

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Summer Term 2021

Edition 31

Friday, 21st May 2021

A note from the Acting Head of School

Hello everyone and welcome to the newsletter for this week. The weather has made it quite dramatic, with rain, hail and even thunder. Variety like this is always a great talking point and has probably made it into some of the conversations within class! We had the pleasure of having another member of the REAch2 family in school this week. Miss Beattie took the time to come and visit to talk to the children and staff about safeguarding. From our own conversations with the children, we know that they are happy to talk about how they feel within school and it was great to see that they could discuss how they feel safe and also that they know who to talk to if they were ever worried about anything. The week has also continued to be a busy one with many of the children working hard throughout all of their lessons. I was so pleased to see the improvements the children are making with areas such as their presentation and was so impressed with the neatness and accuracy of the writing from across the school. The staff are so proud with the work the children are completing and it was so lovely that staff from Year Two were able to show me some fantastic progress in presentation, I look forward to seeing more next week! Teachers from Reception up to Year Five have also been delivering remote RSE sessions for parents throughout the week. This has been a fantastic chance for the school to share the resources and content of the lessons with parents/careers and respond to any questions they have. We know that this is such an important area for the children to learn about, with themes such as consent, how to ask for help, and identity. We hope you have found these sessions useful and if you were unable to make the session then please refer to the school website where we have uploaded the slides. Next week will mark our final week before half term. I am looking forward to meeting our parent representatives on Monday, where we will continue to review this term but also the school's equalities duties framework. We will also be rounding off this half term with a PTA non-uniform day, titled *Put the Uniform Away for the Last Day of May*. Much like the Cinema night last week, we expect that this will be a fantastic fundraiser for the PTA and the school. I hope you all have a pleasant and safe weekend!

Mr. Sean English

Acting Head of School

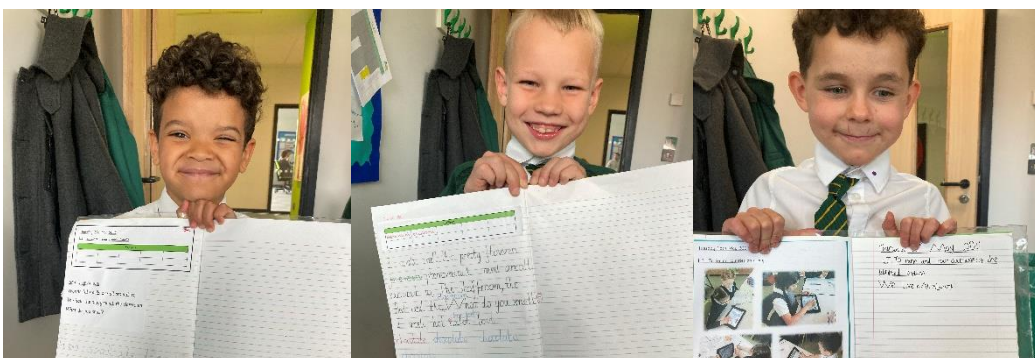


"The return of the enrichment clubs has been a huge hit with the children this week. Although not all of the clubs have yet to return, we are grateful for all of the hard work that Mr. Meachen puts in to them!"

Some lovely feedback regarding the return of some enrichment clubs this week

In This Issue

- Volunteers
- Wellbeing Tips
- Reading Wish List
- RSE Presentations Slides
- RRSA Article of the Week



(ABOVE) Mr. Wanford has been blown away by the writing in Years Two and Three this week. He has been shown some very impressive work and is incredibly proud. Keep up the good work!

Celebrations and Achievements

Achievement & Progress Certificates

Each week we 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)	Roseanna	her amazingly positive attitude to all of her learning.
Willow (YR)	Sid	settling in so well to Willow Class this week.
Beech (Y1)	Macie-Rose	working hard to find half of shapes and numbers
Elm (Y1)	Archie	his performance poetry and his acting skills.
Oak (Y2)	Ayaan	ensuring his letters are correctly formed and legible.
Plane (Y2)	Izzy	using a fantastic range of descriptive vocabulary when writing her sense poem this week.
Alder (Y3)	Alfie	beautifully presented piece of home learning on the continents of the world.
Cedar (Y3)	Nathan	always contributing great ideas to class discussions.
Rowan (Y4)	Auben	adopting a great, growth mindset this half-term and taking responsibility for his behaviour.
Maple (Y5)	Amelia	showing a good understanding of acute, obtuse and right angles.

	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Sienna	her increased confidence with reading.
Willow (YR)	Jayden	making great choices this week in school and trying his hardest.
Beech (Y1)	Oscar R	listening well and making valuable contributions to the assembly discussion on Wednesday
Elm (Y1)	Elise	growing in confidence and reading a poem to the whole class!
Oak (Y2)	Oliver	his increase in productivity during writing this week.
Plane (Y2)	Charlotte	consistently presenting her learning to a very high standard.
Alder (Y3)	Taya	excellent vocabulary used throughout her hot task in Writing this week.
Cedar (Y3)	Arthur M L	a great attitude to his learning.
Rowan (Y4)	Anisa	beginning to self-edit her work more purposefully, showing an awareness of the reader.
Maple (Y5)	Rosie	developing her use of exceptional and exciting vocabulary in her writing of a wishing tale.

PAP Stars

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

Beech (Y1)	Harrison	Elm (Y1)	Jonathon
Oak (Y2)	Joseph	Plane (Y2)	Kobe
Alder (Y3)	Ava	Cedar (Y3)	Casey
Rowan (Y4)	Kanuyan	Maple (Y5)	Jake

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.

	Quickest Rockstar	Hardest Working Rockstar
Oak (Y2)	Lilly	Kawthar
Plane (Y2)	Vidhi	Corey
Alder (Y3)	Norah	Kyi-Michael
Cedar (Y3)	Jessie	Dexter
Rowan (Y4)	Olaf	Ramaa
Maple (Y5)	Urvi	Kallie-Rae

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	96.6%	Willow (YR)	98.7%
Beech (Y1)	100.0%	Elm (Y1)	99.0%
Oak (Y2)	97.2%	Plane (Y2)	94.7%
Alder (Y3)	98.7%	Cedar (Y3)	94.6%
Rowan (Y4)	92.6%	Maple (Y5)	95.8%

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	67	4332
Pratchett	100	3832
Austin	55	4234
Redgrave	65	4151

Achievement Boxes

During our video link Celebration Assemblies each week we like to celebrate what the children have achieved outside of school. This is a fantastic way for the children to showcase their talents and interests, so 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.

The achievements this week were:

	For...
Daisy YR, Willow	recently starting Rainbows and for achieving her first badge for taking part in the 'Be Brilliant in Bucks' event! Daisy, along with over 500 Girl Guides in Buckinghamshire took part in the virtual sleepover weekend and online activities.

Alex Y3, Alder	earning all six Blue Peter badges! He did the six badges of summer challenge and has finally received all six badges for his hard work and dedication to the challenge.
----------------	---



What have we been learning this week?

Little Ridges Nursery



This week in Little Berries we have been focusing on the season Winter. The children have been learning about how we dress in winter and what the weather is like. The Berries have really enjoyed the Plant and Sharing this month and we have given them out to a few houses in the local area. We have learnt the Makaton for snow and the words of the

week have been huge and worried. The Berries have been marking in snow (flour), dressing the snowmen and making hats. We have been watching our caterpillars grow and they are starting to cocoon which is so exciting! Next week our focus is mini beasts. Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to having a fun last week of this half term next week!



Little Acorns have had another busy week; this week, we have learnt all about snails and slugs. The children have remembered lots of facts about these bugs and it has been fantastic to see lots of children spotting snails and slugs at home or on the way to school! To link our learning to these bugs, the children have created swirl pictures,

manipulated playdough to make snails and slugs and use shells for their shells and they have even made chalk swirls.

We have continued to watch our caterpillars grow; the children have observed the caterpillars get longer and they look forward to seeing them form a chrysalis. We are really proud to say that Little Acorns have finished learning our Talk4Writing story, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'!

Reception

This week we have been looking at all of the plants we have in the grounds around school, thinking about how they got there and whether the seeds were planted on purpose or arrived by another method. We challenged the children to have a look at the types of plants they see on their journey to school or when out at the weekend to see how they think they got there.

In maths we have been looking at subtraction and creating number sentences to show how we have worked things out. Our plants have started to grow brilliantly so we decided to brave planting them outside!

Year One

This week the children have explored poetry in English. They looked into a number of poems, some with rhyming words and some without. The children started off by performing some poetry. This involved them coming up with actions and learning the words. They performed their actions to the rest of the class. In Maths, we have been working on fractions this week and exploring halves and wholes. We have done this practically using shapes and we folded them to find halves. In Science, we concluded that plants need sun, water and soil to grow and we began to look at identifying wild plants around the school site. In Computing, we worked on building up our typing skills and played some fun typing games - Mr Arnold was so impressed with our typing skills.

Year Two



Year Two have had another brilliant and busy week. In English, we have been learning all about sense poems. We began by exploring and reading a range of poems to identify the features and help us to create our poetry toolkit.

To help us to generate ideas for our own sense poem, we went on a senses walk around the school to explore the sounds, smells and sights around us. We then used these ideas to write a poem about a different sense each day.



Year Three

This week, Year 3 have enjoyed beginning their unit on poetry where we are looking at shape poems. We have analysed different poem and looked for features within them.

We also picked out our favourite phrases within them so we can build a bank of vocabulary to use in our own poems. We have also begun reading and performing poems to further



develop our fluency of reading and expression in our voices.



Year Four

The children in Year 4 had an opportunity to explore the software programme 'Audacity' this week in Computing and enjoyed exploring how to take samples of self-recorded sounds to change the sequence of a piece of music. The class also planned their own science experiment based on conductors and insulators and investigated what happens when they added as a component in a circuit.

Year Five

This week, year 5 have been looking at comparing and ordering acute, obtuse and right angles, as well as using a protractor to measure angles in degrees. The children have been using their model text and their shared writes to write their own wishing tale. In Science, the children have been debating the pros and cons of zoos, and in History, we have been looking at the role that women had during World War II. In RE, we were looking at how the non-religious charity Oxfam supports people around the world.

News items from this week

Volunteers

We are forward thinking and are already on the lookout for volunteers from September! We previously had a small (but mighty!) army of parent/carer volunteers who helped us in numerous ways with the many, many jobs and tasks we do in school. Some of the jobs include listening to children read and changing reading books.

Unfortunately due to the pandemic, we were no longer able to allow visitors or volunteers on site. As things appear to be moving in the right direction and restrictions are slowly being lifted, providing that support is regular and we follow our risk assessments, we hope that we can welcome volunteers again from September.

If you would like to put your name forward and can give at least half a day a week on a regular basis, please e-mail Mrs. Curtis-Cross in the school office to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk who will be happy to provide you with an application form. Please note that as part of our safeguarding requirements, we require all volunteers to have a DBS check to ensure their suitability to work with children, as well as completing a safeguarding training session and volunteer induction led by one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads within the academy.

Once you have completed and returned your application form, a member of staff will be in contact to arrange a suitable time for the safeguarding training, volunteer induction and to advise you of what is required for your DBS.

We would like to thank you in advance for any time and support that you are able to provide.

Wellbeing Tips

Scientific studies have shown that securely attached children go on to live happier lives, have better relationships, do better academically and have higher emotional intelligence and resilience.

How can we ensure that our children have secure attachments?

If we connect with our children *during their most difficult emotions*, we are securing this attachment.

What are we teaching them by responding appropriately to their emotions?

- their emotions are valid
- they are worthy of our time
- they are loved unconditionally
- their feelings matter
- emotions are a normal part of life
- experiencing emotions is nothing to be ashamed of
- relationships are about support, trust and care

This will help them:

- manage their emotions effectively
- to not seek external sources to fulfil internal problems (addiction in later years)
- have trust in authority, friends and relationships
- have high self-esteem and self-worth
- potentially prevent long term mental health issues such as anxiety and depression

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 articles 24 and 28. For more information please follow this [link](#).

INTRODUCING... ARTICLE 24 & 28



Kathy introduces Article 24 & 28



[Watch Kathy on YouTube](#)

Article 24 – Health care ensures that every child has the right to the best possible health
Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 28 - Every child has the right to an education
Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this



Reading Wish List

We are still in need of some books for our next reading challenge so it would be great if some of our parents/carers would buy us a book (or two!) from our Amazon Wish List which can be found [here](#) if you haven't already done so. Be sure to leave a gift note so we can show our appreciation! 😊

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the Sanchez/Cubillos family for your generosity this week! 😊

Sun Safe Schools

You can find the UV forecast for the next few days below. If the UV forecast is 3 or above, children should have sun cream applied before arriving at school and bring a hat and sunglasses to further protect themselves. It is not just about how sunny it is as there can be a high UV on a cloudy day. Please follow this [link](#) to check the forecast each day.



Year Four and Five Football Enrichment Club

We had to unfortunately cancel the Year Four and Five dodgeball and multi-sports enrichment clubs as the minimum amount of participants was not reached. Mr. Kaye and Mr. Meachen have now decided to offer our

Year Four and Five children the opportunity to take part in a football club on a Wednesday afternoon starting this coming Wednesday, 26th May. If you would like to sign your child up, you can do so via the [Clubbly](#) website. Bookings will close at the end of Tuesday.

Relationships and Sex Education Parent and Carer Teacher Meetings

If you missed the RSE parent and carer teacher meetings that took place this week or unable to attend the Year One session this afternoon, the slides for the presentations have been added to our website and can be found by following the below links.

Reception

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/reception/>

Year One

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/year-one/>

Year Two

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/year-two/>

Year Three

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/year-three/>

Year Four

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/year-four/>

Year Five

<https://www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk/year-five/>

What's coming up?

Parent Forum Meeting – Monday, 24th May

The next Parent Forum meeting is being held on Monday, 24th May 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](#).

Peer Mentoring Buckinghamshire Mind Webinar – Monday, 24th May

Some of our Year Four and Five children recently took part in some Peer Mentoring training and their roles will be to listen to any worries and concerns that the children within school may wish to discuss and to offer them support during some break and lunch times. Buckinghamshire Mind held a webinar on Wednesday in order to provide further information and another is being held on Monday for anyone that wasn't able to make it but is interested. You are welcome to join the webinar on Monday, 24th May from 4.00-5.30pm via this [link](#) (meeting ID: 861 2618 1973 passcode: 095297).

Year One Vision Screening – Wednesday, 7th July

Further to the letter sent on Tuesday, 4th May, we wanted to inform you that a date has now been scheduled for the Year One vision screening. This will take place on Wednesday, 7th July. Please remember to opt-out via email to bht.schoolhealth-screening@nhs.net if you do not want your child to participate due to one of the following reasons;

- Your child is currently under the care of an ophthalmologist, orthoptist, optometrist at your local hospital eye clinic
- Your child is currently under the care of a local optometrist (optician) or had a recent sight test
- You do **not** want your child screened due to personal reasons.

PTA News

Cinema Club

We are pleased to report that last week's Cinema Club was a great success... We are still to get the final figure but with your help we raised over £800!

A huge thank you to all the parents/carers who were able to volunteer! We could not run these events without you and appreciate all the help that you are able to give. We would also like to thank the staff who stayed on to help out.

PTA Minutes

Please find the minutes from the PTA meeting held on Monday [here](#).

Vale Lottery

You will have received a letter on Tuesday with regards to the Vale Lottery. The Vale Lottery supports community projects in the local area and each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! Over the last two years of Green Ridge taking part, we have been lucky to have had several winners.

A ticket for the Vale Lottery costs £1 a week, with Green Ridge keeping 50p of every ticket sold from their page. Funds raised go directly back to the children, providing them with experiences such as pantomimes, books and memorable experiences throughout their time at Green Ridge.

As you can appreciate, over the last year it has been especially difficult for the PTA, as many of our annual fundraising traditions have had to have been cancelled. It would be absolutely fantastic if you (and your family and friends!) were able to support us by supporting the Green Ridge Vale Lottery.

To buy lottery tickets, click [here](#), or see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more details.

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

MENU WEEK 1	
24 th	8.00am YR Multi-Skills Enrichment Club 1.30pm Parent Forum Meeting 3.20pm Y1 Multi-Skills Enrichment Club 4.00pm Peer Mentoring Buckinghamshire Mind Webinar
25 th	AM – Y4 swimming lesson Guitar lessons 3.20pm Y2 Multi-Skills Enrichment Club
26 th	8.00am Y2 Gymnastics Enrichment Club 3.20pm Y4 & Y5 Football Enrichment Club
27 th	3.20pm Y3 Multi-Sports Enrichment Club
28 th	PTA non-uniform day Children break for half-term

Letters sent home this week

Year 1 Class Arrangements for September 18 05 21

Parent and School Staff Mental Health Webinar

Buckinghamshire Mind's Children and Young People's Team would like to invite you to a Parent and School Staff Webinar, as part of the Peer Support in Schools Service.

This informal session will include:

- Opportunity to learn about the Peer Support in Schools Service and other services provided by Buckinghamshire Mind
- Starting the conversation around mental health
- Signposting to useful organisations
- Safe space to ask questions
- Build support networks with the school and other parents/families

When: Monday 24th May 2021, 16:00-17:30

Where: Zoom

Webinar link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86126181973?pwd=N1Fsb21Dd2d2VjY0bjVvQXhxTnFqUT09>

Meeting ID: 861 2618 1973

Passcode: 095297

