



President Road | Aylesbury | Buckinghamshire | HP18 0YA
Tel: 01296 326320 | email: admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
Website: www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk | Twitter: @GreenRidgeR2

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. Salima Ducker
Head of School: Miss. Libby Thomassen

Tuesday, 12th November 2024

Countdown to Christmas at Green Ridge – December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,



We are aware that as the festive season draws ever nearer, there are many events and activities taking place within school which need to be clearly communicated at this busy time of year. We hope that this letter should give you the information you need so that you know what is happening over the coming weeks in the lead up to the end of term. Please note that as our school grows, there has been some slight changes this year.

Year Two Christmas Performance of "Straw and Order"



Due to the increased number of children and classes as we grow bigger, it is not always feasible to have all children taking part in a Christmas production; as a result, we are ensuring that each year group gets an opportunity to perform, such as leading our Harvest or Spring assemblies. Key Stage Two pupils will be leading assemblies for parents/carers across the spring and summer terms.

This year, children in Year Two will be leading the Christmas production, where they will take the lead with narration and songs for two performances as follows:

Monday, 16th December at 2.15pm and Tuesday, 17th December at 9.15am

The children will be working hard to ensure they learn their songs, actions and lines in readiness for their performances. We believe that performances such as these provide a great opportunity to develop and foster the children's speaking, listening and confidence in performing and so are an important part of our whole-school curriculum and enrichment. For this reason, we ask that wherever possible younger siblings are **not** brought to the performances unless no other childcare can be arranged and that if they do attend and they become restless, they are taken out of the hall, so they do not disturb the children's performance.



Your child will be performing in both shows, so you can choose which time is most convenient for you to attend. To manage space in the hall, a maximum of two tickets can be ordered per family for each performance. Tickets must be booked by following this [link](#) by **Sunday, 1st December**. Tickets will be confirmed via email on a first-come, first-served basis. The school may not always be able to accommodate your preferred date/time if seating capacity is insufficient.

Parents/carers will need to enter via the external hall door, in front of the visitor drop-off bays at the front of the school. Doors will open 20 minutes before each performance, and the PTA will be providing refreshments at the back of the hall before the production starts. Each

performance should last around 30-45 minutes. At the end of the show if you wish to donate to help cover the licensing fee for the production, the purchase of props, additional costumes and to help fund resources, donation buckets will be on hand and any donations received will be greatly appreciated.

Early Years Christmas Singalong

Children in Nursery and Reception will be singing some festive songs on **Thursday, 19th December**. Reception will be performing at **9.15am** and Nursery will be performing at **2.15pm**. Parents/carers are welcome to attend and join in as are children who do not usually attend nursery at this time. There is no need to book for this; simply turn up on the afternoon and enter via the external hall door, in front of the visitor drop-off bays at the front of the school.

PTA Festive Discos – Friday 6th December

As per the letter sent to parents/carers on Friday, 8th November, you can now order tickets for the PTA festive discos via this [link](#). Tickets are to be ordered by **10.00pm** on **Wednesday, 4th December**. The time slots are as follow.

Reception and Year One – 4.00-5.00pm

Years Two and Three – 5.15-6.15pm

Years Four, Five and Six – 6.30-7.30pm

Tickets are **£4.00** each, and a snack pack can also be pre-ordered for **£2.50**. The snack packs will include a drink, a packet of crisps and a sweet snack. Please note that snacks will not be able to be purchased at the discos and can only be pre-ordered, and please do not send your child with any additional snacks. Please refer to the letter for further information.

Christmas Crafts

As has become tradition, each year group across the school will be taking part in a Christmas craft/art activity where they will be making a personal gift/decoration. Each decoration will be personal to your child; they will have made and designed it themselves and will be a lovely keepsake. Christmas crafts can be purchased whilst the PTA festive discos are taking place, and they will be at a cost of **£3.50** each.

Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday, 18th December



We are encouraging the children to dress festively and wear their Christmas jumpers or other appropriate festive or 'wintery' tops on **Wednesday, 18th 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.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday, 18th December

Christmas lunch will be available for children in place of the daily lunch options on this day. There will be a meat option of **Sliced Turkey Breast with Christmas Trimmings** or a vegetarian option of **Quorn Fillet with Christmas Trimmings** (please note that there will **not** be a jacket potato or chilled option on this day as an alternative). The lunch will be served by staff and all children will come together to have this special lunch together. For those children bringing a packed lunch, you may wish to send your child in with a festive treat for this special lunch. A separate letter will be sent with further information.

Christmas Panto 'Jack & The Beanstalk' – Friday, 20th December

We are keen to ensure that the children experience at least one 'live' theatre production each year and one of the ways we want to provide this is by getting a theatre company in to perform a pantomime for the children at Christmas. Children will be watching 'Jack & The Beanstalk' on the last day of term. For those children in Little Ridges, all children are welcome to attend if it is not your child's normal session to attend but a parent/carer will need to remain with them.

For our youngest children, please be prepared to step out of the performance if your child finds it hard to sit quietly for a long period of time. Early Years and KS1 will be watching the morning performance, starting at 9.30am, whilst KS2 watch the afternoon performance.

End of Term – Friday, 20th December

School finishes at the normal time on **Friday, 20th December**.

We will of course update you with any further additions to the published dates and times above but hope that these will be useful over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,



Miss. Libby Thomassen
Head of School