

October 11th 2024

Headteacher's News

Another really busy week at Northgate! It was great to see so many parents in school joining our younger children for their harvest celebrations. A massive thank you for all the donations for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank, which will make a real difference to members of our local community. If you would like to have more information about the Food Bank, please look at their website: www.bishopsstortfordfoodbank.com.

We hope you found the Reception phonics workshop and the Year 2, 5 and 6 sessions informative. Information from these sessions will be published on Google Classrooms and the notes from UKS2 sessions will also be put on our website this evening. If you have any feedback on these sessions, including on the timings, ideas or how we can support parents further, please email us on:

interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk

We are noticing children are getting more tired as we approach the end of the half term and we are seeing an increase in behaviour incidents. To support your child in school during the next few weeks, please try to ensure that they are having plenty of sleep and they have time away from screens before bedtime. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

We look forward to seeing parents at our reading sessions next week when your child will have an opportunity to share a reading book with you. Please come in through the main door.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

During our Harvest Festival celebrations this week, the children gave thanks and honored those who grow and reap crops for us to eat. In the assembly on Tuesday, the EYFS children shared their work around harvest and autumn. On Wednesday, the children from Year 1 and 2 sang six acapella harvest songs and also explained interesting facts about the celebration of harvest. During the KS2 Harvest Festival, the children discussed how and when other countries celebrate their harvest season. All the children performed beautifully to a very big crowd of parents and carers. Well done to everybody involved! Children from the School Council spent time in Year 1 this week



helping them to redesign the school house logos. It was great to see all different age groups working together and being creative.

Our reception children in forest school were

encouraged to find autumnal leaves that had fallen around the school grounds. They really enjoyed discussing the colours and matching them to a colour chart. Also, as part of Black History Month, the children sat outside and listened to a story called 'Handa's Noisy Night' by Eileen Browne. The children loved this colourful cultural story.



Important Dates

Mon 14th Oct	9.05am KS1 Reading with parents
Mon 14th Oct	Visit from Mr Adebiyi drummer/storyteller
Tues 15th Oct	9.05am UKS2 Reading with parents
Wed 16th Oct	Individual pupil photographs
Wed 16th Oct	9.05am LKS2 Reading with parents
Wed 16th Oct	Y5 Duxford Trip
Thurs 17th Oct	9.05am EYFS Reading with parents
Fri 18th Oct	10.45am LKS2 charity bake sale
Mon 21st Oct	'The Investigator' BH and cultural workshop
Tues 22nd Oct	PTA Halloween Tuck Shop
Thurs 24th Oct	Cultural and natural hair non-school uniform day and BHM Quiz.
Fri 25th Oct	Inset Day
28th Oct—1st Nov	Half term
Fri 8th Nov	5.00pm-8.00pm PTA Fireworks
12th/13th Nov	Parent consultations (info to follow)
Thurs 14th Nov	Parent consultations:
	Sparrows (Class 4) Mrs Stephens only
	Skylarks (Class 5)
18th Nov	Wellbeing Week
Tues 10th Dec	9.15am, 2.30pm Christmas production EYFS
Fri 13th Dec	9.15am, 2.30pm Christmas production KS1
Tues 17th Dec	KS2 Pantomime at South Mill Arts
Tues 17th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Christmas lunch
Wed 18th Dec	Christmas jumper day
Wed 18th Dec	KS2 Christmas lunch
Wed 18th Dec	Volunteer coffee morning 9am
Thurs 19th Dec	KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Fri 20th Dec	Break the rules day
Fri 20th 2pm	End of term
Fri 24th Jan	Young Voices Choir at the O2

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Online support: Childnet provide a range of help, advice and resources for parents, carers, teachers, professionals and young people. Their website is full of free resources. They cover important topics such as healthy relationships and digital wellbeing. Their website is designed to equip parents and carers, to support both children and parents with the online world. If you would like further information, please visit their website: <https://www.childnet.com> for further information.

What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)?

Each school must have appropriate senior members of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include: referring any concerns to social care, ensuring all staff are aware how to raise safeguarding concerns, ensuring all staff understand the symptoms of child abuse and neglect, monitoring children of concern, maintaining child protection records, raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring they are implemented and reviewed regularly.

At Northgate the DSLs are Mrs Tanner, Mrs Clynes, Mrs Layer, Mrs Wallace and Mrs Shepherd.

Enriching the Curriculum—Sport

Three new after-school clubs started this week with Miss Beales, our new PE Apprentice. Miss Beales has always had a keen passion for sport – both from participating herself and from her studies, and is realising her dream of a career working with children in a sporting environment. She is thoroughly enjoying her time working at Northgate and seeing the benefits that sporting activity and teamwork brings to the children.

On Mondays there is a [football club for Year 1/2](#), which is a great way to help children develop basic football skills whilst building their ability and confidence - on and off the pitch.

[Year 3/4 children have Tri Golf](#) on Tuesdays, which is a fun and energetic version of golf. Tri-Golf is a genuinely inclusive sport as it suits players of all abilities, including complete novices. Every child can succeed in this game with individual play and team interaction!

[Thursday is Basketball club for Y5/6](#). This game can help children develop a range of skills plus they can also learn to play in competitive games where they can assess their own and others' performance.

Although spaces are limited for these clubs, there are some still available. All three run after school from 3.20pm—4.20pm and cost £5.00 per session. If you are interested, please email admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Please note that parents will be contacted if children do not follow school behaviour expectations.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: Jude and Sofia

Puffins: Grace **Owls:** Mason



This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'Geography and History'

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers, including for: looking carefully at history sources and thinking clearly about what they show, sharing their knowledge of WW2 with the class, explaining the significance of the battle of Britain, drawing a brilliant illustration showing how the plague spread around the world, and sharing great ideas about the past.

Well done to:

Robins: Robin

Wrens: Darcy

Starlings: Freddie

Sparrows: Myon

Skylarks: Ben

Swifts: Hepzi

Nightingales: Beren

Kingfishers: Autumn

Kestrels: Eira

Kites: Dennis

Harriers: James

Hawks: Joshua

Important Notice Regarding School Meals

We have a number of parents who have not paid for school lunches despite numerous reminders. The option to order meals will be removed with effect from Tuesday 15th October unless accounts are settled in full. If you are experiencing any issues or have any concerns, please contact the school office on Monday.

Reminders and updates

Year 6 Children applying for Secondary school

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the **closing date of Thursday 31st October 2024**. We do recommend that you apply earlier than the deadline in case you have any problems, as the helpline gets extremely busy towards the closing date. Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or Alternatively, if you cannot access the internet, you can request a printed version of the website information and application form from the Hertfordshire County Council Customer Service Centre by calling 0300 123 4043.

Primary School Admissions - Reception 2025

Primary school applications for Reception 2025 open on Friday 1st November 2024. This is for children who will be of school age by September 2025. Please note that the closing date for applications is Wednesday 15th January 2024.

Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to seeing parents in school for the consultation meetings on Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th November or Thursday 14th (for some classes due to dual teaching working patterns.)

Sparrows (class 4): Mrs Ahwe will see parents on Wednesday 13th November and Mrs Stephens will see parents on Thursday 14th November.

Skylarks (Class 5): Both teachers will be running consultations on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November.

Please note there is only one session per child available at consultations. You will receive an email next week explaining the booking procedure soon.

Northgate School Association

Halloween Tuck Shop

Our Halloween Tuck Shop is taking place on Tuesday 22nd October where you can buy lollies and treat bags at pick up time. Lots of sweet treats! Please bring cash if possible but card machines will be available.

Fireworks Night - NOW SOLD OUT

Thank you for your overwhelming support, this event is now sold out.

A huge thank you to our sponsor Russell Property, we really appreciate your support!

Gates will open at 5pm and the skies will be alight at 7pm. The fireworks display is being conducted by Essex Pyrotechnics who have provided the fireworks in the past, so we know it will be an amazing display!

We are lucky to have the following food and drinks vendors supporting our event this year so you'll have lots of lovely food and a wide selection of drinks to choose from! Smoked BBQ Kitchen, GraceMakesDough, Coco Crepes, Noodles and Dumplings, The Belgian Brewer, Hasta Barista.

We'll also have fairground rides, games, glitter tattoos, colourful hair braids, face painting, glow stall and a delicious PTA sweet stall!

Tickets must have been purchased in advance. If you are now unable to attend, please offer your tickets to others as we have a wait-list.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team