

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

November 3rd 2017

Headteacher's News

Welcome back to school, I hope you had a good holiday. We have another busy half-term ahead of us, with many inspiring lessons and activities planned for the children over the coming weeks.

However, amidst the positive start to the half term, I want to take time to recognise the several families within our school community who are facing difficult times. These families are in our thoughts and prayers and we will support them as best we can.

Next week is our Friendship Week, where assemblies and PHSE lessons will focus on what it means to be a good friend and will give children strategies to cope if children are not being kind. The children will all have a secret friend, who will do kind things throughout the week. Members of the Chill Club will be given secret missions as they become 'Chill Club Superheroes'. The week will culminate in our 'Rainbow Day' on Friday, where children are encouraged to celebrate diversity and recognise the different qualities in themselves and others. The children can come in non-uniform and wear multi-coloured clothes or items in their favourite colour. We have now decided that if you would like to make a donation to come in non-uniform, money raised will be donated to Pancreatic Cancer UK. Please bring money in next Friday and hand to the class teacher. Many thanks.

Reading with Parents

It was great to see so many parents this week coming in to read with their children. Reading is an essential life skill and children have a range of opportunities to develop their skills within the school day. There are many skills taught beyond decoding, including summarising what they have read, inferring and predicting. It is important that children understand the meanings of words in context.

It is vital the children are practising developing their skills at home at least 3 times a week and that this is recorded in their reading record book. Even when children are confident readers, they need support with developing their skills through discussion about the text. In the KS2 Reading Record book, there is a space where the children can write down any words they have looked up or discussed with you. If your child is struggling finding books that they enjoy reading, please talk to the class teacher for ideas. Audio books are also a great way to support children with their language development.

'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.' Dr Seuss.

Year 1 Autumn Walk

As part of their topic on 'splendid skies', looking at the weather. Year 1 enjoyed their autumn walk this week. They looked for all the signs of autumn and enjoyed collecting items for our topic area. This first hand experience, supports the children's learning back in the classroom. Thank you to parents for their help.



Important Dates

6th-10th Nov	Friendship Week
6th Nov	EYFS eSchools meeting (2.45pm)
9th Nov	Year 3 Jungle Jo
9th Nov	2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing
10th Nov	Rainbow Day
15th Nov (7pm)	Year 5/6 Parent Workshop
16th Nov	1.30pm Basketball at Birchwood
16th Nov	Year 1 Parent Workshop (2.45)
17th Nov	11.00am School Tour
22nd Nov	Year 2 Parent Workshop (2.45)
22nd Nov	2.45pm Year5 Work Sharing
27th Nov	eSafety week
28th Nov	9.30am School Tour
28th Nov	2.45pm Year 2 Work Sharing
29th Nov-1st Dec	KS2 cyber bus
29th Nov	2.45pm Year 1 Work Sharing
1st Dec	9.30am Cricket at HECC
1st Dec	2.45pm Year 4 Work Sharing
6th Dec	Year 6 Height and Weight
7th Dec	EYFS Christmas performances
8th Dec	9.30am School Tour
8th Dec	Year 4 music festival
9th Dec	Christmas Fayre
11th Dec	KS2 panto at Rhodes
11th Dec	KS1 panto in school
11th Dec	Choir Carol service at St Michael's (evening)
13th Dec	KS1 Christmas performance
14th Dec	KS2 Carol service at St Michael's
15th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
19th Dec	2.00pm End of Term
20th Dec-2nd Jan	Christmas holiday
3rd Jan	Children return to school
12th-16th Feb	Half term
19th Feb	Inset Day
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
28th May-1st Jun	Half Term
4th June	Inset Day
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding at school, Mrs Tanner is the Designated Senior Person (DSP) who deals with any issues. Miss Greaves, Deputy Head, and Mrs Clynes, Assistant Head, are the deputy DSPs. Hertfordshire County Council's telephone number to discuss issues beyond school is 0300 1234043.

Year 2 Pirate Day

Year 2 had a fantastic pirate day and enjoyed making pirate treasure maps, doing pirate PE and singing a variety of pirate songs. The children were dressed in wonderful costumes and Year 2 staff would like to thank parents for all their support.



Football

Northgate B Team played Puller School in the 3rd match of the season. The boys competed very well however, unfortunately, the Puller team were just too strong and were deserving winners.

Reminders

Absences and Lateness

We have noticed a substantial increase in the number of absences and children arriving late for school.

Arriving late at school can be extremely disruptive to the children and their class. Please ensure that you arrive at school before the gates close. Letters will be sent out shortly to parents of children who are persistently late.

Parking

PC Siggers has been monitoring parking outside school as he has received complaints from local residents. Please park considerately and if you cannot find a space, park at the Rugby Club and walk down to school. Thank you

Community

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Please find a letter attached regarding Consultation Arrangements for proposed Admission Arrangements for September 2019, for the Bishop's Stortford High School.

The Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church Youth Group

On alternating Thursday evenings from 5.45-7pm the Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church hold a youth group for those in School years 5 and 6. The club includes table tennis, pool, football, netball, games and crafts. Please see attached flyer for more details.

Research Project: Witness Skills of Adults and Children

Debra Collins (one of our Mums) is a PhD student at The University of Winchester and is carrying out research on the above. She needs your help so please see the attached flyer for further information on how you can help her. Thank you

Cheerleading and Acro Day

Please find attached, details of a Cheerleading and Acro day which will be running at Hillmead Primary School during the Christmas holidays.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: (am) - William
(pm) - Martha
Reception: (R1) - Mekhi
(R2) - Archie

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for contributing to Black History Week.

Well done to:

Class 1: Jasper	Class 7: Nancy
Class 2: Daniel	Class 8: Amelia
Class 3: Deanna	Class 9: Violet
Class 4: Ali	Class 10: Freya
Class 5: Bede	Class 11: Luke
Class 6: Zoe	Class 12: Thomas

Term dates for 2017/18

19th Dec	Term ends at 2.00pm
3rd Jan	Children return to school
12th-16th Feb	Half Term
19th Feb	Inset Day
20th Feb	Children return to school
29th Mar	Term ends at 2.00pm
16th April	Children return to school
28th May-1st Jun	Half Term
4th Jun	Inset Day
5th Jun	Children return to school
20th Jul	Term ends at 2.00pm
23rd-27th July	Occasional Days

Term dates for 2018/19

3rd Sep	Children return to school
29th Oct-2nd Nov	Half Term
5th Nov	Children return to school
21st Dec	Term ends at 2.00pm
7th Jan	Children return to school
18th-22nd Feb	Half Term
25th Feb	Children return to school
5th Apr	Term ends at 2.00pm
23rd Apr	Children return to school
6th May	Bank Holiday
27th-31st May	Half Term
23rd Jul	Term ends at 2.00pm
24th Jul	Occasional Day

There are 5 INSET days yet to be added for 2018/19

School Association

School Disco

We are pleased to inform you that an amazing total of £1,245.00 was raised from the disco for the School Association. Thank you very much to all those who helped.

Christmas Fayre

Please remember the Northgate Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, 9th December 2017