



The Ridgeway CE Primary School

'Building for Life'

Newsletter 9th October 2026

News from Mrs Blockley

This week we have started thinking about Black History Month. On Monday, we explored the impact of Martin Luther King Jr and Rosa Parks in changing perceptions and rights for Black people in America. The children were very clear in their views about equity and the importance of standing up for others!

My Tuesday morning started in the best way this week! I joined House Martin for their ukulele lesson and was mightily impressed by their knowledge. Thanks to the fantastic support of our PTA, all our children have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument for a year when they are in Year 3 or Year 4. This year, they are learning the ukulele.

The children taught me the difference between major and minor chords, while I learnt about frets and the names of the strings. I was even corrected when my fingers were flat rather than arched – apparently, it makes quite a difference to the sound! I've never played the ukulele before, so I was very impressed that, by the end of the lesson, they had me playing chords in C, A minor, F and G!

We talk a lot in school about 'Building for Life' and are clear that this means so much more than academic achievement. It is about developing resilience, learning to get along with others, being brave enough to try something new, developing empathy and standing up for what we believe is right, as well as understanding our responsibilities as active citizens. I can wholeheartedly say that the children have impressed me this week with how they have put this into practice, particularly through the kindness and encouragement they showed me as I learned a new skill alongside them.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Mrs Blockley

Notices

[@ridgewayprimary](https://www.instagram.com/ridgewayprimary)



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Waitrose Collection! Thanks to our amazing parents, carers, supporters and the wider community, we've been awarded **£1,000** for our Gardening and Wildlife Club. It's a fantastic amount and will make a real difference. We're so grateful to everyone who supported us and helped make this possible.



The Ridgeway CE Primary

Open Morning 20th October 2026
9:30 - 11:30 am



Is your child starting school in September 2027?

Choosing the right school matters. At The Ridgeway, children come first — with their wellbeing, development and learning at the heart of school life.



COME AND EXPERIENCE LIFE AT THE RIDGEWAY

See our children learning, exploring and enjoying school, meet the people who know and support them, and discover what makes The Ridgeway a special place to learn and grow.

See the school through their eyes.

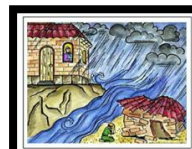
WRAPAROUND CARE

Flexible care to support busy family life. Our in-house wraparound care provides a safe and welcoming start and finish to the school day.

Breakfast Club From 7:30am
After School Club Until 6:00pm

To book your place or find out more, please contact our school office: 01235 751254
office.3231@ridgeway.oxon.sch.uk

www.ridgewayprimary.co.uk



Message from our PTA

Jumper Shop

Do you have any preloved Christmas jumpers or t-shirts your children have outgrown? Please consider donating to our sustainability shop. Drop jumpers off to the school office between November 2nd and November 20th. Come along and buy a preloved jumper on November 27th for £2.50p from 3pm. Please donate only those items you'd consider buying.



Christmas Raffle

The PTA is seeking donations of hamper prizes (e.g. treats, wine, vouchers) or event sponsorship. Can you help? Your generosity will support our school community, enriching the children's education experience and school facilities. Please contact the school office or the PTA team (ridgeway.schoolpta@gmail.com).





Wren Class – Class attendance for the week: 92%

Another week passes and it feels a little more autumnal, coughs and colds are doing the rounds but it's really important to be in school – even if we feel a little under the weather. In English this week, we've put together an example non-chronological report to understand how we create the features – Next week, it's the Mayans, starting with building our research – they're going to be great. We've finished our burst of assessments in Maths, it's given a good picture on strengths and weaknesses going forwards – we'll start working on those pesky gaps. In History – we were trying to decide if the Mayans were all bad – turns out they were quite clever. We're looking at thermal insulators and conductors next week in Science, testing which material makes the best cover for a hot drink. Our Netball matches are getting competitive, moving the ball at pace! Thank you for Reading at home, quite a few have made it to Gotham City this week – Next Stop – Wonderland! Spellings focus changes away from 'al' endings. Year 6 CGP support work has gone out and is due on Wednesday. Year 5's – TTRS please and some Reading Comprehensions to come.

Have a fantastic weekend – Mr Minter

House Martin – Class attendance for the week: 98%

It's been a good week in House Martins. In our tag rugby session, we learnt about the kind of strategies you might need as an attacker or defender then had a go at using them in mini games of 2 v 1 and 3 v 2. In Science, we used our recently completed food diaries to help us put food into different categories. We then took that data and made bar charts. In RE, we looked at the parable of 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf', comparing it to the story of 'Jesus healing the leper' and thinking about what the moral message was. In English, we've started working on an information text about a volcano. We've learnt how to use powerful verbs and reordered a jumbled text. In Maths, we've been focusing on bridging (and counting across and from) 100 and representing 3-digit numbers in different ways. In French, we learnt how to ask 'What's your name?' and revised the different greetings. Have a great weekend.

Skylarks - Class attendance for the week: 98%

Skylarks have had a busy week with a few visitors. On Monday, the class was visited by Mrs Sundrum who inspired the children to write stories about a penguin. In their usual English lessons this week, the children have started a unit writing job adverts inspired by our book, *The Great Stink* which is all about the Victorian expansion of the sewage network. In Maths, year 1 have been learning about numbers lines and how they can be used in a different way to hundred squares. Year 2 have finished their unit on multiples of 10 and are starting a unit focusing on calculation. In History, the children learned about Victorian kitchens and compared how objects like whisks and clothes washers have changed since the period. In Art, the children thought about using shape and colour to produce "shape portraits" and in computing the children made maps so they could program their BeeBots to go around the various locations of their maps.

Robin- Class attendance for the week: 97%

Week 6 in Robin Class complete! During Forest School, the children carefully cut the crab apples and pears into small pieces to place into a pan ready to cook. Not wanting to waste the heat from the fire pit everyone had a go at toasting a marshmallow which all agreed were delicious. Once the jelly mixture was heated through with some sugar and water, it was then drained through a jam strainer and poured into a Kilner jar and allowed to set ready to be eaten. **Parents/Carers** The Hedgerow Jelly will be tried on crackers in next week's session so please let us know if you do not want your child to take part. In Maths, the children have been working on subitising. They have been making dot patterns of 4 to match a given shape. In Literacy, Robins have been listening to the story of 'The Colour Monster' and then exploring their own feelings. Our handwriting sessions have included working on fine motor skills using play-dough and the children even went to the Dough Disco to get their fingers moving. In RE, Robins have learnt that Christians call a church 'God's house' which they fill with special things. Robins found out that the church that they have visited in Childrey is called St. Mary's and even had a go at writing a label for their church pictures.



RSPTA PRESENTS

Autumn Disco

DJ Carl
Popcorn snack
Chillout room

WEDNESDAY
14TH OCTOBER

5.30 - 7 PM
Ridgeway School Hall

Tickets £5 via Classlist

The Ridgeway Primary School

FOOTBALL After School Club

SERIOUS 4
SPORT
SPORTS COACHING

Serious4Sport are specialists in delivering sport to children of all ages and abilities. Our Football After School Club is inclusive, fun and engaging with a range of new skills and games to be taught along with play.



TIMETABLE - TERM 1:

KS1: 3.15pm-4.15pm every Tuesday (term time)
PRICE: Term: **£35.00**

KS2: 3.15pm-4.15pm every Wednesday (term time)
PRICE: Term: **£35.00**

Spaces are limited

All of our coaches are DBS checked and have a number of years experience in coaching children from as young as 18 months upwards.

Bookings made via:
www.Serious4Sport.co.uk/schools-nurseries-cpd



CENTRE SITE OPEN MORNING

Saturday 10th October
10am - 1pm

We look forward to welcoming all prospective students for a tour of our facilities at Centre Site, where KA's students are based in Years 9 to 11.
No booking required. Centre Site, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BY

KA KINGALFRED'S
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL