

January 29th 2021

Headteacher's News

As we come to the end of another week of home learning, we would like to thank you for continuing to support your children with their learning. We appreciate it is challenging and the news that we have longer at home is a disappointment for us all. We have tried to give the children a range of learning experiences, and now this week has been our first online choir and some online lunchtime clubs.

Next week is Children Mental Health Week and we will be starting live PHSE lessons to support our pupils with their wellbeing. This year's theme 'Express Yourself' is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good. We are asking pupils to submit pieces that they have created for a whole school gallery through their Google Classroom. We look forward to sharing our pupils masterpieces with you on our website, so please make sure if they submit videos you are happy that they go onto that platform. We ask that videos be no longer than one minute.

Please note that we are moving our February inset day to the summer term when the teachers can all take part in training together.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Stephens (Ms Ward) after her maternity leave. She will initially be supporting in Year One.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Important Dates - 2020/21

15th-19th Feb	February Half Term
Mon 22nd Feb	INSET DAY - cancelled
Mon 22nd Feb	Children Return to School
Fri 26th March	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 12th Apr	Children Return to School
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
10th-13th May	KS2 Internal SATs week
May 2021	KS1 Internal SATs
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Tues 8th June	Children Return to School
7th-11th June	Yr 1 Phonics Screening and Yr 2 Retakes
7th-18th June	Yr 4 Multiplication Tests
Weds 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Dangerous Parking Outside School

We have received a complaint this week about dangerous parking in the bays outside school at lunchtime.

If there is no space available in the parking bays, please do not leave your car where it is blocking the road to oncoming cars. Spaces can usually be found further along Cricketfield Lane, or at the car park at the Rugby Club car park on Hadham Road.

Home-School Gallery - Reception Year



Eliza and Henry (R2) have been getting creative, making fairy wands as a Sparkle time link to the trigraph sound air that they have been learning in Phonics.

Izzy (R2) has created a shape castle during Busy Fingers activity time at home last week.



All the children have been working really hard on their writing, especially trying to write sentences just like Oscar (R1).

Alice (R1) went on a word hunt to find words with tricky trigraphs in.



Gabriel (R1) went on a word hunt and then sorted them by digraphs.

Well done to all our Reception children for working so hard with their sounds, words and writing.



Wellbeing

What do we mean by wellbeing?

Wherever a child or young person lives, whatever their age, social or personal situation, research shows that there are ways to improve personal wellbeing. Improving wellbeing has a direct link not only to feeling better, but also functioning better. It helps with physical health, and also things like performance at school, and quality of life.

The Five Ways to Wellbeing are to:

- * Learn
- * Notice
- * Connect
- * Be Active
- * Give

Five Ways to Wellbeing

Research from around the world tells us that there are 5 things we should all do more of to boost our wellbeing and improve our mood. [Here](#) are some things you can do in and around your home. Have a think about what you are already doing and what you could consider doing to increase your wellbeing.

Reminders and Updates

Nursery Applications

Please note that Nursery applications are now open and will close on Friday 12th March. To make an application please visit our school website for more information.

Reporting Online/In-School Absences

In-School If your child is due to come into school but is ill or has a medical appointment, please either call the school number, press option 1 and leave a message, or e-mail absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk, before 08:30 on each day that they will be absent. Please tell us your child's name, class and the reason for their absence.

Home Learning If your child will be absent from on-line learning due to illness or medical appointments please send an e-mail to the class e-mail address and copy in absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Please remember that If your child has a medical appointment that you must also send proof of the appointment to the absence e-mail address, either sending a screenshot of a text message, forwarding an e-mail confirmation, or forwarding a photo of an appointment letter, if you have one. Thank you.

Updated Debt Recovery Policy

The school Debt Recovery Policy has been updated and can be found on the school website. Any comments regarding this policy should be sent to interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Key Worker School Lunches

If you are pre-booking lunches on School Grid for your child, please be careful to ensure that you only book lunches for the days they will be in school. Thank you.

Library - Ready Reads Service

During the current lockdown, Bishop's Stortford Library is available for a Government approved **Ready Reads service - We select you collect**. Parents can order books for their child and themselves using an online form and then collect from a selected library. The books are collected at the library entrance and you are expected to provide your own bag. Staff will remain socially distant and will be wearing face coverings during the collection process. For more information visit [Ready Reads service](#).

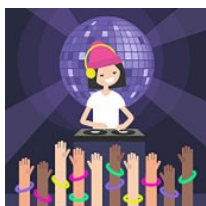
Northgate School Association

Northgate PTA Virtual Disco!

Tickets are now on sale for our disco! Celebrate making it through a half term of remote learning and dance your socks off with the Digital Pocahontas! The first hour, 5-6pm is aimed at Foundation and KS1 and the second is aimed at KS2. There is a limit of 100 devices each hour. Tickets are £2 each and you will be emailed the details to access the Zoom nearer the time.

Purchase tickets via <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/t-kanjng>

We are looking forward to it!!



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery In-School:	Benjamin	R1:	Henry
Home Learner:	Emily C	R2:	Faith

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on positive attitude.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for persevering with maths work even when it is difficult and demonstrating resilience and a positive attitude when faced with new challenges.

Well done to:

Class 1:	Peter	Class 7:	Elena
Class 2:	Alexander	Class 8:	Isabelle
Class 3:	Sidney	Class 9:	Diogo
Class 4:	Elijah	Class 10:	Mya
Class 5:	Eden	Class 11:	Evie
Class 6:	Freddie	Class 12:	Louise

LKS2 SEN TA Vacancy

We are seeking to appoint an experienced and committed Teaching Assistant to work with a pupil in Lower Key Stage 2 with special educational needs.

You will require patience, flexibility and be committed to helping children develop as independent and confident individuals.

The successful candidate will have excellent communication skills and will be able to work closely with the class teacher, the SENDCo, the SEN team and external advisors as well as being confident to work independently, as required. You should be keen to learn, be able to work on your own initiative, and carry out advice consistently. The successful candidate will have a GCSE or equivalent in English and Maths (C or above) and a high standard of written and spoken English. For more information, please visit.

<https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,lower-key-stage-2-sen-ta-62297.htm>

Key Worker Classes - Covid-19 Vigilance

If your child is coming into a school key worker class during the period of school closure, please remember to follow these important guidelines to protect our staff and pupils.

Please do not send children into school if any of the following apply:

- they have any one of the symptoms of Covid-19, a temperature of over 37.8°C, a persistent cough and/or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste.
- they, or any members of your household or support bubble, are awaiting test results or have tested positive for Covid-19.

For the national lockdown to be effective, it's important that we keep the numbers attending school as low as possible whilst allowing those who really need to be in school to have access to place. Thank you for your co-operation with this.