

September 20th 2024

Headteacher's News

We hope that you found the Reception Meet the Teacher sessions informative. Next week we will be starting a series of parent workshops starting with the Year 1 phonics session. This will explain how we teach phonics, using our scheme Little Wandle. It will give information about how you can support your child's learning at home and how we help the children get ready for the National Year 1 phonics screening in June. The PowerPoint from the session will be put onto our website. There will also be a session on Thursday for KS2 parents about our PHSE curriculum and our scheme Jigsaw.

As a school, we value giving our children opportunities to be involved in many different roles across the school, helping them develop a variety of skills. Key roles in Year 6 are the House and Vice Captains, who carry out different jobs throughout the year and across the school. To appoint the House Captains, the staff voted based on who has consistently modelled the school code in terms of behaviour, attitude and work ethic. Plus, the children also wrote and delivered a short speech to myself and Mrs Clynes, highlighting their attributes and experiences to make them a successful House Captain. We were so impressed with all the children—they all delivered their speeches with confidence, giving wonderful examples of how they had been an active member of the Northgate community and how they had developed their leadership and teamwork skills. It was a very close run competition with so many strong candidates. Winners can be seen on the next page. Well done to everyone who took part!

Children across the school will be voting in the next few weeks for other leadership positions, including the School Council, Eco Council and our Diversity, Inclusion and Well-being Council.

Have a great weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum—Sport

Well done to the girls and boys football teams, who had matches after school yesterday at the Bishop's Stortford College. Thank you to Annabelle E, Joshua Mc, Matilda P and Martha J for reporting on these. *Forty children from Northgate Y5/6 displayed great teamwork. The Y5 girls team drew 1-1, with Annabelle scoring. Both sides were evenly matched. The silver team had a tough match which finished 1-6 to the college. Joshua M scored for Northgate and Joshua J saved many more attempts at goal. Teddy scored a brilliant goal for the gold team and there were many great tackles during the game. They finished 1-1. The Y6 girls team won their match 3-2. Ruby scored two goals and Arabelle one. All the goalies played really well!*

House Captains & Vice Captains

Well done to the new house captains/vice captains in year 6

Romans	Vikings	Normans	Saxons
Evie W	Lulu	Amanda	Lauren
Daniel	Thomas	Sebastian FD	Arabelle
Elijah	George	Evie B	Dylan
Rose	Joe	Olivia H	Maya

Important Dates

Tues 24th Sept	9.00am Y1 Phonics workshop (parents)
Thurs 26 th Sept	9.00am KS2 PSHE workshop (parents)
Wed 2 nd Oct	9.00am Years 3/4 times table workshop
Thurs 3 rd Oct	9.00am EYFS/KS1 PSHE workshop (parents)
Tues 8th Oct	9.00am Recep. Harvest assembly (parents)
	9.20am Phonics workshop (parents)
Wed 9th Oct	9.00am KS1 Harvest assembly (parents)
	9.20am Y2 parent workshop
	6.00pm Y5/6 Parent information evening.
Mon 14th Oct	9.05am KS1 Reading with parents
Tues 15th Oct	9.05am UKS2 Reading with parents
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 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)
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
Weds 18th Dec	Christmas jumper day
Weds 18th Dec	KS2 Christmas lunch
Weds 18th Dec	Volunteer coffee 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

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Snacks

At morning breaktime, nursery and KS1 children have a drink of either milk or water. They also receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable until the end of Year 2, as part of the National School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme.

As part of our Healthy Schools work if your child needs a snack at break time, we encourage the eating of a healthy snack, such as fresh fruit, vegetables, or cheese. Please don't send in crisps, confectionery, or chocolate snacks.

Please remember we are a **nut free school**, so please do **not** send in nut products (e.g. Muesli bars, peanut butter, pesto etc) in snacks or packed lunches as we have several children and staff who have severe nut allergies.

Safeguarding: E-safety

The NSPCC website has tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your children safe online. Some examples are:

Talking to your child about online safety. For advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried click [here](#)

Online wellbeing. Helping young people to manage their mental wellbeing online. Click [here](#) for more information.

Class Reading Journals

Every week, throughout our school, one child from every class will design and write a piece in their class reading journal showcasing a book they have read and enjoyed. The children can describe why they liked the book, or who their favourite characters were. We want to promote and encourage our students to be more creative whilst reflecting and connecting with the stories they are reading. By the end of the year, we will have 30 fabulous books as recommended by the children themselves from every class. Thank you, Robin from Skylarks for your first entry.



Reading in EYFS

Children will bring a library book home each week. This is to encourage them to look at books and take ownership of bringing their book bag to school. The books will be changed weekly. We ask parents to read the book with your child, talking about the story, characters and explaining unfamiliar vocabulary. This will encourage a love of reading.

The children in the early years met their class bird toys this week - Percy Puffin, Barney Owl and Donald and Daff Ducklings. Every week, four of our children will take home our cuddly friends to share stories and books with them. Please take a photo of your child reading and send it to the class email! That way, we can share their reading adventures in class books and displays.

Reminders and Updates

Crossing Patrol update

Tony, our crossing patrol person, has changed his working times to fit our new school hours. He will now be on duty from: 8.25am—9.00pm and 3.10pm —3.45pm

Making School Payments for Meals

The transition of school meal payments to SchoolGrid is now complete. All balances held on School Gateway will transfer across at the end of the settlement period, 27th September. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Child's school records

Using Arbor, parents can check their child's contact details, medical records, dietary requirements etc. Anything that is incorrect can be amended by parents and will be sent to the office for verification.

Jumpers with no name

At the end of the school day, staff find jumpers and cardigans left around school by the children. A lot of these do not have names on them. This makes it very difficult to return clothing to the correct child. Please see the link to name stickers. It would be very helpful if you could label your child's clothing items.

Spare items of clothing

We are in need of spare socks and knickers/pants for reception aged children. Also, if you have any unwanted boy's school shoes in good condition, we would appreciate them as spares.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: **Elsie and Shaye**

Puffins: **Larna** Owls: **Noah**



This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'English'.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: showing great enthusiasm for reading and participating fully in guided reading sessions, dedicated home learning, being able to summarise and retrieve answers from text brilliantly, having great determination to improve their reading skills, showing fantastic effort and concentration in phonics, reading very fluently, pushing themselves with their writing skills and having fantastic expression when ready aloud in class!

Well done to:

Robins: **Giulia**

Starlings: **Novana**

Skylarks: **Rex**

Nightingales: **Maisy**

Kestrels: **Roise-May**

Harriers: **Kai**

Wrens: **Sophia**

Sparrows: **Thom**

Swifts: **Nelle**

Kingfishers: **Imogen**

Kites: **Sydney**

Hawks: **Teddy**

Clubs

We have signed up a couple of new clubs this month and are hoping to sign up a few more shortly—watch this space!

Do you have any beads at home that you can donate to school? Such as Hama beads, jewellery beads, etc. After half-term, Northgate is planning a new afterschool craft club called "**Brilliant Beads**". Details regarding this club will be announced shortly! Please bring any donations to the school office. Thank you for your support.

Northgate School Association

Fireworks Night

Just a reminder that we still need volunteers for our PTA Fireworks Night event on Friday 8th November 2024. We can't run these events without your support. If you can, please sign up here: Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-50510704-northgate>

Reminder for Asda Cashpot for Schools

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative.

Even if you do not shop at Asda, they will donate £1 just by you opting in through the Asda Rewards app. If you then do actually shop in store or online then they will donate 0.5% of your shop. This is for a limited time only between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.

Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started. Here is the link to the iPhone app:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/asda-rewards/id1578902078>

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team