

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

October 17th 2025

Headteacher's News

Today was **Show Racism the Red Card Day**, and both children and staff showed their support by wearing red. Mrs Ahwe led an assembly this week, and the children took part in a PSHE lesson to learn about what racism is and the importance of showing respect and kindness to everyone.

We look forward to seeing parents at our **reading sessions** next week when your child will have an opportunity to share a reading book with you. Please come in through the main door. Please see the next page for details on the Year 5/6 information sessions.

Next Thursday, we are encouraging children to come into school wearing clothes that **celebrate their own heritage and culture**. For example, they could wear the colours of a national flag or a football kit from a particular country. Please do not feel you have to buy something special for this—if you only have one colour of a flag, that is fine! As part of this non-uniform day we are also encouraging children to wear their hair naturally; just be you! We are asking for a donation e.g. £1 on the day to fund special visitors who will be doing interactive workshops with the whole school, such as the drummer and storyteller who came in this week. We would like to thank the PTA who have contributed to fund these workshops.

As part of Wellbeing Week, join us on Friday 21st November, 9.00–9.30am for a **talk for parents** based on the best-selling book "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt. The session will explore how the shift from free play to smartphone-based childhood has contributed to rising levels of anxiety and other mental health challenges. Drawing on insights from the book, we'll look at the role of smartphones and play, share some of the initiatives we're introducing at school, and discuss practical ideas to help parents prevent some of the mental health challenges children are experiencing today.

The **Bishop's Stortford Food Bank** were grateful for everyone's kind donations and said it would make a real difference.

Please don't forget we have an **Inset day next Friday**.
Have a great weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

African Drummer Storyteller

This week, as part of Black History Month, children were visited by Mr Adebiyi, an African storyteller and drummer. He told stories to the classes, using his drum to bring the African tales to life. The children were fully engaged and joined in with dances, moving like animals as part of the story. Thanks to Mr Adebiyi for a wonderful, interactive experience!

Year 3 visit from Spirit of the Wild

The children had a wonderful morning learning fascinating facts about a variety of birds, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. They got up close to spiders and snakes, carefully observed them, and even had the chance to hold some of the creatures. They discussed their appearances, colours, and the unique features that help them survive in the wild.



Important Dates

Mon 20th Oct
Tues 21st Oct
Wed 22nd Oct
Thurs 23rd Oct

Thurs 23rd Oct

Fri 24th Oct

27th–31st Oct

Fri 7th Nov

Fri 7th Nov

11th–13th Nov

17th–21st Nov

Fri 21st Nov

Fri 28th Nov
up

Mon 1st Dec

Wed 3rd Dec

Tues 9th Dec

Fri 12th Dec

Tues 16th Dec

Wed 17th Dec

Wed 17th Dec

Wed 17th Dec

Wed 17th Dec

Thurs 18th Dec

Fri 19th Dec

Fri 19th Dec

22nd Dec–2nd Jan

Mon 5th Jan

Tues 6th Jan

Mon 26th Jan

Tue 27th Jan

16th–20th Feb

Fri 27th Mar

30th Mar–10th April

EYFS 9am reading with parents

Y3/4 9am reading with parents

Y1/2 9am reading with parents

Y5/6 9am reading with parents/information workshop.

Cultural Heritage Day / World Afro Hair Day (non-school uniform day) and Black History Month Quiz

Inset Day

Half Term

Y2 Pirate Day

PTA Fireworks Night

Parent Consultations

Well-being week

9.00am–9.30am "The Anxious Generation" talk for parents

1.30pm KS2 Panto at South Mill Art (pick from theatre)

PTA Elfridges shop for EYFS, Y1, Y3 and Y6

PTA Elfridges shop for Y2, Y4 and Y5

EYFS Christmas production: 9.15am/2.40pm

KS1 9.10am/2.40pm Christmas production

11.30am EYFS/KS1 Christmas Lunch

Christmas Jumper Day and Santa Fun Run

9.00am Volunteer Coffee Morning

12.30pm KS2 Christmas Lunch

Rock Steady Concert (Time TBC)

KS2 2pm Church service St Michaels Church

Break the Rules Day

2pm finish Break up for Christmas

Christmas Holidays

Inset Day

School term starts

Y6 Victorian Day

Y2 Old Northgate School walk

Half Term

2pm finish Break up for Easter

Easter Holidays

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Families First – Early Help in Hertfordshire

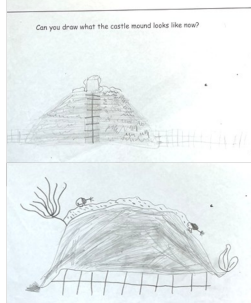
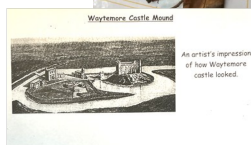
Families First offers support to families needing extra help, preventing issues from getting worse. If you need more than your usual support (health visitor, school, doctor), they can create a tailored support plan. This service is available for families with children under 18 (or 25 with additional needs). Their support includes: parenting, health, substance issues, domestic abuse, school attendance, debt, carers and homelessness risks. Find out more by clicking below:
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/families-first/families-first.aspx>

They also have a **100 page magazine** for parents, please find the click to the latest edition below for your perusal
<https://familyfirst.co.uk/issue4-25>

Enriching the Curriculum

Autumn Walk

On Monday, **Reception** children enjoyed an **autumn walk** with many parent volunteers. They took part in an Autumn colours scavenger hunt, colour matching, and foraged for leaves, berries, and pine cones. The children had a wonderful time exploring and connecting with nature. Thank you to all the parents who helped!



Year 2 History

As part of their **history topic on castles**, **Year 2** enjoyed a walk to the **Waytemore Castle ruins** in town on Thursday. The children climbed to the top of the remaining structure to take in the view, and once back on the ground, they created detailed sketches of the castle. Their drawings showed a wonderful display of observation and creativity!

Sport

Football

Northgate had two matches this week. The Sliver A Team played Birchwood away on Monday, they played well but were defeated 6-1, the Gold Team played Richard Whittington away and won 3-0. Well-done everyone.

Tri Golf Festival at Birchwood

A group of Year 3/4 children represented Northgate at the Birchwood Tri Golf Festival on Thursday. Thank you to Mrs Booth for coaching the team on the day. George from Nightingales said they played mini games, hitting targets to score points.

Information for Year 5 & 6 Parents

After UKS2's 'Reading with Parents' session on Thursday, we will be holding **additional parent workshops** in the hall to explain some of the more complex areas of the curriculum. At 9.25am, there will be an initial discussion for all Year 5 and 6 parents about the UKS2 curriculum, including a focus on Year 6 statutory assessments (SATs). This will be followed by workshops on: long division, long multiplication, addition/subtraction of fractions and grammar. Parents can choose 2 of the workshops to attend, which will be approximately 10 minutes in length. Each session will run twice. The workshops will finish by 9.50am. We look forward to welcoming you and helping you support your child at home.

Reminders and Updates

Teacher Training Information Evening

In connection with the Tes institute, the BSITT (Bishop's Stortford Initial Teacher Training) confirmed that the information evening they held last week was very well attended. If you are interested in starting your Teaching journey their next presentation will be held at **Windhill21 on Wednesday 19th November 2025 9.30-11am**

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2025

Poppies, keyrings, slap-bands, and wristbands will be on sale next week and after half term. Donations start at £1.00. Please send money with your child if they wish to buy.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:

Ducklings: Olive and Mya



Puffins: Ivy **Owls:** Neve

'Learner of the Week' focuses on Learning Powers and the School Code.

Well done to:

Robins: Olivia

Starlings: Lola B

Skylarks: Freddie

Nightingales: Estelle

Kestrels: Jibreel

Harriers: Sasha

Wrens: Aarav

Sparrows: Beau

Swifts: Freya

Kingfishers: Flora

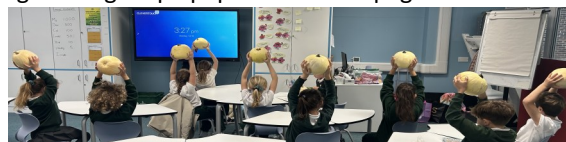
Kites: Connor

Hawks: Bella



Autumnal Crazy Crafts

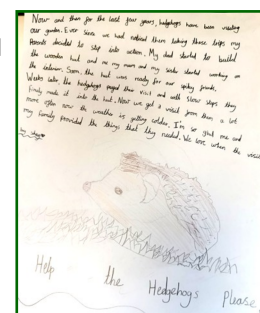
We'd like to extend our thanks to Cammas Hall Farm in Hatfield Broad Oak for their generous donation of 15 small white pumpkins. The children at Monday's Crazy Craft Club had a wonderful time turning the pumpkins into colourful works of art — decorating them with beautiful mosaic designs using crepe paper and decoupage.



Happy Hedgehogs

Mrs Morgan would like to thank all the families who donated food for the hedgehogs. The charity were very grateful, especially as they have four new hedgehogs, all with babies to feed.

Shay from Kites has written a lovely story about the hedgehogs that visit her garden.



Northgate School Association

Shedquarters – Our Pre-Loved Uniform Store

Affordable • Sustainable • Community

Exciting news – **Shedquarters opens tomorrow!**

Pre-loved uniform, shoes, spooky costumes & dress-up outfits at great prices – all supporting the school.

Huge thanks to Katie Homer & Mr Parker for transforming the space! Donations welcome – please drop off at the office.

Fireworks Night Event– Friday 7th November

We are now less than a month away from our Fireworks Night and we still need parent volunteers to help with the Glow Stall/Sweet Stall/ supervising the firework and alcohol barriers/with the clear up afterwards. Please click to help [Fireworks Night: Northgate Fireworks Night 2025](#)

Thanks to our Northgate Fireworks Sponsors:

Russell Property – Independent property experts for 30+ years.

N.H Vehicle Solutions – Local mobile mechanic for all repairs.

Thank you for your support,

The PTA Team