

November 15th 2024

Headteacher's News

Teachers were delighted to connect with so many of you this week at parents' evening to discuss your child's progress, strengths, and areas for continued growth. Your involvement and commitment play such a vital role in supporting our students' success. If you have any feedback for the leadership team, please email interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful PTA team, in particular Geri Wren, for organising such a fantastic fireworks evening! The event was a tremendous success, bringing our community together for an evening filled with excitement, joy, and, of course, spectacular fireworks. We are truly grateful for their efforts in creating a memorable experience for everyone. With Geri Wren being a year 6 parent, we will be seeking a new team to lead this event next year. If you are interested in getting involved with events in the school, please come along to our PTA AGM on Monday evening at 7.30pm. These events don't happen without parents volunteering and it would be a great shame not to have a fireworks evening next year. More details about the PTA and their AGM can be found on page 2 in our Northgate School Association section.

Have a good weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

On Monday, our year 6 students had the privilege of attending the war memorial in town for a special Remembrance Service to honour those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom. Being part of this, allowed the students to make thoughtful links to the history they've been exploring in school with their topic on WW1. It was a moving experience for all, and we are incredibly proud of the maturity and thoughtfulness they demonstrated during this occasion.



Poppies made by Nursery



The rest of the school observed a two-minute silence to mark this important day. This moment of reflection allowed students and staff to come together in remembrance and respect. It was incredibly moving to see our school community pause in unity, including our nursery children, who put their poppies out, stood in their garden area and listened for the cannon fires.

Thank you for all the poppies and merchandise purchased from school. The Royal British Legion will be so grateful for your generosity.

Important Dates

18th—22nd Nov
Mon 18th Nov
Mon 9th Dec
Mon 18th Nov
Tues 10th Dec

Thurs 12th Dec
Fri 13th Dec
Mon 16th Dec

Tues 17th Dec
Tues 17th Dec
Tues 17th Dec
Tues 17th Dec
Wed 18th Dec
Wed 18th Dec
Wed 18th Dec
Wed 18th Dec
Thurs 19th Dec
Thurs 19th Dec

Fri 20th Dec
Fri 20th Dec

Mon 6th Jan

Tues 7th Jan
Fri 24th Jan
17th-21st Feb

7th- 21st April

Wed 21st May

Thurs 22nd May

Fri 23rd May

26th—30th May

Tues 22nd May

Wes 23rd May

Wellbeing Week
Cancer charity bake sale for Y3,4,5 & 6
After school PTA Christmas Tuck Shop
7.30pm Northgate PTA AGM
9.15am, 2.30pm Reception Christmas production
9.15am Road safety with Ducklings class
9.15am, 2.30pm Christmas production KS1
9.00am Reception Christmas activity morning
KS1 visiting Pantomime.
KS2 Pantomime at South Mill Arts
EYFS/KS1 Christmas lunch
2.45pm Nursery Christmas carol concert
Christmas jumper day
Nursery Christmas activity day
KS2 Christmas lunch
Volunteer coffee morning 9am
9.00am Nursery Christmas carol concert
KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)

Break the rules day
2pm End of term

Inset day

Start of spring term
Young Voices Choir at the O2
Half term

Easter holidays

9.30am Year 6 visit the Crucial Crew

End of term

Inset day

Half term

Break up for summer holidays

Occasional day

Optional Black History Month poster competition

The children produced some fabulous art work and have won books linked to Black History Month. These were donated by the PTA for the children's classrooms. Well-done to the following winners

Puffins - Tillie and Mila

Owls - Alexander

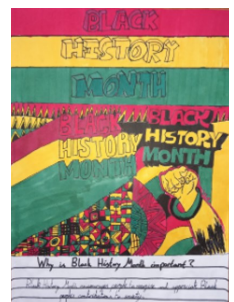
Sparrows - Theo

Swifts - Estelle

Kestrels - Marquis (image of poster attached)

Kites - Matuli and Joshua J.

Hawks - Ivy and Maxwell



Safeguarding:

Please note that the Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service offer free home fire safety visits to ensure your home is protected. During the visit they can fit up to two smoke detectors free of charge. To book an appointment please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/safeandwell or call 01279696800.

Enriching the Curriculum

On Wednesday an external company, "Perform" came in to run a **space themed workshop for Reception, Year 1 and 2**. The children blasted off into outer space for an amazing intergalactic adventure with the Little Green Alien. They danced the Zero Gravity Groove and met the Man in the Moon. Finally, they carried out their mission to save the universe from the Cruel Commander! The children had so much fun! Thank you to Mrs Layer for organising this.



This week, the **Ducklings** class welcomed Evan's father, a firefighter, for a special visit. The children learned about the important role firefighters play in helping the public. They were shown pictures of essential firefighting equipment, like ladders, hoses, and the Jaws of Life. The class also discussed fire safety and ways to protect our homes from fires. The children practiced crawling low to the ground as if their classroom were filled with smoke, then made their way to the fire escape. As part of their fire safety lessons, they also learned about fire exit signs, and when a fire drill practice took place this week, they handled it with great maturity. To finish off the visit, Mrs. Herniman volunteered to try on a firefighter's outfit, much to the delight of the children.



Sport:

Tag Rugby Festival

On Thursday, two mixed teams from Years 5 and 6 participated in a Tag Rugby Festival at the Rugby Club. They had a fantastic time competing against four other schools. The teams performed exceptionally well, with one team winning three out of four matches, and the other winning all four. Go Northgate! The Winners of the Interhouse Tag Rugby competition before half term results were:

- 1st:** Normans
- 2nd:** Vikings
- 3rd:** Romans
- 4th:** Saxons

Reminders and updates

Charity Bake Sale

There will be a charity bake sale for Years 3,4,5 & 6 on Monday 18th November at break time. Goodies will cost either £1.00 or £2.00 depending on the item purchased. There are also keyrings and loomband bracelets for sale. All money donated will go to a charity that helps people fighting against cancer. All cakes will have their ingredients listed.

SCHOOLGRID: Outstanding balances

A large number of school lunch balances remain unpaid despite repeated reminders being emailed home. Accounts should be maintained in credit at all times and payments received via Schoolgrid in advance for all meals ordered. The school is not able to subsidise meals and may have no option other than to withdraw access to meals if outstanding balances are not settled promptly. Thank you for your support.

Lost Property

We have an increasing amount of lost property so please come and claim any lost property from the school reception areas soon as possible.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:



Ducklings: Izzy J and Jessica
Puffins: Liam **Owls:** Teddy

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'computing'. Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for a range of skills including: designing an amazing 3D street and incredible 'TTRS' performances throughout the term.

Well done to:

Robins: Charlotte	Wrens: Jamie
Starlings: Connor	Sparrows: Theo
Skylarks: Louie	Swifts: Arthur
Nightingales: Alfie	Kingfishers: James
Kestrels: Ellie	Kites: Oscar
Harriers: Harriers	Hawks: Vito

Bishop's Stortford Food Bank collection Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December

As we approach the season of giving, we would like to support our local food bank by collecting donations for those in need within our community. If you would like to contribute, we welcome donations of any of these items on Wednesday 18th or Thursday 19th December in the morning and the food bank will collect later on Thursday 19th. The Food Bank are currently low on the following items: **Tinned meat (e.g ham, Corned beef, hotdogs), tinned tuna, UHT milk, tinned vegetables, tinned soup, pot noodles (kettle food), toilet roll, toiletries, long life puddings/ custard, peanut butter, marmite, baked beans, tinned spaghetti, savoury snack items, size 6,7,8 nappies.** Thank you for your support.

Northgate School Association

PTA Fireworks Night

A massive thank you to everyone who attended last week's PTA Fireworks Night event and a huge thank you to everyone who supported us. Thank you again to our sponsor Russell Property for their support with our event.

General Meeting

Our AGM for the Northgate PTA will be taking place at school 7.30pm on Monday 18th November 2024. At this meeting, all current trustees and elected committee members step down from their posts and a vote takes place for re-election. For more information about the roles available and if you would like to be considered for a role, please contact us at ptanorthgate@gmail.com.

Russell Property Christmas Card Competition

Every child at Northgate has been given the opportunity to produce a design for their Christmas Card. There will be winners from the following categories; Nursery & Reception; Years 1&2; Years 3&4 and Years 5&6. The winning designs will be printed on 500 cards that Russell Property send to clients and local businesses. All entries will also feature during December in Russell Property's window and on their social media. Our winners will also win their design printed on cards. Watch this space for winners!

250 Club

The 250 Club will be changing in February 2025. We have a new wonderful Northgate PTA lottery coming your way, so watch this space for details coming shortly. Thank you for your continued support.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.
Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team