

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

October 9th 2026

Headteacher's News

It was wonderful to see so many parents joining us in school to celebrate Harvest with our younger children. A huge **thank you for all the generous donations** to the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. Your contributions will make a real difference to members of our local community.

We hope you found our **EYFS and KS1 parent workshops** informative and useful. Information and resources from the sessions will be shared on Google Classroom for you to refer to at home. We would really value your feedback on the workshops. Please take a few minutes to complete the following feedback form: [here](#)

We have noticed recently that more children are arriving at school **tired** in the morning, and some children are telling their teachers that they have not had enough sleep. Regular tiredness can have a noticeable impact on children's ability to concentrate and learn, but also on their mood, friendships and ability to play successfully with others.

There are some simple ways we can help children get a good night's sleep: keeping a consistent bedtime and wake-up time, having a calm bedtime routine and avoiding screens for around an hour before bed. Research shows that screen use close to bedtime can make it harder for children to settle and can affect the quality and length of their sleep. Reading together, talking about the day or enjoying another quiet activity can help children to wind down.

For more **helpful advice** on establishing healthy sleep routines, please see the **NHS guidance on sleep and young children**: [NHS – Sleep and young children](#). Thank you for helping us to ensure that our children arrive at school well rested and ready to learn, play and enjoy their day.

Hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

This week, our school community came together to celebrate our annual **Harvest Festival**. The children gave thanks for the food we enjoy, surrounded by the generous donations contributed by our families. Our Nursery children learnt two new songs to mark the occasion; the recording will be uploaded to Google Classroom for parents to enjoy at home. On Monday and Thursday, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performed in front of a great turnout of parents and carers. The children shared their learning about harvest and autumn, displayed their colorful fruit prints and detailed fruit drawings, and sang a selection of songs. It was a lovely opportunity to see their learning and creativity in action. Our Key Stage 2 pupils reflected on the theme of gratitude — appreciating what we have — and the importance of generosity in helping others in their community. We welcomed a visit from Jane Towns of the Bishop's Stortford Food bank who spoke about the food bank and thanked everyone for their donations.



Important Dates

Mon 12th Oct

Mon 12th Oct

Tues 13th Oct

Wed 14th Oct

Fri 16th Oct

Mon 19th Oct

Tues 20th Oct

Wed 21st Oct

Thurs 22nd Oct

Thurs 22nd Oct

Fri 23rd Oct

26th –30th Oct

Mon 2nd Nov

Friday 6th Nov

Tues 10th Nov

Thurs 12th Nov

Mon 30th Nov

Wed 2nd Dec

Thurs 3rd Dec

Tues 8th Dec

Wed 9th Dec

Fri 11th Dec

Wed 16th Dec

Thurs 17th Dec

Friday 18th Dec

21st Dec—1st Jan

Mon 4th Jan

Tues 5th Jan

Mon 25th Jan

15th—19th Feb

Thurs 25th Mar

30th Mar—9th April Easter Holidays

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Spirit of the Wild - Yr 3

1st session Flu Vaccination

Y2 walk to Waytemore castle

Whole school individual photos

Show Racism the Red Card Day (wear Red day)

Y5/6 9am reading with parents

EYFS 9am reading with parents

Y3/4 9am reading with parents

followed by times table workshop

Y1/2 9am reading with parents

Cultural Heritage Day/World Afro Hair Day

Inset Day

Half Term

PTA AGM 7:30 pm

Northgate Fireworks

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations

Elfridges run by PTA

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EYFS Christmas production 9.15am/2.30pm

KS2 Pantomime 1:30pm South Mills (pick up from theatre)

KS1 Christmas production 9.10am/2.40pm

Christmas Jumper Day

KS2 2pm Carol Concert St Michaels (pick up from Church)

2pm finish Break up for Christmas

Christmas Holidays

Inset day

School term starts

Spring PTA Meeting

Half Term

2pm finish break up for Easter

Safeguarding

Families First – Early Help in Hertfordshire Families First offers support to families needing extra help, preventing issues from getting worse. If you need more than your usual support (health visitor, school, doctor), they can create a tailored support plan. This service is available for families with children under 18 (or 25 with additional needs). Their support includes: parenting, health, substance issues, domestic abuse, school attendance, debt, carers and homelessness risks.

Find out more by clicking below:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/families-first/families-first.aspx>

Enriching the Curriculum

Black History Month On Wednesday, Northgate was delighted to welcome Mr Muhammed "The Investigator," who introduced the children to Black British history in a fun, exciting and engaging way. Our EYFS and KS1 children enjoyed lively assemblies exploring the theme of Black History, while the whole of KS2 took part in exciting workshops, discovering fascinating stories about Ancient Africans in the United Kingdom. It was a fantastic week of **learning, discovery and celebrating Black history**, and the children thoroughly enjoyed every moment!



Drama workshop We were very pleased to receive a visit from Katherine from **Perform** on Tuesday 6th October. The children from Reception through to Year 3 had a wonderful time exploring the theme of Superheroes and using drama, dance and singing to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills. Please see flyer attached showing local lessons.



Sport

On Monday, **Northgate Gold Football** team travelled to St Joseph's School for an away match. The Gold Team came away with an excellent 2-1 win. Goals were scored by Elliot in Year 5 and Henry in Year 6. Elliot's goal was assisted by Charlie in Year 6 and Henry's goal was assisted by Connor in Year 6. Elliot was praised by his team mates for his good passing during the match. The whole gold team played extremely well, demonstrating great teamwork, skill and determination.



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:



Ducklings: Teddy & Alfie

Puffins: Bobbie

Owls: Finn

Well done to:

Robins: Teddy

Starlings: Tillie

Skylarks: Beau

Nightingales: Violet

Kestrels: Ava

Harriers: Lucy

Wrens: Finley

Sparrows: Danuji

Swifts: Charlotte

Kingfishers: Max

Kites: Harrison

Hawks: Oscar



Next Friday, 16th October, children have the opportunity to support 'Show Racism the Red Card Day' by wearing **one red item** — this could be a piece of clothing or an accessory



such as socks, a ribbon, or a sticker. Northgate will be holding a whole-school assembly to discuss race, racism, allyship, and embracing differences, along with additional PSHE lessons on standing up against racism and understanding its impact.



Wearing something red is a simple way for children to take part and show their support for the charity behind the event: <https://www.theredcard.org/>



Reminders and Updates

Individual Photos

Individual photos will be taken on **Wednesday, 14th October**. Please ensure that your child is dressed in full school uniform. If your child has PE on Wednesdays, they should come to school wearing their full uniform and bring their PE kit in a bag, ready to change into.

Uniform As the weather is now getting colder and wetter, please ensure that your child brings a suitable coat or jacket to school each day. We do still go outside in light rain/drizzle.

Amazon Wish Lists

Below are links to each year group's Amazon wish lists. As we no longer accept birthday sweets, we suggest this as an alternative. If you are able to support the school in this way, please take a look. If you see something you would like to buy, simply follow the same process as when ordering for yourself. Items will be delivered directly to the school, marked for the attention of the relevant teacher. Thank you for your support; it is much appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Louisa Layer, our Assistant Head.

[Nursery](#)

[Reception](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

[SEND](#)

The links for Year 1 and PULSE will be sent out next week

School Councils and Committees

Executive School Council

Our executive school council play an important part in assisting & overseeing our School Council. We are delighted to announce the executive council are George, Eliza, Bea and Teddy

WID (Wellbeing Inclusion and Diversity) Committee



Our WID committee have been supporting World Mental Health day today and have been carrying out acts of kindness for the adults in our school today. This included helping make them cups of tea and coffee. All the adults really appreciated their kindness!



Northgate School Association

Firework Night — Friday 6th November from 5pm

Now Sold Out

Thank you for your overwhelming support. This event is now **sold out**. However, to make it a success, we still need parent volunteers to help with the Glow Stall and Sweet Stall, supervise the firework and alcohol barriers, and assist with the clear-up afterwards. Volunteer slots are only 30 minutes long, so please make some time to help and sign up below. Thank you.

[Fireworks Night: Northgate Fireworks Night 2026](#)