

# Northgate Primary School Newsletter

January 10th 2020

## Headteacher's News

A 'Happy New Year' to everyone and a huge thank you from all the staff for the gifts and warm wishes sent for Christmas. I hope you had an enjoyable break.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Stott back to Northgate after teaching in one of the local schools. She will be the Year 4 teacher and the Acting Assistant Head, covering while Mrs Clynes is on maternity leave. We are also delighted to welcome Miss Holborn as one of our Year 5 teachers who will be covering Miss Ward's maternity leave. She has recently moved into the area from Surrey, where she also taught Year 5.

Congratulations to Miss Greaves, our Deputy Head, who got married over the Christmas holiday and is now Mrs Jones.

We endeavour to ensure that the children have a truly enriched curriculum at Northgate. This term we have a fantastic range of activities and sessions planned for our children. As well as the regular events such as the Festival of Literature and the Life Bus, we have some new events such as a House Geography Quiz in a few weeks time and the choir participating in the Hertfordshire Gala Concert in the Albert Hall, to name just a few! After half term we will be holding our themed week—this term it will be a technology week and it will include a visit from computer explorers. We are looking forward to the term ahead!

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend!

## World Book Day

This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March and we will be celebrating the wonder of books with a fancy dress parade. We would like the children to come in dressed as adjective, such as colourful or brave. The children will also be taking part in lots of book related activities throughout the day.

## Reception Applications 2020

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to Reception is **Wednesday 15 January 2020**. Parents need to make an application by the closing date to ensure their application is considered as on-time. Applications should be made online at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) as early as possible.

## Nursery Applications 2020

Nursery applications will open on Monday 20th January 2020. Applications need to be made online and the application form will be available on **our school website** on that day. Our dates are now available. Please call the school office to book your place.

## Important Dates

<b>Mon 13th Jan</b>	<b>9am Volunteer Safeguarding Training</b>
<b>Weds 15th Jan</b>	<b>2.15pm SENCO Parent Workshop</b>
<b>Weds 15th Jan</b>	<b>2.55pm Class 9 Meet the Teacher</b>
<b>Tues 28th Jan</b>	<b>2.50pm EYFS Maths Games with Children</b>
<b>Weds 29th Jan</b>	<b>2.50pm UKS2 Maths Games with Children</b>
<b>Thurs 30th Jan</b>	<b>2.50pm KS1 Maths Games with Children</b>
<b>Fri 31st Jan</b>	<b>2.50pm LKS2 Maths Games with Children</b>
<b>3rd - 7th Feb</b>	<b>Life Bus in School</b>
<b>Fri 7th Feb</b>	<b>2pm Year 3 to Festival of Literature</b>
<b>Fri 7th Feb</b>	<b>School Discos KS1 5pm, KS2 6.45pm</b>
<b>Mon 10th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am Year 1/2 to Festival of Literature</b>
<b>Mon 10th Feb</b>	<b>2pm Year 5 to Festival of Literature</b>
<b>Tues 11th Feb</b>	<b>2pm Year 6 to Festival of Literature</b>
<b>Weds 12th Feb</b>	<b>2pm School Council Picture Book Award</b>
<b>Thurs 13th Feb</b>	<b>2pm Year 4 to Festival of Literature</b>
<b>Thurs 13th Feb</b>	<b>Year 5 Instrumental Concert</b>
<b>17th-21st Feb</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
<b>Mon 24th Feb</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tues 25th Feb</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
<b>25th - 28th Feb</b>	<b>Technology Week</b>
<b>Tues 25th Feb</b>	<b>4-7pm Parent Consultation Meetings</b>
<b>Weds 26th Feb</b>	<b>3.30-6.30pm Parent Consultation Meetings</b>
<b>Thurs 5th March</b>	<b>World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)</b>
<b>Sun 8th March</b>	<b>Hertfordshire Gala Concert - Albert Hall</b>
<b>Mon 9th March</b>	<b>2.50pm Year 5 Work Sharing</b>
<b>Weds 25th March</b>	<b>2.15pm and 6.30pm Year 3 and 4 Show</b>
<b>Weds 1st April</b>	<b>2.45pm Year 1 Work Sharing</b>
<b>Fri 3rd April</b>	<b>End of Term at 2.00pm</b>
<b>Mon 20th April</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
<b>May 2020</b>	<b>Year 2 SATs</b>
<b>Fri 8th May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday (moved for VE day)</b>
<b>11th-15th May</b>	<b>Year 6 SAT's week</b>
<b>25th-29th May</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
<b>Mon 1st June</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tues 2nd June</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
<b>Fri 3rd July</b>	<b>Sports Day</b>
<b>8th-12th June</b>	<b>Year 6 School Journey</b>
<b>8th-12th June</b>	<b>Yr 1 Phonics Week</b>
<b>8th-26th June</b>	<b>Yr 4 Times Tables Tests</b>
<b>Tues 21st July</b>	<b>End of Term at 2.00pm</b>
<b>2nd-3rd Sept</b>	<b>INSET DAYS</b>
<b>Friday 4th Sept</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>

## Safeguarding

Please remember that children must remain accompanied by an adult until the school gate opens at 8.45am.

If you volunteer in school, and did not attend our safeguarding session in September, please join us at our training session on Monday morning at 9am. If you are a guided reader and haven't brought in your photo ID and proof of address, please bring them to the office before your next reading session. Thank you.

# Northgate Primary School

## Newsletter

### SENCO

#### Wellbeing Workshop - 15th January: 2:15pm-3:15pm

'Young people with a good level of wellbeing are more likely to perform well at school and be physically healthy' (Department of Health, 2011).

The wellbeing workshop, run by our SENCO Lynn Wallace, has been designed to explore ways a parent can help to develop good habits that will support the development of wellbeing for themselves and their child. In the workshop we will look at why wellbeing matters and explore a range of practical approaches and techniques that can be used to promote and nurture this.

### Music

#### Hertfordshire Gala Concert

Members of the choir from Years 5 and 6 will be joining together with other musicians from across the county to perform at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 8th March 2020 at the 1.45pm performance.

Tickets go on sale on Monday 13th January and we have been advised that last year they sold out within a day!

<https://tickets.royalalberthall.com/production/69049>.

#### Cantate Choir

Cantate is an award winning youth choir with a new musical director who is looking to increase the size of the choir and has exciting plans for the future. Cantate is inviting all boys and girls from Year 2 upwards to its 'Fun Sing' to sing alongside members of Cantate. The afternoon will end with a 15 minute workshop performance to families. No previous singing experience is required, you just need to plenty of energy, enthusiasm and a huge smile! More information can be found here: <https://www.cantate.co.uk/events/cantate-fun-sing-january-2020/>

### Reminders and Updates

Just a reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school it should be reported by 9.30am on the day, either by calling school on 01279 652 376 and selecting option 1 or by emailing [absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk). Thank you.

Years 2 and 5 are seeking donations of lego axles and/or wheels, any small vehicles with moving parts such as a crane or a dumper truck, or vehicles that can be taken apart. If you are able to help out, please drop them into the school office.

If you are in need of new school uniform, just a reminder that second hand uniform is available on a Friday in our Reception Area. Uniform can also be purchased through Fosters Schoolwear and [myclothing.com](http://myclothing.com). Leaflets containing more information can be found in the school Reception Area.

### Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Maisy	R1: Charlie
	PM: Reuben	R2: Sienna

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on having a positive attitude. Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for enthusiasm, contributing well and a positive attitude towards learning. Well done to:

Class 1: Tessa	Class 7: Noah
Class 2: Ruby	Class 8: Abigail
Class 3: Annie	Class 9: Filip
Class 4: James	Class 10: Isla J
Class 5: Santa	Class 11: Fin
Class 6: Jude	Class 12: Samuel

### Community

#### RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

Take part in the world's largest wildlife survey from 25th to 27th January and do something great for nature. Just choose an hour at any time over the three days and enjoy time with nature counting the birds that visit your garden.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

### School Association

Happy New Year and welcome back from your PTA!

Firstly, we'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has signed up to our 250 Club. In January's draw Kelly Hyde was our lucky winner and will be receiving her cheque for over £500 very soon! We still have numbers available if you'd like to join. Contact [mairead.wright@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mairead.wright@yahoo.co.uk) for details.

We held our first committee meeting of 2020 this week and got straight into planning for the year ahead. We look forward to bringing you our first discos of the school year on Friday 7th February and we will be bringing our Mother's Day pop-up shop to Northgate again in March.

At our meeting we agreed to increase spending on curriculum enrichment weeks, to bring sessions on coding and robotics to the children during Technology Week. We are very happy to support something so important for the future careers of our children and we are sure they will enjoy it immensely. We have also agreed to fund more reading scheme books to further modernise the books available in our library. We are looking forward to a successful 2020.

Best wishes, Your PTA