

March 22nd 2024

Headteacher's News

Well done to all the Year 3 and 4 children for their fantastic production of Porridge on Thursday. The children displayed their many talents including singing, dancing and learning a lot of lines. Thank you to the parents for their support, particularly for the costumes and to all the staff who worked incredibly hard to put such a fabulous production together.



As a school, staff work tirelessly to ensure a really wide range of opportunities for the children, this was something that was recognised by our outstanding judgement in Personal Development last term by Ofsted. This week has been no exception with our first ever school oracy competition (please read below to find out more details). My thanks to Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Layer for organising this. Thank you also to Miss Harlley, who lead the group of children to the College, for our Executive Council in the local schools Pupil Voice Network. Our fabulous PTA have been working hard again, this time with our book fair and our school disco. This is funding events, such as Fab Science, who are coming to run workshops as part of our science week, next week.

As it is Easter next week, we will finish at 2pm on Thursday. Have a good weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

Oracy Competition

This week we have been building and celebrating our spoken language skills at Northgate. As a school, we want to nurture confident, eloquent speakers and empathetic, collaborative listeners. We have just completed our writing project 'Wild', alongside other local schools. All children in the school had the opportunity to rehearse and present their final written pieces to their classes, who then voted for a winner to go through to the finals. On Wednesday afternoon, we held a final round for each key stage, where the finalists presented their work on the stage to the children and a panel of judges. Judges scored each finalist in areas such as clarity of speech, expression, language choice, audience engagement and use of gesture. A huge well done to all our finalists, who made the judging very difficult! The winners and runners up are below. A big thank you to Geri Wren from the PTA for judging, and Ros Fraser, for being our Governor representative on the judging panel. Thanks for the PTA for providing the prizes, book vouchers.



EYFS - 1st place - Sebby Shepherd, 2nd place - Oscar Geoghegan

KS1 - 1st place - Chloe Rayner, 2nd place - Willow Giblin

LKS2 - 1st place - Isabella Randle, 2nd place - Thea Reynolds

UKS2 - 1st place - Vito Corrarello, 2nd place - Millie Smith

Important Dates

Wk beg 25th Mar
Wk beg 25th Mar
Tues 26th Mar
Thurs 28th Mar
29th Mar—12th April
Mon 15th April
April (TBC)
Thurs 25th April
Thurs 9th May
Fri 10th May
13th—16th May
Mon 20th May
Thurs 23rd May
27th—31st May
Mon 3rd June
W/C 3rd June
3rd—7th June
Sat 8th June
W/C 10th June
Mon 10th June
Mon 10th June
Thurs 13th June
Fri 14th June
Thurs 20th June
Fri 21st June
Wed 26th June
Fri 5th July
Thurs 11th July
Fri 19th July
Fri 19th July
2nd & 3rd Sept
Wed 4th Sept

House cross country final
Science week and house science quiz
Last day of term for Nursery
2pm Last day of term
Easter break
Start of term
PTA Quiz Night at The Belgian Brewer
2.30pm Y5 Music concert
2.30pm Y4 Music concert
2pm PTA committee meeting
Y6 SATS
Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
2.30pm Y3 Music concert
Half Term
Inset Day
Y4 National multiplication assessments
Y6 School Journey, Kingswood
PTA Summer Fayre
PTA Father's Day Shop
Y1 National phonics, screening.
Y3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
Visit from Herts & Essex Music Group
Y5 Egyptian workshop
Visit from Woodwind Stortford
Y2 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Y1 Trip to Audley End
PTA Sports Day After Party & Colour Run
School Transition Day
PTA Break the Rules Day
2pm Last Day of Term
Inset days
First day of the school year

Reminders and notices

Please remember that it is 'Break the Rules Day' at school next Thursday and school finishes for Easter at 2pm!

A new summer menu from HFL has gone live on School Grid. Please take a look at all the delicious summer dishes. Please ensure that you child's dinner money account is in credit before the start of the summer term.

Safeguarding

Your children will possibly be on their devices more during the Easter holiday, so we thought it would be useful for you to look at the SWGFL charity website which provides lots of information regarding online safety. Below are some links to guides regarding Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat and Roblox which are very popular platforms among young people and adults alike. These can be an excellent source of entertainment and information for people globally, but this can be cause for concern for those who have children. These guides are useful tools to help understanding options with regards to parental controls, managing friendships, reporting problems, how to block and delete people.

[Instagram final AW screen \(swgfl.org.uk\)](https://www.swgfl.org.uk/instagram-final-aw-screen)

[Snapchat checklist final AW \(swgfl.org.uk\)](https://www.swgfl.org.uk/snapchat-checklist-final-aw)

[Facebook checklist 2023 final AW \(swgfl.org.uk\)](https://www.swgfl.org.uk/facebook-checklist-2023-final-aw)

Enriching the Curriculum

Our Executive Council took part in the Pupil Voice Network at the Bishop's Stortford College this week. They met the town mayor, had lunch, took part in a variety of leadership activities and heard from local speakers. All the children thoroughly enjoyed this educational experience.



On the 21st of March 2024, the Executive council went to the Bishop's Stortford College to participate in the 5th Pupil Voice meeting to sign a petition for how young people can get their voices heard in politics. We did a few interesting questions and leadership activities with the other schools there. Such as: Boys High, Windhill 21, Thorngrove, The Christian School and Bishop's Stortford college.

On Wednesday, **Nursery** parents joined their children in class for Easter crafts. There were various craft stations, each laid out with different activities. The groups moved around the room making things such as bunny hats, gluing cotton wool coats onto spring lambs, finding eggs and chicks inside their nests, working their way out of a drawn maze and using paint and collage to create amazing Easter chicks. Everyone had a wonderful time!



This week, **Year 2** went pond dipping. The children loved seeing the variety of animals we have living in our school pond. They found several newts, blood worms and water louse. They even saw some damsel fly nymphs emerging from their outer layer of skin. Thank you to Mr Foote for supporting with this activity.



Year 3 visited Colchester castle. Everyone had a wonderful time and were very well behaved! The children learned a lot about life in a Norman castle. They built round houses and dressed up. When asked questions during story time, everyone was very impressed about how much the children knew already!



Sport

This week fifteen **Year 5 and 6** children took part in a netball competition at Birchwood. There were two teams, Compete and Aspire. Compete were overall winners in the competition after steaming through five rounds. Aspire got through to their group final; they put up a really good fight but were defeated in the end. What a great achievement children! Well done!

Wishing the Gold football all the best tonight in the semi-final at home against Windhill21. We can't wait to hear all about the match!

Celebration of Achievements



Nursery: Eva and Archie

R1: Dmetro R2: Charlotte J

This week our 'Learners of the Week' focused on "Musical performance".

Well done for: An outstanding performance in our show this week, a fantastic portrayal of their character in Porridge, presenting their persuasive letter to the class so clearly and confidently, singing fabulously during the class music lesson, being musician of the week, a brilliant performance in the Year 6 instrumental concert, making great eye contact, having clear speech and a good pace when reading their letter out to the class.

Class 1: Eleanor

Class 7: Cora

Class 2: Juliet

Class 8: Rafferty

Class 3: Israel

Class 9: Ella

Class 4: Phoebe

Class 10: Cian

Class 5: April

Class 11: Toby

Class 6: Orla

Class 12: Vishu



Celebrating achievements

The Northgate Gators Cheerleading squad joined the Birchwood Bobcats for a display day last Tuesday at Birchwood. They were able to demonstrate great leadership and communication skills alongside problem solving, working to deadlines and a whole host of other soft skills. They confidently remembered their pom dance and cheer routine whilst looking fabulous in their new cheer skorts!



Well done to Chloe in Class 2 who is organising a fundraiser to benefit The Little Princess Trust, who make real hair wigs for boys and girls with cancer and other hair loss conditions. Chloe will be donating her hair and all money raised will help fund real hair wigs and ground breaking cancer research projects. For more information, please click <https://gofund.me/b729ff27>

Last Friday Millie, Maya, Eliza and Ella from class 10 who are part of the local polo team, won the junior section at Silver Leys Polo Club. Congratulations and well done girls!

Northgate School Association

School Discos and Book Fair

We hope you have a wonderful time at the school discos tonight. Thank you to Natalie Gill and Rachel Spence for taking the lead on this event.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at Wednesday's Book Fair; it is incredibly appreciated. We have made the decision to open up the Book Fair again at the School Discos. So if you didn't have your World Book Day voucher with you on Wednesday, you have another opportunity to spend it at the Disco!

Break the Rules Day

Don't forget it's Break the Rules day on our last day of term, Thursday 28th March. An opportunity to be a little bit naughty by breaking the following rules: Wear grey socks/tights, Wear your tie (UKS2), No nail varnish, No coloured hair, No hair gel, Only green hair accessories, No jewellery, No trainers/fashion shoes, No squash in your water bottle.

And only these rules, please!! Please pay 50p for every rule you break.

Hope you all have a relaxing weekend.
Gerri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team