

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term

Issue 4

Friday, 29th September 2023

A note from the Headteacher

It's hard to think that September draws to a close already, and the autumn term is now well-underway. The learning at Green Ridge has been fantastic this week as the children are really getting stuck into their new topics and lessons. Year Two enjoyed a brilliant workshop day yesterday, themed around The Great Fire of London, and were getting involved in all sorts of practical activities, including making some delightful potions and medicines, ink making, pottery skills, and carving their names in leather! The children were buzzing about what they were learning, and one child said to me at lunch, 'Mr. Wanford, this is the best day EVER!' Quotes like these tell us how much our children enjoy the hands-on experiences and enrichment we plan, and why we try to do as many things as possible to bring our curriculum to life. On Tuesday, the whole school celebrated and marked #europeandayoflanguages. At Green Ridge, we put a huge emphasis on and recognise the importance of rich language, literacy and communication and our German curriculum in Key Stage Two is just part of this. So many of our children (and staff) can communicate in different languages, and as part of our inclusion and diversity, it is important that we celebrate this within our school and community. When you're in school next, have a look at our door signs on each classroom which tell you which languages are spoken in every room – it is fantastic!

Next Monday is Spina Bifida awareness day at Green Ridge – further details in the newsletter.

Have a great weekend,
Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher



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

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Celebrations & Achievements

	Certificate of Achievement	Certificate of Progress	PAP Stars	Times Table Rock Stars	
				Quickest	Hardest Working
Birch (YR)	Vrushank	Ammina	-	-	-
Hazel (YR)	Edie	Zaheer	-	-	-
Willow (YR)	Fearne	Oliver	-	-	-
Beech (Y1)	Matilda	Isaac W	Cillian	-	-
Elm (Y1)	Alek S	Charlie	Brianna	-	-
Lime (Y1)	Anastasia	Aaron	Eloise	-	-
Oak (Y2)	Ayyoub	Haniya	Laila	Daniel	Jaxon
Plane (Y2)	Dennis	Ameliya	Vivienne	Alexandra	Freddie M
Alder (Y3)	Alayna	Ayaan	Maisey P	Pranamyia	Roseanna
Cedar (Y3)	R'elle	Jayden	Zoe	Ingrid	Maya
Ash (Y4)	Grace	David	Bilan	Andre	Lewis
Rowan (Y4)	Esmay	Archie	Heidi	Sophie	Quinn
Maple (Y5)	Sreejan	Ayaan	Taksh	Cairo	Charlie
Sycamore (Y5)	Inaya	Kowsik	Amelia Y	Izzy	Yarina
Hawthorn (Y6)	Alexandra	Max	George	Oliver	Junior
Aspen (Y6)	Alex	Amelia	Alfie	Norah	Luke

Attendance Award
Well done to Oak and Beech class for the highest attendance of 99% this week!

House Points		
House	Points this week	Total
Austin	255	757
Disraeli	168	560
Pratchett	233	678
Redgrave	258	768



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News, Updates & Reminders

Meet Jessie – one of our Head Pupils

Hello, my name is Jessie, and I am proud to have been chosen to be a Head Pupil this year. I am very excited to work alongside the Academy Parliament. Let me tell you a bit about myself.



I joined Green Ridge from its very first day in 2017 when I was four years old and in Reception! Over the years I have watched the school grow from the temporary building to this amazing community, and now I'm eleven years old! My favourite subjects in school are creative writing and art: I like these because you get to use your imagination however you want.

Over my years in Green Ridge, I have had fantastic opportunities such as singing at the Royal Albert Hall and Wembley Arena, horse-riding, visiting London and sleeping under the stars. I have been a member of Academy Parliament, a Prefect, an E-Safety Ambassador and Eco Council representative and now I'm Head Pupil! As a Head Pupil you should show kindness and respect to everyone you work with. I hope I will be able to let these skills shine through in my time as a Head Pupil.

I really enjoy learning about how to care for the environment and I'm hoping to share this with you soon. I am looking to involve some classes with cleaning up around Berryfields, to teach the school the importance of caring for our environment and that we only have one world.

I am looking forward to working with you this year. If you see me around school, please do come and say hello.

Spina Bifida Awareness Month – Monday, 2nd October



OCTOBER IS SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

In October, we will be celebrating and raising awareness of Spina Bifida! As part of this, we will be holding an awareness day on

Monday where our children can come into school wearing an item of clothing back to front - this could be their school jumper, dress or even

trousers! Spina Bifida is when a baby's spinal cord does not develop properly in the womb, causing a gap in the spine, this then causes difficulties for the person as they grow. We want to do our bit to raise awareness so we will be bringing the 'back' to the forefront of everyone's mind on **Monday, 2nd October**. Children do not have to take part, and this is optional – but it would be great to see some members of our community raising awareness and celebrating our diversity!

Harvest Festival Foodbank Donations

We are kindly asking children from any year group



to bring in food donations in from **Monday, 2nd October** and place them in the trolley that will be located outside the

school office each day. Please make sure all food packets are still within date or, better still, have a long-remaining 'use by' date. So that we can make a harvest display in readiness for our assembly, we kindly ask that any donations are in by **Monday, 9th October**.

Thank you in advance for any donations which you may make this year for this worthwhile cause.

Welcoming your feedback

We are aware as a large school that sometimes there are bits of feedback you want to give but are not always sure who is the right person to share this with. Whilst members of staff are always on the gates and outside each morning and afternoon, we recognise that not all parents and carers are able to 'catch' one of us if needed. Therefore, we have a range of ways that you can give us feedback, including:

- Approaching a member of staff on-site at the start/end of the day
- E-mailing admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk so that it can be passed to the relevant person/team
- Passing your feedback to your parent forum rep in your class or year-group, who meets with Mr. Wanford on a half-termly basis to pass this feedback directly.
- Dropping in a written note for the school, and putting this in the grey, metal 'feedback'

box in the main foyer (to the right as you come into the school)

- Completing our online form [here](#), which is reviewed by leaders not less than half-termly, which is then shared as part of the parent forum group.

Feedback in this sense is something which you think we could be better at, tweak for next time or consider a different approach. For this reason, it is not something that needs to be dealt with urgently, and as such the above methods of giving feedback to not rely on an instant response.

We will always share our feedback in our Parent Forum group, in whatever way the feedback is shared, and our response to this. Understandably, not all feedback is able to be taken on-board due to constraints with the building/site/curriculum, but wherever possible we will aim to explain why we can or cannot act upon the feedback given.

We ask parents/carers to be mindful of the 'Who to Contact' guide shared with you previously, which gives clear guidance of specific staff to approach for specific questions and issues which need a swift resolution.

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.

Parent Forum 2023/24

Ahead of the first meeting of the year next week (Thursday, 5th October at 2.15pm), we wanted to let you know who the class representatives are for this academic year.

Class	Representative
Nursery Little Acorns	Rachel Braidford
Reception Birch	Vacant

Reception Hazel	Vacant
Reception Willow	Sannah Khan
Year One Beech	Richard Rangel
Year One Elm	Laurilee Green
Year One Lime	Vacant
Year Two Oak	Vacant
Year Two Plane	Holly Fox
Year Three Alder	Vacant
Year Three Cedar	Kamila Dawson
Year Four Ash	Louise O'Driscoll
Year Four Rowan	Laurilee Green
Year Five Maple	Vacant
Year Five Sycamore	Vacant
Year Six Aspen	Laurilee Green
Year Six Hawthorn	Laura Nunn

As you can see, we still have numerous vacant spaces and are keen to get these filled as soon as possible. Please contact us via email to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk if you would like to put your name forward.

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, if you complete the questionnaire, 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 in this instance.

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 Cinema Club

This last week, you would have received a letter with the details of our next Cinema Club on Friday, 6th October for Reception and KS1.

Tickets can be purchased through the PTA at www.pta-events.co.uk/greenridgepta. The deadline to purchase the tickets is **Wednesday, 4th October** for Reception and KS1.

As with all our events we do need your help to run the Cinema Club, please contact the PTA or sign up to help [here](#).

If you have any problems purchasing a ticket or have any other queries, please contact the [PTA](#).

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Cyberbullying– EYFS/KS1

Have a conversation with your child regarding their online activity. How can they show kindness and respect? What does good behaviour look like online? How can it impact others if we do not use kind words online?

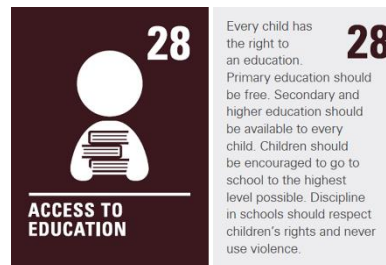
Cyberbullying – KS2

Discuss a range of ways that cyberbullying can be reported, whether that is to a trusted adult in school, a trusted adult at home or, for more serious matters, CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection).

Right of the Week Article 38

Article 28 – Access to Education

Every child has the right to an education – this should be free for primary school age children. Within an educational setting, behaviour management should respect children’s rights and not use any form of violence.



Sustainability Tip of the Week

Recycling at Home

Turn recycling into a fun detective game! Teach your children to read packaging labels. Help them identify symbols that indicate whether an item is recyclable. This not only educates them but also sharpens their observation skills.



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Children Staying Home Alone

There’s no legal age limit for a child to stay home alone, but it’s against the law to leave a child alone if it puts them at risk. Things for you to consider:

- A baby or young child should never be left alone, not even for a few minutes – whether they’re asleep or awake.
- Consider whether the environment an older child is left in is safe and their basic needs can be met independently.
- Make sure they have your number and know who/how to contact you in an emergency.
- Talk through the “what if” scenarios with your child.



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Important Dates & Events

Autumn Term 1

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 5th October	2.15pm Parent Forum Meeting 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