

May 8th 2026

Headteacher's News

Good luck to our Year 6 pupils next week as they begin their national assessments, SATs. The children have worked extremely hard in preparation, and we are very proud of their efforts and commitment.

Children in other year groups will also be undertaking assessments over the next two weeks. Please ensure that children arrive at school punctually each day and that appointments are arranged outside of school hours wherever possible. If you are aware that your child will be absent from school during this period, please inform the class teacher as soon as possible.

The PTA are busy organising their next major fundraising event, the Summer Fayre, which will take place on Saturday 6th June. This fantastic community event is only possible with the support of volunteers. If you are able to spare an hour to help with preparations, setting up, supporting on the day, or tidying away afterwards, please speak to a member of the PTA. Further details can be found on the next page and the attached flyer.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Enriching the curriculum

Music

Well done to Year 4, who yesterday shared their learning from their music lessons. The two classes performed beautifully on their recorders and sang songs to their parents. Some students, who are taking music lessons, also gave wonderful recitals, including piano solos, piano duets, vocal performances, guitar solos, and cello renditions. Thank you to Mrs Cheung for organising the event.



Nightingales Class also had a lovely surprise for everyone during this morning's whole-school assembly. They gave a flash mob performance of the classic We All Stand Together by Paul McCartney. The song was chosen for its beautiful lyrics and strong sense of community.

Art

As a school, we aim to develop children's creativity, confidence, and willingness to try new things, even when they feel unsure at first.

Inspired by *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, KS2 children explored the story of Vashti, who discovers confidence through creativity after starting with a simple dot. The story encourages children to take risks, express themselves, and recognise that every achievement begins with a small first step.

To celebrate International Dot Day, children created their own unique artwork, took creative risks, and collaborated on colourful projects. A vibrant display now brightens the KS2 corridor, celebrating every child's individuality and creativity.



Important Dates

11th—14th May	Y6 SATs
Mon 11th May	10am Swifts visit to the Library
Wed 13th May	9am Y1 meeting re Phonics Screening.
Fri 15th May	Y4 Viking Day
Fri 15th May	1.50pm Kestrels visit to the Library
18th—22nd May	Neurodiversity Week
Mon 18th May	Y6 Learning basic CPR skills
Tues 19th May	Y1 Visit from Garg Animal Encounters
Tues 19th May	Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
Thurs 21st May	Y3 Instrumental Concert
Fri 22nd May	End of term
25th—29th May	Half term
Mon 1st June	Inset day
Tues 2nd June	First day back at school
Tues 2nd June	Y2 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
2nd -12th June	Y4 National Multiplication tests.
2nd—5th June	Bring donations of Teddies for the Fayre
Fri 5th June	Non-uniform day in return for a bottle for the Tombola.
Sat 6th June	PTA Summer Fayre
W/C 8th June	Y1 Phonics screening
Mon 8th June	Reception trip to Willows Farm
Mon 8th June	10am Sparrows visit to the Library
Wed 10th June	Class Photos
Fri 12th June	Y3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
Mon 15th June	10am Starlings visit to the Library
Wed 17th June	Y5 Egyptian Day
Wed 17th June	10am Wrens visit to the Library
Mon 22nd June	10am Kites visit to the Library
Wed 24th June	Y1 trip to Audley End
Wed 24th June	5.30pm—6.30pm EYFS Welcome Evening for children starting in Sept
29th June—3rd July	Y6 Residential PGL Overstrand Hall
Mon 6th July	10am Harriers visit to the Library
Wed 8th July	10am Hawks visit to the Library
Wed 8th July	Consultations and transition meetings
Thurs 9th July	Move up day
Fri 10th July	Sports Day
13th—17th July	Art Week
Mon 13th July	10am Kingfishers visit to the Library
Mon 13th July	2.50pm KS1 Art work sharing with parents
Tues 14th July	2.50pm UKS2 Art work sharing with parents
Wed 15th July	10am Nightingales visit to the Library
Wed 15th July	2.50pm EYFS Art work sharing with parents
Wed 15th July	Y6 Performance at South mill (details TBC)
Thurs 16th July	2.50pm LKS2 Art work sharing with parents
Mon 20th July	9.15am Y6 Leavers Assembly
Tues 21st July	2pm Break up for summer holidays
Wed 22nd July	Occasional day
23rd July—31st Aug	Summer Holidays
1st & 2nd Sept	Inset day
Thurs 3rd Sept	Start of New School Year

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Staying Safe As Children Become More Independent

As the weather improves and children spend more time outdoors, it's a great chance to build independence safely. Please remind children about road safety, including using safe crossing points and staying alert near traffic. If your child is playing out with friends, ensure they know clear boundaries about where they can go and when to return home. It's also helpful for children to know a key contact number and what to do if they feel unsafe. Open conversations at home help children feel confident to speak up and make safe choices.

Enriching the Curriculum

Our WID Group are excited to relaunch Wonderful Wednesdays! Each week at lunchtime, the WID committee will organise a range of activities, including junk modelling, a calm area offering hand massages, and the introduction of microphones and a clapperboard in the stage area. These activities were extremely popular during playtimes last year and will be a fantastic addition to Pulse!



First thing on Tuesday morning, our Reception classes took part in an interactive karate session with our resident coach, Chelsea Newby, and a special guest, Talia Nardelli, who is ranked 7th in the world in her age group. They inspired the children to embrace a new sport and taught them about the discipline and history behind the moves. Chelsea runs Karate classes at Northgate on Friday mornings. Please see a flyer attached to your email.



Reminders and Updates

Headlice

We have had a small number of cases of headlice (nits) in school recently. Please check your child's hair regularly, particularly behind the ears and at the nape of the neck, and treat promptly if you notice any signs. Regular checking and early treatment can help prevent further spread. Thank you for your support in helping us manage this.

Lost Property

Lost property is building up in the Reception area, and many items are unnamed. Please take a moment to check the box for anything that may belong to your child. We also strongly encourage all parents to label their child's uniform clearly, as this is the only reliable way to ensure lost items such as jumpers, cardigans, and coats can be returned. Thank you for your support.

Bottle Cap Donations

Please continue to save bottle tops for our playground art installation, which the children will be working on during Art Week. We welcome plastic lids of any size or colour. Please bring any donations to the school office.

Nursery Invoices—summer term.

Please check your emails to see whether you have received an invoice for any outstanding fees for your child's nursery provision (summer term). If you have, please arrange payment as soon as possible. Contact Mrs Padgett with any queries.

Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: Maxwell and Chester

Puffins: Fred **Owls:** Elsa

'Learner of the Week' certificates were focused on learning powers and our school code.

The children were praised by their teachers for:

Showing great independence with their report writing, building up speed and accuracy with multiplications, having an excellent attitude towards learning, constantly editing, improving and reflecting on their writing and being a proactive member of the class.

Well done to:

Robins: Mason

Starlings: Lucas

Skylarks: Joshua

Nightingales: Aaron

Kestrels: Autumn

Harriers: Avvora

Wrens: Axl

Sparrows: Sofia

Swifts: Jolam

Kingfishers: Emily

Kites: Teddy

Hawks: Rosie-May

New Course for Parents of Autistic Young Children: Rucksack

Do you have a child aged 0–5 who is autistic or currently on the autism diagnosis pathway?

Rucksack is a course available to support you. This 6 week, face to face programme runs at venues across Hertfordshire and is designed to give parents:

- Essential knowledge
- Practical, everyday strategies
- Useful resources to support both you and your child
- Space to connect with other families

For more information or if you'd like to register your interest, email: earlyyearstraining@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Northgate School Association

With our PTA Summer Fayre on Saturday 6th June 2026 (12pm–3pm) fast approaching, we are still in need of lots of wonderful volunteers to help make it the best Summer Fayre yet! If you are able to help, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-63891585-northgate>



The PTA team is fantastic, but we can't run events like this without your support. It would be a real shame not to be able to go ahead with all the exciting activities planned for the fayre if we don't have enough volunteers.

Teddy stall: we are having a Teddy Stall, and would like Teddies donated for this stall on the 2nd-5th June. Please only donate Teddies which are in good condition.

Bottle tombola: Please bring in a bottle for the non school uniform day on 5th June.

Please see the attached Northgate Summer Fayre poster – we look forward to seeing you there! Thank you for your continued support.