

# Northgate Primary School Newsletter

September 22nd 2023

## Headteacher's News

We hope that you found the Foundation Stage Meet the Teacher sessions informative. Next week will be starting a series of parent workshops starting with the Year 1 phonics session. This will explain how we teach phonics, using our scheme Little Wandle. It will explain how you can support your child's learning at home and helping the children get ready for the National Year 1 phonics screening in June. The PowerPoint from the session will be put onto our website.

Our current assembly value is responsibility and at Northgate, we value giving the children opportunities to be involved in many different roles across the school, helping them develop a variety of skills. Key roles in Year 6 are the House and Vice Captains, who carry out different jobs throughout the year and across the school. To appoint the House Captains, the staff voted based on who has consistently modelled the school code in terms of behaviour, attitude and work ethic. Plus the children also wrote and delivered a short speech to myself, highlighting their attributes and experience to make them a successful House Captain. I was so impressed with all the children—they all delivered their speeches with confidence, giving wonderful examples of how they had been an active member of the Northgate community and how they had developed their leadership and teamwork skills. It was a very close run competition with so many strong candidates. Winners can be seen with other leadership roles on the next page. Well done to everyone who took part! Children also voted for other leadership positions this week including the School Council, Eco Council and our Diversity, Inclusion and Well-being Council.

Well done to the winners of the Learner of the week certificate competition. Their designs will be used throughout the year.

## Important Dates

Mon 25th Sept	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting online
<b>Tues 26th Sept</b>	<b>9am Reception Autumnal walk</b>
Wed 27th Sept	9am Y1 Phonics workshop for parents
<b>Fri 29th Sept</b>	<b>9am PTA coffee morning</b>
Tues 3rd Oct	9am Reception Phonics workshop (parents)
Wed 4th Oct	2.45pm Y3/4 times tables workshop (parents)
<b>Fri 6th Oct</b>	<b>9am -10am Stepping Stone coffee morning</b>
Tues 10th Oct	9am KS1 Harvest assembly (parents in)
Tues 10th Oct	9.20am Supporting Learning Y2 workshop parents
Wed 11th Oct	9am Reception Harvest assembly (parents in)
Wed 11th Oct	6.30pm -7.45pm Y5/6 Parent information evening
<b>Wed 11th Oct</b>	<b>Y5 Trip Imperial War Museum Duxford</b>
<b>Fri 13th Oct</b>	<b>Y3 visit from Sprit of the Wild</b>
Mon 16th Oct	9.05am KS1 Reading with parents
Tues 17th Oct	9.05am LKS2 Reading with parents
Wed 18th Oct	9.05am UKS2 Reading with parents
Thurs 19th Oct	9.05am EYFS Reading with parents
Fri 20th Oct	RE Day
23rd—27th Oct	Half term
Mon 30th Oct	Inset Day
Fri 3rd Nov	<b>5pm PTA fireworks</b>
13th Nov	7.30pm PTA AGM
Fri 12th Jan	2pm PTA Committee Meeting
<b>Wed 31st Jan</b>	<b>Young Voices Choir—O2</b>
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA Committee Meeting
Mon 24th June	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
<b>3rd—7th June</b>	<b>Year 6 School Journey Kingwood</b>

\*Red = New Item / Change to Item

## Enriching the Curriculum

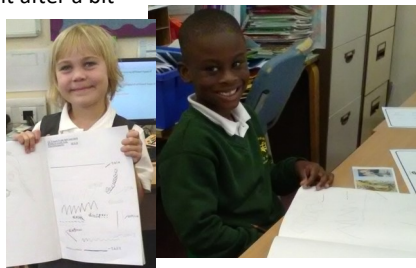
Nursery have been talking about 'My Family' this week. The children made self portraits in coloured sand which meant they could practise many times refining their techniques.



On Thursday afternoon, Fletcher, Ollie and Abbie from Year 6, who are computer monitors, helped Year 1 with their computing lesson. The children were learning how to use the

mouse/tack pad. They played puzzle games in which they had to move pieces into the right places to complete the image. The children found this tricky at first but were brilliant at it after a bit of practise.

In Art, Year 2 are beginning to use light and dark strokes in order to create tone using sketching pencils. The children really enjoyed experimenting, pressing firmer and lighter with their pencils.



## House Captains & Vice Captains

Well done to the new house captains/vice captains in year 6

Romans	Vikings	Normans	Saxons
Annabella	Charlotte	Vishu	Albie
Penelope	Lottie	Eden	William
Dilys	Mekhi	Brandon	Oliver
James	Alexandra	Elyse	Millie

## School Council

Well done to the following pupils that have been elected to join our school council.

Reception: Vanya	
Class 1: Edith	Class 7: Rory
Class 2: George	Class 8: Agnes
Class 3: Ben	Class 9: Joshua
Class 4: Matilda	Class 10: Kai
Class 5: Maisy	Class 11: Daisy
Class 6: James	Class 12: Max

## Safeguarding: E safety

The NSPCC website has tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your children safe online. Some examples are:

**Talking to your child about online safety.** For advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried click [here](#)

**Online wellbeing.**

Helping young people to manage their mental wellbeing online. Click [here](#) for more information.

**EVERY CHILD  
EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY**

Year 3 have been learning about food groups and what makes nutritious meals. The children cut out various foods, sorted them into their correct categories and stuck them onto a plate pie chart. The children were really good at



recognizing the correct food groups.

Science in Year 4 was exciting this week. The children completed a practical experiment based around gas and whether it has a weight. The children shook full bottles of fizzy water for a period of time to release carbon dioxide gas within the bottle. They then weighed the bottle recording the measurement. The lids were slowly loosened to allow the gas to escape out of the bottle and then they re-weighed



them. The conclusion was that gas does have a weight, as all the bottles weighed less after releasing the gas! Well done children!

In music, with Ms Cheung Year 6 were continuing their recorder lessons and getting to grips with notes B, A, G by playing Hot Cross Bun.



Some of our staff worked hard in their own time to tidy up the garden in the court yard. Bushes and plants needed cutting back and the patio

weeding so that a lovely, colourful, safe area could be set up for the Woodland children to use in all weathers. The children have really enjoyed being out there learning and playing in the fresh air. What a special space for them, thank you.

## Team Claire Newman

Mr Newman, Rose and Martha's father and Mrs Bellerby, our Senco Administrator, are among 15 people running in the Royal Parks Half Marathon on Sunday 8th October 2023 to raise money for Pancreatic Cancer UK.

Sadly, Robins' wife, Claire, lost her battle with this terrible disease last year.

Claire was a much loved music teacher here at Northgate for many years, a good friend to many of the staff and, of course, cherished by her family. If you would like to donate some money in support, please click the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/claireneman1?invite=true>



**Pancreatic  
Cancer  
UK**

## Vacancies

We currently have two positions available at Northgate:

- Senior SEND Learning Support Assistant—32.5 hours per week.
- Class TA— 8.45am—1.30pm Monday-Friday.

If you are interested please apply through the Teach in Herts website or contact us via: [admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk) for more details.

## Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Hamza and Vinnie

R1: Wyatt R2: Michaela

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: excellent explanations of decimal place value when comparing numbers, remaining extremely focused throughout lessons, outstanding mental and written math's, for great participation in Timetables Rock Stars being really ambitious with their adding and subtracting, fantastic work understanding the place value of 3 digit numbers.

Well done to:

Class 1: Ovtavia

Class 2: George

Class 3: Manuel

Class 4: Ashton

Class 5: Beren

Class 6: Gabriel

Class 7: Bill

Class 8: Gabriel

Class 9: Ben

Class 10: Elyah

Class 11: Georgia

Class 12: Scarlett and Tallulah



## Reminders and Updates

### Spare items of clothing

We are in need of spare socks and knickers/pants for reception age children. Also if you have any unwanted boys school shoes in good condition, we would appreciate them as spares.

### Stepping Stones

This is our social group for parents and carers at Northgate who have children with ASD or suspected ASD. The aim of the group is to bring parents and carers together, enable experiences and ideas to be shared and friendships to grow. The next coffee morning will be 9am – 10am on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Come along and find out more.

## Northgate School Association

### PTA Coffee Morning

Just a reminder, we're holding our PTA coffee morning next Friday (29th September at 9am) in the School Staff room. Just an informal opportunity to meet some of the team and ask us questions plus learn about the money we have raised to date and what that money is being used to purchase. Please do come along and chat to us!

### PTA Fireworks Night

Tickets are selling fast for our popular Fireworks Night! Come and join us on Friday 3rd November 2023 from 5pm with skies alight at 7pm. We have food and drink vans, plus music, games, glow items, face painting and more! Tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/t-vvjldom> As the event gets nearer, we still need volunteers! Please sign up here: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-northgate11>

### Easyfundraising

You can help raise funds for our school without having to donate anything yourself!

Over 7,500 brands and sites will donate to us every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself. This means you can raise money for us every time you get clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, school supplies or anything else you might be buying online anyway. It's easy, completely FREE and will make a BIG difference to our school.

Please sign up and help us raise more: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=raisingforaschool-fb1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=raisingforaschool-fb1)

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=raisingforaschool-fb1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=raisingforaschool-fb1)

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team