

February 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

### Headteacher's News

We have had an exciting first week back, with our Healthy Schools' Week. It has given the children a wide range of opportunities to consider their health and well-being. We would like to thank the Association for supporting the event by paying half the cost of the Life Bus and for all the fruit. We had a great assembly today, sharing the learning from all classrooms. I would also like to thank Mrs Witney and her team in organising this event.

#### Improving our Environment

Thank you to Mr King who decorated the entrance hall over the holidays. We have a series of work planned for the summer holiday, including moving the staff room to allow the preschool to use that space and refurbishing the KS1 toilets.

#### Outside Classroom

A massive thank you to the Association for our new outside classroom which was constructed over half term. It will be a great asset to support learning outside.

#### Welcome Back

It is great to have Mrs Ashmore, our cook, back after serious illness. She has been greatly missed.

### Book Week

This exciting, busy week is to encourage children's reading which in turn supports their writing.

#### Reading Mornings

We would love you to come and read with your child one morning. From **8.55am-9.25am** there will be a short 10-minute workshop on reading then you can go and read with your child in class:

**Nursery and Reception** – Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> February (see Foundation News)

**Years 1 & 2** – Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February

**Years 3 & 4** – Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March

**Years 5 & 6** – Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March

**Guided Reading in KS1** is cancelled next week, however if you would like to read with an individual child that would be greatly appreciated.

#### World Book Day – Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March

All the staff and children from Northgate will be disappearing and in their place will be hundreds of book characters!

We would like every child to dress up as their favourite book character! Be as creative as possible!

There will be a short parade for parents in the playground at 8.55am so you can see all the wonderful costumes (weather dependent).

#### Lunch – A Hogwarts Banquet – Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March

We will be having a Harry Potter themed school dinner on World Book Day. The dining room will be transformed! If you could help Miss Greaves set up at 11.00am, please let the office know.

#### Book Swap

We are holding a book swap on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Each child can bring a book on Friday to swap with someone else in their year group. Please make sure the books are age appropriate for your child's year group.

### Important Dates

Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Book Week
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Cross Country
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Consultations
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Consultations
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Secondary Allocation Day
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	World Book Day
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Book Swap
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Association School Disco
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 2
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Rhodes Music Festival
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.40 Phonics Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.30pm eSafety talk for parents

#### Work Sharing

Reception:

Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2.45-3.15pm – coffee at 2.15pm

Nursery:

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 9.15-9.45am followed by coffee

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2.30-3.00pm followed by coffee

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2.45pm Year 1 work sharing

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 2.45pm Year 2 Work sharing

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 2.15pm Year 6 Talk on Y6 SATs

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing

Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Mar 2.45pm Year 4 Work Sharing

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Mar 3.00pm Year 3 Work Sharing

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Mar 3.00pm Year 5 Work Sharing

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Mar End of Term 2pm

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Apr First Day of Summer Term

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May Inset Day

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June Inset Day

\*Red = New Items

### Safeguarding

We thank you for your patience this week with the new entry system. We appreciate it may take a little longer to sign in but this is for the safety of the children.

**eSafety Talk** – there will be an eSafety talk for parents from 2.30-3.00pm on Wed 29<sup>th</sup> March.

#### Parking

It was nice to see our local constables and traffic wardens outside school at the end of the days this week. Please see the attached police warning regarding parking and driving near schools.

### Foundation Stage News

Foundation have had lots of fun, planting seeds, keeping fit, making smoothies and looking at having a healthy mindset this week. We had a wonderful time on CORUM's Life Bus, where we discussed our bodies and what we need to keep us healthy. Thank you to everyone who was able to donate money on Tuesday at our smoothie and fruit kebab sale. We had so much fun, cutting up the fruit and tasting and selling the drinks and kebabs. We managed to raise £114.10 which we will use to buy something of the children's choice for the outside area. We would like to say a huge thank you to the Association for paying for the fruits for this activity. A huge thank you also, to Mrs Shillito who helped teach all the Reception children new hockey skills as well as general hand-eye co-ordination and new ball skills. The children had so much fun. On Monday all parents from Nursery and Reception are invited to come and spend some time reading with the children. The children will come in as normal Monday morning, and you are invited to stay with them until 9.25am. The aim of this is to promote a love of reading and for you to share in the children's reading experiences. If however, you cannot make this day and would like this opportunity, then please speak to the class teacher.



### Key Stage 1 News

As part of Healthy Schools' week, Year 1 have been thinking about their playground behaviour. We tried out lots of new games together and also worked on how we could help people around us.

### Years 1 & 2 Gymnastics Competition

Yesterday, the 6 children representing Northgate in this competition gave their absolute best and achieved an amazing 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done Honey, Jessie H, Katie, Sophie, Bede and Finlay.

### Supporting Learning in English

It was lovely to see many of you at our spelling evening on Wednesday night. I hope you found it informative. The presentation will be put under Our Learning/English on the School website for those people who did not make it.

### Supporting Learning in Maths

We hope your child enjoyed using Mathletics over the holiday. The school has decided to purchase the programme for a year so it will be available for your children to access at home.

### Parent Consultations

We hope you have managed to sign up this week for consultations. This is an important time for you to discuss your children's progress with their class teacher and you will have the opportunity to go and look at your children's books in their classrooms beforehand.

## **Northgate Association**

### School Disco - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Our next school disco is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March (KS1 6-7pm and KS2 7.15-8.30pm). Tickets will be available in the playground before and after school from Tuesday to Thursday before the event, or you can pay on the door (£1 extra). Playground prices are £2.50 for Foundation and KS1 and £3 for KS2. This popular fundraising event is enjoyed by all who attend.

Please help! We need the help of Northgate parents: selling tickets before and after school, setting up the school hall on the day, helping supervise and sell refreshments during the disco and clearing away after the event. Any help would be appreciated. Please sign up by completing the survey below (either click on the link or copy and paste it into the browser). You can choose a job that is convenient for you. Be a School Disco Hero! <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MJRGBSC>

## **Celebration of Achievements**

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

Nursery: Theo Braund

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Healthy Schools.

In our assembly today we shared all the different activities we covered in our classes. There was a great range of work on healthy living.

Well done to:

Class 1: Lara	Class 7: All
Class 2: Annie	Class 8: All
Class 3: Dinon	Class 9: Lizzy
Class 4: Zac	Class 10: Giada/Jakey
Class 5: Bella	Class 11: Methni
Class 6: Rosie	Class 12: Lily

## **Keeping our Children Healthy**

### Daily Mile

We are delighted with the success of the daily mile this week. It was great to see so many children taking part. This has supported the children's fitness levels and helped them to prepare for their learning. We will continue this, opening the gates from 8.35-8.40am each morning, for those who are interested.

### Healthy Snacks

Please remember children should be bringing healthy snacks to school, such as fruit, rice cakes, etc. Biscuits, crisps, chocolate coated cereal bars, etc. are not permitted.

## **Community News**

### ROTARY CLUB OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD

#### Young Musician Competition – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017

This competition aims to offer young people: experience of performing on a public stage, an opportunity to showcase their musical talent and impartial feedback and assessment of performance by experienced adjudicators. For further information, please see attached documents.

#### Be Our Guest- Jackson Square Bake Off 2017

A Bake Off event will again be taking place at Jackson Square on Saturday 11th March with expert demos, adults' and children's categories, prizes for each category and also the opportunity to be crowned Bishops Stortford's Best Baker! Slices of all entries will be sold off to charity once the winners are announced so it's all in a good cause too. Please register your interest by email to [jacksonsquarebakeoff@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonsquarebakeoff@gmail.com)