

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

September 20th 2019

Headteacher's News

I hope parents found the EYFS 'Meet the Teacher' sessions and the coffee session with Mrs Wallace, our new SENCo, useful. We look forward to seeing you at the KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 reading sessions next week. Reading together is one of the easiest but most important ways in which you can help your child at home, and research show a focus on developing oral language skills is especially important for the development of a range of early reading and writing skills. Please encourage your child to talk about their book.

Both decoding and comprehension skills are necessary for confident and competent reading, but neither is sufficient on its own. Fluent reading supports comprehension because pupils' are freed from focusing on word recognition and can be redirected towards comprehending the text. As well as listening to your child read, it is beneficial if you show fluent reading by regularly reading to them.

Children need a range of wider language and literacy experiences to develop their understanding of written texts in all their forms. Therefore try to encourage your child to read different genres of texts and a wide range of content topics. Please remember we have information about reading at home and some recommended book lists on our website under 'Our Learning.'

Congratulations to Miss Ward who is expecting her second child at

Enriching the Curriculum

Year 2 Walk to Castle Mound

Year 2 enjoyed their afternoon visit to the Castle Mound on Monday as part of their 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets' topic. They found out that the mound was the site of Waytemore Castle and learnt that this castle was built nearly 1000 years ago. The children sketched the mound and the war memorial in Castle Gardens. Thank you to the parents who helped with this visit.
S Pratt and E Crowe



Key Stage 2 Stationery

In our Key Stage 2 'moving up' letter in the summer we outlined our expectations regarding the children's organisational and independence skills and that pupils would be responsible for looking after their own stationery. At the start of term children were issued with a labelled handwriting pen, a HB pencil, green pens, board markers and a ruler. If any of these items run out they will be replaced by the class teacher, however please note that where these items are lost a replacement will need to be purchased from our school shop. Thank you.

Important Dates

Wed 25th Sep	9.00am LKS2 Reading with Parents
Thurs 26th Sep	9.00am UKS2 Reading with Parents
Fri 27th Sep	9.00am KS1 Reading with Parents
Thurs 3rd Oct	9.00am KS1 Harvest Assembly
Friday 4th Oct	9.00am Reception Harvest Assembly
Mon 7th Oct	Individual Photos
Tues 15th Oct	Happy School Bag Collection
Thurs 17th Oct	6.45pm-8.00pm Y5/6 Parent Info Eve
Mon 21st Oct	2.45pm Yr 4 Times Table Meeting
Tues 22nd Oct	2.45pm Yr 5 Work Sharing
Weds 23rd Oct	9am Yr 1 Phonics Workshop
Fri 25th Oct	Yr 5 Duxford Trip
28th Oct-1st Nov	Half Term
Mon 4th Nov	INSET DAY
Tues 5th Nov	Yr2 Pirate Day
5th-8th Nov	Well-being Week
Fri 8th Nov	Fireworks
Tues 12th Nov	Parent Consultations
Wed 13th Nov	Parent Consultations
Weds 20th Nov	2.45pm Yr 2 Phonics/Spelling Workshop
Weds 27th Nov	2.45pm Yr 6 Work Sharing
Fri 29th Nov	Occasional Day
Tues 3rd Dec	Happy School Bag Collection
Mon 9th Dec	2.45pm Yr 3 & 4 Work Sharing
Weds 11th Dec	2.15pm/6pm KS1 Christmas Production
Thurs 12th Dec	2.45pm REC Work Sharing
Mon 16th Dec	2.45pm Yr 2 Work Sharing
Weds 18th Dec	2.50pm Yr 1 Work Sharing
Weds 18th Dec	KS2 Rhodes Panto Trip
Thurs 19th Dec	KS2 St Michael's Church carol service (pick up from church)
Fri 20th Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 6th Jan	Children Return to School
17th-21st Feb	Half Term
Mon 24th Feb	INSET DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Today's pupils are growing up in an increasingly complex world, living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. We want to work with parents to equip our pupils with the knowledge needed to make the best use of the internet and technology in a safe, considered and respectful way, so they are able to reap the benefits of the online world. Please help by modelling and supporting your children to know what positive, healthy and respectful online relationships look like and discussing the effects their online actions could have on others. Thank you.

Reminders and Updates

Applying for Free School Meals

Every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is eligible for free school meals, but did you know that Hertfordshire CC could save you money on school meals for children in Years 3 to 6 if you are in receipt of certain benefits such as Income Support, Child Tax Credits, Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit. You may be eligible for funding towards reduced music lesson fees, free school milk etc. The school will also receive funding to help towards covering the cost of any extra support your child may need. More information can be found by clicking on this [link](#) to the Hertfordshire Free School Meals page.

Pick Up

If your child is being collected by someone who doesn't normally pick them up, please could you send a note in with your child to inform the class teacher. Where this is the case, the school office does not need to be notified.

For last minutes changes on the day, please contact the school office so we can let the teacher know.

Sickness/Diarrhoea

If your child experiences sickness or diarrhoea, please ensure you keep them at home for 48 hours after their last bout of illness.

Reporting Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please ensure you have reported it to us by 8.30am. You can let us know by calling the school on 652 376 and selecting Absences where you can leave us a message. Alternatively please email us at absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Orla	R1: Denise
	PM: Anaya	R2: Harry

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for thinking really carefully and great interpretation of the stories during guided reading.

Well done to:

Class 1: Kai	Class 6: Jack
Class 2: Joe	Class 7: Noah
Class 3: Freddie	Class 8: Ally
Class 4: Noemie	Class 9: Sonny
Class 5: Jasper	Class 10: Kaysan
Class 11: Tom	Class 12: Jacob

Enriching the Curriculum

Year 5 Guided Reading

Year 5 are looking for volunteers to help with Guided Reading sessions. Children are split into groups and we would love to have enough adults for each group to be able to read with an adult in every session. You will be given a question sheet with topics to discuss with the children. If you would like any more information, or wish to see an example question sheet, please catch Mrs Venning, Mrs Newman or Miss Ward at the end of a school day. Class 9 sessions run from 9-9.30am on a Tuesday and Thursday. Class 10 sessions run from 9-9.30am on a Monday and Friday.

Even if you can only help for one session a week, this would be a massive help. Thank you in advance.

Key Stage 1 Outside Learning

We are fortunate to have a lovely outdoor space for our Reception children to use. If you are able to donate any small world toys such as lego, marble runs, cars, puzzles, etc., or a scooter, buckets and spades or anything fit for outdoor learning, we would be very grateful. We would also appreciate picnic blankets or wipeable table cloths. Thank you.

School Association

Association News

We hope some of you will be able to join us at our AGM on Monday 21st October at 7:30 pm at the school. We'd love to share our plans for this year with you and welcome any suggestions or ideas you might have too! In particular we are still looking for more people to help organise a Christmas event so if you love a bit of tinsel and have some spare time to join a sub-committee we'd love to hear from you. ptanorthgate@gmail.com

School Council

Well done to the following children who have been elected to the School Council:

Class 1: Aditi and Thomas	Class 7: Annie and Noah
Class 2: Ivy and Sebastian	Class 8: Imogen and Lewis
Class 3: Albie and Holly	Class 9: Erin and Eric
Class 4: Charlotte and Freddie	Class 10: Casey and Bede
Class 5: Curtis and Yoana	Class 11: Henry and Ella
Class 6: Archie and Ruby	Class 12: Annabel and Andrei

Our Executive Committee are:

Class 11: Nancy and Esme	Class 12: Feroz and Sophie
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Congratulations to everyone!

Community News

The Rotary Club of Bishop's Stortford are holding a concert called **Youth Calls the Tune** in St Michael's Church on Saturday 12th October at 7.30pm, showcasing the winners and runners up from the Evening Concert of the Rotary Young Musician of the Year 2019 competition, including Koko from Class 11. Further details are attached.

Natural Flair Coaching, in partnership with the ASPECTS Family Liaison Service, are running an interactive session for parents and carers on Managing Anger and Conflict within the family. Further details are attached to the email.