

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Autumn Term

Issue 13

Friday, 8th December 2023

A note from the Headteacher

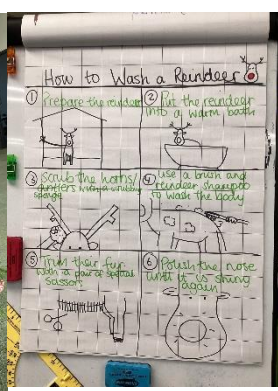
With the Christmas countdown in full-swing this week at Green Ridge, there has been lots of hype – trees, elves, tinsel, productions, and nativity songs, and not forgetting all the glitter and sparkles too! On Tuesday morning, I met with the Parent Forum reps for the last time this term, who shared some valuable feedback with me about how things are going for parents and carers and gave me an opportunity to feedback about some of the things which are going on over the next half-term. Please do look out for the link to the minutes of the meeting on our website so that you can see what was discussed and feedback from your class reps.

Mrs. Cavanagh and Miss. Gardiner were lucky enough to receive a donation from a parent who works in partnership with John Lewis as part of their Christmas advertisement with some free Snapper teddies and books which I know our children are very much going to enjoy using. Some of your Birch class children have already enjoyed using as you can see below!

We hope that many of you enjoyed the opportunity to come in and have a look at your child's work and books yesterday morning, and that this informal opportunity helps you in understanding how well your child is doing in the interim between the next pupil learning reviews in February.

As we head into the last full week of term next week, it will be busy with our Year Two Nativity production, and our Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day on Friday. I look forward to seeing some of you at the productions next week. Have a lovely 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
Birch (YR)	Skye	Ollie	-
Hazel (YR)	Elliott	Sol	-
Willow (YR)	Ivy	Gabriel	-
Beech (Y1)	Nicolas	Vanessa	Eva
Elm (Y1)	Sajini	Teddy	Tres
Lime (Y1)	Amber	Dharvi	Ruben
Oak (Y2)	Dwiti	Darcy	Ranen
Plane (Y2)	Vivienne	Evie	Livia
Alder (Y3)	Archie	Adam	Lucas
Cedar (Y3)	Selena	Trae	R'elle
Ash (Y4)	Sophie	Lewis	Andre
Rowan (Y4)	Jacob	Layla-Marie	Harry W
Maple (Y5)	Ivan	Lissy	Rishika
Sycamore (Y5)	Jacob	Alice	Izzy
Aspen (Y6)	Mia-Jade	Kayden	Dennis
Hawthorn (Y6)	Naba & Andy	Ava	Pola

Attendance Award
Well done to Alder class for the highest attendance of 99.3% this week!

House Points		
House	Points this week	Total
Austin	173	2455
Disraeli	114	2248
Pratchett	132	2152
Redgrave	198	2874



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News, Updates & Reminders

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday, 15th December



We are encouraging the children to dress festively and wear their Christmas jumpers or other appropriate festive or 'wintery' tops on **Friday, 15th December** for Christmas Jumper Day (Santa/elf hats and antlers are also welcome!). Green Ridge will be taking part in aid of the Save the Children charity. Children will still need to come in wearing the rest of their school uniform but can supplement their school jumper or cardigan as appropriate. For this day, children do **not** have to wear their shirt, blouse or tie. We kindly ask for a donation of **£1.00** on this day to go to the Save the Children charity.

Autumn Term Enrichment Clubs

Enrichment clubs will be running next week from Monday, 11th – Thursday, 14th December as normal. Please note that there will be no clubs on Monday, 18th and Tuesday, 19th December. We apologise for any confusion caused.

Lost Property Trolley

There are a significant number of jumpers, cardigans, coats, PE kits and water bottles without names being brought to the office daily. Ahead of the end of term, every day next week the lost property trolley will be accessible outside of the school office each day in the mornings from 8.35-9.00am and in the afternoons from 3.15-4.00pm.

Staffing news & updates

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Helen Campanis and Mrs. Sabeetha Fernando have been appointed as Teaching Assistants at Green Ridge and will be formally joining us early in the spring term. Further news will be shared when they start about where they will be based. Mrs. Fernando already works with us on a temporary basis in Year Two and is looking forward to joining us on a permanent basis.

We also have some more wonderful news to share with you about our staff. Mr. Harris and his wife are expecting their first baby in March, and Mr. Collard and his wife are also expecting their baby due in April. It's going to be a busy spring term at Green Ridge! Our congratulations to them, and we will communicate with Birch and Cedar parents and carers separately about arrangements whilst they are taking paternity leave in the spring term.

Arbor Text Messages

It has come to light that some parents and carers are sending us text messages to inform us about lateness or absence, we get no notifications of these messages so please be mindful when sending a text. We strongly encourage parents and carers to call the school or email in the first instance.

Absence and Sickness Procedures

Just a reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school/nursery, that you call the school on 01296 326320, and press option 1 to report the absence before 8.35am everyday your child is absent. This will give you the opportunity to leave a voicemail. If you are unable to call the school, then please email using absence@greenridgeacademy.co.uk.

Please note that if your child has a raised temperature, they must not come into school until at least **24** hours have passed without further symptoms or medication. If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea must not return to school until **48** hours have passed since the last episode.

For guidance on whether your child should attend school if unwell, please refer to the following website [here](#).

Christmas Trees for Free!

Our large Christmas trees which you will have seen in the entrance and hall over the last week are looking for a home this Christmas; if you haven't yet managed to get your tree and would like one of ours (or know someone that would), then please get in contact. It will be first come, first served and as long as you can collect after school closes on Tuesday, 19th December, it's yours!

PTA Rainbow Raffle

At our festive Fun event on **Monday, 18th December** we will have the draw for our Rainbow Raffle. You can purchase your tickets the same way you would any ticket on PTA-Events, the only difference is you must answer an easy general knowledge question at point of payment to ensure you can enter the draw. Tickets are available to purchase online at www.pta-events.co.uk. Please contact the PTA with any questions or if you have any difficulties.

PTA Festive Fun

As you know our Festive Fun event is on **Monday, 18th December** and we are in need of volunteers to help run our stalls, unfortunately if we do not have enough, we will not be able to run the event, so please help out, even if it's only for an hour! To help out please sign up [here](#).

PTA 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.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). 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 4,400 online retailers involved including John Lewis, Amazon, Moonpig, Justeat, Shein, 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!

Now with the Donation Reminder on your iPhone and iPad its even easier!

Simply download their app and enable the Donation Reminder feature on your Safari browser. They'll then pop up every time a donation is available.

This means Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA won't miss out on any donations as you're shopping online using your mobile!

So, when shopping for Christmas or the upcoming Black Friday, please don't forget when shopping to use Easyfundraising!

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Green Ridge Website

Take some time to look through the school's website. It references a range of activities (supporting both pupils and parents/carers) and elicits an extensive list of 'how to' guides to apply security settings on your children's devices. Below are just a couple of useful links:

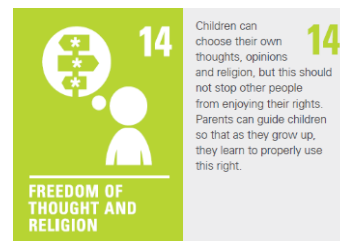
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> – a website with almost twenty years of experience providing information and support to children, parents and carers, and professionals.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/> – a website that contains a range of help and advice, including setting controls on devices, a 'device setup safe checklist', and guides to various applications.

Right of the Week Articles

Articles 14 – Freedom of Thought and Religion

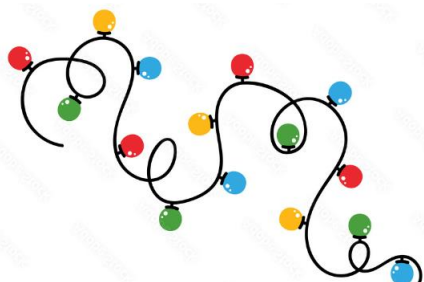
This article highlights the importance of children being allowed to express their own thoughts, values and opinions. They can be guided by parents/carers and should be taught to respect others' differing opinions.



Sustainability Tip of the Week

Switch to LED and Save Energy

Amplify the holiday joy with LED Christmas lights—they're not only delightful but also contribute to greener living by using 80% less energy, fostering a sustainable and joyful atmosphere for your family!



Safeguarding Tip of the Week

Physical Health

The World Health Organization defines physical health as: "A state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not just the absence of illness or disease". Young people should aim for at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

The NHS advise that adolescent children should aim for two different types of physical activity:

1. Exercises that encourage them to move their whole body, breathe faster and feel warmer – known as aerobic exercise.
2. Exercises that strengthen muscles and bones, such as lifting weights or bodyweight exercises (like squats, lunges or push-ups).



WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Important Dates & Events

Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 12 th December	2.00-3.00pm - Year Two Christmas Performance
Wednesday 13 th December	9.15-10.00am - Year Two Christmas Performance
Thursday 14 th December	1.30pm - Year Two Plane Class Visiting Bartlett's Residential Care Home
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
Monday 18 th December	2.15pm - EY Christmas Singalong 3.15pm - PTA Festive Fun Event
Tuesday 19 th December	Children Finish for end of Term

Spring Term 1

Thursday 4 th January	Children Return to School
Monday 8 th January	Spring Term Enrichment Clubs Commence
Thursday 11 th January	1.30pm - Year Five Maple Class Visiting Bartlett's Residential Care Home 2.30pm - Online Safety Parent Workshop
Tuesday 16 th January	2.30pm - Thrive & Understanding Behaviour Parent Workshop
Thursday 18 th January	1.30pm - Year Five Sycamore Class Visiting Bartlett's Residential Care Home
Monday 22 nd January	1.30pm - Young Voices Visiting Bartlett's Residential Care Home
Wednesday 24 th January	2.30pm - Year Four Multiplication Check Parent/Carer Information Meeting
Thursday 25 th January	8.00am - Reception Trip to Windsor Castle 8.15am - Year Two Trip to Radlett Synagogue

Monday 29 th January	2.30pm - EYFS Lets Learn Together Session 3 Recognising and Managing Emotions
Tuesday 6 th February	4.00-7.30pm - Pupil Learning Reviews
Thursday 8 th February	4.00-6.30pm – Pupil Learning Reviews
Friday 9 th February	Children Break for Half-Term

Key Dates for the Academic Year 2024

Thursday, 22 nd February	9.30-10.45am - Prospective YN 2024/25 open event
Thursday 29 th February	9.00-10.00am - SEN Coffee Morning
Monday 4 th March	9.00-9.30am – Oak Class Parent Library Session 2.30pm - EYFS Lets Learn Together Session 4 Helicopter Stories 2.30-3.00pm - Alder Class Parent Library Session
Tuesday 5 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Plane Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Elm Class Parent Library Session
Wednesday 6 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Cedar Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Beech Class Parent Library Session
Thursday 7 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Willow Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Lime Class Parent Library Session
Friday 8 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Birch Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Hazel Class Parent Library Session
Monday 11 th March	2.30-3.00pm - Rowan Class Parent Library Session
Tuesday 12 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Ash Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Maple Class Parent Library Session
Wednesday 13 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Little Acorns Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Sycamore Class Parent Library Session
Thursday 14 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Aspen Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Little Acorns Parent Library Session
Friday 15 th March	9.00-9.30pm - Hawthorn Class Parent Library Session
Tuesday 19 th March	9.00-9.45pm - EY Stay and Learn – Maths
Wednesday 20 th March	9.00-9.45pm - KS1 Stay and Learn - Maths
Thursday 21 st March	9.00-9.45pm - KS2 Stay and Learn - Maths

Wednesday 27 th March	9.15am - KS2 Spring Assembly (led by Y3) 2.15am - KS2 Spring Assembly (led by Y3)
Monday 13 th May	2.30pm - EYFS Lets Learn Together Session 5 'Marvellous Motor Skills.'
Monday 17 th June	2.30pm - EYFS Lets Learn Together Session 6 'Managing Change.'
Tuesday 18 th June	EY Sports Morning and Picnic Lunch
Wednesday 19 th June	2.30pm - Y5 Sycamore Class Assembly
Thursday 20 th June	9.00-10.00am - SEN Coffee Morning 2.30pm - Y5 Maple Class Assembly
Friday 21 st June	Lower School (Y1-Y3) Sports Morning and Picnic Lunch Upper School (Y4-Y5) Sports Afternoon and Picnic Lunch
Wednesday 26 th June	2.30pm - Y4 Rowan Class Assembly
Thursday 27 th June	2.30pm - Y4 Ash Class Assembly
Tuesday 16 th July	2.00pm - Upper School Production
Wednesday 17 th July	2.00pm - Upper School Production
Friday 19 th July	2.00pm - Y6 Leavers Assembly (Y6 parents/carers only)

Sunday 17th December 3-5pm Berryfields Green

Berryfields Carols

With AVA Band, Greenridge & AVA Primary Choirs



Candy Store ★ Nativity Activities

Decoration Making ★ Christmas Games & Crafts

Mince Pies & Mulled Wine ★ Free Glow Sticks

All activities are free just pay for refreshments



Living life to the full

CHURCH ON BERRYFIELDS

www.churchonberryfields.org/christmas

