

November 3rd 2023

Headteacher's News

Welcome back and I hope you had a great half term.

We've had a brilliant start to the half term with our Wellbeing Week which has had a focus on 'connections.' We finished today with our Rainbow day and class mix up activity where we focused on celebrating who we are. The children watched the fantastic neurodiversity video made by our Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Council last year. Read below about some of our highlights, which included yoga sessions in KS1 and Year 4 making soup for the local homeless night shelter. Thanks to Mrs Layer and Mrs Leeks who organised the week. Money raised will be used to purchase SEND and wellbeing resources.

We wish Mrs Leeks and Mrs Fung all the best for the future and would like to thank them for their hard work at Northgate. They will be greatly missed!

We look forward to seeing you next week at parent consultations. Please ring the school office if you have not been able to book at appointment. (Please note there is only one appointment for each child). Teachers will have maths and English books for parents to have a look at.

We were delighted to invite the community police officers into the KS2 assembly this week. They not only discussed their role, but reminded the children about firework safety.

I look forward to seeing you at the fireworks this evening. Please be aware that the event is sold out so there will be no tickets available on the gates. Hope you have a great firework weekend!

Enriching the Curriculum



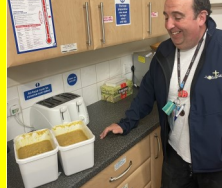
Wellbeing week has been very productive. We had a visit from local PCSO's who spoke to our KS2 children about keeping safe and firework safety. On Tuesday the children talked about connections

with people in their lives. They learnt about protective behaviours. Handprints were made and names of people who are their safe network were written on them.

On Wednesday, Year 4 made vegetable soup.

They practised their knife skills and it smelt divine! The produce was taken on Thursday to the homeless Trinity night shelter in

Stortford for anyone in need. This helped the children connect with their community. David Perry, the shelter Manager was so pleased to receive the soup and said that the people would be very grateful indeed. Thank you children!



Important Dates

Mon 6th Nov

7th—9th Nov

Mon 13th Nov

Mon 20th Nov

Fri 24th Nov

Fri 24th Nov

Mon 11th Dec

Fri 15th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Fri 12th Jan

Wed 31st Jan

Mon 4th Mar

Fri 22nd March

Fri 10th May

13th—16th May

Mon 20th May

Mon 24th May

Mon 3rd June

3rd—7th June

Mon 10th June

Fri 21st June

Year 2 Pirate Day

Parent consultations

7.30pm PTA AGM

1pm Nursery visit from the Police

9am Nursery visit from the Police

Year 5 Stortford Fields trip

2.45pm Nursery Christmas concert (details to follow).

8.45am Nursery Christmas concert (details to follow).

1.30pm KS2 Pantomime at South Mills (pick up from theatre)

1.30pm KS1 Hurricane Panto visit

Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch

KS2 Christmas Lunch

9.15am and 2.30 am KS1 Christmas production

Volunteer coffee 9am

2pm KS2 St Michael's church carol service

(pick up from church)

Break the rules day

2pm End of term

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Young Voices Choir—O2

7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting

Year 5 Trip to Colchester Castle

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Y6 SATS

Year 6 Trip to the 'Crucial Crew'.

7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting

Y4 national multiplication assessments

Year 6 School Journey Kingwood

Y1 National phonics, screening.

Year 2 trip to Paradise Wildlife Park

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

As part of our safeguarding duty, we teach children about safe adults in their life. It's important for children to know who their safe adults are so they can find someone to support them if they have a feeling, no matter if it's awful or small. Tuesday's activity in the classroom was based around this.

"Protective Behaviours encourages the development of a clear 'support network' which we can call upon if we are feeling unsafe. On the support network we would ideally have 5 people who might be able to help us do some **problem solving**. They might be people who ask questions so that we can come up with our own solutions; they might be people who actually give some advice; they could be friends or family or people at the end of a help line (e.g. ChildLine). It doesn't necessarily have to be about something that's really terrible; it might be that we need to mull things over, or celebrate an achievement. Having four people plus the ones at home, is suggested so that we have got a bit of variety and have back up options if our first choice of contact is unavailable."

We encourage parents to talk to your children about safe adults. Please click on the link below to see the Protective Behaviours website <https://www.protectivebehaviours.org/what-does-protective-behaviours-mean>

On Thursday KS1 had yoga sessions in the hall. The children enjoyed learning about breathing technics from Rachel at Mini Mantras. Nursery had fun watching a fire-work display on the screen, talking about safety and creating their own fireworks with strips of coloured foil. Friday was Rainbow Day at Northgate, when the children connected with themselves through the clothes that they wore, and writing and creating positive affirmations about themselves. They discussed neurodiversity awareness and learned that we are all different but all wonderful!



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Chit and Amelia

R1: William R2 Sebby



This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'Wellbeing' Well done for: always being kind and thoughtful to their friends, for making people smile, having great jokes, making people feel included and looking out for others, being kind to others every day, helping with jobs in the classroom and for being more positive with their writing!

Class 1: Nate Class 7: Rory
Class 2: Penelope Class 8: Emily
Class 3: Harrison Class 9: Jack
Class 4: Charlie Class 10: Martha
Class 5: Denise Class 11: Daisy
Class 6: Izzy Class 12: Kenny



Enriching the Curriculum - Sport

BSP Football League V Hillmead — KS2 Girls

'On Tuesday the girls football team played Hillmead in a competitive match. The end result was 2-1 to Northgate. Arabella scored a penalty and then later on Matilda scored a goal. Hillmead scored an impressive goal which ended the game. Congratulations to Matilda who received player of the match!' By Mille and Niamh.

Northgate Gold Team Boys Football Match V Windhill21

'On Tuesday Northgate had a tight match against Windhill21, with Northgate going up to 2-0 and Windhill scoring with minutes to go! They couldn't get a second goal so we won! We all had lots of fun and cheered as the final whistle went! By Jack and Oscar.'

Attendance this Term

Yr	%
R	94.9%
1	94%
2	97.1%
3	96.1%
4	97.1%
5	98%
6	94.5%

Our target	96%
Whole school	96.1%

0 days off	100%	Fantastic
5 days off a year	97%	Good
10 days off a year	95%	Slight concern
20 days off a year	90%	Concerned
30 days off a year	85%	Very concerned

A message from the Governing Body regarding attendance at Northgate.

'Daily attendance at School is a fundamental part of maximising our pupils' chances for success in their learning but also to develop them as individuals as they interact with other children and adults. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, attendance rates at Northgate have slipped from the excellent levels we have traditionally achieved. This is now causing concern for our Governing Body which has recently approved an updated attendance policy and appointed one of the Governors to have specific oversight of attendance.

As a School, we have not exercised our right in the past to impose a fine for absence which causes concern but the Governors have now agreed, when other interventions to address poor attendance have been exhausted, to allow the School to impose a fine. If you are struggling to get your child to School and would like support, please contact us and we will be delighted to help."

Reminders and Updates

Please check your child's dinner money account and make sure that it is in credit by Tuesday 7th November. Meals should always be paid for in advance.

Please ensure that any outstanding amounts owed for clubs/activities are paid by the requested date.

Northgate School Association

PTA Fireworks Night

We hope you have a wonderful time at tonight's Fireworks event. A lot of hard work has gone into this event, so we hope you enjoy it! Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help us tonight- we truly appreciate it. And thank you to everyone who bought tickets! Fingers crossed it doesn't rain! Thank you again to our sponsor Lit Fibre for their support with our event.

Christmas Cards and Gifts

As per our email earlier this week, unfortunately, we were made aware that the local company we had chosen for our Christmas cards and gifts had sadly gone into liquidation this week. We have managed to secure a replacement company for your children's beautiful cards and gifts to be created and the forms should have come home with your child today. Please return it to your class teacher by Friday 10th November 2023. We apologise for the quick turnaround.

Easyfundraising

You can help raise funds for our school without having to donate anything yourself whilst you're shopping! Christmas is approaching fast, so this is a perfect time to sign up! Over 7,500 brands and sites will donate to us every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself. This means you can raise money for us every time you buy clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, school supplies or anything else you might be buying online. It's easy, completely FREE and will make a BIG difference to our school.

Please sign up and help us raise more: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=raisingforaschool-fb1

Have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team