Northgate Primary School Newsletter

November 6th 2026

Headteacher's News

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely half-term break.

We look forward to seeing parents next week at our **parent consultations**. These meetings provide an opportunity to find out how your child has settled into their new class and to discuss their current progress. If you have been unable to book an appointment, please contact the school office. Please note that there is one appointment available per child.

Teachers will have examples of the children's Maths and English books available for you to look through. Please enter through the main entrance and wait for the bell to ring before going to your appointment. Meetings will take place in the following locations: **EYFS and KS1:** School hall, **Year 3 and 4:** ICT suite, **Year 5 and 6:** Kestrels (Class 9)

Please do not bring your child to the consultation with the teacher. Children should remain in the dining room or at the side of the hall while you attend your appointment.

This half term, our new school value focus is **honesty**. We will be helping the children to understand that honesty is important because it helps us to build trust and develop positive relationships with others. We will be encouraging the children to take responsibility for their actions and understand the importance of always doing the right thing, even when it can sometimes be difficult.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the fireworks this evening! Please note that the event is now **sold out**, and no tickets will be available on the gates. A big thank you to our new PTA organising team for all their hard work in putting the event together. We are very grateful for the time and effort they have given to make this event possible.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Important Dates

Friday 6th Nov	Northgate Fireworks
Wed 11th Nov	Y6 attend remembrance service in town
Tues 10th Nov	Parent Consultations
Thurs 12th Nov	Parent Consultations
Friday 13th Nov	Yr2 Pirate Day
Fri 13th Nov	Flu vaccination 2nd session
Fri 20th Nov	WID committee Coffee Morning 9:00am
Wb Mon 23rd Nov	APDR/IPP Parent Meetiings
Mon 30th Nov	Elfridges run by PTA
Wed 2nd Dec	Elfridges run by PTA
Thurs 3rd Dec	Elfridges run by PTA
Tues 8th Dec	EYFS Christmas production 9.15am/ 2.30pm
Wed 9th Dec	KS2 Pantomime 1:30pm South Mills (pick up from theatre)
Fri 11th Dec	KS1 Christmas production 9.10am/ 2.40pm
Tues 15th Dec	**Christmas Dinner for EYFS & KS1**
Wed 16th Dec	**Christmas Dinner for KS2**
Wed 16th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs 17th Dec	**KS2 2pm** Carol Concert St Michaels (pick up from Church)
Friday 18th Dec	2pm finish Break up for Christmas
21st Dec—1st Jan	Christmas Holidays
Mon 4th Jan	**Inset day**
Tues 5th Jan	School term starts
Mon 25th Jan	Spring PTA Meeting

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Enriching the Curriculum

Sport : Football & Basketball

Northgate's football teams have enjoyed a fantastic run of matches recently, achieving some amazing results! On 16th October, the Gold team faced Windhill 21 and secured an impressive 3–0 victory, while the Silver team battled against Hillmead, winning a closely fought match 3–2. The success continued on 22nd October, when the Gold team put on an outstanding performance against Richard Whittington, winning an incredible 10–1! Yesterday, our Gold and Silver Team played against Manor Fields . Our Gold Team won their match 3-1 and our Silver Team A achieved success with a score of 5-2 with Charlie from Harriers scoring all 5 goals !!

On Thursday 22nd October we also took part in a basketball competition where our Northgate team played seven games and won every single one! This fantastic achievement meant that we were crowned tournament winners. We are now eagerly awaiting confirmation to see whether we have qualified for the county stages. Well done to everyone involved for their hard work, teamwork and determination. We are incredibly proud of you all!

Safeguarding

We have received a number of concerns from parents and members of the public regarding parking outside the school during drop-off and pick-up times, with the situation becoming increasingly dangerous due to congestion and vehicles being parked in an unsafe manner. We would like to politely remind all parents, guardians and visitors to park considerately and safely, ensuring that double parking is avoided at all times. Please also ensure that children enter and exit vehicles on the pavement or pathway side and are never required to step directly onto the road, as this presents a significant safety risk. We encourage families to make use of the alternative parking facilities available at the Rugby Club. Families can also be reassured that, when walking to and from the school, you will be safely assisted across the road by our Road Crossing Patrol, to ensure everyone's safety. We would also like to remind everyone to please remember to switch off your engines when waiting outside the school. This helps reduce air pollution and protects the health of our children, creating a cleaner and healthier environment for everyone. We appreciate that drop-off and pick-up times can be busy, but ask everyone to be patient, considerate and responsible. The safety and wellbeing of our children is paramount and must always be our shared priority. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Enriching the Curriculum

Our Ducklings' class have been learning about events as part of our Knowledge and Understanding of the World. To prepare for Remembrance Day they all painted 2 red poppies: one to take home and the other used to make a class wreath. We listened to a story about the Little Red Poppy and watched the BBC video staring a little rabbit. Nursery also made firework pictures to celebrate Bonfire night and Diwali and were very lucky to be visited by Anav's mummy who gave a talk about this "Festival of Lights". Next week we will continue our learning by making rangoli patterns and using clay to make our own diya lamp.



Casual MSA vacancy

Northgate School is looking to expand our lunchtime staffing team on a casual basis. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, we would love to hear from you! Please email admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk for further information.

Reminders and Updates

Children Arriving Late in the Morning

We have noticed an increase in the number of children arriving late to school in the mornings. Regular lateness can be unsettling for children as they miss important parts of the school day, particularly core learning in phonics and maths and it can disrupt the flow of lessons for others. Arriving on time helps children to start the day calmly and confidently with their classmates. It also supports the smooth running of the school office, which can become very busy dealing with late arrival. Class doors open from 8:40 to 8:50,please make every effort to leave in good time to allow for traffic or other delays. If you find mornings challenging, please speak to Mrs Rogers, our pastoral lead, who can offer practical advice and support. Thank you

Winter Reads Challenge 2026–27

Bishops Stortford Library's Winter Reads Challenge is back! Running from **1 November to 31 January**, this free challenge encourages children (and adults!) to enjoy reading over the winter months.

Complete **six fun book-related challenges** — from reading tasks to creative activities like drawing a favourite character or writing a short story. There's even a Wild Card option for those who want to set their own reading goals!

Finish all six challenges by **31 January** to be entered into a **prize draw** to win an iPad and other great prizes.

To take part, simply visit Bishops Stortford Library to pick up your challenge card. Open to **all ages** – families welcome!

School Grid

Christmas dinner is now live on School Grid from today. EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will have their Christmas dinner on the 15th December and Year 3,4,5 and 6 will be on the 16th December. Please login and book your child's meal as soon as possible. The cut off date for orders is **Friday 11th Dec.**

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:

Ducklings: Anav and **Theo**

Puffins: Holly **Owls: Freddie**

Well done to:

Robins: Ivy
Starlings: Albert
Skylarks: Emilie
Nightingales: Harvey
Kestrels: Charlie
Harriers: Safaa
Wrens: Ottilie
Sparrows: Clemence
Swifts: Ethan
Kingfishers: Oliver
Kites: Aaron
Hawks: Olivia

Fundraising Update– GoFundMe

Thank you to everyone for your kind donations and for supporting Miss Beales Peak District Ultra Challenge. The total amount raised was £1325.00 . Every contribution meant so much and it will help to make a real difference to the children at Northgate. Money raised will help provide new sensory and sports equipment for our amazing children. Thank you for your support



Northgate School Association

PTA Fireworks Night

We hope you have a fantastic time at tonight's fireworks night! A huge amount of effort has gone into making this event special, and we're so excited to see everyone enjoy it. A big thank you to all our amazing volunteers, we couldn't do it without you! Thank you to everyone who bought tickets, we're officially sold out!

Friendly reminder: Please bring cash with you tonight.

Food

A special thank you to our generous sponsors, **Hammond and Smith** for their incredible support.

Our Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

This will take place during next weeks consultation evenings, also come with a little extra time to browse all the built up stock. Cash is always best, but card will also be accepted

Waitrose Green Token Charity

Northgate PTA has been chosen as one of the Waitrose Green Token charities. Voting started on the 1st Oct and is running until the end of Dec. Other charities chosen are the Night Shelter & Food Bank. The scheme is similar to Tesco in that 1st place receives £1500, 2nd place receives £1000 and 3rd £500. Funds received from the scheme will be put to good use and greatly benefit the children at Northgate School. Thank you for your support.