

May 25th 2017

Headteacher's News

We have to say a sad farewell this week to Mrs Harris in the office, who has been with us for 11 years. We thank her for all her hard work at Northgate and wish her well with her move to Surrey.

We also have to send our best wishes to Mr King as he finishes with us at the end of half term. We thank him for his hard work and I know the pupils will particularly miss his conversations about football and his involvement in school life such as the chess club. We will all miss them both and wish them all the best!

We welcome Mr Parker, who will start as our new site manager in half term.

Science at primary school should inspire and engage our pupils and it certainly did this week, in our Science Week! Pupils have looked at the inside of an iPhone, learnt about the science of fidget spinners and investigated how best to preserve 'dinosaur blood', amongst other things! Classrooms were buzzing as the children completed a range of investigations and hands on activities. Thanks to the Association for the money to fund some of the workshops, which all the children really enjoyed. Thanks too, to Mr Wilcox, our science subject leader, and the rest of the staff for organising this event! We would also like to thank the parents who came in to help and the Governors for their support. Hope you have a lovely (and sunny) half term break!

Highlights of Science Week

At Northgate, we use aim to creative approach to the teaching and learning of Science, with practical activities, investigations and experiments an integral part of the learning of Science. We aim to embed the principles of scientific enquiry and hope this week has helped to secure our vision of Northgate being a vibrant and innovative place for our children to learn.

Year 1

We have done lots of science in Year One this week. We have investigated air rockets and fizzy paint. We also experimented with how to keep 'dinosaur blood' frozen by wrapping it in different materials. Our scientist to focus on was Mary Anning and we found out about her life as well as handling some real fossils.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a very exciting Science Week and enjoyed a practical bubble workshop. The children explored different ways of blowing bubbles and experimented with everyday objects to see what shape bubbles they could blow. They had great fun blowing huge bubbles outside!



Important Dates

Fri 26 th May	Inset Day
29th May-2nd June	Half Term
Mon 5 th June	Inset Day
Fri 9th June	Non Uniform Day-bring a bottle
Sat 10th June	Summer Fayre
Mon 12th June	Bake off
Wed 14th June	Year 3 Celtic Harmony Trip
Mon 19th June	Class Photos
Mon 19th June	9.05am Yrs 5/6 Maths Games
Tues 20th June	9.05am Yrs 3/4 Maths Games
Wed 21st June	9.05am Yrs 1/2 Maths Games
Thurs 22nd June	9.05am EYFS Maths Games
Fri 23rd June	Year 2 Music Festival at Rhodes
Fri 23rd June	6-7pm KS1/Foundation Disco
Fri 23rd June	7.15-8.30pm KS2 Disco
Tues 27th June	3pm Yr 5 work sharing
Thurs 29th June	Birchwood Games Day
Thur 29th June	2.45pm Yr 4 work sharing
Mon 3 rd July	Year 5/6 Rehearsal at Rhodes
Tues 4th July	Years 5/6 Production at Rhodes
Wed 5th July	3pm Yr 3 work sharing (please note date change)
Fri 7 th July	Sports Day
Tues 11th July	Reserve Sports Day
Thur 13th July	2.45pm Yr 1 work sharing
Tues 18th July	2.45pm Yr 2 work sharing
Wed 19 th July	Year 6 swimming gala
Thurs 20th July	9.05 am Yr6 Leavers' Assembly
Thur 20th July	10.00 Yr 6 work sharing
Fri 21 st July	End of Term 2pm

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

Below is a link to the NSPCC website that gives support, advice and guidance to parents on speaking to their children about terrorism so you are a little prepared with a sensitive and appropriate response.
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/news-opinion/supporting-children-worried-about-terrorism>

Thanks to parents who attended the safeguarding training this week. The PowerPoint is on the website.

Highlights of Science Week

Years 3 and 4

Children in class 6 made their own compasses by magnetising a needle and then floating it on the water so that it pointed north.

Class 7 were rolling cars down ramps onto different materials to find out what kind of surfaces created the most friction.

Class 8 were reading instructions in order to grow crystals through evaporation.



Year 5

Fab Science led 'potty potions' on Tuesday, as classes were treated to some fabulous science experiments. Children investigated purple cabbage water to discover whether mystery liquids were acids or alkalis. Children were treated to washing their hair in clouds and finally treated to fountains of carbonated drink infused with mint imperials! A fabulous experience for all!

Here are **class 10** showing Einstein's theory of special relativity. The orbits of planets through distortion of gravitational field.



Year 6

On Tuesday, **year 6** had a cargo session with Setpoint in the hall. There were 5 different stations with problems to solve, such as: marble run, building a train track, make a level crossing, another train track to put a train on and make it go from the start and back and we had to make a crane. Our aim was to get the marbles from the marble run to the train track and we completed it. We had so much fun...**Jessica** (class11)



On Wednesday, Mr Ronco came to talk to us about computer chips and how they work! Did you know sand is used in the process of making a computer chip? We all loved it when we found out that a phone was 20 billion x faster at maths than Mr Glozier! **Maisie** and **William F** (class 11)



Enrichment Opportunities

Inter-house Cross-Country Competition

Well done to Romans who won our first inter-house cross country competition in both KS1 and KS2. A boy and girl from each class from year 1 to 6 represented their house in a KS1 and KS2 race. Everyone tried hard and showed good sportsmanship. The rest of the key stage supported their house enthusiastically. Thanks to Miss Freeman and Mrs Godfrey for organising the event. We hope, after slight alterations, to make it an annual event that parents can come to.

National UK Junior Maths Challenge

A massive congratulations to our year 6 children who took part in the National UK Junior Maths Challenge (which normally Year 7 and 8 pupils enter across the country.) David B received Silver and George B and Natalie R Gold! We are extremely proud of their achievements!

"Just to put things into perspective with this particular exam, KS3 pupils do extremely well to achieve a Bronze Award, let alone a Gold Award!! These scores are so impressive and our best to date with the Yr 6's! It is a fitting conclusion to the end of another successful two-year Accelerated Maths course at Birchwood." *Head of Maths Birchwood*

Northgate Association

Summer Fayre

There are just 2 weeks to go until the Summer Fayre. Raffle tickets will come home today with your eldest / only child in the school. We still need more volunteers so if you haven't signed up yet please offer your help for 1 hour on the day via the sign up sheet <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4caca22a1ff2-summer>. Don't forget bring a bottle / non-uniform day on Friday 9th June and please bring any good condition toys and games to school after half term for the second hand toy stall.

Celebration of Achievements

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

Nursery: Max and Eden
Reception: George T (R1)
Daniel D (R2)

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their enquiry and problem solving skills.

Well done to:

Class 1: Alfie A	Class 7: Robert
Class 2: Harry S	Class 8: Lea
Class 3: Katie	Class 9: Jamie
Class 4: Sophie	Class 10: Libby
Class 5: Daisy	Class 11: Nathan
Class 6: Ella	Class 12: George N

Reminders

Inset days

Please remember we have inset days tomorrow, **Friday, 26th May** and the Monday after half term **Monday, 5th June**.

Non-uniform day

Friday, 9th June will be a non uniform day. Please can children bring a bottle for the Summer Fayre.

KS1 Guided Reading

KS1 guided reading will resume straight after half term on **Tuesday, 6th June**.

Please remember to send your children to school with hats and water bottles and apply sun cream before school.

Bake off

The bake off will take place on Monday, 12th June and more information will be sent out after half term.

Community News

Bishop's Stortford Fire Station Open Day

Bishop's Stortford Fire Station will be holding an open day on Saturday, 3rd June from 11.00am to 4.00pm. For more information please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fire

Bobby's Bravery Day

My nephew Bobby was hit by a car on 15th March and suffered a serious brain injury. The community in Saffron Walden have rallied round and organised a fundraising fun day for Bobby. It is on Monday, 29th May 1-4 at Saffron Walden Football Club. The event has a Facebook page, Tickets can be purchased on the day or from the Saffron Walden Tourist Office. £5 for adults, £2 children and everything is free. Thank you very much - Georgia Say (Jasper's mum)

Bishops Stortford Rugby Club are holding their annual Summer Rugby Camp throughout the summer holidays. Please find the flyer and application form with all the details attached.