

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

April 16th 2021

Headteacher's News

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely Easter break and have managed to enjoy some of the new changes to the lockdown rules. With the number of cases currently low in Bishop's Stortford, we are now moving from class bubbles to year group bubbles. This will mean that the children will be able to play with the other class in their year group at playtimes. With all adults being able to access the lateral flow tests, we hope to start to have some volunteers again in school during the coming weeks.

We have been delighted to welcome back Mrs Gitto following her maternity leave, who is now teaching Class 4. Miss Goslitski and Mrs Rolfe are thrilled to be back with Class 2. Welcome to Mrs Hayes who is in our Nursery class at the start of the week. Mrs Pratt is delighted to be back at Northgate. She is on a staggered return to work and will be supporting with the 'catch up' work this term. Mrs Aziz, Mrs Ferdinand and Mrs Stephens will also be supporting children across the school with 'catch up' this term. As a school, we will be particularly supporting children with their writing, the subject that we have found has been most impacted by the two periods of home schooling.

At Northgate, we are delighted to resume learning this week with new exciting topics. Year one particularly enjoyed visiting the Enchanted Forest. The children have settled well and we are helping children to rekindle their learning resilience and concentration.

Have a lovely weekend.

Cricket Clubs

Following our successful cricket training during PE time in school, the Chance to Shine coach has recommended some local clubs.

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> (5-8 years)

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamoscricicket> (8-11 years)

<https://www.bishopsstortfordcc.com/>

Safeguarding - Dangerous Parking

We have been asked by the PSCO team at Bishop's Stortford Police Station to inform our parents and carers that they have received numerous concerns relating to parking at drop-off and pick-up times and the safety issues caused by dangerous parking/driving in the streets surrounding the site.

They are working with the same aim as we are at Northgate, keeping children safe, however recent reports have suggested that this is at risk and so measures need to be taken.

The PSCO team will be patrolling regularly in an effort to combat this and will issue fixed penalty notices should issues continue.

We hope this will go some way to helping improve the situation and would ask you to make the safety of our children your upper most consideration when driving and parking outside school.

Important Dates - 2020/21

Thurs 29th April	Year 5 Instrumental Concert Recording
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
Thurs 20th May	Year 6 Instrumental Concert Recording
Weds 26th May	Year 3/4 Play Recording
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Tues 8th June	Children Return to School
21st-23rd June	Year 6 School Journey
Thurs 24th June	Year 4 Instrumental Concert Recording
Thurs 1st July	Year 3 Instrumental Concert Recording
Tues 6th July	Year 5/6 Performance
Thurs 8th July	Move Up Day
Fri 9th July	Sports Day (details to be confirmed)
Tues 13th July	Outdoor Learning Day
Thurs 15th July	Take Over Day
Mon 19th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tues 20th July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Weds 21st July	INSET day
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Enriching the Curriculum

Enchanted Forest

In Year 1 our writing has been about magical creatures. Fairy doors appeared in our classrooms and we discovered that they lead to a beautiful enchanted forest. Over a few days, we noticed different things appear. A fairy garden, a dragon's lair and a gnome hole were first – followed by some tiny colourful houses made out of branches, windows and doors forming in the trees and magical dust everywhere.

We also spotted tiny footprints and gold stars in our English books - Who knew magical creatures liked writing? We are looking forward to seeing what will appear next....

Herts and Essex Science Fair 2021

We are very proud of all 9 of our excellent entries who all received a certificate and a badge for their innovative science projects.



Eco Council Committee News

Members of the eco-council committee from Reception to Year 6, were delighted to commence their Covid friendly, fortnightly eco-council meetings this week. We reviewed the eco-council audit each member undertook on behalf of their class last term. The main priority and concern across all classes was the amount of rubbish on the school grounds.

The children discussed how we could combat this and came up with their own ideas, such as getting the bins emptied more regularly, reminding their classes to pick up their snack rubbish, completing daily litter picking duties in their zones and taking out a class temporary basket/box for the zoned field to put their snack rubbish in, before emptying it at the end of playtime.



Fundraising

We are very proud of our Year 3 pupil, John who has had his hair shaved for charity.

"I have decided to cut my hair off for charity. I have asked friends and family to donate money on my justgiving page. So far, I have raised £500 and have given it to Parkinson's. I have done this because my grandpa died of Parkinson's Disease."

John (C15)

If you would like to support John, details of his justgiving page can be found [here](#).

Test and Trace Payments

The Department for Education has announced that parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a Test and Trace Support Payment or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria (which includes receipt of certain low-income benefits).

The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, which is administered by district and borough councils in Hertfordshire (and ends on Wednesday 30th June) ensures that parents receive some financial support if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities and are unable to work from home. Please visit the [UK government website](#) for more information.

School Uniform

For health and safety reasons, no jewellery is permitted in school, including stud earrings, and fashion accessories such as nail varnish, hair braids and hair gel/cream are not allowed.

Long hair must be tied back and hair slides/ties must be in school colours. No extreme hair styles, e.g. shaved tramlines.

Black shoes (not boots). *Shoes need to be comfortable, with sensible heels to avoid accidents. No fashion footwear, light up shoes or trainers please.* **As shops have reopened, we expect that all children will now come to school in the correct shoes.**

If your child is unable to wear the correct shoes to school, please ensure an explanatory letter is sent in to your child's class. Thank you for your co-operation.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Ella	R1: Lucy
	PM: Faith	R2: Eliza

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for showing resilience with their work on multiplication, working hard and understanding commutativity and showing a changed attitude towards maths.

Well done to:

Class 1: Mia	Class 7: Hollie
Class 2: Rafferty	Class 8: Jack
Class 3: Julia	Class 9: Ryan
Class 4: Ria	Class 10: Charlie T
Class 5: Charlie	Class 11: Georgina and Casey
Class 6: Oscar	Class 12: Alex

Year 6 - Carousels

During their revolutions topic, Year 6 researched Victorian fairground rides. In DT, they worked in groups to design and make their own using an electric pulley system.



Shoe Recycling Collection

Please note the Shoe Recycling bin has been relocated to the side of the bike shed to reduce the likelihood that it will be mistaken for a rubbish bin.

Northgate School Association

Welcome back from the Northgate PTA. We can't believe it's the summer term already! We are really hoping to be able to put on some sort of summer event, not only as a fundraiser but to celebrate getting through such a difficult year and to bring the Northgate community together again. We will be holding a committee brainstorming meeting next week so if you have any ideas, suggestions, or a desire to be involved, please do let us know by emailing ptanorthgate@gmail.com or via our Facebook page or group.

Also look out on our Facebook group for the 250 club draw this weekend. If you haven't joined the club and have been meaning to do so, you can find the forms under 'Files' on our [Facebook group](#).

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Your PTA