

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

July 14th 2017

Headteacher's News

This week we have introduced 'Takeover Day'. This allowed the children in years 5 and 6 to participate in a range of adults jobs, such as: Headteacher, Class Teacher, Business Manager and many more. We believe that this will help improve their leadership skills, communication skills and independence in school. Furthermore, some jobs require planning lessons, writing emails or even helping decorating cakes for lunch.

By Lily Wright and Joel Bagnall (Headteachers from 2.30pm)

It was a great day to see so many of our pupils rising to new challenges, taking their responsibilities very seriously and children shining in their roles. Many thanks to Miss Greaves for organising the day and the governors for replying to so many emails!

The children had a successful morning yesterday with their new teachers and the children responded well to the responsibility of their new year groups. Please see the calendar for the dates of the 'meet the teacher' meetings.

You may have seen that we are starting preparing for the big change around that will take place in the summer holidays to accommodate the preschool at the front of our school, where parents can access it directly, avoiding many safeguarding issues. As well as the staffroom moving, other rooms that are moving include Miss Greaves' room, the sensory room and the library. The key stage one toilets are being replaced, an area that came out strongly in the parent meetings at the start of the year.

The SLT are always keen to reflect on what we are doing and improve so we have created a short questionnaire for parents to complete. Please submit your responses by Wednesday, 19th July. If you would like to add more detail, please use the email interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk. Many thanks for your time to complete the questionnaire.

Takeover Day



Important Dates

Fri 14th July	Leavers' Disco
Mon 17th July	Year 6 Trip Thetford Forest
Mon 17th July	Year 2 Trip Colchester Zoo
Tues 18th July	Year 4 Trip Stansted Mountfitchet
Tues 18th July	2.45pm Year 2 work sharing
Wed 19th July	9.00am Coffee for Volunteers
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
Thurs 31st Aug	Inset day
Fri 1st Sep	Inset day
Mon 4th Sep	1st Day of Autumn Term
Wed 6th Sep	2.45pm Yr 3 Mt the Teacher
Thurs 7th Sep	9.00am Yr 6 Mt the Teacher
	2.45pm Yr 5 Mt the Teacher
Fri 8th Sep	9.00am Yr4 Mt the Teacher
	2.45pm Yr 2 Mt the Teacher
Mon 11th Sep	2.45pm Yr1 Mt the Teacher
Thurs 14th Sep	12.45pm Reception Mt the Teacher
Fri 20th Oct	Inset day
23rd-27th Oct	Half term
20th Dec-2nd Jan	Christmas holiday
12th Feb-16th Feb	Half term
19th Feb	Inset Day
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
4th June	Inset Day
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

You may have noticed that we have a new gate on the field leading out to the path and Grailands. This gate has been added to allow quick evacuation off the site if there was a fire. It will not be opened at other times for safeguarding reasons.

Enriching the Curriculum

KS1

Year 1 Trip to Hatfield Forest

Year 1 had a fantastic time at Hatfield Forest and the weather was lovely. The children enjoyed doing forest art and habitats and were not put off by the ducks! We really appreciate all the parent helpers who accompanied us. Thank you.

Updates

New PE kit

As mentioned previously, **green** shorts and tracksuits should be worn by all children from September for PE. Apologies for the mistake in the Nursery and Reception welcome packs stating that shorts should be white.

Second Hand Uniform

There will be a second hand uniform sale after school on Monday- all items will be £1.00 each.

Sporting Opportunities

Year 6 Fencing

Over the last 6 weeks, year 6 have enjoyed taking part in fencing lessons taught by Mr Wright. They learnt how to lunge, how to stand on guard, to co-ordinate your feet whilst moving in a fencing position and had a go at using a sabre. We all really enjoyed learning something new...**Natalie** and **Brendan** (class12)

After School Clubs

LE CLUB FRANÇAIS is a company which specialises in successful language teaching methods for primary school children – *"Informality and fun are the keys to learning French at Le Club Français"* - according to The Times Educational Supplement. Children are taught to speak the language through games, songs and varied activities in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Madame Craston is a French native from *Lyon* with over 15 years' experience and in September she will offer a club at Northgate on a Wednesday: 3:15 to 4 pm. It is a popular club, ideally suited to Year 2 and Year 1 children. For your information, the cost per session is £5.50. To register your child or ask for more details, you may contact her on: 01279 320050 or sabine.craston@ntlworld.com

Thank You

We wish to thank all parent and grandparent helpers who have come into school this year to support the children's learning, we really appreciate your time. As a thank you we would like to invite you for coffee at 9.00am on Wednesday, 19th July. We are keen to increase the number of helpers who come in and support the school. Mrs Pratt is particularly interested to have help with guided reading from 9.00am to 9.20am, Monday to Thursday. If you would like to help again next year or if you are a new parent wishing to help, please can you sign on the large white board outside or ring the office. Please can you write under the day(s) you can read with a group and also the class/classes your child/children are in.

Celebration of Achievements

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

Nursery:

Reception: (R1) - Harry W
(R2) - Tallulah

This week our 'Learner of the Week' was chosen by one of the headteacher's on Take Over Day.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for taking part in Take Over Day.

Well done to:

Class 1: Megan	Class 7: Poppy
Class 2: Eva	Class 8: Joshua L
Class 3: Louise	Class 9: Charlie &
Class 4: Sonny	Callum
Class 5: Sam & Amber	Class 10: Joel & George
(reader)	Class 11: William F
Class 6: Finley	Class 12: Luke

Reminders

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

Year 6 leavers assembly Thursday 20th at 9.05am. All year 6 parents are invited.

Work Sharing Next Week

Year 2 - Tues 18th July at 2.45pm
Year 6 - Thur 20th July after Leavers' Assembly

Last Day of Term 2017

The last day of term is Friday 21st July and school **finishes at 2pm**.

Start of Autumn Term 2017

The first day of the Autumn term starts on 4th September 2017 when most children will return to school. New children starting in Nursery and Reception classes have been advised of their individual start dates and sessions.

SEND

One Page Profile

Just to remind you that if need to complete the parent/child one page profile, these need to be returned by Monday, 17th July at the latest to ensure that this will be handed over to the new teacher as part of transition. Any questions, please email senco@northgate.hearts.sch.uk

Sensory Room

Just to inform you that we are not losing the Sensory Room! The Sensory room will simply be relocated to a better position for next year, but this will still be very much in use.

Kind Regards,
Hannah Harding SENDco

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

Governors News

Dear Northgate Community,

On behalf of the Governors I'd like to share my reflections on the last academic year. I think it's safe to say it has been another very busy year and one that has seen a great deal of change for the school. One of the biggest responsibilities that Governors have is the appointment of a Head Teacher. This year we said goodbye to Mrs Hotson and welcomed Mrs Tanner into the Headship role. It has been great to see the enthusiasm that Mrs Tanner has brought to the role and the changes that have been coming to fruition over the last 6 months. I hope you had the chance to engage with Mrs Tanner and share your views on how our school moves forward.

Mrs Tanner shared with you the yr 6 National Assessment results last week. Once again, our pupils have done themselves proud, with the combined score for reading, writing and maths at 86%, which is 25% above the National figure. This is a fantastic achievement. In addition, the performance throughout the entire school has been high, with outstanding progress being made in our yr 1 phonics assessment—90% pass rate, as well as good progress being made across each of the school's priority areas. I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to all the children across the school. I would also like to thank the teaching staff for helping and supporting the children throughout the year and of course to you, the parents and carers for your continued support at home which is immensely important.

Northgate is an exceptional school. What makes the school special is the environment, culture and enrichment that the children are provided with. Over this last year, the children have enjoyed a wide variety of experiences, from science week, musical concerts, inter-school sport competitions, healthy schools week and more recently, take over day! It has been great to see our creative curriculum continuing to thrive.

This year the school has championed further parental engagement, with parents and carers being given the opportunity to read / play maths games with their children — we hope you enjoyed and found these experiences beneficial, we know the children certainly did. This is in line with Mrs Tanner's vision for enhancing community engagement with the school. We hope you will continue to support these initiatives moving forward.

A vital part of the Governing role is ensuring the school is financially secure and stable. I am pleased to say that the school is in a healthy financial position and we are fortunate to still be able to commit funds to necessary improvements within the school. One key change coming in September will be the modifications to the school to create a dedicated space for our out of school provision. This is in line with the school providing wrap around care from September, an enhanced environment for Little Ladybirds, Early Birds & Night Owls. We are also very lucky to have an exceptional PTA team who have hosted a number of enjoyable and highly successful events, generating significant additional funding for the benefit of the school. I would like to say a huge thank you to all those on our PTA for all their hard work and would encourage anyone interested in getting involved to please get in touch with the school.

They say change is a constant... and it's certainly something that Northgate is now embracing. For this, I would like to thank Mrs Tanner, the Senior Leadership team and all the staff for their hard work in driving new ideas forward and for continuing to keep Northgate an exceptional school.

Finally, I would like to wish our current yr 6 pupils the very best for the future as they take their next step along life's learning journey. Enjoy the last week of term and have a great summer!

Brian Neill [Chair of Governors]