

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term

Issue 3

Friday, 22nd September 2023

A note from the Headteacher

Over the last week I have had the privilege of selecting our Head Pupils for this academic year. Back in the summer term, I asked our new Year Six pupils to apply for the posts, if they felt they could demonstrate the qualities and skills needed of representing Green Ridge as our eldest ambassadors. After many applications were received, a group of the governing body and I met to shortlist and invite selected pupils to a formal interview with myself and Sophy Davies, our Chair of Governors. I have been so impressed by the quality of the applications received, and the maturity and passion of those pupils who we interviewed. I am delighted to announce that Ema, Vincent, Jessie, and Shannon (pictured below) have been appointed as our Head Pupils for 2023/2024, and over the coming weeks you will find more about them through our newsletter as they introduce themselves.

Our first trip of the year happened on Wednesday, when Year Three visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum as a launch to their topic this term, 'Tribal Tales'. Despite it being a very wet and windy day, I think it's fair to say from what everyone has reported back that they had a fantastic day – making fire and being in the great outdoors! You can see all their pictures on via X @GreenRidgeAlder @GreenRidgeCedar

Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



Promotion of Academic Success | Rich Language, Literacy & Communication
Inclusion | Diversity | Enrichment

Website: www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk

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Celebrations & Achievements

	Certificate of Achievement	Certificate of Progress	PAP Stars
Birch (YR)	Thomas	Ivy	-
Hazel (YR)	Nina	Bradley	-
Willow (YR)	Zachary	Lara	-
Beech (Y1)	Pippa	Bonnie	Ethan R
Elm (Y1)	Aathav	Olivia	Jack
Lime (Y1)	Aurora	Finlay	Shay
Oak (Y2)	Sofia	Miliya	Phoebe
Plane (Y2)	Livia	Harlee	Abigial
Alder (Y3)	Adam	Leila D	Willow
Cedar (Y3)	Ana	Francis	Aaliyah
Ash (Y4)	Andre	Lily-Sue	Ethan
Rowan (Y4)	Oliver	Jenna	Darcey C
Maple (Y5)	Casey	Harrison	Preesha
Sycamore (Y5)	Izzy	Ruby	Wynnie
Hawthorn (Y6)	Nathan	Keyan-Lee	Ava
Aspen (Y6)	Jacob	Amelia	Taya

Attendance Award
Well done to Beech class for the highest attendance of 99.6% this week!

House Points		
House	Points this week	Total
Austin	300	502
Disraeli	171	392
Pratchett	258	445
Redgrave	290	510



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News, Updates & Reminders

Meet Ema – one of our Head Pupils



Hello, I'm Ema Vasileva from Year Six Hawthorn. I joined Green Ridge in 2017, when it was the size of our car park and learning was being done in portable cabins. I'm proud that I have been part of the school since the very beginning and have grown over the years with it, and

that's when I knew I wanted to become a head pupil. I hope that I can show everyone around me that learning, school and being a role-model is something you should be proud of. I also hope that soon we can have more competitions with other schools (e.g. maths, chess). I like reading, writing, digital drawing, pottery, challenges, and animals. I dislike creepy-crawlies, horror movies, losing and climate change. I hope that I can use my role as head pupil to make the school even better and more exciting this year. I look forward to trying to help!

Meet the Teacher – slides and information

Copies of all the information shared at our Meet the Teacher sessions last week are now available on our website for all parents/carers to access. Please follow the links below.

[YR Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y2 Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y4 Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y6 Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y1 Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y3 Meet the Teacher](#)

[Y5 Meet the Teacher](#)

Packed Lunches

For those children bringing in a packed lunch, please ensure that they are provided in an appropriate sealed container that is clearly named. These will be sorted on our lunchbox trolleys. We encourage you to provide a healthy, balanced lunch in support of our healthy eating policy and no fizzy drinks, glass bottles, confectionary or sweets are to be provided. We are a nut-free school therefore children must not bring in any food containing nuts, regardless of their nutritional value. Please check cereal bars and other similar products as they often have traces of nuts, which are also not permitted.

Parent Forum Reps 2023/2024

We are now looking again to re-establish a Parent Forum group for this academic year. To keep the

group a manageable size, it will typically be made up of one rep for each class. Parent Forum meetings will be held each half-term. The first meeting for this half-term will be on: **Thursday, 5th October at 2.15pm**. Meetings will alternate between just after drop-off or just before pick-up to avoid unnecessary trips to school.

If you are interested in putting yourself forward to be a representative this year, please complete this [form](#) by **Sunday, 24th September**. We will communicate with all those parents/carers who express an interest to confirm whether they will be participating in the forum by Monday, 25th September.

Lockdown practice

The safety and welfare of our pupils and staff are our highest priority at Green Ridge. We practice safety drills throughout the year to help our children know what to do in an emergency. We have already conducted fire evacuations which were very successful, and children now understand what to do if they hear an alarm and how to exit the building quickly and safely.

Next week, we will be conducting a lockdown drill. A 'lockdown' procedure may be activated in response to any number of situations at the academy, but some of the more typical might be:

- A reported incident / civil disturbance in the local community (with the potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the academy)
- An intruder on the school site (with the potential to pose a risk to staff and children)
- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, of air pollution (smoke plume, Gas cloud etc.)
- A major fire in the vicinity of the school

The goals of the drills are to improve our ability to protect children, save lives, and reduce injuries. These practice drills allow us to evaluate our emergency operation plans and improve our response skills. Whilst we would not ordinarily notify you about such drills, as this is the first one your child may have experienced at Green Ridge, we wanted you to be aware. You would only be notified if there were a real emergency.

The academy will conduct at least one lockdown drill each term. In this type of drill, we will secure the school building and safely shelter all children, staff, and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the children safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During a lockdown drill, all perimeter doors to the school building will be locked and will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. To enable everyone to remain safe during the practice, no one will be allowed to enter the building or leave the building – including parents, carers or members of public.

Reception 2024 Prospective Parent/Carer Open Events

We are holding several 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:

- Tuesday, 17th October at 1.45pm
- Monday, 30th October at 6.00pm
- Tuesday, 14th November at 1.45pm
- Wednesday, 22nd November at 9.15am

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.

PTA AGM

Our AGM is on **Thursday 5th October at 7pm** please do come along, to find out how much we raised last year, what we spend that money on and spending for this current year. Or even if you are looking to join the PTA, meet the current committee or just find out more about your PTA and the upcoming events. We are always looking for volunteers and any help at all is gratefully appreciated.

PTA Second-Hand Uniform Shop

We have our online Second-Hand Shop at www.pta-events.co.uk/greenridgepta. Here you can purchase from a wide range of second-hand uniform, everything from jumpers to PE Kit. Don't forget we also sell school colour hair bands and clips for £1.50!

If you are having a clear-out, please consider donating any unwanted uniform to the PTA. Simply drop your donations into the office or contact the PTA to arrange collection. Please note we are no longer able to take donations of school shirts.

Every Tuesday and Thursday our bright yellow wheelie bin will be outside the school office for you to leave your donations.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dance Fitness with Nathan

On Monday (25th September), Mr. Ladyman will be launching a brand-new dance fitness class at Green Ridge from 7.30-8.30pm for parents/carers and the local community to attend. This is a fantastic opportunity to get active, have fun, and stay fit...!



During the session you will be guided through an hour of exciting dance routines set to the latest chart-topping hits as well as some golden oldies. Music and routines will vary week-on-week and include various styles. Whether you are a dance enthusiast or a new beginner looking to have fun while staying fit, this class is the perfect class for you! No experience necessary.

To ensure you have the best possible experience, please arrive from 7pm onwards to make payment (£7 a session, cash only!) and get yourself registered for the session. Please enter via the external hall doors. Further details can be found via this [link](#). We hope to see you there!

Road Traffic Incident

As we're sure many of you are aware, a road traffic incident occurred near the Miller and Carter roundabout yesterday morning. Sadly, one of our families were involved, but we're pleased to confirm, having spoken with them, that they're safe and well.

We're aware that this has caused some panic and concern over the last couple of days and therefore wanted to remind and encourage our pupils, parents/carers and the wider community to be careful and vigilant when travelling to and from school.

When driving, we remind you to keep speed to the absolute minimum and to be alert when driving near the local schools and Berryfields as a whole.

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Online Reputations – EYFS/KS1

Have a conversation with your child about what is and isn't acceptable to put online. You could complete a sorting activity with picture prompts and talk to them about 'permission'.

Online Reputations – KS2

Speak to your child about 'reliability'. Is everything we read online true? Explain how we should use multiple sources to gain insight and not just believe the first thing we read. Wikipedia, for example, is an open platform that anyone can edit!

Right of the Week Article 38

Article 38 – Protection in War

Every child has the right to be protected during war. No child under 15 can join the army or take part in war. This week was an apt week to celebrate this article as Thursday was International Day of Peace.



Sustainability Tip of the Week

Support Sustainable Transport

Whenever possible, encourage walking, cycling, park and stride or using public transport instead of relying solely on cars to get to school. Car shares with other families can also help reduce carbon emissions and traffic congestion. This of course contributes towards getting our Travel Tracker badges too!



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Building a Positive Relationship

- Show your child you're interested in what they like. Think of enjoyable activities you can do together.
- Think of times when you have seen a positive change in your child's behaviour and anything you could learn from that experience.
- Ask your child for their views and be willing to listen. This can help you to see things from their perspective.
- Don't give up or be too hard on yourself if things don't immediately change. Focus on small steps and achievable goals.
- Be prepared to compromise and admit you've been wrong, and sometimes make mistakes yourself.



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Important Dates & Events

Autumn Term 1

Thursday 28th September	Y2 Great Fire of London workshop (in school)
Monday 2nd October	Spina Bifida Awareness Day – Wear your t-shirt back to front 2.30pm - EYFS Parent Workshop Lets Learn Together 1 'Building Independence
Wednesday 4th October	Y4 Ancient Maya Workshop (in school)
Thursday 5 th October	7.00pm - PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Friday 6th October	3.15-4.45pm - YR/KS1 PTA Cinema Night
Thursday 12th October	9.15am – Harvest Festival assembly for Y1 parents/carers 6.30pm – Y6 parent/carers meeting to discuss leaver arrangements
Friday 13th October	Y5 workshop 'Make something amazing' (in school) 3.20-5.20pm – KS2 PTA Cinema Night
Monday 16th October	Travelling book fair in school all week
Tuesday 17th October	1.45pm – Prospective YR parent/carers information session for September 2024 entry 4.00-7.30pm – Pupil Learning Reviews
Thursday 19th October	4.00-6.30pm – Pupil Learning Reviews
Friday 20th October	Individual and sibling school photographs Children finish for half-term



Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire

MALE CARERS DROP IN

LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

**MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL-
AGE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND
FAMILIES IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

WHAT WE CAN OFFER:

- **UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING
YOUR CHILD'S ANXIETY**
- **LOW MOOD**
- **SELF-ESTEEM AND RESILANCE**
- **UNDERSTANDING COMMON
CHILDHOOD BEHAVIOURS**
- **SIGNPOSTING**



WHAT'S DIFFERENT:

**THE GROUP IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED
FOR MALE CARERS PROVIDING A SAFE
NON-JUDGEMENTAL SPACE TO ACCESS
ADVICE AND SUPPORT**

Venue: Princes Risborough Family Centre

Time: 7pm - 8pm

Date: 11th October 2023

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