

Important Dates

Wed 14th January	Safeguarding training for volunteers
Fri 23rd January	Young Voices Choir (O2)
WB 9th February	Festival of Literature
Tues 10th February	Internet Safety Day
Wednesday 11th Feb	Trip to Bayfordbury Observatory
Fri 13th February	Independent Enquirer Elephant Day
Half Term	
Mon 16th to Fri 20th Feb	
Tue 3rd March	Parent Consultations
Thurs 5th March	Parent consultations
Thurs 5th March	World Book Day (dress as an adjective)
Mon 10th March	Maths Games and Work sharing
WB 23rd March	Science Week House Cross Country
Weds 25th March	Rock Steady Concert
Fri 27th March	End of term at 2pm

Year 5/ 6 Use of phones

Only Year 5 and 6 children who have permission to walk to and from school independently are allowed to bring in phones. These should be handed to the class teacher at the beginning of the day. We encourage phones not to be smartphones. Children are not allowed smartwatches.

Snacks

If you wish to send in a mid-morning snack, please be aware that they are now only allowed fresh fruits and vegetables due to severe allergies in the school.

PSHE

Dreams and Goals—explores the idea of dreams and ambitions of young people and how these might differ for people from different cultures
Healthy Me— to understand the negative affects of tobacco, alcohol and anti-social behaviour and the promotion of certain body types by social media.

Spring Term 2026

We would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and thank you for our generous Christmas gifts.

Just a few reminders. Please remember that children should not be wearing jewellery (including earrings), hair accessories should be the school colour and black school shoes should be being worn.

If you need to contact us please email:
kestrels@northgate.sch.uk
kites@northgate.herts.sch.uk

We will aim to respond within two working days.

If you need to get a more urgent message to us on the day, please contact the office.

Miss Hartley, Miss Adams and Mrs Ferdinand

Topic

Our first topic is Stargazers. This is a science based topic. We will be learning about how the planets orbit the sun and how the moon orbits the Earth. The children will learn why day and night occur. This topic will also include a trip to a local observatory. Our history this term will focus on the 1960s Space Race. In English, we will be writing newspaper reports about the 1969 moon landing and a setting description of a fictional planet. Our art topic focuses on the use of watercolours and we will be creating pictures of planets.

After half term we will continue with the Space topic. Within this, our science topic will change to forces. We will learn about how force is measured and we will do lots of investigations linked to magnetism, air resistance, water resistance and friction. In English, children will be creating their own fictional planet and use this as a setting for a quest story. Our DT topic will focus on using mechanisms, learning about how electricity is used to drive products by designing and making our own moon buggies.

PE Kit

PE lessons are on Mondays and Fridays. On these days, children will need to come to school in their PE kit. In Spring 1, we will be practising gymnastics and netball. In Autumn 2, we will be taking part in tennis and invasion games.



Home Learning

Home learning will be set every Friday and be due in the following Friday. An overview and any resources needed will be uploaded to Google Classroom. Please speak to the class teacher if you require a paper copy.

- Maths and English tasks will be set on alternate weeks. Maths tasks will be completed on Mathletics and English tasks on Google Forms.
- Every week, your child will have ten spellings to practise based on the 'Read, Write, Inc' spelling scheme. These will be tested the following Friday.
- Tables up to 12×12 should be practised on a weekly basis.

Your child will bring home a school library book every day. They are expected to read at home three times a week for at least 15 minutes, in order to help them 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. This should be recorded in their reading record. Age appropriate books from home may be brought in to read.

Maths

This term children will be working on fractions. This will include understanding improper fractions and mixed numbers, adding and subtracting fractions and multiplying fractions. Lessons will have a variety of arithmetic and fluency practice as well as problem solving and reasoning activities.

Reading KS2

In class, we will be reading a range of texts including books linked to our Space topic. Our guided reading books are *The Cosmic Diary of Our Incredible Universe* by Tim Peake and *Cosmic its One Giant Leap for Boy-Kind*. Please ensure your child's reading record is in school daily so they can be used for communication about reading progress. If you are interested in helping to listen to individual readers, please contact the office.