

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

May 7th 2021

Headteacher's News

The children continue to adjust and regain skills that they did not apply for many weeks during lockdown. Children are learning to deal once again with interacting with a range of people in the classroom and outside. Today in assembly I reminded the children about appropriate behaviour at lunchtime as they learn to play in larger groups within their year group bubbles. Please encourage your child to always talk to an adult if there has been a problem so we can deal with it straight away.

All year groups in key stage 1 and key stage 2 now have some catch up sessions with an additional teacher so all children benefit at some point throughout the week, either working with the additional teacher or their class teacher, in a smaller class. The teachers are continuing to work hard to reactive children's learning and fill in gaps.

To help you understand the work your child is covering, each year group's termly letter will be sent out shortly.

This week, as part of a regular safeguarding review, the leadership team have been updating the fire evacuation policy. We wish to remind parents that if you are on site and the fire alarm goes off, parents need to go to the gazebo between the key stage 1 and key stage 2 playground. If there was a fire at school that required a full evacuation of the site, the children would be taken to the rugby club. Parents would then be contacted through School Gateway to collect their children from there.

Have a great weekend.

Safeguarding Morning Drop off Arrangements

Change to Gate Closing Time

With effect from Monday 10th May, we will be closing the gates at 9am each morning.

We are confident that social distancing measures can be adhered to within this time and we wish to reduce the disruption to the morning routines of the classroom.

Children who arrive in school after 9am should enter via the school office and will be marked late.

It is also important to remember that, with the exception of Nursery and Year 5, children must not be dropped off at school before 8.45am. The teachers use this time to prepare their day and therefore the classrooms are often unsupervised before this time.

Until there is a change in government guidance, it remains important that we keep to the staggered drop off times and to continue to wear masks on site to ensure the safety of the children.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Important Dates - 2020/21

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
Thurs 1st July	Year 3 Instrumental Concert
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

Year One Walk to the Woods

In Year One the children were excited to go on our science-based walk this week. We spent time looking for a variety of different plants.



We also gathered lots of materials for our fairy gardens and even spotted a snake!

Later in the week the children loved getting creative by making their own fairy gardens using some of the materials we had found.

Thank you for the lovely materials you sent in for the children to use.

Mrs Shepherd and Miss Goslitski



Reminders and Updates

Absence - Sickness and Diarrhoea

Please remember children should not return to school for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Please ensure they have eaten something before they return. We follow Government guidelines to help prevent the spread of illness in school.

Absence - Appointments

Absence requests should be made at least 10 days in advance and preferably as soon you know that you need to take your child out of school.

Absences reported to us with less than 48 hours notice should be emailed to absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Please could we ask you to provide us with as much notice as possible in order to cause the minimum amount of disruption to the class.

Change to Pick Up Arrangements

Please send a note into class with your child to inform the teacher of a change to pick up arrangements on the day or during the week ahead.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Florence T	R1: Beatrice
	PM: Charlotte	R2: Esmay

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on reflective learning.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for taking responsibility for their own learning and for becoming confident in reading back through work to check for improvements.

Well done to:

Class 1: Bill	Class 7: Amelie
Class 2: Rory	Class 8: Eva Mac
Class 3: Alexandra	Class 9: Nathan
Class 4: Vito	Class 10: Imogen
Class 5: Isabella	Class 11: James M
Class 6: Ronnie	Class 12: Ceylin

Eco Council Committee News

The Eco-Committee completed an audit with children in their class. We picked a topic and decided we would think about litter on the school premises. We met recently and made a list to help sort this problem.

One idea is that parents could kindly help support us by putting snacks for your child in a container, instead of packaging that blows out of the rubbish bin. The second idea is for you to give your child their after school snack outside of the school gate and then take the rubbish home with you. Thank you so much for helping us.

The Eco-Committee



School Governors Needed

We regularly review the make-up of the school's governing body to ensure that we have as wide a range of experience and expertise as possible to support the school and its senior leadership team.

Governors are responsible for overseeing the management side of a school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing.

They enable the school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide excellent education to children. Being a school governor involves a commitment to attending governing body meetings - six full governing body and six committee meetings a year (please note, sub-committee meetings often take place during the school day). The committees consider issues such as setting the school vision, mitigating financial risk and scrutinising educational outcomes. Governors visit the school to understand the way the school runs, but also at times be involved in specific projects or discuss specific issues. They also need to be prepared to complete relevant training. They are actively involved in the school community, acting as critical friends to the Headteacher and senior leaders.

We are seeking new governors, ideally with either a legal background who could act as a legal sounding board for the senior leadership team and governing body, as well as fulfilling the general role of a governor, or with HR/recruitment experience to sit on the HR committee. However, if you do not have a background in these areas, we would welcome expressions of interest from a parent or anyone from the community who would like to give back. If you would like to speak with a governor currently working with the school to better understand the role, or for more information on joining the Governing Board, please contact Louise Taub in the school office to arrange by emailing secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk.



Sale of Second Hand Uniform

We are delighted that the sale of second hand uniform at school has resumed outdoors.

Weekly sales will take place **in the gazebo on the playground** on a Thursday after school and will be split into the following year groups:

Nursery AM - 11th May - from 11.15am (outside school office)

Year 1 - 13th May - from 3.00pm

Year 2 - 20th May - from 3.00pm

Year 3 - 27th May - from 3.10pm

Year 4 - 10th June - from 3.10pm

Year 5 - 17th June - from 3.10pm

Standard uniform items are charged at £1, with fleeces and tracksuit tops charged at £3. Ties and book bags are 50p. Please note the sale is cash only and we would kindly ask you to bring the correct change.

Full details of the Northgate school uniform can be found on the [school website](#).

