

# Northgate Primary School Newsletter

24th April 2020

## Headteacher's News

It has been a very strange start to the summer term. All the staff are missing the children greatly. We wish to say a massive thank you for all the comments in the local paper last week and to the PTA for organising this. It was greatly appreciated by all the staff. I hope you and your families are well both physically and mentally. If you are concerned about well-being, please see the next page where there are several resources.

I appreciate for many returning to home learning has been a challenge. We do understand that everyone's family situation is different. Also we do know that eschools struggled on Monday morning with the number of people logging on. To remind you work will be available over the weekend if you wish to download it earlier. We will be putting out a survey next week to get your opinions on work set.

### School Vision

Before lockdown, as a school, we were looking at our school vision that was written three years ago.

*Our vision is to enable Northgate to be a vibrant and innovative place to learn, where pupils are inspired by a rich, quality curriculum. We are a school with sustained high standards in all aspects of our children's lives and where pupils are equipped with the learning skills needed for life-long learning. We aim to be an outward looking school which works as part of a cohesive community. By cultivating a respectful and engaging environment, in which everyone feels safe and valued, our pupils will have the opportunity to succeed in a culture of aspiration for all.*

We welcome your input on ideas that we could add to help develop our vision or to help further achieve it. Please email your contributions to [interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk) by Friday 1st May. Many thanks in advance.

Finally our deepest thoughts are with all those suffering from the Coronavirus in these very challenging times and our sincere thanks go to all the health professionals and volunteers caring in our hospitals and in our community. Stay safe.

## Home Learning

### Bitesize Daily

The BBC have launched a daily programme of home schooling lessons this week. The lessons have been created with teachers and other educational experts and feature a mix of videos, animations, practice activities, quizzes and games. New lessons will be released for every week day.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

### Science Resources

The Institute of Engineering and Technology are offering free resources for Key stage 1 and 2 which you might find useful. Click [here](#) to find out more.

## Celebration of Achievements

Congratulations to everyone who has successfully logged on to Mathletics over the Easter break. There has been some fabulous maths going on across all year groups.

Based on their participation, we will be giving an award to one child in each class.

The winners this week are:

Class 1: Sidney	Class 7: Grace
Class 2: Lauren	Class 8: Morgan
Class 3: Brandon	Class 9: Katherine
Class 4: Kenny	Class 10: Frank P
Class 5: Euan	Class 11: Charlie
Class 6: Ralf	Class 12: Max

The **leading classes** this week are:

1<sup>st</sup> Class Class 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class 10, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class 2

Well done to these classes and to everyone for their hard work.

## School Club News

### Cheerleading Squad

The squad from the school Cheerleading Club are meeting online regularly using Zoom and have been practising together for the past 4 weeks. The sessions are going really well and they have been working on a new routine and practising some of their chants.

Well done girls for joining in and keep up the good work!!

## Safeguarding

### Internet Safety and Advice

National Online Safety have produced lots of informative guides for parents to use including 10 top tips on Remote Learning for Parents and guides for all sorts of websites and games. Follow the simple registration process to access this useful information. <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

### NSPCC/O2

The NSPCC and their partners at O2 are offering free resources to anyone with concerns and in need of support around online safety. You can find an information leaflet listing their resources attached to this email.

### Children's Health Guidance

The number of children attending A&E has dropped as families are concerned about taking their children to health settings. The East & North Herts and West Herts Trust have produced an information sheet for parents and carers providing clear guidance on what to do when a child is unwell or injured, which we have attached to this email for you to keep and use at home.

## Pastoral Lead - Wellbeing

### Mindfulness

It's probably something you've heard of and associate with colouring in, but there is more to it. It helps to improve attention, something called self regulation (which basically means children start to become more aware of what their mind is up to and how to steady it a little more).

"[Cosmic Yoga](#)" videos can help with this, as well as "[Mindfulness Meditation for Kids](#)" on YouTube. The mindfulness videos are short movement videos which focus on breathing exercises. Find out more in the links above.

## Home School Activities

### Great Fire of London

5-7 year olds may be interested to learn more about the Great Fire of London direct from the Fire Brigade School. Follow the link to watch the video. [Great Fire of London](#)



### Museums From Home

While the doors are closed at Colchester and Ipswich Museums they are sharing a variety of activities to help educate and entertain. Inspired by their collections from art to nature and archaeology to social history, they will be bringing the museums to your home.

<https://cimuseums.org.uk/museumfromhome/>

### PE Activities

The Hertfordshire School Games Organisers have put together a programme of activities to keep young people active during these uncertain times. The Chief Medical Officer's recommendation is at least 60 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity a day and activity should be spread throughout the day to break up long periods of not moving – breathe faster, feel warmer.

[Work out from home.](#)

Several organisations have been working with Physical Educators from across the country to support parents to teach PE at home. These two-minute videos show parents to free, fun and easy to follow PE activities for the whole family to enjoy together and help children and young people to continue their skill development in PE. Videos are posted at 1pm on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. [PE at home.](#)

### Northgate Story Time

This week we have been sending you lots of lovely stories, read to you by our Northgate staff. This week's stories included Jemima Puddleduck, read by Mrs Booth our librarian and Jack and the Flum Flum Tree, read by Year 1 teacher Mrs Shepherd. Stories will be sent out each week day so look out for the emails and follow the link to enjoy.

## Reminders and Updates

### Free School Meals

To be eligible for Free School Meals you have to be claiming certain benefits from the Government such as income support or job seekers allowance. To make a claim you will need to go to this [website](#). Once you have made a claim you will be notified if you are then eligible or not.

## SENDCo

### Mental Health & Wellbeing

Earlier this week I came across a very good website which pools together lots of different resources to support mental health and wellbeing, something which remains of the utmost importance throughout this period of social isolation.

The CAMHs resources website offers website links, apps, videos, downloads and books:

<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk>

As it is designed to support young people of varying ages, please check the age suitability before using the resources.

In the meantime, should you have any concerns regarding your child's mental health and wellbeing, please let their class teacher know in the first instance. They may be able to help, or will be able to pass on concerns to Mrs Leeks (Pastoral Lead) or myself.

Keep safe and well!

Lynn Wallace SENDCo

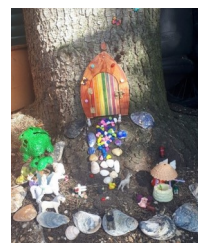
### Further Resources

You can also find general tools for helping children and young people understand the current situation with a range of resources aimed to support teaching and learning, alongside resources and website links aimed to support mental health and wellbeing. [Covid-19 SEND resources](#)

## Home-School Gallery



**Year 1** - Well done to Joshua and Thomas in C1 for their work on the Enchanted Forest and to Sebastian - C2 for his word rainbow.



**Year 3** - Great DT and History work sent in by Thea and Tallulah in C5. Thea sent in her waving flags mechanism and Tallulah showed us her Roman work. Very impressive!



**Year 5** - C9 have been hard at work on their Rainforest topic. Well done to Amber, Erin and Violet.

