

April 30th 2021

Headteacher's News

Moments of awe and wonder are always cherished at school. This week EYFS experienced this with the hatching of the duckling eggs. Thanks to our wonderful PTA for funding this. More information and photos can be found below.

This half term our learning power has been focusing on the Reflective Learner Lion.

In class and in assemblies we discuss how we learn effectively and how to take responsibility for your own learning. We encourage the children to reflect on their learning and to consider their strengths and next steps to improve. Children respond to adult feedback verbally or written in a green pencil or pen. Mistakes are used as an opportunity for children to learn and improve. Research has shown that children who can successfully reflect on their own learning are more effective learners and impacts pupils' academic performance, beyond that predicted by prior achievement.

As parents you can encourage your child to articulate their strengths and discuss with them how they can improve. Questions you could ask are 'can I improve on anything' and 'have I included the learning intention'?

Look out to see if your child has a reflective learner lion sticker and discuss with them why they received it.

Have a fantastic long weekend.



Safeguarding

- ◆ **1 in 5 young people say they wake in the night to check their messages on social media**
- ◆ **70% of children experience bullying online**

Aspects are holding four fantastic Zoom workshops for families, including:

- ◇ Effects of Social Media on Mental Health
- ◇ Keeping Families Safe Online
- ◇ Drugs - the facts
- ◇ Transition to Year 7
- ◇ *Drugs – The Facts!!* is aimed at families with children in Year 6 and is free of charge.
- ◇ *Transition to Year 7* is also aimed at families with children currently in Year 6.
- ◇ *Tech Safe – Effects of Using Social Media on Mental Health* is open to all families with children in key stages one and two.
- ◇ *Tech Safe – Keeping Families Safe Online* is open to all families with children in key stages one and two

Please follow the link for more information on these workshops and more: [Aspects Workshops](#)

Important Dates - 2020/21

Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
Thurs 20th May	Year 6 Instrumental Concert Recording
Weds 26th May	Year 3/4 Play Recording
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Tues 8th June	Children Return to School
21st-23rd June	Year 6 School Journey
Thurs 24th June	Year 4 Instrumental Concert Recording
Thurs 1st July	Year 3 Instrumental Concert Recording
Tues 6th July	Year 5/6 Performance
Thurs 8th July	Move Up Day
Fri 9th July	Sports Day (details to be confirmed)
Tues 13th July	Outdoor Learning Day
Thurs 15th July	Take Over Day
Mon 19th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tues 20th July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Weds 21st July	INSET day
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

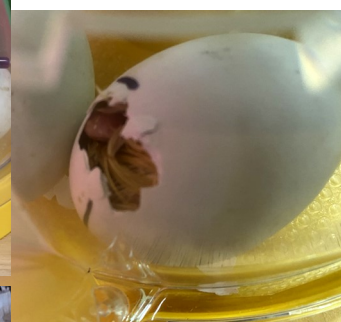
*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Reception Year - Ducklings

This week Northgate School welcomed some new additions as our duck eggs hatched into 6 delightful ducklings.

They are now out of their incubator and are enjoying life in the brooder in the classroom, until next Thursday when they will be returned to the farm. The children have had a

wonderful time experiencing the process of the eggs hatching in real time.



SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL WANTED FOR NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HCC are looking to recruit a new School Crossing Patrol for Cricketfield Lane. The position is paid at £9.25 per hour for 7.5 hours per week and a job share will be considered.

Contact the Active and Safer Travel Team at Herts CC for more information on 01992 556 816.



Year 6 - Writing

Our Learner of the Week focus this week is writing. Year 6 worked on balanced arguments and an extract from the Class 11 Learner of the Week, Joshua, is shown here:

Should graffiti be legalised?

Advocates of graffiti believe that it is a clever way to express yourself and it looks wonderful. Contrary to this, others think it is mostly ugly, messy and just teenagers messing around. People are wondering why this is a big deal when there are places to do graffiti legally. However, critics point out that to do your own graffiti you need to clear other peoples and that can start fights. Researchers think that if graffiti is made legal it will stop fights. Despite this, people will still wipe people's out and start fights.

School Hiring

We have lots of fun extra curricular clubs taking place before and after school for the children, but we are hoping to build on this and have clubs running in the evening for the adults too. Rebecca Young will be running Pilates classes in the school hall on a Monday evening from 17th May www.pilatesbreathandcontrol.com and we are hoping we can get the [Mum Dance](#) fitness classes up and running here too.

If you have a class, group or club and are looking for space to hire, please contact Louise Taub in the school office on 652 376 or email secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Samuel	R1: Shay
	PM: Ava	R2: Isabella

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for writing a fabulous balanced argument in English and for a fantastic independent write, including lots of adjectives and sentence openers to add detail and keep the story interesting.

Well done to:

Class 1: Noah K	Class 7: Ivan
Class 2: Sasha	Class 8: Ava
Class 3: Kai	Class 9: Harry
Class 4: Viktor	Class 10: Abbie
Class 5: Kenny	Class 11: Joshua
Class 6: Penelope	Class 12: Harry

Northgate School Association

Let's get physical!

Mum-Dance is an 80s & 90s dance fitness class and they'd like to bring a weekly class to our school! They kindly donate 8% of every sale back to the PTA. We just need a minimum of 14 to start. Mum-Dance is a low impact high sweat workout for all fitness levels with routines to Fame, Salt n Pepa, Bros, YMCA and many other classics.



So if you fancy getting your lycra out, and getting in shape in a fun way please email ptanorthgate@gmail.com or comment on our Facebook page posts so we can make sure there is sufficient interest. You can check them out at www.mum-dance.co.uk and on Facebook and Instagram. It is £7.30 per class payable a term upfront. Classes can start from 17th May.

Wellbeing - Emotions and the Brain

During assembly today our Pastoral Lead, Mrs Leeks, spoke to the children about how their emotions and the brain are linked. She explained that the area which controls your emotions and memory is linked to the area which controls thinking, talking, understanding and responding to information. As your emotions become overwhelming, these areas become disconnected making it harder to think as clearly, understand as well or respond as effectively. Understanding the process will hopefully enable the children to recognise and understand what is happening when they are feeling emotionally overwhelmed. She gave the children strategies to deal with this.

Your thumb – the limbic area (amygdala), the part of the brain which controls your emotions and memory.

Your fingers – the frontal lobe, the part of your brain think, talk and understand and respond to information given to us.



As your emotions become overwhelming your fingers and thumb become disconnected, meaning you can't think, understand and respond to information.

