

January 20th 2017

Headteacher's News

As a school, we aim to offer a creative and engaging curriculum. To help inspire children with their new topics, some trips and events are organised at the start of the term, such as last week's Y5 trip to the Imperial War Museum. This week's highlights include a tea party with the 'Queen' in Year 1 and the 'Street Detectives' walk in Year 2. From motivated and engaged pupils, we hope to ensure high quality learning.

This week, it was great to give out my first Headteacher's awards. They have all been for children who have worked hard to improve their writing, both how it looks and the quality of the content. Well done!

Miss Greaves, our Acting Deputy Head, and I are looking forward to meeting parents next week at the Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Coffee sessions.

Class News

Year 1: Visit from the Queen

"The Queen loved our dancing and it was really special," Hari.

"The Queen told us all about what she does and we had some delicious food," Olivia.



Year 2 School Trip: Street Detectives



Year 2 went on a trail around Bishop's Stortford, using maps to help them. They coloured as they went along to lead them back to Northgate School. The children saw many different buildings including the old Northgate School and Chantry Mount School.

Charlie and Zoe from class 4 said their favourite part of their trip was when they went past the old Northgate School whilst using their maps to find it. Imogen and Beck from class 3 enjoyed colouring in the streets as they walked along them.

We would like to thank all parents who helped on these events.

School Council Shop

The School Council shop will be open for business on Fridays, starting on Friday 27th January. They will be selling stationery at play time. The prices range from 15p to £1.00. If your child would like to purchase something, please send them in with a small amount of money.

Important Dates

Coffee for Parents:

Nursery	Wed 25 th Jan 9.00-9.30am
Reception	Thur 26 th Jan 9.00-9.30am
Year 1	Fri 26 th Jan 9.00-9.30am
Year 2	Fri 26 th Jan 2.45-3.15pm
25 th January	Football (Home)
26 th January	Year 5 School Journey Meeting
2 nd February	Year 3 Instrumentals
3 rd February	Year 4 instrumentals
4 th February	Association Comedy Night
9 th February	Year 5 instrumentals
10 th February	Year 6 instrumentals
Mon 13th Feb – Fri 17th Feb Half Term	
20 th February	Healthy Schools' Week
27 th February	Book Week
28 th February	Consultations
1 st March	Consultations
3 rd March	Association School Disco
2 nd March	World Book Day
17 th March	Closing Date for Nursery Applications
31 st March	End of Term 2pm

*Red = New Items

Safeguarding

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The designated persons for Child Protection are Mrs Tanner and Miss Greaves.

It has been brought to the school's attention that children are uploading video clips on the internet, showing their full names whilst wearing school jumpers, which could lead to them being identified by strangers. Please ensure you are monitoring what your children are uploading and that you are happy that they are not putting themselves at risk.

I have attached the Hertfordshire Spring Parent e-Safety Newsletter produced by Herts.

Previous newsletters can be found at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/news/newsletters/>

School Updates

Please note there will be no school crossing patrol on Wednesday 25th January in the morning.

Thank you for all the kind donations we have received of books, puzzles, Lego, etc. Further donations will still be gratefully received.

Supporting Charities

We received a thank you letter for our support to the St Elizabeth's School charity, after sending them a cheque for £284 which was raised from our collection on Christmas Jumper Day. The school is for young people with complex medical needs and learning difficulties.

Literature Festival

We have managed to secure tickets to see some fantastic authors at the Bishop's Stortford College Literature Festival. It will be an amazing opportunity for the children and also lots of fun! The details of the classes going are listed below. If your child's class is not there it means that unfortunately there were not enough tickets available and these children will be given priority for the next event.

There are also tickets available for the evening events. These are brilliant and lots of fun for adults and children. The link is below:

<http://www.bishopsstortfordcollege.org/3575/festival-of-literature-2nd-9th-february-2017>

Year 2 – 9.30am Mon 6th Feb

Year 4 – 9.30am Tues 7th Feb

Year 3 – 2.00pm Fri 3rd Feb

Year 6 – 2.00pm Thur 9th Feb

Instrumental Concerts

At Northgate we have a tradition of strong music opportunities for our pupils. This half term we have our Key Stage 2 music concerts. All children will have the opportunity to participate, but children will also be able to play a short piece individually or in a small group. Mrs Welch, our new music teacher, has sent home letters inviting children to play so if your child would like to perform a solo, please return the slip to the school office by 25th January 2017.

Preschool

From September 2017, a preschool will be available on the school site. The current providers of our successful after school club will be renting the room for the whole day, to provide provision from two year olds upwards. For further details please see their website at <http://www.earlybirdsandnightowlsclubs.co.uk/Northgate-Site.html>

Northgate Association News

As a school, we are lucky to have a very successful, hardworking Northgate Association, even though this year they do not currently have a Chairperson. The Association do a wonderful job raising money to support a wide range of projects, supporting and enriching the curriculum, and providing activities beyond the classroom, such as paying for the trip to the pantomime. This term they are continuing to significantly contribute to trips to enrich the curriculum for each class. They have funded the outside classroom, which will hopefully be built in half term to support outdoor learning. They have a list of smaller projects that they are also contributing to, including paying for some items requested by our School Council.

How can you support? If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact the school office.

Upcoming events: Comedy Night – Saturday 4th February

Blow away the January blues at Northgate Comedy Night on Saturday 4th February (7.30-11pm). Local comedy favourite, John Mann, will be introducing a fantastic line up of 3 professional comedians. There will be a pay bar, plus a fish 'n' chip supper available to order for the interval. Please note this is an adult only event. Booking forms are available at the school office or can be downloaded from www.northgateassociation.org.uk/events

Celebration of Achievements

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

Nursery: John
Reception: Quincy (R1)
Matilda (R2)

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for many aspects, including practicing hard to master new skills.

Well done to:

Class 1: Jude	Class 7: Georgia
Class 2: Felix	Class 8: Sam
Class 3: Imogen	Class 9: Eve
Class 4: Fraser	Class 10: Aaron
Class 5: Charlie	Class 11: Freya
Class 6: Luca	Class 12: Harry C
Miss Greaves Group: Millie	

SEND

Local updates

* DSPL3 and SPACE are organising an Autism Conference for parents living in the East Herts region. This is to be held on Friday 17th March 2017, from 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. at Fanhams Hall, Ware. There will be a keynote speaker and various other workshops. To book a place, please follow the link below: <http://dspl3.co.uk/parents/dspl3-east-herts/>

DSPL3 is a useful website for all parents of pupils with SEND, with links to the Local Offer and various support for parents in the area. They also have a Facebook page which is updated regularly- links on the website

Community News

Aspects are organising the following courses to support parents:

'How to get the best out of family life'
'Growing Up Online'
'4 My Family & Me'

To book your place, contact Aspects at admin@aspects.org.uk