

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

November 24th 2023

Headteacher's News

Each year there is a series of national tests which give parents the opportunity to see how your child's performance compares to other children nationally. It is very important that your child is in school at these times and in the weeks running up to the assessments so please do not book holidays etc.. around the test dates. Please avoid holidays and appointments in term time.

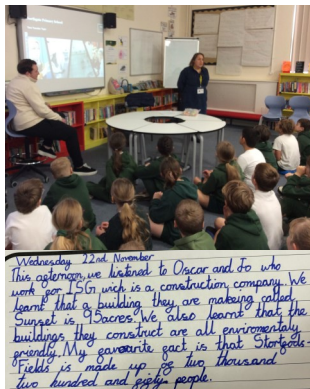
Y1 Phonics Week - 10th June - 14th 2024 (plus Y2 phonic catch ups)

Y4 Times Tables Tests - 3rd June to 14th June 2024

In 2024, Key Stage 1 SATs are no longer compulsory national tests. The KS1 SATs have been 'replaced' by optional KS1 SATs tests. Children will continue to be assessed at the end of May, alongside children in other year groups to give parents an understanding of your child's attainment. I would like to once again thank all the parents for their generous donations - I was admiring the beautiful new non-fiction book based on Everest the Y4 children are reading, many of which have been purchased by parents through our Amazon wish lists. Mrs Rogers, our new pastoral lead, is really excited to help develop our new sensory project, thanks to generous donations including through our Go fund me page which will now hopefully develop our sensory room, a sensory walkway and other key SEN resources. The staff have been overwhelmed by people's generosity. Have a good weekend.

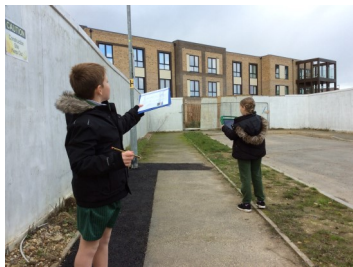
Enriching the Curriculum

On Wednesday afternoon, Mrs Parrott came in with her colleague from ISG to support Year 5 with their geography topic 'time traveller' this half term. Year 5 are learning about how our local area has changed over time and writing balanced arguments on the benefits and disadvantages of building developments in Bishop's Stortford. It was great to learn about the different types of buildings designed by ISG and how the constructions benefit local communities. We learnt about the schools, hospitals, research labs and the new 'Sunset' studios being built in Waltham Cross. It was interesting to hear about how developments are committed to supporting the environment with solar panels and special care taken to preserve biodiversity. Thank you so much for coming in Mrs Parrott! Written piece by Daniel Class 10



Wednesday 22nd November
This afternoon we listened to Oscar and Jo who work for ISG, which is a construction company. We learnt that a building they are making called Sunset is 'Green'. We also learnt that the buildings they construct are all environmentally friendly. My favourite fact is that Stortford Fields is made up of two thousand two hundred and eighty people.

Also This morning Year 5 took part in a geography fieldtrip to Stortford Fields housing estate. In groups, we measured area currently being developed as the 'Western Neighbourhood Centre' which currently contains a care home but is going to provide services for the new community such as a doctor's surgery and a children's day nursery. We sketched Hensman Close and labelled the different types of residential housing such as detached and terraced houses. After labelling land use on another map, we interviewed each other about what facilities we think there are and which facilities are missing. Lots of high quality map skills were used!



Important Dates

28th—29th Nov

Fri 1st Dec

Mon 4th Dec

Thurs 7th Dec

Fri 8th Dec

Mon 11th Dec

Mon 11th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Fri 15th Dec

Fri 15th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Wed 3rd Jan

Fri 12th Jan

Fri 26th Jan

Wed 31st Jan

Mon 5th Feb

Mon 4th Mar

5th & 6th Mar

Thurs 14th Mar

Fri 22nd Mar

Thurs 28th Mar

29th Mar—15th April

Thurs 25th April

Thurs 9th May

Fri 10th May

13th—16th May

Mon 20th May

Thurs 24th May

27th—31st May

Mon 3rd May

Mon 3rd June

3rd—7th June

Mon 10th June

Fri 14th June

Fri 21st June

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Dogs Trust in School

Year 3 Geography Field Trip, (Walk to Waitrose)

Year 6 Carol concert at St Michaels.

Night Shelter Cl 8 Jackson Square trip

Stepping Stones Christmas coffee morning
9.00am –10.00am

Reception winter walk and letter posting

2.45pm Nursery Christmas concert (details to follow).

1.30pm KS2 Pantomime at South Mills
(pick up from theatre)

1.30pm KS1 Hurricane Panto visit

Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch

KS2 Christmas Lunch

9.15am and 2.30 am KS1 Christmas production

Christmas Jumper day at school

8.45am Nursery Christmas concert (details to follow).

Volunteer coffee 9am

2pm KS2 St Michael's church carol service
(pick up from church)

Break the rules day

2pm End of term

Inset day

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Year 5 Visit from Wonder Dome

Young Voices Choir—O2

Year 6 Victorian Day

7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting

Parent Consolations

2.30pm Year 6 Music Concert

Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle

Last day of term

Easter Break

2.30pm Year 5 Music Concert

2.30pm Year 4 Music Concert

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Y6 SATS

Year 6 Trip to the 'Crucial Crew'.

2.30pm Year 3 Music Concert

Half Term

Inset Day

Y4 national multiplication assessments

Year 6 School Journey Kingwood

Y1 National phonics, screening.

Year 5 Egyptian Workshop

Year 2 trip to Paradise Wildlife Park

Safeguarding

The School pedestrian gate near to the school office will no longer be chained back before and after school. The gate is on a timer and will be open from 8.40am and 9.30am for drop off and 2.50pm and 5pm for pick up. Please just push the gate open and let it close behind you. This is for the safety of our pupils and their families, to prevent the risk of children running ahead of their parents out onto the busy roadside. Please do not prop the gate open, thank you. Please remember to supervise younger children at all times in the playground as it is a very busy environment at drop off and pick up.

Playground equipment

Please do not allow your child to climb on the playground apparatus before or after school. Even if you are supervising your child, other children are then encouraged to play who may not be supervised. There have been accidents in the past and your co-operation with this is appreciated.

Scooters

Please remind your children, including pre-schoolers, that they are not permitted to scoot or cycle on school premises. The entrance area is extremely busy in the morning and we do not wish to have any accidents. Thank you for your co-operation.

As part of their topic on **Year 4** had a visit from Caroline Elliott on Tuesday. Caroline is a former pupil of Northgate school and is now a Snow Safety Educator, Search and Rescue (SAR) Avalanche Dog Handler, Inspirational Speaker and Author.

Caroline taught the classes about life as a search and rescue team working in the Alps. The children were captivated by stories and video clips. The star of the show was Fjord, the dog, who was a massive hit with the children. Caroline kindly gave a signed copy of her book to the school, which is called: Fjord's Mountain Mission. <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Fjords-Mountain-Mission-Safety-Avalanche/dp/1739813502>.

To find out more about Caroline please follow this link: <https://fjordsar.com/about-me>

This week, **Year 1** went on a walk within our school grounds. They were looking for signs of Autumn as inspiration for their writing for the rest of the week. The children collected items as they walked around and found leaves, seeds, twigs and other exciting things. The writing about our walk has been marvellous this week and the children have



been using great autumnal vocabulary!

EYFS had a visit from the police this week. They talked to the children about what police do and how they can help people.

The children learnt what to do if they find that they are lost and how to call them in an emergency. The officers explained the importance of wearing seat belts in cars and helmets when riding their bikes. The children got to try on hats and handcuffs and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Mrs. Rogers our new pastoral Lead.

I've really enjoyed my first week as the pastoral lead at Northgate. The pupils and staff have been super friendly and welcoming, making me feel right at home. It's been a really positive experience connecting with everyone and I look forward to meeting more of the children and parents as the weeks go by. Mrs Rogers



Reminders and Updates

Christmas Cards for Pupils

One of our parents pointed out last year that if each child wrote a Christmas card to everyone in their class, that would add up to more than 13,000 cards across the school! She came up with an idea which worked really well and we would like to adopt this going forward.

If your child would like to send Christmas cards in school, please can they write/make a card for the whole class. These cards will then be displayed in their classroom. We know children love to write cards to their friends, but it makes sense that all of the children can appreciate each card and fewer cards end up in the recycling/landfill!

Casual Lunchtime MSA

On occasions we may need help at lunchtime in the dining room and playground. We really like to have some people on our books as casual staff who maybe willing to do the odd day here and there at potentially short notice. If you think you would be interested or you know someone who would, please contact Mrs Jeffcoate on the following email: secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Ethan and Masha

R1: Evans R2 Nevaan

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on "PE" Well done for: Showing fantastic skills in football sessions, such enthusiasm for PE and sport, listening well and being very skillful at football, being a great team player, showing a great attitude in PE lessons, fantastic dodging skills in dodgeball, amazing sporting excellence in running, always putting 100% effort and enthusiasm into sport and showing excellent team spirit.

Class 1: Mia

Class 2: Olivia

Class 3: Nicoli

Class 4: Lilly

Class 5: Florence

Class 6: Benedict

Class 7: Ailbhe

Class 8: Eliza

Class 9: Ellie and Bohuslava

Class 10: Alexander

Class 11: Theo B

Class 12: Dilys

Enriching the Curriculum - Sport

Girl Matches against Manorfields

Northgate team 1 played really well with the end score being 2-1. In the first half, Manorfields scored a good goal, but soon after that Olivia scored with assistance from Abigail changing the score to 1-1. In the second half Lottie scored making it 2-1. By Abigail Class 12.

Northgate team 2 played really well achieving a fantastic winning score of 6-0. In the first half Matilda scored 3 goals and in the second half Niamh scored 1 and Rugby scored 2 goals. By Niamh and Dilys Class 12.

Northgate School Association

Christmas

We can't believe Christmas is just around the corner! The PTA is supporting our School in lots of ways over the next few weeks. Please see below:

From now and throughout December, we have our Pre-loved Christmas Jumper sale in the School Office.

First week of December

All children will be given the opportunity to enter the Northgate PTA Christmas Quiz for £1. There will be two quizzes- one for EYFS/KS1 and one for KS2. All correct entries will be entered into a prize draw and we have three amazing prizes for each Key Stage. Each entry wins a Candy Cane too! Look out for the poster and quiz next week!

All children were given the opportunity to enter the Russell Property Christmas Card competition, so look out for the results shortly!

Tuesday 12th December—the PTA has paid for all KS2 children to see the Cinderella panto at South Mill Arts. The PTA will also provide biscuits and drinks and all the KS1 children will see a panto in school by a company called hurricane.

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December- the PTA has paid for all children to have a cracker and juice with their Christmas dinner plus we will decorate the Dining Room.

Wednesday 13th December- we will be holding our popular Christmas Tuck Shop where you can buy lollies and treat bags at pick up time. Please bring cash! Look out for the poster next week.

Tuesday 19th December- we have our popular Christmas Break the Rules day! Look out for our new poster soon!

Plus a number of you have purchased cards and gifts using your children's beautiful artwork. Hopefully this has come home with your child today.

Lots going on! Have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team