discussed the effects that too much 'screen time' before thinking of some non-screen related activities that we enjoy. Jacob from Oak designed this AMAZING poster which included dancing, building a den, playing a game and much more.



This week, Little Acorns have been focusing on the dinosaur, 'Velociraptor'. We have also continued our Talk4Writing story which we have almost finished! Our 'Shape of the Week' focus is a triangle so the children have been shape hunters spotting different triangle shapes at home, outside and in the classroom. In phonics, we

have focused on Aspect 6, Voice Sounds and the children have created many different sounds with their voices. Little Acorns also had a go at exploring melting ice as some dinosaurs and toys were trapped in ice! Lots of different key vocabulary came out from this such as, 'melting', 'freezing' and 'slippery'. Well done for all your hard work this week, Little Acorns!



## Reception

This week has been a very creative week for Birch and Willow Class. There has been lots of crown designing and castle building linked to our Turrets and Tiaras

### Year Three



Year 3 have enjoyed continuing their learning on the 'Nappy Challenge' in Science this week. We continued to explore fair testing and investigated which nappy would stretch the furthest. To make it a fair test we only changed the nappy but kept everything else the same. Some of Year 3 who were learning at home were

very creative and used other household resources so they could still access this learning.

### Year Four

Rowan class continued their knowledge of the 'Big Build' in Science by researching animal structures and shelters - the informative posters and PowerPoint presentations were outstanding. The class have enjoyed the changeover to Microsoft Teams and improved their knowledge of efficient division methods as the week progressed. Well done on another hard-working week from home, Year 4, we are all very proud of you!

### Year Five

This week, year 5 have been starting their topic of fractions in Maths, looking at numerators and denominators as well as starting to look at equivalent fractions. In English, we have been exploring ways that we can represent our Legends, imagining that we are publishing them to an audience. In Science, we have explored how far sound can travel and the effect that distance from a sound source has on volume. In History, we have been looking at how and why the Ancient Egyptians mummified their dead.

# News items from this week

## Pupil Learning Reviews

Pupil Learning Reviews would usually take place in February. Due to the continued current restrictions, we can confirm that we have moved them to the week commencing Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March. Further correspondence will be sent out soon containing more information and the link for you to follow in order for you to book your child's pupil learning review which will be held over the phone.

## Children's Mental Health Week 2021



Green Ridge will be supporting Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week next week. This year's theme is 'Express Yourself'. This will be introduced through a whole school assembly on YouTube on

Monday. Please take a look at the Green Ridge Mental Health and Well-Being newsletter which can be found [here](#) for more information.

## Parent Governor Election

Following the letter sent last week and the deadline on Friday, we are pleased to announce that the candidate with the most votes and who has been elected by the Parent Body to the position of Parent Governor as part of the Local Governing Board is **Mr. Chris Lickfold**. We look forward to working with Chris and welcoming him to the LGB.

## Bookmark Digital Magazine

We are delighted to include a free digital magazine for you this week – [The Story Corner](#). The 24-page, full colour, A4 magazine contains three stories, suitable for readers aged 5-8 years old, plus games and activities designed to build children's comprehension skills and love of reading. You'll see a drawing competition at the back, which closed in early January. However, the magazine have extended the date to **Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March** if you would like to enter.

## National Story Telling Week 2021

Next week it is National Story Telling Week and we would love to see some of the children having a go at telling a story. This could be a story that they know well or it can be a story they have made up. Please be as creative as you like! The children might like to dress up and get into role or put on a puppet show. Any videos that the children create please email in to your child's class teacher using the class email address. We will choose some of the best to share in the newsletter before half term.

## Remote Learning Information Session

We have now held our Remote Learning information session and thank you to all who were unable to

attend. We appreciate that some parents and carers were unable to attend these sessions so to ensure you receive the same information, we have posted the slides onto the school website in the 'Remote Learning' section. We hope this information better prepares you for any coming changes we are making within our approach to remote learning.

## Achievement & Progress Certificates

For the children that are not in school but have been awarded with an achievement or progress certificate, we would like to confirm that the certificates will be sent home with their reading books and record which will be available to collect from 12.00pm each Friday.

## Writing Exercise Books

In order to further support learning at home and to help the presentation of the children's writing, we are sending home an exercise book today in the reading record packs. These are the books that the children would use in school so should help them to focus carefully on the presentation of their writing. If you have not yet given in the reading record to change then please feel free to do this next week and we will issue you with a writing book then. The reading book box is available Monday to Wednesday up until 12.00pm and will then be put back out for books to be collected after 12.00pm each Friday.

## Rights Respecting School Award – Article of the Week

As we are committed to becoming a Rights Respecting School, we will be focusing on the RRSA Article/s of the Week each week. This week we have article 14. For more information please follow this [link](#).

### INTRODUCING... ARTICLE 14



Samia introduces Article 14



Article 14 – Freedom of thought, belief and religion.

Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.



## Hungry Little Minds Family Day

The Early Years team from Buckinghamshire Council have kindly informed us about a Family Digital Day event in which National Literacy Trust and Hungry Little Minds will be hosting on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February from 10.00am-12.30pm via Zoom. The event will include reading and singing along with Nick Sharratt, story and rhyme sessions, messy play with Jessica Eddlestone, a scavenger hunt with Ella Burns, music and singing with Martyn the Music Man and competitions, free give-

aways and much more! The meeting ID in order to log on is 960 4000 5586. Enjoy!

### Schoolreaders Storytime

Schoolreaders Storytime have kindly shared some videos of their volunteers reading some stories which we believe our younger children will love to watch. Please follow the links below.

[‘Elmer’](#) read by the author David McKee Elmer is different. Elmer is patchwork. The grey elephants all love him, but he soon starts to wonder what it would be like to be just the same as them... With our thanks to David McKee for reading his story. There is a fantastic activity pack for Elmer available [here](#) and on the activity section of the Schoolreaders website. Reading Age 5+

[‘Just One of Those Days’](#) by Jill Murphy It had been a long night... so Mr and Mrs Bear woke up late. When Mr and Mrs Bear wake up late, it's raining outside - and Baby Bear is late for nursery. Then Mrs Bear sits on her glasses at muddle through cheerfully, and there's even a surprise for Baby Bear when Mr Bear gets home from work. Reading Age 5+

[‘Boogie Bear’](#) by David Walliams Up at the North Pole, a big furry polar bear is swimming, fishing and eating. But when she nods off and finds herself far from home, she thinks things can't get any worse. But they can...Much worse! Reading Age 6+

[‘Not now, Bernard’](#) by David McKee read by actor Ben Bailey Smith (please be aware that Bernard gets eaten) which has a great [activity](#) to go with it. He's found a monster in the back garden but his mum and dad are just too busy to notice. So Bernard tries to befriend the monster... and that doesn't go quite to plan. Reading Age 6+

[‘Clem and Crab’](#) written and narrated by Fiona Lumbers

Clem is an explorer, a collector, a protector of the seas! Treasure hunting on her beloved beach, she stumbles across Crab, his claw stuck in a plastic bag. Crab will be much safer and happier in the city with Clem, but doesn't he belong on the beach? A stunningly illustrated timely tale of cleaning up our beaches, with the message that every small action helps. A lovely colouring activity pack for Clem and Crab is available [here](#). Reading Age 5+

[‘Elmer and the Rainbow’](#) by David McKee Read by Joseph Coelho Elmer and the other elephants are waiting for the storm to end so they can see the beautiful, colourful rainbow. But something dreadful has happened: the

rainbow has lost its colours! Elmer decides to give his own colours to the rainbow. But what will happen to Elmer if he gives the rainbow his own colours? Will he lose them for ever? We also have a fantastic Elmer activity pack available at [here](#). Reading Age 4+

[‘Little Monsters’](#) by David Walliams Read by Schoolreaders Volunteer, Kathy and Nelson the Dog Howler is a small werewolf with a BIG problem. He is just not scary! And that makes him the odd one out at Monster School... But when Howler finds some new friends, he discovers that being the odd one out might just make him the coolest one of all... Reading Age 6+ [VoAH Springboard Grant](#)

Further to the letter sent out on Tuesday, we wanted to inform you that the deadline for applications was sadly brought forward due to too many applicants. We understand there will be a second round in March. If you intend on applying in March, please be sure to let us know in order for us to prepare the accompanying letter that VoAH require.

### Celebration Assemblies – Achievements

We would like to remind all parents/carers that children can celebrate their achievements outside of school during our Celebration Assemblies held each Friday. We welcome you to send pictures of external achievements/awards to the admin email address in order for them to be sent on to the relevant class. They will be shared during our video link Celebration Assemblies each week and it is a fantastic way for the children to showcase their talents and interests. We look forward to seeing your achievements!

### Roman Park Community Trust

Roman Park Community Trust are able to provide support in many ways. They can offer food parcels if you're vulnerable, elderly or are self-isolating due to COVID. They are able to collect shopping and prescriptions and can provide advice with regards to benefits, housing, employment and legal issues. Please do not hesitate to get in contact should you require help. They can be reached on 01296 331816 or alternatively via email to [ask@berryfieldspc.org](mailto:ask@berryfieldspc.org). You are also welcome to contact Mrs. Cavanagh here at Green Ridge should you prefer to.

### Local Governing Body Opportunity

It would be greatly appreciated if you could share the following information with local residents or anyone that you may know who you think will be interested in the post.

*We are looking for local residents, businesses or people with a genuine interest in education, wanting to join us on our Local Governing Body (LGB) as a co-opted member. To be a member of the LGB, there is an expectation that you would attend meetings at the*

school approximately once a half-term during term-time, and visit the school at different points (remotely or in person) in order to monitor and evaluate how well the school is performing. Experience of education is not essential; we are particularly looking for governors who may have experience in finance, premises and charity work in order to strengthen our group of skilled governors. Co-opted governors are appointed by the LGB, in order to ensure that our governing body have the right skillset in order to undertake their work effectively. You can find out more about our governance structure, its roles and responsibilities on our website [here](#). If you would like an informal discussion about the role, or would like to find out more, please get in contact.

### Prospective Parent/Carer Information Video – Reception 2021 Intake

Applications opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and closed at 3.00pm on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> January. National offer day is on 16<sup>th</sup> April and the deadline for accepting is on 30<sup>th</sup> April.



# What's coming up?

## Parent Forum Meeting – Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February

The next Parent Forum meeting is being held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February at 1.30pm via Zoom.

Please remember to let any of the Parent Forum Representatives know if you have any ideas/feedback or suggestions. Alternatively you can inform us by completing the form which can be found [here](#).

## What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

1 <sup>st</sup>	1.30pm Parent Forum Meeting
2 <sup>nd</sup>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	
4 <sup>th</sup>	
5 <sup>th</sup>	

## Letters sent home this week

Critical Worker Places 25 01 21

VoAH Springboard Grant 26 01 21

FSM Vouchers 26 01 21

Remote Learning Changes - Transition to Teams for Year Three and Two 26 01 21

Green Ridge Well-Being Newsletter Spring 2021

Critical Worker Face-to-Face Education Provision Sign-Up Forms 28 01 21

Remote Learning Consent 29 01 21