

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term 2021

Edition 9

Friday, 12th November 2021

A note from the Headteacher

It was great to see so many of you coming along to support our PTA Fireworks last Saturday night. Luckily, the weather and wind held out for us (just) and we had a fantastic display. Thank you for playing your part to support us in our fundraising efforts, and I know events such as these make a huge difference the overall amount of money, we can raise each year. Our next big event is our Festive Christmas Fun, and it more information about this will be coming out shortly from the PTA and some new ideas we have for this year, now that we have so many children and parents!

This week has been a busy week of learning across the school. Yesterday, all the children took part in a two-minute silence for Armistice Day, which started with an assembly led by myself and Gareth Lane. In our assembly, we looked at the reasons why we remember those who have died in wars or conflict, and those who give their lives to save others. We looked at the poem 'In Flanders Fields', and looked at some of the many people who helped fight on Britain's side in World War One, including the first female member of the army, and those who came from all over the world as part of Britain's empire in Australia, New Zealand, India, South Africa and Canada to help in the fight to bring peace. Thank you for everyone who helped donate funds to the Royal British Legion by buying remembrance poppies or symbols; I know we have raised an incredible amount of money for such a worthwhile cause. You'll see below some of the learning that was going on in Early Years this week to coincide with Remembrance Day, and I was extremely impressed with the children's compassion across the school as they reflected on those who had lost their lives.

Year Six had a fantastic Geography trip yesterday to Amersham – more in the newsletter about this later. Have a lovely weekend,

A. A. Wanford

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



(ABOVE) Our Head Pupils have been busy supporting Mr. Morris by helping sell the Royal British Legion Poppy Merchandise this week. We had a whole-school assembly yesterday followed by two minutes silence and there has been a sea of Remembrance Day activities across the school this week.

"It was great to understand the school's approach to learning and how the children are taught at Green Ridge."

"It was beneficial to be provided with further information and details about the admissions process."

"I found the presentation and tour very informative."

*More positive
feedback from the
Reception 2022
Prospective
Parent/Carer Open
Morning held on
Wednesday*

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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)	Freya	using her imagination and working in a team to create a LEGO stop motion movie.
Willow (YR)	Emily	having a positive attitude for learning.
Beech (Y1)	Alayna	writing a fantastic story about Dolly Driver.
Elm (Y1)	Aleksander	creating an excellent story about Dotty the Train Driver.
Oak (Y2)	Max	working hard on difficult money problems in Maths.
Plane (Y2)	Ellie	working hard to challenge herself when learning about money in Maths this week.
Alder (Y3)	Charlie	being a helping hand around the classroom and for working hard.
Cedar (Y3)	Wynn timer	helping her peers during our maths lessons on column subtraction.
Ash (Y4)	Samuel	his eloquent and well-thought-out responses during 'inputs' and pupil voice.
Rowan (Y4)	Jessie	a fantastic Maya information page.
Maple (Y5)	Ramaa	her efforts in maths and for supporting her peers.
Hawthorn (Y6)	Amelia	effective use of visuals to help with

		manipulating fractions.
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	<i>Certificate of Progress</i>	<i>For...</i>
Birch (YR)	Dwiti	becoming more involved in her learning during carpet time.
Willow (YR)	Kendrick	building his confidence to answer questions during whole class inputs.
Beech (Y1)	Katie	improving her handwriting and presentation.
Elm (Y1)	Daisy W	writing independently and using her phonics to create descriptive sentences.
Oak (Y2)	Ella	using her phonics knowledge to help write sentences about the tooth fairy.
Plane (Y2)	Krithik	a huge improvement in his writing this week, using his green pencil to self-edit.
Alder (Y3)	Izzy	becoming increasingly confident during maths and being more resilient on trickier questions.
Cedar (Y3)	Harry	developing his scientific language whilst exploring different rocks this week.
Ash (Y4)	Zian	improving his understanding and accuracy of capital letters and full stops.
Rowan (Y4)	Junior	a huge improvement with swimming. Taking on feedback and believing in himself.
Maple (Y5)	Laila	her independence in maths.
Hawthorn (Y6)	Faith	using formal language consistently in our newspaper report based on Skellig.

PAP Stars

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

Beech (Y1)	Roseanna	Elm (Y1)	Herbie
Oak (Y2)	Diya	Plane (Y2)	Theo
Alder (Y3)	Ayaan	Cedar (Y3)	Bella
Ash (Y4)	Alfie	Rowan (Y4)	Elijah
Maple (Y5)	Lana	Hawthorn (Y6)	Kallie-Rae

Weekly Attendance

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

Birch (YR)	97.3%	Willow (YR)	96.9%
Beech (Y1)	97.0%	Elm (Y1)	97.0%
Oak (Y2)	98.7%	Plane (Y2)	96.0%
Alder (Y3)	97.4%	Cedar (Y3)	95.2%
Ash (Y4)	99.0%	Rowan (Y4)	96.3%
Maple (Y5)	97.7%	Hawthorn (Y6)	98.7%

House Points

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

House	Points this week	Total
Austin	199	1913
Disraeli	180	1680
Pratchett	168	1596
Redgrave	161	1773

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 08/11/21	KS1	KS2
Monday	Thirsty	Diverse
Tuesday	Ground	Fabricate
Wednesday	Nickname	Debacle
Thursday	Ambulance	Cajole
Friday	Weekend	Impartial

w/c 15/11/21	KS1	KS2
Monday	Brick	Belligerent
Tuesday	Straw	Consecutive
Wednesday	Basket	Conspicuous
Thursday	Scarf	Simultaneous
Friday	Cloak	Diligent

What have we been learning this week?

Little Ridges Nursery



In Little Berries this week we have been focusing on what pets we have at home or in our family. The children really enjoyed sharing their photos from home and talking about their pets. We learnt about Remembrance Day and made our own poppy out of handprints. The children also did incredibly well with the two-minute silence on

Thursday, well done Berries! Next week our focus is how we look after our pets and what they need, so we will be grooming and caring for them in our vets. The Berries have learnt the Makaton for dog and the word of the week has been thirsty. Next week is also nursery rhyme week, anti-bullying week and road safety week, so please do look out for lots of exciting activities focusing on these themes. Thank you for your helicopter stories you have done at home, we look forward to seeing more acting and stories. Have a lovely weekend!



This week, Little Acorns have been learning all about the fire service. They particularly enjoyed a number game challenge where the children were encouraged to roll the dice, count (or subitise) the number of spots on the dice and spray the matching numeral on the 'fire'. For Talk4Writing, we are learning 'Five Little Firefighters' and the

children have impressed us by remembering the actions so well. Throughout the week we have discussed Remembrance Day and the children have had some great questions after watching the lovely CBeebies video called, 'Poppies'. Most of the children created a wonderful poppy and they enjoyed 'planting' them outside.



Reception



This week in Reception we have welcomed the wonderful Miss. Fox to our team, and she has loved getting to know all of the children in EYFS. It has been a busy week in Reception, and we have been creating our very own LEGO stop motion movies. The children have loved working in teams and building different things

together for their movies. We have also talked about Remembrance Day and we all sat beautifully for the 2-minute silence. The children then made their own poppy pictures to remember the soldiers. We also decorated some beautiful snowflakes for Esquires Coffee Shop on Berryfields, so keep your eyes out for those. The children have also been busy practising their fine motor skills this week. Have a lovely weekend!



Year One

This week was a big week for Year One in English! After learning the Duffy Driver story last week, we worked together to innovate the text and change a few elements to make it our own. We created Dolly Driver and the Runaway Train. The children then developed their stamina for writing by writing down our innovated story over three days. We are so so proud of how hard they have worked this week. It was a massive jump in terms of expectations, and they did so well! In History, we have started learning about transport and this week we went back in time to see how transport has evolved over time. The children were fascinated by the idea of sedan chairs and decided they probably tipped over a lot! We also looked at penny-farthings which they thought were very strange looking! Perhaps they can share some of their learning at home!

Year Two

Year 2 have had a great week this week. In History, the children took part in a 'Great Fire of London Table Quiz'. They amazed Miss Broadbent and Miss Field with all the facts they had remembered about the Great Fire and the people involved. After this, they worked collaboratively with their table groups to create posters to present the information they had learned. In Art this

week, Year 2 started to design their own mugs, taking inspiration from Emma Bridgewater's designs. They thought about how they could include the key features of Emma Bridgewater's pottery, for example, the bright colours and repeated patterns. We can't wait to start making our mugs out of clay next week!

Year Three

This week seems to have absolutely flown by in year 3. We spent some time at the start of the week delving into our latest PSHE unit, looking at what exactly it means to be a 'good friend' and considering a good friend's qualities. We made either a digital poster or a Scratch animation to portray our understanding of this. As well as this, we have been classifying and comparing rocks in Science, thinking about the different properties they have and on Thursday we spent a good amount of time investigating their permeability. We have enjoyed starting netball and quicksticks hockey and are now gaining some good skills in these areas. As a year group, we came together with the rest of the school in a virtual remembrance assembly to dedicate our time and pay respects to those who tragically lost their lives - lest we forget. Finally, it was so nice for Cedar Class to have their parent library session, thank you to all of the parents who came, it was a really lovely morning.

Year Four

This week, Year 4 have been writing our own instructions based on our model text of 'how to keep a teacher happy'. We started our new history unit on the Maya civilisation and looked at who the Mayas were and what was special about them. In maths, we have started our measurement unit and have been converting from mm to cm.

Year Five

This week in Computing, Year 5 have been using Scratch to create animations. We started by drawing our own sprites, then added commands and variables to animate them. We then started to use the broadcast feature so that our sprites would tell you a joke. The children had great fun doing this, and next week we will begin creating dialogue between two sprites.



Year Six

This week, Year 6 have continued investigating journalistic writing, writing a newspaper article about the mysterious creature that Michael discovered in his garage. In Maths, we have been focusing on placing

fractions onto a number line from 0 to 1, as well as converting improper fractions into mixed numbers and vice versa. In Science, we had a wonderful visit on Thursday to Amersham Field Society Centre where we explore different types of invertebrates that can be found in ponds and in woodlands. In History, we had a look at some of the different ways that animals were used to help the troops during the War.

News items from this week

Book Swap Shop

In the main school entrance foyer, we have a trolley containing books which the children are welcome to borrow to enjoy at home. Donations are also gratefully received. Please do come along to take a look add/borrow/swap from our collection!

SchoolGrid – New Lunch Ordering System

Since launching last week, SchoolGrid appears to be running smoothly and the children (and staff!) are excited by the new system. The new menu has also been a hit with the children. There are a few things in which could be improved, so we kindly ask that you take note of the following.

- Please ensure that lunches are ordered if you do not provide your child with a packed lunch otherwise they will be provided with a jacket potato (you have up until 8.55am on the day to order or can order weeks in advance which we strongly encourage)
- Where possible, please refrain from sending your child in to school with a packed lunch if a school meal has been ordered to reduce wastage (we do however appreciate that this is sometimes encouraged in Reception)
- Please spend adequate time discussing the options with your child. We are finding that some children are dissatisfied or are under the impression that something else should have been ordered when arriving in the hall to collect their lunch (please remember that we are unable to provide your child with another option if they are unhappy with what has been ordered)

Thank you for your cooperation with this!

Parent Forum 2021-22 – Minutes & Vacant Spaces

Mr. Wanford met with the Parent Forum Representatives on Tuesday for the second Parent Forum meeting of the year 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.

We still have some vacant spaces for **Acorns, Birch, Beech, Oak, Cedar, Ash, Maple** and **Hawthorn**. If you would like to put your name forward to be a representative, please [email](#) Mrs. Curtis-Cross in the school office.

Just a reminder that the next Parent Forum meeting will be taking place on **Monday, 10th January** at **2.15pm** in school.

Data Collection Sheets and Consent Packs

Data Collection Sheets and Consent Packs were sent home with our Key Stage One children last week. Can we kindly ask that you take the time to check them to ensure that the information that we have on file is correct. Please amend where necessary, sign and return by next **Friday, 19th November**.

Data Collection Sheets and Consent Packs will be sent home with our KS2 children soon.

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! 😊

Polite Reminder...

Can we kindly ask parents/carers to be cautious when driving on the school premises. A few parents/carers have raised their concerns regarding the speed in which some people are driving when dropping off/picking up. Please be considerate and keep speed to the absolute minimum. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

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, 12 and 19. For more information, please follow this [link](#).

INTRODUCING ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Stuart introduces Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week 2021: One Kind Word

Anti-Bullying Week takes place across the UK from 15 to 19 November 2021. There are three articles that provide a particularly strong link this week.

Article 2 – Non-discrimination: The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Article 12 – Respect for the views of the child: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them.

Article 19 – Protection from violence, abuse and neglect: Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment.

unicef UNITED KINGDOM

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

What's coming up?

Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week – Monday, 15th November



As part of Anti-Bullying Week, on Monday, 15th November we are joining many other schools across the country to

hold an Odd Socks Day. Aimed at early years and primary school children, the day encourages young children to wear odd socks for the day, celebrating their uniqueness. Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun and it's an opportunity for children to express themselves and appreciate individuality. All they have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler!

Reception Trip to Windsor Castle – Thursday, 13th January

On Tuesday you will have received a letter regarding the Reception trip to Windsor Castle on Thursday, 13th January. Can we kindly ask that you complete the Microsoft Form (by following this [link](#)) and make the £13.00 payment via Arbor by 3.30pm today (Friday, 10th December). Don't forget to let us know if you are available and willing to help on the day when completing the form!

Children in Need Pyjama Day – Friday 19th November



Green Ridge will be marking Children in Need next Friday, 19th November with a Pyjama Day and a £1.00 donation

towards the worthwhile charity. Children should come dressed in their comfiest pyjamas - the brighter the better! The donation should be handed to your child's class teacher in a named envelope on the Friday morning. Please ensure that your child still brings their coat and normal school belongings as necessary.

Phonics and English Stay and Learn Sessions

We are delighted to announce we will be hosting our first post-COVID stay and learn sessions across the school. Taking on feedback from previous sessions we have spilt them across the week to accommodate parents/carers with more than one child. The sessions will be as follows.

Early Years (Nursery and Reception)

Tuesday, 23rd November from 9.00-10.00am

Key Stage One (Year One and Two)

Wednesday, 24th November from 9.00-10.00am

Key Stage Two (Year Three, Four, Five and Six)

Thursday, 25th November from 9.00-10.00am

You are welcome to come into class with your child at drop off and join in with our morning routines before the Phonics or English session starts. We kindly ask that you wear a face covering for the duration of your visit and do **not** attend should you have any COVID symptoms. We are looking forward to welcoming lots of you back into school!

Reception 2022 Prospective Parent/Carer Open Events

We are holding a number of open events for prospective parents/carers to come and visit the school and meet Mr. Wanford and our team of staff. The events are as follows:

- Wednesday, 17th November 1.45pm

The open events will give you an opportunity to have a tour of the school and Mr. Wanford will give a short presentation about the academy, its vision and ethos, and helpful information to those parents and carers who intend to apply.

Further information and our admissions policy can be found on our website [here](#) and we kindly ask that you complete this [form](#) to book a place at one of the open events.

Please note that applications opened on Wednesday, 3rd November and close at midnight on Saturday, 15th January. National offer day is on Tuesday, 19th April.

Take a Look and Read a Book – Library Sessions

Yesterday you should have received a letter regarding library sessions which will be taking place in which parents/carers are welcome to attend and enjoy a library session with their child. Parents/carers will be required to support their child with their library skills by perhaps helping them select books and putting them back correctly, scanning books in and out using our library system or by reading both fiction and non-fiction books. We look forward to hopefully seeing you on the following dates.

Y2 Oak – Wednesday, 12th January 1.30-2.00pm

Y2 Plane – Wednesday, 19th January 1.30-2.00pm

Y1 Elm – Monday, 17th January 1.30-2.00pm

Y1 Beech – Monday, 24th January 1.30-2.00pm

YR Willow – Friday, 28th January 1.15-1.45pm

YR Birch – Friday, 11th February 1.15-1.45pm

YN Little Acorns – Tuesday, 1st March 10.30-11.00am

YN Little Acorns – Thursday, 10th March 2.30-3.00pm

YN Little Berries – Tuesday, 15th March 10.30-11.00am

YN Little Berries – Thursday, 24th March 2.30-3.00pm

PTA News

PTA Fireworks Night



On Saturday we had our Fireworks Night and we hope, that if you were able to come, you enjoyed it as much as we did! It was a great success and we are making the final count but we have hopefully raised over **£4,000** which is an amazing amount! If you have any photos or videos from the night that you would be happy to share with us, please email them to pta@greenridgeacademy.co.uk.

Christmas Cards

On Tuesday a sample of your child's Christmas card design was sent home and a letter was also sent with further information about how to order.

By ordering these cards, not only will you have very special Christmas cards to send, but also every item ordered raises money for the PTA. Please place your order by following this [link](#) where you can order packs of Christmas cards, mugs, tea towels, gift tags, tote bags, and wrapping paper all featuring your child's design.

You do not need to return the order form included with your sample. It is included as a guide only.

Please check your details and that your child's name is correct and appears how you wish it to on the items you order. When you order online you will be asked to confirm any required spelling amendments. Once your order has been placed, we cannot make any further changes. Please place separate orders for each child you are ordering for. This is to ensure you receive the correct items and any amendments are made to the correct child's details.

We would also ask, if you are able to, to help us further by paying the small processing fee when prompted at checkout. This means the PTA is able to receive the full amount for these items.

The deadline for all orders is Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 10pm.

What's happening next week at Green Ridge?

MENU WEEK 3	
15 th	Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week 3.15pm: Y1-Y2 Football Enrichment Club
16 th	Year One Trip to St Albans Cathedral 11.00am: Year Four Rowan Swimming Lesson 3.15pm: KS2 Sewing Enrichment Club
17 th	11.00am: Year Four Ash Swimming Lesson 1.45pm: Reception 2022 Prospective Parent/Carer Open Event 3.15pm: Y5-Y6 Football Enrichment Club 3.15pm: KS1 Choir Enrichment Club 3.15pm: KS2 Chess Enrichment Club
18 th	Year Two Trip to St Paul's Cathedral 3.15pm: KS1 Board Games Enrichment Club 3.15pm: Y3-Y6 Gymnastics Enrichment Club
19 th	Children in Need Pyjama Day 3.15pm: Y3-Y4 Football Enrichment Club

Letters sent home this week

Christmas Cards 09 11 21

Reception Trip to Windsor Castle 09 11 21

Winter Light Display at Waddesdon Manor 10 11 21

Flu Vaccinations 11 11 21

Countdown to Christmas 11 11 21