

Important Dates

Wed 14th Jan	Safeguarding training for volunteers
9th– 13th Feb	Festival of Literature
Wb 9th Feb	House Netball tournament
Tues 10th Feb	Internet Safety Day
Fri 13th Feb	Independent Enquirer Elephant Day
Half Term	16th - 20th Feb
3th & 5th Mar	Parent Consultations
Thurs 5th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Wed 11th March 9am	Playing maths games and work sharing
Fri 20th Mar	Year 3/4 production 9:05 and 2:15
Wk beg 23rd Mar house quiz)	Science week (visits from Fab Science,
Wk beg 23rd Mar	House Cross Country
Tues 24th Mar	Year 4 Local river walk
Wed 25th Mar	Rocksteady Concert pm
Fri 27th Mar	Term Ends 2pm



Trips / Events/ Workshops

On Tuesday 24th March, we will be completing some geography fieldwork at the River Stort. More information will follow.

We will be visiting the **Sea Life Centre in Southend** on Monday 9th March. More details will be provided nearer the time.

Thursday 13th March —parents invited to maths games / work sharing.

PE

PE lessons are on a **Monday and Wednesday** for both classes.

Swimming - This term it is **Kingfishers'** turn to go swimming on a Wednesday afternoon. The children will walk to the swimming pool with their class, but will need to be collected from Grange Paddocks at 3:45pm. Please let us know if you can help with walking children to swimming

Children will need to come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE. They will wear their kit for the whole day.

Warm weather—green shorts, white t-shirt and trainers.

Cold weather—green shorts, white t-shirt, trainers and a green tracksuit.

Focus for the term.

Spring 1—Gymnastics (Monday) and Invasion games (Nightingales only, Wednesday)

Spring 2—Dance for production (Monday) and Tennis (Nightingales only, Wednesday)

Spring Term 2026



General

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas. Thank you for all your lovely gifts and Christmas cards.

Welcome to the start of Spring term! We have lots of fantastic activities planned. Our topic for the whole of the Spring Term is 'The Blue Abyss'.

If you have any questions, please contact the class teacher using their class email.

Nightingales@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Kingfishers@northgate.herts.sch.uk

If you have any questions and need information for that day, please leave a message with the office.

Uniform reminder

A reminder that children should not be wearing jewellery in school, including earrings. Please also ensure watches are not smart watches. Hair accessories should be school colours only and trainers should only be worn on PE days.

Our Topic

In our 'Blue Abyss' topic, our geography will focus on rivers and oceans. To start with, we will find out about the features of river and will locate key rivers in the UK. We will also investigate the River Stort by taking a walk to our local river. After this, we will move onto learning about oceans. We will remind ourselves of the oceans in the world, find out about the layers of the ocean and learn about The Great Barrier Reef.



Art/DT

Our art in Spring 1 will be focusing on the artists Hokusai and Turner. In Spring 2, we will make aquariums using cams in our DT lessons.

Science

Our science for the first half term is Electricity where we will learn about mains electricity, batteries, insulators, conductors and circuits.

After half term, we will learn about 'Living Things and Their Habitats'.

The children will explore ways to classify plants and animals and will learn the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates.

Maths

Focus of the term: Times Tables up to 12×12
Long and short division
Multiplication
Shape and symmetry
Decimals

Home Learning

Reading— Children are expected to read to an adult for 10 minutes at least 3 times a week in order to help them improve their decoding, increase their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of the text. If your child is a fluent reader, please talk to them about the vocabulary and check their understanding of the text. Please sign in their reading record. If your child has lost or misplaced their reading record, please let us know as soon as possible.

Home Learning—This is uploaded to Google Classroom on a Friday and needs to be completed and returned by the following Friday. This will be either an English or maths based task. Sometimes, a topic based task will be sent home instead of English. All tasks should take approximately 30 mins.

Spellings—These are based on the 'Read, write, inc' spelling scheme and are set on a weekly basis. Our spelling test is also on a Friday.

Times Tables—These should be practised on a weekly basis using Timetables Rockstars. Teachers will advise on the times tables to be practised. These are the same as our Maths Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRFS). We will be setting weekly times tables to practise which will be tested on **Thursdays**.

Mathletics—There are two short tasks set each week, usually based on the work we have been covering in school.

PSHE

In Spring 1 our unit is '**Dreams and Goals**'. The children consider their hopes and dreams. They discuss how it feels when dreams don't come true and how to cope with, and overcome feelings of disappointment.

In Spring 2 we look at '**Healthy Me**'. The children learn about the importance of exercise and how it helps your body to stay healthy. They also learn about their heart and lungs, and making healthy lifestyle choices. The children consider things, places and people that are dangerous and link this to strategies for keeping themselves safe.

Reading KS2

In class, we will be reading a range of texts , including *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. We do have copies of this book in school, however if you would like to pre-read or have access to your own copy please send in a named book. The adaptation is also available to watch on iPlayer. Every day, please ensure your child's reading record is in school so they can be used for communication about reading progress. All children are expected have a book in class. They may use school library books or bring in an age appropriate book from home. If you are interested in helping to listen to individual readers, please contact the office.