

June 23rd 2017

Headteacher's News

As you are already aware, last Friday we informed parents and children about upcoming class changes and invited parents to email any questions over the last week. We received twenty emails - some in favour of the process, others expressing concern. There were several common questions that were raised and we have answered these in the attached Q and A. You can contact the office to arrange an individual meeting with me, catch me at the school gates in the morning, or email interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

It was fantastic to see so many parents engaging with their children's maths learning this week. We hope you found it enjoyable. - I know your children loved having you in! I hope it has given you some ideas about what sort of things the children are covering at school and how you can support maths learning at home.

Maths Games

Every morning this week, there was a mathematical buzz in school! Parents of all children, were invited into class to play maths games with their child. The turnout was terrific and it was lovely to see classrooms and the outside areas full of children and adults enjoying maths games in the glorious sunshine! Please make the most of maths in at home, for example weighing when cooking. Please also check that you are regularly reinforcing number bonds and times tables. This will greatly support your child's learning. A big thank you to all the parents that attended, making the week such a success! Mr Glozier



Children in year 3, enjoying a competitive game of bingo



Playing dominoes in Reception

Foundation

Foundation have had a lovely week with a trip to our local park. On the walk up to the park we focused on the 'directions' and the children helped to direct us there. Along the way they were encouraged to look for signs and they learnt a lot about the purpose of signs. The children enjoyed exploring the park and stopping for a snack and a drink – it was extremely hot! Next week in class, we will be talking in more depth about the trip, and the children will be making their own maps and signs. The Maths morning was also a success and it was lovely to see so many parents. The children loved sharing their learning with their mums and dads.

Important Dates

Tues 27th June	3pm Year 5 work sharing
Tues 27th June	Foundation Information Evening
Wed 28th June	Year 6 girls kwik cricket
Thurs 29th June	Birchwood Games Day
Thurs 29th June	2.45pm Year 4 work sharing
Mon 3 rd July	Year 5/6 Rehearsal at Rhodes
Tues 4th July	Years 5/6 Production at Rhodes
Thurs 6th July	Reports Out
Fri 7 th July	Sports Day
Mon 10th July	R-Yr1 Transition Mtg 2.45pm
Tues 11th July	Reserve Sports Day
Wed 12th July	Yr 1 Trip Hatfield Forest
Wed 12th July	Parent Consultations
Thurs 13th July	Secondary Transfer Day - Move up Morning
Thurs 13th July	2.45pm Year 1 work sharing
Fri 14th July	3.00pm Year 3 work sharing (please note date change)
Fri 14th July	Leavers' Disco
Mon 17th July	Year 2 Trip Colchester Zoo
Tues 18th July	2.45pm Year 2 work sharing
Wed 19 th July	Year 6 swimming gala
Thurs 20th July	9.05 am Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Thurs 20th July	10.00am Year 6 work sharing
Fri 21 st July	End of Term 2.00pm
Mon 4th Sept	1st Day of Autumn Term
Fri 20th Oct	Inset day
23rd-27th Oct	Half term
20th Dec-2nd Jan	Christmas holiday
12th Feb-16th Feb	Half term
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

You will notice that we have a new key pad to our main gate to improve site security. The gate will 'unlock' at 3.10pm so then can be pushed open by parents to walk round.

As a school, we regularly have fire practices at different times of the day, to ensure children can quickly and safely get out of the building. If you are in the school and the fire alarm goes off, please make your way around to the gazebo in the playground.

Enriching the Curriculum

Fab Science Forensic Day

Thanks to funding from the Association, Year 3 and Year 6 had an exciting forensic day to support their classwork.

Year 3 are currently learning all about detective stories as they are reading *Feargal Fly* in English. They used their Forensics experience to find out what it is like to be a real life detective.

Year 3: "We took DNA out of strawberries by squeezing them in a plastic bag and made a liquid by mixing fairy liquid, water and salt. We put three spoonful's of the liquid in with the strawberries in the plastic bag. After that, we took the DNA out with tweezers. The DNA was soggy and white. It looked disgusting" ...**Harry** and **Evangelene** (class 5)

Year 6 are covering the topic, ID, where they are looking at how their writing has purpose to help them solve a crime.

"On Tuesday, **Year 6** took part in a Fab Science session on forensics. We looked at fingerprints and how we are different and DNA. Many activities were completed, such as: taking our own fingerprints and matching them to the different patterns. We also looked at how DNA makes us unique. We all thoroughly enjoyed this session" ...**Ruby** (class11)

Sporting Opportunities

Hotshots

Northgate years 3 and 4 were proud to represent their school at the Birchwood School Football Tournament. Despite the very hot weather, we played very well as a team, scored lots of goals and came **second** overall...**Evan** (class 8)

Music Events

Year 2 Music Festival

Year 2 really enjoyed taking part in the Year 2 Music Festival at the Rhodes Centre today. We are really proud of how hard they have worked at learning all the words practicing the songs.

Updates

Water Bottles

Please could you make sure the children's water bottles measure no more than 15cm in height (with the top off) as taller bottles do not fit in the machine and this is causing regular flooding of the dining room floor. Thank you.

Community News

SEN (Special Educational Needs) Sessions at the Town Splash Park

Two Wednesdays each month there is a SEN only session at the town splash park between 5pm and 7pm. Unfortunately signage isn't great and the Council seem limited in their abilities to advertise or enforce this and the splash park is still overcrowded with non-SEN children each time. Those that organise it are desperately trying to get the word out so that non-SEN families will be aware and vacate the area to allow SEN kids to play. And of course they would like to welcome any SEN families to the session. The next session is 5th July.

HECC Cricket Centre

Please find a flyer attached outlining the cricket coaching programmes at the 'HECC' centre from years 1-6 and also year 7 and above.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week in Foundation Stage were:

Nursery: Anton and Isabel
Reception: **Maisy** (R1)
William (R2)

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their resilience when solving problems and active participation in groups.

Well done to:

R1: **Maisy**
R2: **William**
Class 1: **Martha**
Class 2: **Charlie & Janson**
Class 3: **Katie**
Class 4: **Filip**
Class 5: **Miles**
Class 6: **Annabelle**
Class 7: **Zoe Grimes**
Class 8: **Erin, Sophia & Harriet**
Class 9: **Kaitlin**
Class 10: **Maggie**
Class 11: **Lily & Eloise**
Class 12: **Natalie & Lily**

Reminders

Drinks and Hats

As the weather improves, please remember to send your children to school with hats and water bottles and apply sun cream before school.

Labelling Uniform

Please ensure that all school uniform is labelled as we seem to get huge amounts of lost property.

Work Sharing Next Week

Tues 27th June 3pm Year 5 work sharing
Thurs 29th June 2.45pm Year 4 work sharing

Northgate Association

School Disco

Don't forget our school disco tonight:

KS1 and Foundation 6.00pm-7.00pm
KS2 7.00pm-8.30pm