

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Summer Term 2021

Edition 32

Friday, 28th May 2021

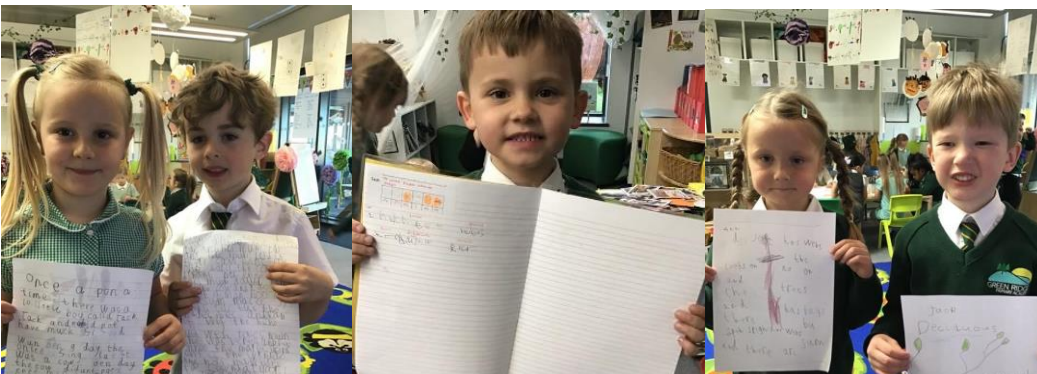
A note from the Acting Head of School

Hello to everyone and welcome to this week's newsletter. This has been a much brighter week with the sun providing a nice change from the weeks of rain we have been having. Hopefully this is something that will continue into the half term break and give everyone a chance to get outside!

We have had the pleasure of another member of the REAch2 family in this week with Mrs Redgrove coming in to talk to the teachers and children about some of our curriculum areas. During this time, we have been able to share the excellent work the children have been producing within their Writing lessons and their learning within Computing. Year Five were able to share their expertise on programming and it is brilliant to see how much skill and knowledge they have gained over the past few years! The children also spoke confidently about their writing and the tools they use to help them improve their work. They have all been working so hard on their presentation and Reception have impressed me with their writing presentation, letter formation and recall of the stories they have been learning. Reverend Gareth Lane was also another guest we had this week, although this was through a prerecorded video! He was able to share his knowledge about Pentecost with the children. Later on in the week, the children then explored Buddhism within their collective worship session and specifically Wesak, which falls on the full moon day in April or May. I expect quite a few children were looking out their window throughout the week to see the full moon! This week has ended with our PTA non-uniform day and I wanted to say a big thank you to all parents/carers for your contributions today. These will be used to continue to improve the learning experiences of the children in the school and thank you to the PTA as well. As this half term comes to a close, I hope that you all get a chance to have a rest and we hope that you can spend some valuable time together and, where permitted, time with friends and family. We are looking forward to seeing you all next half term and continue with the children's learning journey!

Mr. Sean English

Acting Head of School



(ABOVE) Reception have been busy producing some wonderful work this week. It's been fantastic to see what they have achieved and we look forward to seeing them all progress in their final half term before they move up to Year One in September.

"Thank you to Mr. English and the other members of staff who hosted the RSE sessions last week. They were very informative, and it's greatly appreciated that you took the time to share the information with parents/carers."

Some positive feedback regarding the RSE sessions that were held via Zoom last week

In This Issue

- Sponsored Read
- GRAND TOTAL
- Enrichment
Clubs – Clothing
Reminder
- Busy Living
Proposed Holiday
Club
Questionnaire

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)	A'isha	working so hard to improve in phonics and writing.
Birch (YR)	Sienna	her hard work to make her writing neater and improve her letter formation.
Willow (YR)	Cassia and Francis	writing out the whole of Jack and the Beanstalk during continuous provision.
Beech (Y1)	Ella S- S	fantastic independent work this week
Elm (Y1)	Aaliyah and Mya	their excellent innovated Pizza! Pizza! poems and their beautiful presentation.
Oak (Y2)	Bella	her wonderful achievement in maths this week revisiting addition strategies.
Plane (Y2)	Poppy	a fantastic improvement in her handwriting and presentation.
Alder (Y3)	Jessica	a great range of vocabulary in our recent poetry unit.
Cedar (Y3)	Kian	great reasoning skills in maths
Rowan (Y4)	Alexander	regularly sharing incredible scientific knowledge with his classmates
Maple (Y5)	Mustapha	applying mastery skills when tackling problems involving

		calculating angles around a point.
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	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Alfie	solving subtraction problems independently.
Willow (YR)	Noah	fabulous progress with his reading and writing- what a star.
Beech (Y1)	Jess	writing a beautifully presented poem. Amazing handwriting!
Elm (Y1)	Shaylan	his excellent progress in independent reading and his comprehension skills!
Oak (Y2)	Miggy	improvements to his presentation.
Plane (Y2)	Adeena	her fantastic poetry writing this week, using a range of brilliant rhyming words.
Alder (Y3)	Olly	good understanding of how plants disperse seeds in Science.
Cedar (Y3)	Elijah	great teamwork and demonstration during PE.
Cedar (Y3)	Keyan-Lee	having 100% attendance this half-term.
Rowan (Y4)	Noah	developing his accuracy of capital letters and using self-editing more often in written lessons.
Maple (Y5)	Arthur	For taking such pride in improving his handwriting and for asking for help with it when needed.

PAP Stars

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

Beech (Y1)	Quinn	Elm (Y1)	Shayne
Oak (Y2)	Yarina	Plane (Y2)	Ayaan
Alder (Y3)	Shannon	Cedar (Y3)	Keyan-Lee
Rowan (Y4)	Auben	Maple (Y5)	Aidan

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	91.0%	Willow (YR)	97.3%
Beech (Y1)	99.3%	Elm (Y1)	97.4%
Oak (Y2)	93.4%	Plane (Y2)	95.0%
Alder (Y3)	95.7%	Cedar (Y3)	97.0%
Rowan (Y4)	99.3%	Maple (Y5)	95.8%

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Disraeli	164	4496
Pratchett	325	4157
Austin	399	4633
Redgrave	655	4806

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...
Archie Y1, Elm	finishing a memory walk for his big sister Daisy at the weekend. He walked round Blenheim Palace with his family and also completed the caterpillar trail, which he had to find the knitted caterpillars and write down their names and what they liked doing! He got a medal and a prize at the end of the walk.
Megan Y2, Plane	getting her stage 3 swimming badge last Christmas but due to lockdown she has only just managed to get her certificate and badge. She's now always in the deep end and already being used each week to demonstrate something after only three lessons in the next stage.



What have we been learning this week?

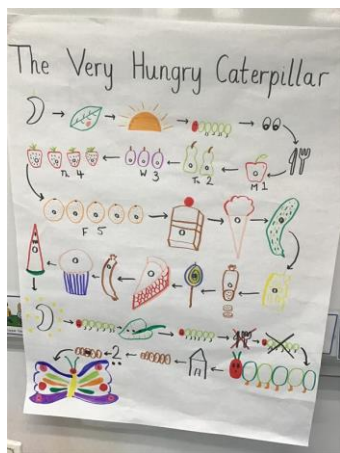
Little Ridges Nursery



What a fantastic last week of this half term! We have learnt all about minibeasts this week and the children were very excited about our caterpillars growing and building their cocoon! Miss. Gaiger is going to take them home over half term, so please do keep an eye out on Tapestry for updates on them. We have redone some of the children's

favourite activities this week, such as the ice cream parlour which the children have loved! They have learnt the Makaton for butterfly and the words of the week were rough and small. The Berries have really enjoyed the Minibeast Bop story and learning lots of rhyming words this week. There has also been lots of excitement about the plants that the children planted which are now growing! When the children return after half term, we will be learning about the weather so let's hope we get some sunshine over half term! We hope you have a lovely break and we look forward to seeing what you have been doing on Tapestry.

We would also like to remind you that we are a **nut free school**. We do **not** allow any nut-based products in school and ask that you do not send your child in with any of these products in their packed lunch. Thank you for your cooperation.



Little Acorns have completed the half term theme of, 'It's a Bugs Life' by ending on learning all about bees! On Tuesday, we even had a chance to try honey on a piece of toast or on a cracker. It ended up being very popular, with lots of children saying they liked the taste of the honey! We have been practising our Talk4Writing story,

'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' – I wonder if your child can recite this to you at home?

We have continued to recap the phonemes, s,a,t,p,i,n in phonics and the children have thoroughly enjoyed sorted different objects by identifying their initial sound in the word.

It has been a fantastic half term learning all about different bugs and we are so proud of all the children's progress. Next term, our topic is 'To Infinity and Beyond' and we look forward to learning all about Space!

Reception



This week in Reception we have been thinking all about trees. The children have learned about the difference between a deciduous and evergreen tree as well as hunting around our grounds for what types of tree they can find. We have been working so hard in maths trying to write our numbers correctly, please can

you support your child at home with the correct formation. We spent some time looking back at the progress the children have made since they started in Reception, you should all feel so proud of their journey so far and how well they have come on, we certainly are! Have a lovely, restful half term and we will look forward to seeing you in June for our final term together.

Year One

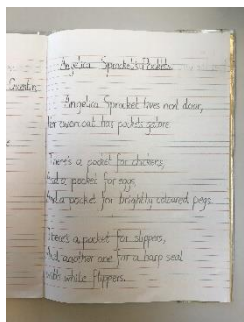


Year 1 have had a superb week this week. They have been creating poems in English and innovated the text Spaghetti! Spaghetti! To write their own food themed poetry. In Maths, we have been exploring shapes and cutting up shapes into quarters. The children did this practically with paper shapes. In Theme, the children looked into Seaside

Holidays and we began comparing the Victorian era to the 1950's. In Computing, the children began creating their own electronic cards and began inputting text. We hope you all have a lovely half term break and a well-earned rest! In Science, we looked into wild and garden plants and investigated what we could find around the school site.



Year Two



This week Year 2 have been learning all about poetry written by Sir Quentin Blake. Our week began by performing lots of poems before identifying the features such as his use of rhyming couplets, repeated phrases and his use of onomatopoeia. A particular favourite of ours was 'Angelica

Sprocket's Pockets', which we had great fun learning and innovating.

Year Three

Year 3 have been learning to tell the time. We have been looking at o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to, we were learning to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes. We learned that there are 60 minutes in 1 hour. Because there are 12 numbers around the clock, we worked out that there are 5 minutes between each number. We learned that, when the minute hand is on the right-hand side of the clock, we say 'past' the hour (e.g. ten past three). On the left-hand side of the clock, we say 'to' the next hour (e.g. five to two). We did lots of practice making the time using our own clocks and spotting mistakes in other clocks.



Year Four



The children have made the most of the sunshine returning this week and enjoyed both a Maths lesson and a SPaG lesson outside. In Maths, the pupils have been dealing with money - estimating amounts, adding and subtracting and giving correct change. They finished the half term with a

house TT Rockstars battle to boost their times tables recall before their assessment in June.

Year Five

This week, year 5 have been looking at accurately drawing lines and angles, as well as calculating angles on a straight line and around a point. The children have been planning and writing a balanced argument based on our Science debate last week on the pros and cons of zoos. In Science, the children have been researching naturalists as well as animals with unusual life cycles, and in History, we have been looking at Anne Frank and the Holocaust.

In the first two weeks back after school, Mr Arnold will be taking a whole school assembly on eSafety. Following our eSafety ambassador training that the Year 5s undertook in Autumn term, it would be lovely to have some child input in this! If you would like to help Mr Arnold, feel free to make a PowerPoint about how to stay safe online that you would be willing to share in front of the school, and he may pick someone to help him out for the assembly.

News items from this week

Sponsored Read – GRAND TOTAL



We are pleased to say that an astonishing £1360.00 was raised from our sponsored

read!

All money raised will go towards buying brand new Usborne books for our school and Usborne Books will also donate up to 60% of the total raised in **EXTRA FREE BOOKS** to the school.

Thank you to all those that participated! ☺

Enrichment Clubs – Clothing Reminder

As some enrichment clubs have now returned, we would like to remind you that children are required to wear their own clothes and **not** their PE kits to the sessions. This is to prevent children from taking their kits home and not returning them when they are required for their PE lessons. For morning clubs, children are asked to attend the club in their own appropriate clothes and they will be provided with adequate time to get changed in to their uniform at the end of the session, before the school day begins. For afternoon clubs, children will be given the opportunity to change out of their uniform in to appropriate clothes at the beginning of the session. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Busy Living Proposed Holiday Club Questionnaire



Busy Living have asked for us to share with you this [link](#) to a short questionnaire to gauge the viability of running a holiday club based at the school during all school

holidays (excluding the final two weeks of the summer holidays and the Christmas holidays).

Without any obligation, please answer the questions, even if you are **not** interested in using the club at this present time as your feedback/comments will be invaluable in helping us plan this potential new club at Green Ridge. Thank you for your help with this.

Contact Tracing over May Half-Term

Schools continue to play an important role in contact tracing for students and staff. We recognise the challenges of this responsibility during holidays, but this remains vitally important in the continued national effort to limit the spread of the virus.

Where students or staff test positive for COVID-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms more than two days since being in school or college, no action is needed. However, where students or staff test

positive having developed symptoms within two days of being in school, you are asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

We are therefore asking you to complete a Microsoft Form in order to let us know as we cannot guarantee that emails will be picked up promptly due to the school office being closed. You can find the form by following this [link](#).

We would also be grateful if you could inform us of any positive test results or the need to self-isolate during the holiday period. This will also help to identify the children who will **not** be returning to school on Monday, 7th June due to having to self-isolate, having developed symptoms, tested positive or been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support with this.

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

If you're struggling with feelings of anxiety or panic, one thing Young Minds UK suggests is making a 'self-soothe box'. A BBC article explains this [here](#). This could be adapted for children and teenagers too. Here is an example from an illustrator.



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 2 8 and 30. For more information please follow this [link](#).

INTRODUCING GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER HISTORY MONTH - JUNE

Gypsies, Roma and Travellers are the largest ethnic minority community in the European Union. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month celebrates all the different ways in which the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities add to the vibrancy of life in the UK.

Helen introduces Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month

Article of the Week:
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month

Linked Articles:

- Article 2 – Non-discrimination**
The Convention applies to every child without discrimination.
- Article 8 – Protection and preservation of identity**
Every child has the right to an identity.
- Article 30 – Children from minority or indigenous groups**
Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family.

UNICEF UNITED KINGDOM

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

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! 😊

Green Ridge Writing Competition

Over the Easter holidays, Mr. Ladyman set the children of Green Ridge the exciting task of taking part in our first ever creative writing competition. We had over 40 entries from Reception up to Year Five, which included some amazing stories! The entries were judged by Mr. Ladyman, Miss. Gardiner, Mrs. Mackie, Mr. Foster, Miss. South, Mr. Kaye, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Ventin and Mr. Needs, who thoroughly enjoyed reading all your imaginative stories. With such an amazing selection, you made our job of choosing very difficult, however we are extremely pleased to announce the winners are as follows:

- 1st Place KS1 - Logan - £15 Waterstones Voucher
- Runner Up - Zoe - £5 Waterstones Voucher
- 1st Place KS2 - Jessie - £15 Waterstones Voucher
- Runner Up - Jessica - £5 Waterstones Voucher

As promised, our 1st place winners will also have their stories illustrated by Mr. Ladyman and added to our Green Ridge library (sneak peek below!). Thank you again for all of your wonderful entries, it was lovely to see so many children getting involved. We can't wait for the next competition!



Sun Safe Schools

Although the children are not at school next week, we thought it would still be beneficial to share the UV forecast with you as it looks as though the weather is going to get increasingly hotter over the next few days. If the UV forecast is 3 or above, children should have sun cream applied and be provided with 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.



What's coming up?

Parent Forum Meeting – Monday, 24th May

Mr. English met with the Parent Forum Representatives on Monday and a copy of the minutes can be found on our website [here](#).

If you have any feedback of a generic nature for the school, please do talk to the class reps or complete the short questionnaire online available [here](#). Please remember that if you complete the questionnaire that it should not be for individual/child feedback or to raise concerns, you should follow the normal procedures starting with your child's class teacher.

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

PTA Non-uniform Day

Thank you for your donations for today's non-uniform day. A total of £274.10 was made! Thank you for your continued support.

easyfundraising

We wanted to remind parents and carers that Green Ridge is signed up to [easyfundraising](#) and how you can raise funds while sitting on your sofa!

It couldn't be easier! Whenever you shop online, switch energy providers or book a holiday, if you do so through [easyfundraising](#) the retailer gives a small percentage of what's been spent back to us to say thank you for shopping with them, at no cost to you.

With over 4400 online retailers involved including John Lewis, Amazon, Moonpig, Just Eat, eBay, Booking.com, Now TV, Domino's Pizza, Audible and Uswitch.

All you need to do is register and list Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA as your "Good Cause". It's quick and easy to set up, and most importantly free to join!

Thank you for your continued support. You'll be helping to make a real difference to Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA!

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 2	
7 th	8.00am YR Multi-Skills Enrichment Club 3.20pm Y1 Multi-Skills Enrichment Club
8 th	World Oceans Day AM – Y4 swimming lesson Guitar lessons 3.20pm Y2 Multi-Skills Enrichment Club
9 th	8.00am Y2 Gymnastics Enrichment Club 3.20pm Y4 & Y5 Football Enrichment Club
10 th	3.20pm Y3 Multi-Sports Enrichment Club
11 th	

Letters sent home this week

Year 1 Class Arrangements for September - Update 25 05 21

Secondary Transition Meeting 27 05 21

Easyfundraising 27 05 21

Confirmed Year Six Residential 27 05 21

Year Six Residential - Pupil Premium 27 05 21



How to raise FREE donations

3 simple steps to help Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA raise funds when shopping online



1. Sign up to easyfundraising

Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and search for Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA then click 'Support this cause'. Create your easyfundraising account, it only takes 2 minutes.



Or scan me



2. Start shopping via easyfundraising

When you want to shop online, start at the easyfundraising website or app and search for the retailer you want to shop with. There are **over 4,500** well known retailers to choose from.

3. Get free donations

Click 'Shop now' to visit the retailer's website and shop as normal. Because you started at easyfundraising, the retailer will give a free donation to Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA.

