

October 19th 2018

Headteacher's News

This half term our assembly theme has been 'Responsibility.' This week we considered the impact of dropping litter. Some of our Year 5 children shared how they were concerned about the amount of litter around the school grounds. They discussed with the rest of the school how they were worried how not only did it not look nice, but also that it has a negative impact on the local wildlife. Using their initiative, they spent their lunchtime collecting it. Mrs Eaton has kindly agreed to organise a litter picking rota and I was delighted at the number of children across the school who volunteered to be involved in keeping our outside environment clean. Well done to the Year 5 children for initiating this project! In other assemblies we have talked about different aspects of taking responsibility from looking after their pets to the importance of looking after school property. Please support your children to take responsibility for their school belongings and try to remember all their things each day.

This is a particularly long half term and it is clear that many of the children are becoming very tired. It is important that students pay attention to all of the basic aspects of wellbeing to ensure that they can make good, considered decisions. Getting enough sleep is a key aspect, but many factors contribute to a good night's sleep. You may find the link <https://sleepcouncil.org.uk/seven-steps-to-a-better-nights-sleep/> useful to see if you are giving yourself the best chance of sleeping well – then pass these ideas on to your children. Have a good weekend.

We have had another busy and exciting week carrying out a wide range of curriculum activities:

Year 2 Shields

Year 2 enjoyed designing their shields for their Towers, Tunnels and Turrets topic. They all made up their own motto, e.g. 'Be Brave', 'Be Strong', etc.

Year 6 Science

Year 6 have been learning about microorganisms. Today we explored what affects the respiration of yeast. We investigated whether the temperature of water affected the amount of carbon dioxide produced when yeast respire. We discovered that the test tube with warm water inflated the balloon the most.



Cheerleading Tournament

"On Wednesday, Years 3, 4 and 5 took part in a cheerleading competition at Birchwood. There were 2 rounds and four schools in each round. Northgate took part in the second round. We were the first school so we felt quite nervous but everyone enjoyed the competition and worked well as a team" ...**Liberty** and **Sophie F** (class 10).

Important Dates

Mon 22nd Oct	7.30pm School Association AGM
Tues 23rd Oct	Individual School Photos
Wed 24th Oct	11.15am Nursery phonics with parents
	2.45pm Nursery phonics with parents
Thurs 25th Oct	9.30am Potential Parent Tour
25th/26th Oct	Black History Day
Half term	29th Oct - 2nd Nov 2019
Fri 2nd Nov	Association Fireworks Night
Mon 5th Nov	INSET DAY
Tues 6th Nov	Children Return to School
Tues 6th Nov	Year 2 Pirate Day
Tues 6th Nov	3.30-6.00pm Parent Consultations
Wed 7th Nov	4.00-7.00pm Parent Consultations
Fri 9th Nov	11.00am Potential Parent Tour
12-16th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Wed 14th Nov	2.45pm Yr 2 Spelling & Phonics
Thurs 15th Nov	2.45pm Yr 1 Spelling & Phonics
Tues 20th Nov	10.45am Potential Parent Tour
Tues 4th Dec	10am and 2pm Nursery/Little Ladybirds Xmas Concert
Thurs 6th Dec	2pm Reception Xmas Concert
Sat 8th Dec	Christmas Market
Fri 21st Dec	Term Ends at 2.00pm
Mon 7th Jan 19	Children Return to School
Half Term	18th - 22nd Feb 19
Mon 25th Feb 19	INSET DAY
Tues 26th Feb 19	Children Return to School
Fri 5th Apr 19	Term Ends at 2.00pm
Tues 23rd Apr 19	Children Return to School
Half term	27th - 31st May 2019
Mon 3rd Jun 19	INSET DAY
Tues 4th Jun 19	Children Return to School
Sat 9th Jun 19	Association Summer Ball
Tues 23rd July 19	End of Term at 2.00pm
Wed 24th July 19	Occasional Day

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

Medicines

If your child needs any medicine please be advised that it must be in its original packaging, in date and, where relevant, have the pharmacy label attached. Children must not bring medicines to school in their bags or pockets, they need to be brought in by an adult and handed in/collected to/from the school office. An Administration of Medication form must be completed and handed in at the school office by the parent/carer. Forms can be obtained from the school office or can be found on the school website. Parents need to be aware of expiry dates and replace items such as inhalers and auto-injectors prior to expiry.

Reminders and Updates

SECONDARY TRANSFER 2019

Year 6 parents please remember that applications need to be made by 31st October 2018 and they can be made at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Reading

We would really like more people to help with reading with individuals or groups, either in KS1 or KS2. We are particularly looking for people who can help once a week between 9-9.30am or 2.30-3.15pm. If you can spare one session a week please contact the school office.

Parents' Evening

The booking system will be available on eSchools from 6.00pm today and will close at 6.00pm next Tuesday, 23rd October.

Nursery appointments will be booked on a paper sheet in the foyer from next Monday, 22nd October so please sign up as soon as possible or email. For an appointment with **Miss Harding** or **Miss Greaves**, please email admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Sickness

Please note if your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they must not return to school until 48 hours from their last bout.

School Uniform

Mrs Parrish will be in the main reception area after school next Monday, 22nd October selling school uniform. She stocks items such as skirts, pinafores, shorts, trousers, polo shirts, PE shorts, PE tops, PE Jogging Bottoms and PE bags (choice of 2 types).

Lost Property

All lost property will be removed from the boxes in the foyer at half term so please check them if you have lost something.

Football Kit

Thank you to parents for their support. We raised £280, however if you did not get chance to donate we would be very grateful for any further donations as we were a little short of the cost of the kit.

Plastic Milk Bottle Tops

We still need quite a lot of green and red plastic milk bottle tops. Please get collecting and bring them to the school office. Thank you

School Association

Association AGM

The Northgate Association AGM will be held next Monday, 22nd October at 7:30pm in the school staff room. All parents and careers of children at Northgate are automatically members of the PTA and are invited and welcome to attend the meeting. We especially welcome new parents to the school to come along and hear about our successes of the last year and plans for the year ahead.

An important part of the meeting is to re-elect trustees and vote in new ones. We have vacancies for trustees and in particular we need to elect a new Secretary. This role would suit someone who would like to provide invaluable support to the PTA without necessarily being in the frontline of event organisation. The key duties are to record and distribute the minutes of monthly committee meetings and other important administrative tasks. If you are interested in this role or finding out about the general role of a trustee please let me know at ptanorthgate@gmail.com or come along on Monday. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Fireworks Night 2nd November

Don't forget that tickets for our fireworks event are now on sale online and the survey monkey link for volunteers is live and awaiting your input! See Thursday's email for details or our Facebook posts.

I hope to see you there on Monday. We may even stretch to a drink and a biscuit! - Louisa Piercy, PTA

Happy Bags

We are pleased to let you know that the Happy Bags raised £136.50.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery AM: Daisy R1: Joshua
PM: Muhammad R2: Maya

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Sports Skills.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for developing their outside skills, determination, enthusiasm and teamwork.

Well done to:

Class 1: Theo B	Class 7: Frank
Class 2: Tahsin	Class 8: Katherine
Class 3: Griff	Class 9: Adam
Class 4: Poppy B	Class 10: Samuel
Class 5: Tilly	Class 11: Evan
Class 6: Abby	Class 12: Melanie

Our **Teamwork Tigers** this week were praised for organising and planning an assembly and working well together to produce some fantastic work.

These included the whole of class 7 for their assembly and Sophie, Amber and Norah from Class 8.

SEND

We have responded to feedback regarding Learning Passports and this year we are trialling a new way to set targets for pupils with SEN. Information on our new system will be available for parents at consultations through Miss Harding, SENDCo, and class teachers.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the office for SEN consultations. These are consultations for parents that have not had a meeting with Miss Harding in the last month.

Community

Please do not park on the grass in the tennis club car park or the gates will be locked and parents will no longer be able to park there. Thank you

Adult Cardio Tennis at BSLTC

Bishop's Stortford Lawn Tennis Club are running adult cardio tennis sessions after drop off (9.00am) on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Please see attached flyer for further information.

The ADD-vance ADHD and Autism Trust are running 3 workshops for parents/carers. Please see the attached flyers for further information.

Colouring Competition

Enable Independent has teamed up with Colchester Zoo for their latest colouring competition, for children aged between 4-11 years old. The winner will receive a family zoo ticket for 2 adults & 2 children, plus a £100 cash donation for their school. Please see the attached flyer for further information.