

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Spring Term

Issue 19

Friday, 8th March 2024

A note from the Headteacher

The school was full of the excitement and hype for World Book Day yesterday, and I know that the children across the school enjoyed taking part in this annual tradition at Green Ridge. It's important to remember the reason behind the event, and the sharing of the love of reading and books for everyone - no matter how old we are! We know how much our children enjoy reading and being read to, inspiring them with ideas and sparking their imaginations, unlocking a world of possibilities. Reading is a fundamental part of our daily curriculum in school, and rightly so!

Across the school, we had children and adults of all ages sharing books with each other, and our theme of bedtime stories and pyjamas certainly helped everyone feel cosy and ready to snuggle down with a good book! The language and vocabulary the children get from books of every stage supports their literacy and language and we cannot underestimate just how much of an impact reading has with your child. A few minutes each day makes such a difference.

Yesterday, I sent some important communication out about the site and premises changes over the next few weeks with our building works beginning. Please do familiarise yourself with these arrangements as you may be impacted in some way.

We've got the YR/KS1 PTA cinema event this evening and thank you to those volunteers and staff who are making this happen. KS2 is next Friday – so please sign up if you haven't already!

Have a wonderful 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)	Rithvik	Ellie-May	-
Hazel (YR)	Zaheer	Edie	-
Willow (YR)	Jessica	Ethan	-
Beech (Y1)	Ethan HH	Vaibo	Andreas
Elm (Y1)	Vincent	Thea	Idris
Lime (Y1)	Dylan	Donald	Aaron
Oak (Y2)	Sidney	Louis	Laila
Plane (Y2)	Olivia	Willow	Lakshan
Alder (Y3)	Zavi	Katie	Roseanna
Cedar (Y3)	Noah	Izzy	Alice
Ash (Y4)	Elise	Ezra	Joshua
Rowan (Y4)	Shaylan	Jacob	Elias
Maple (Y5)	Vidhi	Ivan	Megan
Sycamore (Y5)	Roman	Izzy	Aisha
Aspen (Y6)	Aryan	Jessica	Shannon
Hawthorn (Y6)	Sianna	Andy	Kenzie

Attendance Award
Well done to Plane and Ash class for the highest attendance of 100% this week!

House Points		
House	Points this week	Total
Austin	479	5478
Disraeli	530	5027
Pratchett	512	5011
Redgrave	427	5951



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News, Updates & Reminders

Parent/Carer Volunteers

We are on the lookout for some new volunteers to add to our small but mighty army of parent/carers who already help us with many, many jobs and tasks around the school.



If you would like to put your name forward and can give at least half a day a week on a regular basis, please pick up an application form from the main school office.

We would like to thank you in advance for any time and support that you are able to provide.

Spring Term Enrichment Clubs – Change to collection points

As you will be aware, our building work for the extension begins on Monday 11th March. Due to this the collection points for some of the enrichment clubs will need to change. For all children who get released from the Year Five classrooms and the UKS2 fire exit now need to be collected from the Year Six classroom doors.

Summer Term Enrichment Clubs

Following on from our letter to Parents/Carers at the beginning of the week, we can confirm that all refunds have been processed to anybody that contacted us regarding being charged twice for club bookings. These refunds are processed through Arbor so may take a few days to show on your account. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk.

We also encourage all parents who have booked enrichment clubs to check their child's Arbor profile to ensure that the clubs you believe you booked are showing as an active booking for the summer term.

Once again, we thank you for your patience and understanding this week.

Ramadan

The Muslim month of Ramadan will be starting soon and as a highly inclusive school, we now have greater numbers of older pupils that may wish to take part partially or fully in Ramadan. A letter was sent to Parents/Carers of children in Years Five and

Six this week regarding the schools expectations and arrangements.

The school will allow pupils in Years Five and Six (who are approaching puberty) to fast for the holy month of Ramadan.

Pupils in Nursery–Year Four will be expected to eat a healthy lunch. Allowances will be made if they wish to fast for part of the day (e.g., morning or afternoon) and use facilities provided by the school during the month (such as water fountains, fruit and milk).

To ensure that all necessary staff are aware of those children fasting and so that appropriate arrangements can be made, we ask that you complete the consent form [here](#). Children will **not** be able to fast without parental consent. Children younger than Year Five/Six should **not** fast during the school day.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Ramadan Mubarak to all our community from all the staff at Green Ridge.

Parent Forum Meeting – Wednesday, 13th March

Just a reminder that the next Parent Forum meeting will be taking place on **Wednesday, 13th March** at **9.00am**.

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.

UKS2 Earth Week Sustainable Fashion



Last year, the children in UKS2 focussed on sustainable fashion as their Earth Week activity. They used old pieces of clothing to recreate outfits and their creativity was truly inspiring. The upcycling process taught them how to be resourceful and they fully grasped how the activity linked with sustainability. We will be completing this activity again this year during the week of 22nd April 2024

and are therefore asking children - over the next few weeks - to bring in any old, unwanted clothes that can be used for the project. Any unused clothing items will be put into a local Clothes Bank at the end of the week.

British Science Week 2024

British Science Week is an annual event that aims to celebrate Science, Engineering, Technology and Maths which we promote at Green Ridge. The school will be celebrating this annual event from **Monday, 11th March – Friday, 15th March** and the theme for this year is 'time'. We are using this brilliant opportunity to link our learning to the sustainability work that we undertake at Green Ridge. The school will be completing activities throughout the week linking to this theme. If you would like any further information on British Science Week, please visit the official website by clicking [here](#).



British Science week will start with a whole school assembly on Monday, 11th March, and this will introduce the week/theme to the children. Throughout the week the children will complete some lessons linked to the theme of 'time' and sustainability as detailed below.

Year Group	Link	Parents/Carers to Provide
Little Acorns	Dinosaurs	
Reception	Chitting potatoes	
Year 1	Carbon dioxide emissions	
Year 2	Rising sea levels	
Year 3	The Greenhouse Effect	
Year 4	Forming clouds	
Year 5	Ecosystems*	Small box (cereal or shoe box etc.) and toilet/kitchen roll tube
Year 6	Wind power*	Toilet/kitchen roll tube

**Please ensure that any boxes and tubes are brought in and given to your child's class teacher by Monday, 11th March so they can take part fully.*

Further investigations will be shared in school throughout the week in normal Science lessons and children will be directed to complete these by their teachers. In addition to these activities there is an optional challenge that the children can participate in throughout the week at home. We would like the

children to build a bug hotel using everyday items to encourage insects and nature into their gardens. This will be available on the school X (Twitter) account so please check there for updates. Finally, children will research women scientists to mark International Women in Science Day that took place earlier in March. This will be completed in the children's Computing session during the week.

Once again, I really hope that the children will enjoy the planned activities for British Science Week 2024. If you do complete any fantastic bug hotels or any other science experiments at home across the week, please share this with the school via the admin email address and these achievements can be shared/celebrated in our Friday celebration assembly.

Red Nose Day – Wear Something Red!



On **Friday, 15th March**, we will be taking part in Red Nose Day for Comic Relief. We are asking for a £1 donation for children to come to school dressed wearing red clothing for the day. They can wear as much or as little red as they like! Children may also wear a red nose if they have purchased one prior to the event. Please note that we will not be selling red noses this year.

We really appreciate your support and hope to have lots of fun helping to raise money for charity.

PTA

Key Dates Coming Up for the Spring Term

PTA Event	Date
KS2 Cinema Event	Friday, 15 th March
Easter Bonnet & Egg Decorating Competition	Thursday, 28 th March

Cinema Club – KS2

Don't forget the deadline to book your tickets for next weeks Cinema Club is on Wednesday, 13th March. To purchase your tickets, please use the link [here](#).

We are very short of helpers during the event (opening drink bottles and sweet packets!) Please help if you can as without enough helpers we cannot run this event. If you can help out please either contact the PTA or sign up [here](#). Thank you!

PTA Survey

If you did not complete the survey about the PTA at the Pupil reviews in February, we kindly ask that you spare 5 minutes to complete it [here](#). Thank you for your help.

Online Safety Tip of the Week

Health/Well-being/Lifestyle – KS1

Ask your child one way that being online can support your well-being and one way that is can potentially have a negative impact on it – discuss how we can manage our activity to prevent this.

Health/Well-being/Lifestyle – KS2

It is very easy for children to make in-app purchases on a range of devices nowadays. Use two-factor authentication systems for in-app purchases and speak to your child about the importance of asking for consent before purchasing anything online.

Right of the Week Article 2

Article 2 – No Discrimination

Today we celebrate International Women's Day. The children can celebrate this right by unpicking the importance of respecting everyone, specifically focussing on protected characteristics. Throughout their schooling, the children are taught about a range of inspirational female figures, both past and present.



Sustainability Tip of the Week

Think Twice Before Binning It!

Before throwing out broken items, consider giving them a second chance through repair. Encourage your children to learn the value of resourcefulness and sustainability by involving them in the repair process. Explore local organisations and charities like the Repair Cafe, where skilled volunteers can help breathe new life into damaged goods. Not only does this teach children the importance of reducing waste, but it also fosters a sense of community and appreciation for craftsmanship. So, next time something breaks, think twice before binning it – you might just discover the joy of giving old items a new lease on life.

REPAIR CAFE
<https://www.buckinghamrepaircafe.org/>

Safeguarding Tip of the Week

How to talk to children about extremism?

Children may become aware of extremist language or behaviour from things they hear in the news. Below we have some advice about how to talk to children about this at home:

- Make the conversation relevant
- Ask their opinion and find out how much they know about the subject
- Take care to listen and ask them questions that don't result in a yes or no answer
- Let them talk without interrupting
- Encourage them to ask questions
- Talk about your own views on extremism



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Important Dates & Events

Spring Term 2

Monday 11 th March	2.30-3.00pm - Rowan Class Parent Library Session
Tuesday 12 th March	9.00-9.30am - Ash Class Parent Library Session 9.15-10.00am - Prospective YN 2024/25 open event 2.30-3.00pm - Maple Class Parent Library Session
Wednesday 13 th March	9.00-9.30am - Little Acorns Parent Library Session 9.00-10.00am – Parent Forum Meeting 2.30-3.00pm - Sycamore Class Parent Library Session
Thursday 14 th March	9.00-9.30am - Aspen Class Parent Library Session 2.30-3.00pm - Little Acorns Parent Library Session
Friday 15 th March	Wear Red for Red Nose Day 9.00-9.30am - Hawthorn Class Parent Library Session 2.15-3.00pm - Prospective YN 2024/25 open event 3.20-5.20pm – KS2 PTA Cinema Event
Tuesday 19 th March	9.00-9.45am - EY Stay and Learn – Maths
Wednesday 20 th March	9.00-9.45am - KS1 Stay and Learn - Maths
Thursday 21 st March	9.00-9.45am - KS2 Stay and Learn – Maths
Friday 22 nd March	2.30-3.10pm – Y5 & Y6 RSE Parent/Carer Information Meeting (postponed) 6.30pm – Y4 11B411 Sleeping Under the Stars Experience
Wednesday 27 th March	8.35am – Parent/Carer Book Look 9.15am - KS2 Spring Assembly (led by Y3)
Thursday 28 th March	PTA Easter Egg Decorating and Bonnet Competition Children finish for End of Term

Would you love to
perform on a
professional stage?



ROALD DAHL'S **CHARLIE** AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Adults

Thursday 11th April

Children aged 6+

Sunday 28th April &
Thursday 2nd May



Register to audition
fnhospice.org.uk/charlie

