

February 5th 2021

Headteacher's News

This week we have been delighted to welcome Kirste Morris, our new Business Manager, to Northgate. The role is such a crucial one to ensure the secure financial running of the school and a safe site. We would like to thank Julie Lane for all her hard work for the school over the last seven years. She has led many of the major site projects over this time and secured some significant funding bids, such as the one for the fencing. She will be greatly missed and we wish her and her family all the best with their move to Northumberland.

We would like to thank all parents for their responses to our recent survey. We are delighted to inform you that the feedback was extremely positive in all aspects across the whole school. If you have further comments that you would like to add about home learning, please email interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

We hope your child enjoyed completing their Express Yourself tasks. A compilation of all the work will hopefully be ready for you to enjoy by the end of next week. Well done to Ruby Aziz who had a photo of her baking appear on ITVs 'This Morning' yesterday.

To support pupil engagement and wellbeing, the timetables for next week will be altered, with a greater focus on foundation subjects. We will have the Literature Festival sessions where children will listen to an author. On Wednesday we are having a family science project day, where siblings can work together to complete a task. For this they will need card, such as cereal boxes, tape and other junk material. The family can choose to log in to one teacher to give the input and evaluation. On Friday morning classes will have the opportunity to choose their own lesson.

Have a restful weekend.

Safeguarding

NetAware - NSPCC/O2

The last year has been anything but normal and it's likely that the children are going to continue to spend more time online.

From advice on gaming, to helping manage your child's wellbeing online, their lockdown hub has everything you need to help keep them safe.

The website offers advice on online learning, gaming, popular lockdown conferencing apps and their O2 Guru tip of the week is on TikTok. Visit [NetAware](https://www.netaware.org.uk) to discover more helpful information.



2021 Spring term Online Safety Newsletter from Herts

Please find attached with this email the Spring Online Safety Newsletter for Parents and Carers produced by the Herts for Learning Wellbeing team, which we hope you find helpful and informative.

This edition features a range of guidance, news, links and updates about online safety for all ages, with particular reference to the current situation, recent developments and concerns.

Important Dates - 2020/21

15th-19th Feb	February Half Term
Mon 22nd Feb	INSET DAY - cancelled
Mon 22nd Feb	Children Return to School
Tues 2 March	Parent Consultation Meetings
Weds 3 March	Parent Consultation Meetings
Fri 26th March	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 12th Apr	Children Return to School
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
10th-13th May	KS2 Internal SATs week
May 2021	KS1 Internal SATs
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Tues 8th June	Children Return to School
7th-11th June	Yr 1 Phonics Screening and Yr 2 Retakes
7th-18th June	Yr 4 Multiplication Tests
Weds 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Year 1 - Tea Party with the Queen

Year One enjoyed a fabulous virtual tea party with the Queen on Thursday afternoon. The children worked hard to prepare for the event, creating decorations, baking cakes and dressing up! Everyone looked wonderful and their behaviour was impeccable. The Queen was extremely impressed with their wonderful manners and careful listening. Everyone enjoyed their party treats and we loved hearing all about the Queen's life.



Reminders and Updates

Reporting Absences

In-School If your child is due to come into school but is ill or has a medical appointment, please either call the school number, press option 1 and leave a message, or e-mail absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk, before 08:30 on each day that they will be absent. Please tell us your child's name, class and the reason for their absence.

Home Learning If your child will be absent from on-line learning due to illness or medical appointments please send an e-mail to the class e-mail address and copy in absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Home-School Gallery

Our year 4 and 5 classes have been working from depths of the ocean to the dizzy heights of the moon.

Year 4 were challenged to create an 'under the sea' board game. Hannah (C17) created this fantastic game.



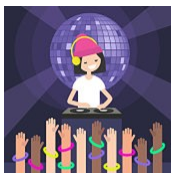
Year 5 children were asked to make a Moon Buggy at home for DT, and for Science they have been learning about the moon phases. Photos of these wonderful moon buggies were sent in by Grace and Molly (C19) and Thomas (C19) has been working on moon phases.



Northgate School Association

Northgate PTA Virtual Disco!

Tickets are on sale for our disco on Friday 12th February! Celebrate making it through a half term of remote learning and dance your socks off with the Digital Pocahontas! The first hour, 5-6pm is aimed at Foundation and KS1, and the second, 6-7pm is aimed at KS2. There is a limit of 100 devices each hour. Tickets are £2 each and you will be emailed the details to access the Zoom nearer the time.



You can request your favourite songs and 'shout outs' so let us know what you'd like to hear and who you'd like to shout out to by emailing ptanorthgate@gmail.com or by DM on our Northgate PTA Facebook page.

Tickets are just £2 per login and can be purchased from:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association>

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	In-School: Isobel	R1: Denise
	Home Learner: George	R2: Lydia

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Science. Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their wonderful work on habitats and the solar system and for participating in Science lessons with enthusiasm and sharing knowledge with others.

Well done to:

Class 1: Amber-Rose	Class 7: Talulah
Class 2: Felix	Class 8: Gabrielle
Class 3: Isla W	Class 9: Harry
Class 4: Evie and Josept	Class 10: Olivia
Class 5: William	Class 11: Lucy C and Joshua
Class 6: Jack	Class 12: Filip and Honey

LKS2 SEN TA Vacancy

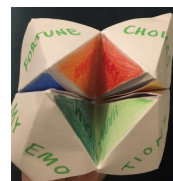
We are seeking to appoint an experienced and committed Teaching Assistant to work with a pupil in Lower Key Stage 2 with special educational needs.

Further details on the role and how to apply can be found at: [LKS2 SEN TA Vacancy](#)

Remote Lunch Clubs

Choir During their first session, our online choir group listened to 'Just Sing' from the film 'Trolls World Tour' and sang it through following the sheet music. The choir members also suggested songs which would help them to feel more positive when they are struggling with some of the challenges of lockdown, so this week they learnt 'I'm Still Standing' by Elton John.

Mindfulness Group The new lunchtime mindfulness club gives UKS2 children the opportunity to connect with their peers whilst doing activities linked to the 5 areas of Wellbeing. So far we have focussed on Gratitude and Expressing Emotions, with the children making Emotion origami fortune tellers this week.



KS1 Games Club The lunchtime games club has given the members a lovely chance to see and mix with other children from different classes whilst being entertained, playing games such as Pictionary and doing quizzes. The children have been really engaged and participated well, working on their own or as a team, making it a fun experience for all with lots of giggles!

LKS2 Art Club with Mrs Riggs This week the Art Club concentrated on Doodles - creating Abstract Doodles and how to move on to use these techniques to create other pictures, posters and cards. Mrs Riggs talked about how relaxing it was and how it was a good thing for their wellbeing, to switch off and be Arty at the same time! This club was attended by over 20 children!