

October 13th 2023

Headteacher's News

Another really busy week in school with several trips and visitors. It was great to see so many parents in school this week joining our younger children with their harvest celebrations. A massive thank you to all the donations for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank, which will make a real difference to members of our local community, particularly with the current financial challenges. If you would like to have more information about the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank, please look at their website: www.bishopsstortfordfoodbank.com. We hope you found the Year 2 and Year 5/6 sessions informative. Information from these sessions will be published on Google Classrooms, plus the notes from UKS2 sessions will be put on our website. If you have any feedback on these sessions, or ideas on how we can support parents further at home, please email on interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk. Thank you all the parents, who have made contributions to the class Amazon Wish lists. These are really appreciated. We are noticing, as children are getting more tired as we approach the end of the half term, we have been having an increase in behaviour incidents. To support you child in school next week, please try to ensure that they are having plenty of sleep. Many thanks. We look forward to seeing parents at our reading sessions next week where your child will have an opportunity to share a reading book with you. I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

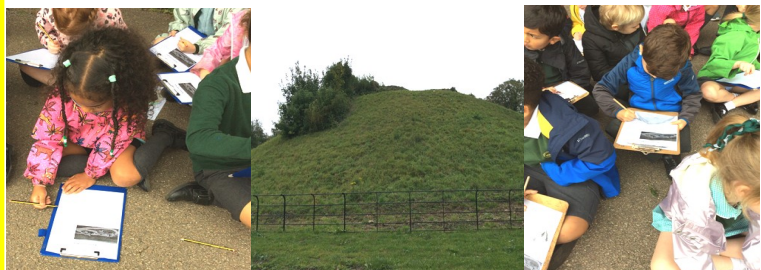


Enriching the Curriculum

On Monday **Year 4** took part in various experiments with 'Fab Science' as part of their states of matter science project. Among their favourite experiments were, making Oobleck from cornflower and water and making ice cream with milk, salt and food bags! The children had a fantastic time!



In History, **Year 2** have been learning about different types of castles. On Wednesday they walked to the Waytemore Castle Mound in town. The children behaved brilliantly and enjoyed sketching the mound, using the art skills they have been working on this half term. Well done children!



Important Dates

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
W/B 30th October	Well being week
Fri 3rd Nov	Rainbow Day (details to follow)
Fri 3rd Nov	5pm PTA fireworks
7th—9th Nov	Parent consultations (details to follow)
Mon 13th Nov	7.30pm PTA AGM
Fri 24th Nov	Year 5 Stortford fields trip
Mon 11th Dec	KS2 Christmas Lunch
Tues 12th Dec	1.30pm KS2 Pantomime at South Mills
Tues 12th Dec	1.30pm KS1 Hurricane Panto visit
Tues 12th Dec	Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch
Wed 13th Dec	9.15am and 2.30 am KS1 Christmas production
Mon 18th Dec	Volunteer coffee 9am
Mon 18th Dec	1.45pm KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Tues 19th Dec	Break the rules day
Tues 19th Dec	2pm End of term
Fri 12th Jan	2pm PTA Committee Meeting
Tue 30th January	Year 2 Local walk (to the old Northgate school)
Wed 31st Jan	Young Voices Choir—O2
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
Fri 22nd March	Year 5 Trip to Colchester Castle
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA Committee Meeting
13th—16th May	Y6 SATS
Mon 24th June	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
Mon 3rd June	Y4 national multiplication assessments
3rd—7th June	Year 6 School Journey Kingwood
Mon 10th June	Y1 National phonics, screening.
Fri 21st June	Year 2 trip to Paradise Wildlife Park

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Online support: Childnet provide a range of help, advice and resources for parents, carers, teachers, professionals and young people. Their website is full of free, adaptable resources. They cover important topics such as healthy relationships and digital wellbeing. Their website is designed to equip parents and carers, to support both children and parents with the online world. Please visit their website <https://www.childnet.com> for further information.

What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)?

Each school must have appropriate senior members of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include:

Making sure all staff are aware how to raise safeguarding concerns, ensuring all staff understand the symptoms of child abuse and neglect, referring any concerns to social care, monitoring children who are the subject of child protection plans, maintaining accurate and secure child protection records, raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring they are implemented and reviewed regularly.

At Northgate the DSLs are Mrs Tanner, Mrs Clynes, Mrs Layer, Mrs Wallace and Mrs Shepherd.

On Wednesday Year 5 went on a school trip to the Imperial War Museum Duxford. The children really enjoyed listening and learning from all the information provided by the staff and two Veterans.

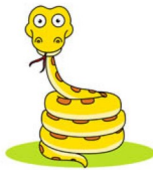
Below are short pieces of writing below from Evie in Class 10 and Frankie, Sidney and Vito in Class 9.

On Wednesday year 5 went to Duxford to look at some of the air crafts that would of been used in the world war II. We also met two veterans, one was a child in world war II and the other was a pilot in the cold war. For the first hour, we looked inside some of the airplanes and co-pits of were the navigator and pilot would sit. We all really enjoyed the trip.



'John was evacuated in the war. He hold us about the Morrison shelter being cramped'. Sidney.

Today Year 3 had a fantastic visit from 'Spirit of the Wild'. The children got to learn about all sorts of predators and how different animals are classified. All the children had the opportunity to hold and touch the animals. It was very exciting. The python and Siberian husky were firm favourites!



'On Wednesday, we went to Duxford. John and Mike told us about their jobs in the RAF and the Navy'. Frankie.

'We got to board two planes in the museum: a BOAC airlines plane and Concorde'. Vito.



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:



Nursery: Sky and Ralph

R1: Sienna Rae R2: Lola

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'Reading'

Well done for: excellent reading in class with lovely expression and fluency, fantastic understanding of texts, really good explanation of inferences, stopping to think and working hard with their reading, excellent contributions in guided reading, great ideas and constantly reading with an adult at home and reading nine books in one week!

Class 1: Kyan

Class 2: Harvey

Class 3: Willow

Class 4: Arthur

Class 5: Lucy

Class 6: Faith

Class 7: Erin

Class 8: Mia

Class 9: Joshua

Class 10: Oliver

Class 11: Oliiver

Class 12: Holly



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has purchased an item from our wish lists that went live last week. Please see our website for the links for each year group. As a healthier alternative to bringing in birthday sweets, browse our Amazon wish lists and buy a book or item instead. Thank you for supporting our school. Mrs Layer.

Team Claire Newman ran the Royal Parks Half Marathon to raise funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK. The team ran through the royal parks and past many of London's iconic landmarks. 'It was a wonderful but emotional day remembering our lovely Claire, thank you for your kindness and support.' Mrs Bellerby. The money raised so far is an amazing £20K. Any final donations can be made here. <https://www.justgiving.com/team/clairenewman1?invite=true>



Reminders and Updates

Year 6 Children applying for Secondary school

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the **closing date of Tuesday 31st October 2023**. We do recommend that you apply earlier than the deadline in case you have any problems, as the helpline gets extremely busy towards the closing date. Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or alternatively if you cannot access the internet, you can request a printed version of the website information and application form from the Hertfordshire County Council Customer Service Centre by calling 0300 123 4043.

Primary School Admissions - Reception 2023

Primary school applications for Reception 2023 open on Wednesday 1st November 2023. This is for children who will be of school age by September 2024, please note that the closing date for applications is Monday 15th January 2024.

Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to seeing parents in school for the consultation meetings on the 7th, 8th and 9th November.

There will be appointments for parents of most classes on Tuesday 7th November and all classes on Wednesday 8th November. The appointments on Thursday 9th November are for Class 9 and Class 5. This is due to the dual teachers and their working days.

You will receive an email next week explaining the booking procedure.

Northgate School Association

Halloween Costume Sale

If you missed today's Halloween Costume sale, there will be another chance to grab a bargain on Friday 20th October.

If you have any fancy dress costumes, accessories etc you'd like to donate to the Halloween Costume Sale, please bring them into the School Office.

PTA Fireworks Night

Another plea!! We are still urgently needing volunteers to support our Fireworks Night. We have so much planned but we can't run stalls if we don't have support. If you are able to help for any amount of time that evening, we need you!

Please sign up here: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-northgate11>

Sponsorship

Thank you to our Fireworks Night and Halloween lollipop sale sponsor Lit Fibre.

Lit Fibre (<https://www.facebook.com/LitFibreBroadband>) is bringing ultrafast, full-fibre, reliable and great value internet with exceptional customer support to Bishops Stortford! Lit Fibre will be joining us at the Fireworks event, so please do look out for them.

Christmas Cards and Gifts

Can you believe it is that time of the year again when your child's beautiful artwork can be turned into Christmas cards and gifts? Each child will be sent home a form next week where their fabulous artwork can be created over half term and returned to us, to produce wonderful cards and gifts. Look out for the form!

We're doing it earlier this year, so it gives us all an opportunity to get organised!

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.