

December 13th 2024

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Tues 7th Jan	Start of spring term
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	Year 6 Instrumental Concert
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Thurs 27th Mar	Science week—Visit from Fab Science
WK beg 31st Mar	Y5 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 3rd April	Term Ends 2pm
Fri 4th Apr	Easter holidays
7th- 21st April	Children back to school
Tues 22nd Aril	Year 4 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 1st May	Bank Holiday
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Thurs 15th May	Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
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Thurs 22nd May	Inset day
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26th—30th May	Year 6 Performance at South Mill Art. (details to follow)
Wed 2nd July	Break up for summer holidays
Tues 22nd July	Occasional day
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December 13th 2024

Headteacher's News

This week has been filled with festive joy! On Monday, our Year 6 students took part in a magical candlelit service at St. Michael's Church alongside other local schools. Their beautiful singing created a truly special atmosphere. Well done to all the children and thank you to parents for your support.

Adding to the celebrations, our EYFS children delighted everyone with their wonderful Christmas production, "Away in a Manger" showcasing their enthusiasm, beautiful singing and festive spirit.



On Friday, our KS1 children wowed us with their fantastic production, "The Late Angel". Their hard work and talent shone through with their wonderful singing and acting, leaving the audience full of Christmas cheer.



Well done to all the children –we were really proud of them! A huge thank you to all the staff who worked tirelessly to prepare the children for these events, and to all our parents for your invaluable support, including with providing costumes. Your encouragement and involvement make these moments so special. Looking ahead, we have more exciting Christmas events next week! Please be aware that there are two different pick-up times for KS2, so please make sure you've read the details to avoid any confusion.

This week, we said goodbye to Melissa in the kitchen, and we are sadly saying farewell to Ms Lilywhite, one of our TAs. We thank them both hard work and dedication to the school and wish them all the best for the future.

Please remember we break up next Friday, finishing at 2pm. Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

Year 4 have been studying art work by the French impressionist Cezanne and the UK textile artist Ruth Issett. Using these two artists as inspiration and incorporating their "Mountains" topic, the children have created stunning abstract mark making prints from their mountain drawings. Please see some amazing examples below.



In DT lessons, Year 6 have been sewing poppies for their WW1 topic, *Fallen Fields*, mastering stitches like blanket, running, and back stitch. Stunning work!

Important Dates

Mon 16th Dec	9.00am Reception Christmas activities
Tues 17th Dec	KS1 Visiting entertainment
Tues 17th Dec	KS2 Panto at South Mill Arts (pick up from theatre)
Tues 17th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Christmas lunch— home packed lunch for KS2 children
Tues 17th Dec	2.45pm Nursery Christmas carol concert
Wed 18th Dec	Christmas jumper day
Wed 18th Dec	Nursery Christmas activity day
Wed 18th Dec	KS2 Christmas lunch— home packed lunch for KS1 & EYFS
Wed 18th Dec	Volunteer coffee morning 9am
Wed 18th Dec	1.30pm Road safety with Ducklings class
Wed 18th Dec	Donations for food bank
Thurs 19th Dec	KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Thurs 19th Dec	9.00am Nursery Christmas carol concert
18th/19th Dec	Donations for food bank
Fri 20th Dec	Break the rules day—School ends 2pm
Mon 6th Jan	Inset day
Tues 7th Jan	Start of spring term
Fri 24th Jan	Young Voices Choir at the O2
Mon 3rd Feb	Y6 Victorian Day
Mon 10th Feb	Y5 Visit from Wonderdome.
10th—14th Feb	Literature Festival at the BSC
17th-21st Feb	Half term
Tues 4th Mar	Rec/Y1 Trip to Stortford fields Story Teller
Thurs 6th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
WK beg 10th Mar	Maths games/work sharing with parents
	Mon UKS2—9am, Tues EYFS --9am
	Wed KS1 --9am, Thurs LKS2 --9am
	Year 6 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 13th Mar	9.05am & 14.15am Y3/4 performance
Thurs 27th Mar	Science week—Visit from Fab Science
WK beg 31st Mar	Y5 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 3rd April	Term Ends 2pm
Fri 4th Apr	Easter holidays
7th- 21st April	Children back to school
Tues 22nd Aril	Year 4 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 1st May	Bank Holiday
Mon 5th May	Year 3 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 15th May	Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
Wed 21st May	End of term
Thurs 22nd May	Inset day
Fri 23rd May	Half term
26th—30th May	Year 6 Performance at South Mill Art. (details to follow)
Wed 2nd July	Break up for summer holidays
Tues 22nd July	Occasional day
Wes 23rd July	

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding:

In the lead-up to Christmas, please be mindful of toys and devices with button batteries (flat, silver discs). To keep children safe, always store button batteries securely, out of sight and reach of children. When depleted, dispose of them safely, as they can still cause harm.

This week, **Reception** wrote heartfelt letters to Santa and enjoyed a fun walk to the local post box to send them off. A big thank you to our parent helpers for making the outing extra special!

Amanda and Lauren from **Hawks** hosted a bake sale for LKS2 on Monday, raising an impressive £72.40 for the Stroke Association. Well done girls!

The **Northgate Gators** shone at the KS2 Inter Schools Cheerleading Competition on Dec 7th at Birchwood! They earned top marks for motions, tumbling, and rolls, delivering a brilliant and memorable performance.



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:



Ducklings: Tommy and Rory

Puffins: The whole class **Owls:** The whole class

Our 'Learner of the Week' certificates were focused on 'learning powers/ growth mindset'.

Well done to:

Robins: Sara

Wrens: Charlotte

Starlings: The whole class

Sparrows: The whole class

Skylarks: Sophie

Swifts: Chloe

Nightingales: Teddy

Kingfishers: Gabriel

Kestrels: Isaac

Kites: Amelia

Harriers: The whole class

Hawks: Bohuslava

Christmas Giving

Bishop's Stortford Food Bank : Donations are being accepted of items of non perishable food on **Wed 18th/ Thurs 19th Dec**. The Food Bank is 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.

Christmas Jumper Day: Donations (£1.00 per child)will be sent to the Isabelle Hospice.

There will be collection after the church service on Thurs 19th Dec: Half of the money raised goes St Michael's Church and the other half to the Isabelle Hospice.

Thank You from the Royal British Legion

Thank you to all the families and staff at Northgate who raised an amazing £588.64 for this year's Poppy Appeal.

The winning house

Congratulations to **Vikings** who have earned the most house points this term. Rather than non-uniform, **Vikings** will have a lunchtime house party on Monday in the hall.

Northgate School Association

Break the Rules Day

Don't forget, on the last day of term, it's Break the Rules Day! For just 50p per rule, you can break the following rules: **wear grey socks/tights, wear your tie (UKS2), no nail polish, no coloured hair, no hair gel, only green hair accessories, no jewellery, no trainers/fashion shoes, no squash in water bottles, and no Christmas jumpers/accessories. Remember, only these rules apply!**

Pantomimes & Christmas Lunch

We hope the children enjoy their pantomime trips and Christmas lunch! Thanks to the PTA for funding crackers, squash, and decorating the dining room for a festive experience.

Russell Property Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to our winners: Arabelle (Harriers), Eliza (Kestrels), Denise (Nightingales), Florence (Skylarks), Novanna (Vikings), Lola (Wrens), and Miguel (Puffins)! Their wonderful designs were printed as Christmas cards. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Final 250 Club Winners

Congratulations to Scott Etherington who has won our November 2024 250 club and Amanda Bramall who is our December winner!

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Gerri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team

Reminders

Nursery Christmas concerts—in class

This special occasion will take place on two separate days, Tuesday 17th December at **2.45pm** and Thursday 19th December at **9.00am**

Reception and KS1 Christmas lunch—Tuesday 17th December:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their Christmas lunch on 17th December. Meals **must** be booked in advance on School Grid.

Years 3-6 will need a packed lunch sent from home on this day as there will be no school lunch option available.

KS2 - Panto—Tuesday 17th December

Our KS2 children will be walking to the South Mills Theatre in the afternoon to watch 'Robin Hood'. The children will be having a home made packed lunch in their classroom before they go, as KS1 have their Christmas lunch in the dining hall. Pick up from outside the theatre for year groups is: **Y3: 3.30pm, Y4: 3.35pm, Y5: 3.40pm, Y6: 3.45pm.**

KS1 siblings can be collected from 3:00 pm to assist with KS2 pickups from South Mills. Please inform the office in advance if any changes to the person picking up via email: admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

KS2 Christmas lunch - Wednesday 18th December

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be having their Christmas lunch on Wednesday 18th. Meals **must** be booked in advance on School Grid. **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will need a packed lunch from home on this day as there will be no school lunch option available.**

Fundraising festive jumper day—Wednesday 18th December:

This year we will be supporting the **Isabel Hospice**. Pupils and staff can choose to wear a **Christmas jumper** instead of a school jumper and a tie. **The rest of the school uniform must still be worn as usual.** We are suggesting a donation of £1 which will be collected in class on the day.

Please note there is no need to buy a Christmas jumper, perhaps children can put tinsel on a red or green jumper to jazz things up!

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