

February 3rd 2023

Headteacher's News

Today the third year group went to the Festival of Literature at the College and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to listen to an author speak about being a writer and sharing their work. This is one of the ways at school we support developing children's cultural capital. This is the accumulation of knowledge, values and experiences that children need to be educated citizens; it is believed to be one of the key ingredients a student will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work. Developing cultural capital within a school setting gives exposure to children to experiences new things. Also linked to this Year 1 enjoyed the experience of posting a letter they had written as part of their English and Year 2 were developing their understanding of maps in our local area. On safer internet day next week, Mrs Hartley will be giving a presentation to parents on the KS1 and KS2 computer curriculum to help understand what we teach. Please do come along as we hope it will provide very useful for you and your families.

Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

This week in **Reception** the children have been developing their understanding about growing.

Arya and Erin from R2 helped Mrs Cope plant seeds and bulbs in their outside area this week. All the children are encouraged to talk to, to

sing to and water the plants. Some people believe that talking or singing to plants helps them to grow better and produce more fruit. Lets see what happens in the next few weeks!



Year 1 walked to the local post box on Monday to post the invitations they made to send to Buckingham Palace in London. They have invited the Royal family to a 'Royal Tea Party' at Northgate. The children

eagerly await their royal reply!

On Tuesday, **Year 2** enjoyed a walk around our local area to visit the original site of Northgate School. We had learned all about the school in our history lessons and were excited to see the old building! In geography we have been learning about maps, so we were keen to test our mapping skills. Using maps of the roads, we drew our route as we walked, and looked out for human and physical features along the way. Many thanks to our parent helpers for assisting on the walk.



Important Dates

Mon 6th Feb
Tues 7th Feb
Weds 8th Feb
Thurs 9th Feb
Fri 10th Feb
13th-17th Feb
Wed 22nd Feb
Wed 22nd Feb
Thurs 23rd Feb
Tues 28th Feb
Weds 1st March
Weds 1st March
Thurs 2nd March
Thurs 2nd March
Fri 3rd March
Mon 6th March
Thurs 9th March
Fri 10th March
w/c 13th March
Thurs 23rd March
Tues 28th March

Weds 29th March
Weds 29th March
Weds 29th March
Thurs 30th March

Fri 31st March
Mon 17th April
May 2023

Mon 1st May
Mon 8th May
Fri 12th May
9th-12th May
Fri 19th May
29th-2nd June
Mon 5th June
Sat 10th June
w/c 12th June
Mon 26th June
12th -16th June
12th -23rd June
Tues 13th June
w/c 17th July
Thurs 20th July
Friday 21st July

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

9am R2 trip to Town Library
9am Safer internet day
11.15am Year 4 trip 'Festival of literature'
9am R1 trip to Town Library
Break the Rules Day
Half term
9am Volunteer reading training.
Well Bean gardening club starts again.
Year 6 Spring Music Concert
Parent consultations 3.40 –6.40pm
Parent consultation 3.30–6pm
Class 3 parent consultation 3.40pm–6.40pm
Class 3 parent consultation 3.30pm–6.00pm
World Book Day
Happy Bag collection
7.30PM PTA committee meeting (online)
Year 5 Spring Music Concert
PTA School Disco (EYFS/KS1 and KS2)
PTA Mother's Day Shop
Year 3/4 production
9.00am LSK2 Challenge with parents/work sharing
9.00am KS1 Challenge with parents/work sharing
Northgate's Got Talent
House cross country final
9.00am UKS2 Challenge with parents/work sharing
Term Ends **2.00pm**
Children return to school
Y2 SATs Week
Bank Holiday
The Kings Coronation Bank Holiday
2pm PTA committee meeting (in person)
Y6 SATs Week
PTA Film Night (EYFS/KS1 and KS2)
Half term
INSET DAY
PTA Summer Fayre
PTA Father's Day Shop
7.30pm PTA committee meeting (online)
Y1 Phonics Week - (plus Y2 phonic catch ups)
Y4 Times Tables Tests
Happy Bag collection
PTA Ice Cream Sales
End of Term at 2.00pm
Occasional day

Safeguarding

Positive parenting : balancing the various demands parents have to cope with isn't easy and all parents can come under pressure or stress from time to time. Please click for a NSPCC link [Positive parenting \(nspcc.org.uk\)](https://www.nspcc.org.uk) which is a guide sharing practical advice and tips for positive parenting techniques that work well for children.

Parent/Carer Wellbeing

The greatest gift you can give your child is a healthy 'you.' Parent self-care is an important aspect of parenting which is often overlooked, but there is a direct relationship between parent mental health and the well-being of children. Daily exercise, eating well, prioritising sleep, engaging in an activity which is pleasurable, connecting with family and friends, and having down time are the building-blocks of parent self-care. If you are starting to feel that parenting is overwhelming, it may be worth seeking professional support.

Literature Festival

On today year 5 went to a literature festival to meet a Author Amy Wilson. She talked to us about her books. She also asked us questions like what had you read over the bridge Amy Wilson read us some of her latest book 'Loving Solis' At the end of you have one of her books then she can sign it.

By: Rhianna class 9



On Tuesday the 31st of January year 5 went to a literature festival and met Amy Wilson. During the festival she talked about all the books she read and what one was her favourite. Year 5 had to talk there because it was only 15 minutes. When the literature festival was over we all walked back and went home.

Reported by Rhianna Class 10

Year 5 met Amy Wilson at the Literature festival at Bishop Stortford college on Tuesday. The children all really enjoyed this opportunity and we hope that they found her inspirational and this visit will help with their own creative writing.



Literature festival

On the 31st of January, year 5 went to Bishop Stortford college to talk about Amy Wilson. She shared about her books and talked about her life. She told us about how many books she has published (which is 6) and we were able to ask her a few questions. I loved this school trip and I will never forget about it!
by Noemie Class 9

Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Jude & Chloe

R1: Mila R2: Erin

This week our 'Learners of the Week' focused on 'science'. Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: their enthusiasm in science and excellent observation, their fantastic understanding and great explanations of electrical circuits, being extremely knowledgeable about our stargazers topic and for doing lots of extra research about space at home, a great understanding of what a switch is for and for successfully making one for their circuit, excellent, precise observation and recording in our rock permeability experiment, drawing a bar graph and showing the results of the investigation, confidence with identifying and classifying material based on their properties, working really hard throughout our new topic on materials and seeing their confidence grow, carrying out scientific experiments and recording the results in a bar graph, excellent writing skills in their chronological report, doing a wonderful job representing their house in the science quiz, outstanding knowledge shown during their science quiz.

Class 1: Ava	Class 7: James
Class 2: Charlie	Class 8: Ollie
Class 3: Denise	Class 9: Noemie
Class 4: Charlie	Class 10: Luca
Class 5: Edward	Class 11: Poppy
Class 6: Otis	Class 12: Hawaa

Reminders and Updates

Well Bean gardening Club

Northgate's popular lunch-time gardening club is starting again straight after half-term on Wednesday February 22.

Come along for some gardening fun as the children work with Well Bean Gardening to transform the school gardens into blooming marvellous places and work towards their RHS Campaign for School Gardening Level 3 Award. All details on the attached leaflet. Please fill in and return to the school office before Wednesday February 22.

World Book Day 2nd March 2023. We will be celebrating it again this year with a variety of different activities around reading and books. After several successful years of dressing up as adjectives, we have decided this year to dress up as favourite book characters! The children can wear accessories or a whole costume that represents their character. On the day they need to wear a label saying who they are and what book they are from. You do not need to buy a costume, many characters wear everyday clothes, such as:



- Ben from 'Gangsta Granny' or Larker from 'Mega Monster' by David Walliams.
- Greg Heffley from 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' by Jeff Kinney.
- Matilda Wormwood from 'Matilda', Charlie Bucket from 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' or James Henry Trotter from 'James and the Giant Peach' by Roald Dahl.
- The little girl from 'A Child of Books' or the little girl from 'The Heart and the Bottle' by Oliver Jeffers
- The little girl from 'The Baddies' or 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' by Julia Donaldson.
- Charlie and Eddie from 'Were Going to Find The Monster!' by Malorie Blackman.

Weather permitting, we will have a parade around the playgrounds just after the school drop off.

Spare uniform

Do you have any tights and socks in larger children's sizes that you could donate to the school? We seem to have plenty of younger sizes at the moment but need the larger ones. Thank you.

Izzy and Teddy are Fundraising

A message from Mr Cullinan.

Over the last few years cancer has affected the lives of many people we know! We have wanted to raise money to help get rid of this awful disease. We will be doing a different sports challenge every-day in February!

We would be so grateful if you could spare pounds or pennies to help us get rid of cancer!

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

If you would like to donate please press the link below.

[Stuart Cullinan is fundraising for Cancer Research UK \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/StuartCullinan)



Free Tickets to Women's Rugby

As part of the 'This Girl Can' campaign Herts Sports Partnership are offering girls at Northgate free tickets to the Saracens Women versus Harlequins Women rugby match on the 18th of February at the StoneX Stadium London. This is on a first come, first serve basis. Please use this link to book: <https://forms.office.com/e/KSiTyDvyl>

Northgate School Association

PTA Events

Please view our Facebook page to see all our upcoming events. Lots coming up over the next few months. And don't forget, we have Break the Rules Day on Friday 10th February. For every rule you break, please give a 50p donation. Please see attached our Break the Rules poster for further details of the allowed rules to be broken. Have lots of fun being a little bit naughty!

Pre-loved Uniform Shop

The Pre-Loved Uniform Shop would love to accept any fancy dress items in preparation for World Book Day. Sales will be held at the end of February. Please bring your donations into the School Office.

Summer Fayre

We're still looking for anyone who has or knows of someone who runs a garden centre or planting business, who would like to have a Plant Sale at our event. If you can help, please can you contact us via our email ptanorthgate@gmail.com. Your help is very much appreciated.

Photography competition!

Our February's theme is LOVE AND PANCAKES!

Winners to be published in the Northgate PTA Academic Calendar 2023/24.

Email entries by 1st March to: calendar@northgatepta.com. Please note we can only accept photographs from Northgate students.

Sponsorship

We know the Cost of Living crisis is hitting us all, but if you own a business or know of anyone who would like to sponsor our PTA events, please do get in contact via the email address above. Things are tighter than ever and without some sponsorship we might not be able to run events such as Fireworks. We are contacting as many businesses as we can, but we need your help.

Thank you.

Geri Wren and Jo Parrott
Your PTA Co-Chairs