

May 17th 2024

Headteacher's News

Well done to all the Year 6 children who completed their National SATs tests this week. As ever, they worked extremely hard and we were proud of their positive attitude. Thanks to the staff for providing the breakfasts—I know this created a great start to the day for everyone.

Next week as a school we will be celebrating Neurodiversity Week, where each day classes will undertake short tasks to help children understand how we are all different and help children to value this. As part of this, children will learn about successful adults who are neurodiverse, such as Richard Branson, *"It's time we lost the stigma around dyslexia. It is not a disadvantage; it is merely a different way of thinking."*, Will.i.am. *"For every obstacle, there's some type of solution."* and Greta Thunberg who said *"Being different is a gift. It makes me see things from outside the box."*

The governors are currently looking for anyone with a finance or health and safety background who may be interested in joining the team. Governors support with the strategic vision of the school and act as a critical friend. There is one committee meeting and Full governors meeting every half term in school hours or in the early evening. If you would like to know more, please contact lucy.grant@northgate.herts.sch.uk. Have a great weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

This morning, Year 4 experienced life in a Viking village. Everyone wore amazing costumes and the children mastered lots of different crafts, allowing items to be traded with other tribes. This included: making clay moulds for metal castings; designing necklaces with the image of their God Thor; weaving their own fabric which would be used for clothing or as boat sails; making ink by crushing charcoal in a pestle and mortar and mixing with tree sap and water; producing warrior bracelets and illuminating letters for manuscripts using decorative designs which featured animals and mythical creatures. The children also visited the wise woman who was always right! She would treat illness with smelling potions made from herbs and spices, even used bones (both animal and human). She would poke the bodies of ill people to detect soreness and listen to their heart and lungs. A narrative was followed during the day and eventually the Vikings had a battle against the Saxons using swords and shields. The children chose the result of the battle, the Vikings were defeated and slain by the Saxons. The Vikings believed that in the next life they would feast eternally in glorious Valhalla (heaven). The children immersed themselves in this interactive activity. Later in the day, the group were transported back to the present day and became archaeologists uncovering the Viking village of the past. Thank you to Mr Dunn and Mrs Venning for organising this memorable event.



Important Dates

WB 20th May
Mon 20th May
Thurs 23rd May
27th—31st May
Mon 3rd June
W/C 3rd June
3rd—7th June
Fri 7th June

Fri 7th June

Sat 8th June
W/C 10th June
Mon 10th June
Mon 10th June
Wed 12th June
Thurs 13th June
Fri 14th June
Thurs 20th June
Fri 21st June
Fri 21st June
Wed 26th June
Wed 26th June

Mon 1st July
Tues 2nd July
Fri 5th July
Wb 8th July
Wb 8th July

Thurs 11th July
Tues 16th July
W/C 15th July
Thurs 18th July
Fri 19th July
Fri 19th July
2nd & 3rd Sept
Wed 4th Sept

Neurodiversity week
Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
2.30pm Y3 Music concert
Half Term
Inset Day
Y4 National multiplication assessments
Y6 School Journey, Kingswood
Non-school uniform day in exchange for a bottle for the Summer Fayre tombola
9.00am Stepping Stones coffee morning with Nicky Chamberlain from SPACE
PTA Summer Fayre
PTA Father's Day Shop
Y1 National phonics, screening.
Y3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
Class photos
Visit from Herts & Essex Music Group
Y5 Egyptian workshop
Visit from Woodwind Stortford
Y2 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Y4 Stansted Mountfitchet Visit
Y1 Trip to Audley End
Year 2 Music Festival at South Mills (parents able to watch from 2.15pm—3.00pm information to follow)
Y5 /6 rehearsal at theatre (timings TBC)
Y5/6 performance (timings TBC)
PTA Sports Day After Party & Colour Run
History week
History with Parents /work sharing 9am (see below)
School Transition Day
Take over day
PTA Ice Cream Sales
9.15am Y6 Leavers' assembly
PTA Break the Rules Day
2pm Last Day of Term
Inset days
First day of the school year

Safeguarding

Families First is the term used in Hertfordshire for services that work together to support families who need extra help.

We all experience difficulties at some point. Families First can help you find early help and information to prevent issues from getting worse.

Families First will work with you and your family to create a package of support. The service is available to all Hertfordshire families with children under 18 (25 if they have a learning need or disability).

Issues they can help with are: Parenting, mental and physical health problems, drug or alcohol dependency, domestic abuse, school related concerns – such as your child is not attending school, debt problems and risk of becoming homeless.

Parenting advice offered: Childcare, advice. Courses for parents: Staying healthy, Emotional and Mental Health, Relationship Support, Private Fostering, Keeping Children Safe Online, Domestic Abuse, Money Advice, Carers and Services for Young People.

Please click [here](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) **Families First (hertfordshire.gov.uk)** to learn more.

Enriching the Curriculum

As part of their topic 'Northgate to Namutumba' the children of Year 5 have been studying Ugandan customs, cultures, landscapes and food. In DT this week they made a Ugandan curry. Whilst being mindful of food hygiene, the children practised safely cutting an array of vegetables including matoke (a green cooking banana) and meat. They really enjoyed working as part of a team to make these healthy balanced dishes and when they tasted their creations they thought they were delicious!



Reminders and Notices

Lateness

Please ensure you leave enough time in the morning to get your child to school in time for registration at 8.45am. Lateness is very disrupting for the teacher and class, but if you do have a valid reason for being late please call the school office in advance and we will inform the teacher.

School Library Books

Please remember to check at home for any school books, as these must be returned to their class. Thank you.

Temperatures

Although unpredictable at times, the weather seems to be improving! On hot days please ensure that a high SPF sun cream is applied to your child before school and they must remember sun hats and water bottles. Children must also have a raincoat for days that maybe wet.

Uniform

Skirts, dresses and trousers must be smart school wear. Children in Year 5 and 6 are expected to wear a shirt and tie. Ties are optional in Lower Key Stage 2. Smart black shoes should be worn, without flashing lights (or with the lights turned off). Children are **not** allowed to wear sandals, trainers or boots. Children are **not** allowed to wear earrings or other jewellery or smart watches in school. Hair accessories must be in school colours, yellow (until end of July) or bottle green. **During PE lessons all children** should wear bottle green shorts/green tracksuit bottoms with their white t-shirts. No extreme hairstyles, such as tramlines are allowed at school. Thank you for your support.

New suppliers

AVM Workwear and Embroidery are our new uniform supplier. Click the link to access their website <https://www.avmworkwear.co.uk>, We also have a secondhand uniform sale rail in the main reception area. Payment by cash only please.

Celebration of Achievements



Nursery: Rosa and Ava

R1: Luna **R2:** Olly

This week our 'Learners of the Week' focused on "Teachers Choice in KS1 and French in KS2".

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: always making excellent effort in their independent tasks and supporting friends once finished, trying really hard to form letters correctly and making sure they are a regular size, writing a beautiful story about a butterfly lifecycle, increased confidence when speaking French in class, really focusing in French lessons often volunteering to contribute, an excellent attitude in French which shows in both written and spoken work, growing in confidence when speaking French and improving their ability to hear and attempt French phonemes, trying their best in all French lessons often challenging himself to do more, a great start in starting to learn the French language and for constantly having a great attitude to learning a language, which can be clearly seen in their progress they are making.

Class 1: Thom

Class 2: Kitty

Class 3: Estelle

Class 4: Tate

Class 5: Teddy

Class 6: Autumn

Class 7: Emma

Class 8: Peter

Class 9: Max P

Class 10: Evie

Class 11: Jackson

Class 12: Elisa



Northgate School Association

Summer Fayre

Raffle Tickets and Summer Fayre Brochure.

Just a reminder to return your raffle ticket stubs and money to your Class Teacher.

Please take a look at our Northgate PTA Summer Fayre brochure to see all the wonderful prizes you can win in our Raffle plus a taster of what you can expect at the Fayre.

Volunteers

We are still looking for volunteers to help us at our Summer Fayre on Saturday 8th June.

If you fancy running a stall or a game, please sign up here to help:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/?#!/>

[showSignUp/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-48892296-northgate](https://m.signupgenius.com/?#!/showSignUp/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-48892296-northgate)

We can't run our events without your support, so please do sign up if you can. Thank you.

Tug of War

Just a reminder that we still need parents/carers for our annual Tug of War at the Summer Fayre.

The staff already have a team together, so if you fancy taking on the Northgate staff, showing them how it is done at 1pm on 8th June, please contact me at ptanorthgate@gmail.com.

Hope you all have a relaxing weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team