

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

October 2nd 2026

Headteacher's News

Thank you to all the parents who encouraged their child to have a school lunch on Thursday for Census Day. With school funding becoming increasingly stretched, every little bit really does make a difference, and we are very grateful for your support.

Next week, we are delighted to welcome parents to our short Harvest assemblies.

Reception will be held at 9am on Monday, followed by a workshop focusing on how you can support your child's phonics learning at home. **Years 1 and 2** will be held at 9am on Thursday and will also be followed by a phonics workshop.

For both events, please enter through the school office.

For our **KS2 Harvest assembly**, we are delighted to welcome Jane Towns from the local food bank, who will be speaking to the children. Unfortunately, due to space constraints, we are unable to invite parents to the KS2 assembly.

Our Harvest collection this year will once again support the local food bank. Please see the information on the next page about the items that are needed this year.

Please can we remind children not to use any of the school **equipment at the end of the day**. This includes equipment such as the mud kitchen and the pirate ship. We would also ask that children do use resources in the EYFS area. Thank you for your support in helping us to keep all children safe and ensuring that our equipment remains available for its intended use.

Finally, at the end of this half term, we will be very sad to say **goodbye to Claire Broughton**, who works in our school office. We would like to thank Claire for her positive and friendly approach and for all she has contributed to the school. She will certainly be missed, and we wish her every happiness and success in her new job.

Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

Black History Month 2026

Northgate is celebrating Black History Month this October. In Monday's assembly, Mrs Ahwe introduced the programme of activities taking place throughout the month. Students will be learning about inspiring black, brown and mixed-heritage British people-past and present-through a range of engaging activities. They will also enjoy daily explorations of different music genres, with a focus on the contributions of black artists. Special visitors to the school will include Mr Sillah, a storyteller and drummer and Mr Muhammad "The Investigator" who will run workshops and host an assembly. We would also welcome parents to join us in enriching our students' learning. This is a special opportunity to honour the contributions and achievements of black and brown people worldwide. We invite parents to share stories, or activities in the classroom, related to Black History Month and culture, such as reading books, leading creative projects (like drumming or art), sharing recipes, or talking about inspiring historical figures. If you're interested, please contact your child's teacher, school office, or email Mrs Ahwe sparrows@northgate.herts.sch.uk to arrange a visit. Thank you.

Important Dates

Mon 5th Oct

Reception 9am Harvest assembly (parents) followed by 9.20am phonics parent workshop

Tues 6th Oct

Drama workshop Rec to Yr 3

Wed 7th Oct

Visit Mr Muhammad Black History Month workshop & assembly

Wed 7th Oct

KS2 Harvest assembly

Thurs 8th Oct

KS1 9am Harvest assembly (parents) followed by phonics workshop

Mon 12th Oct

Spirit of the Wild - Yr 3

Mon 12th Oct

1st session Flu Vaccination

Tues 13th Oct

Y2 walk to Waytemore castle

Wed 14th Oct

Whole school individual photos

Fri 16th Oct

Show Racism the Red Card Day (wear Red day)

Mon 19th Oct

Y5/6 9am reading with parents

Tues 20th Oct

EYFS 9am reading with parents

Wed 21st Oct

Y3/4 9am reading with parents

Thurs 22nd Oct

followed by times table workshop

Thurs 22nd Oct

Cultural Heritage Day/World Afro Hair Day

Fri 23rd Oct

Inset Day

26th –30th Oct

Half Term

Friday 6th Nov

Northgate Fireworks

Tues 10th Nov

Parent Consultations

Thurs 12th Nov

Parent Consultations

Tues 8th Dec

EYFS Christmas production 9.15am/2.30pm

Wed 9th Dec

KS2 Pantomime 1:30pm South Mills

Fri 11th Dec

KS1 Christmas production 9.10am/2.40pm

Wed 16th Dec

Christmas Jumper Day

Thurs 17th Dec

KS2 2pm Carol Concert St Michaels

Friday 18th Dec

2pm finish Break up for Christmas

21st Dec—1st Jan

Christmas Holidays

Mon 4th Jan

Inset day

Tues 5th Jan

School term starts

15th—19th Feb

Half Term

Thurs 25th Mar

2pm finish break up for Easter

30th Mar—9th April

Easter Holidays

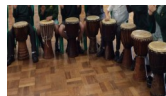
=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Online support: Childnet provide a range of help, advice and resources for parents, carers, teachers, professionals and young people. Their website is full of free resources. They cover important topics such as healthy relationships and digital wellbeing. Their website is designed to equip parents and carers, to support both children and parents with the online world. If you would like further information, please visit their website: <https://www.childnet.com> for further information.

Enriching the Curriculum

Black History Month: On Tuesday this week we were fortunate to be visited by Mr Sillah, an African storyteller and drummer. He told stories to all the classes, using his drums to bring African tales to life. The children were fully engaged and joined in with playing the drums and dances, moving like animals as part of the story. Thanks to Mr Sillah for a wonderful, experience! The



Reception classes enjoyed their first outing this week. The children went on a local walk experiencing the colours of Autumn. Thank you to those parents who helped. They have been using the items they collected to support their learning in class.



Enriching the Curriculum

Friday 16th October, we will be taking part in the nationwide **Show Racism the Red Card** event. Everyone is encouraged to wear **one red item** -this could be clothing or an accessory e.g. socks, a ribbon, or a sticker. The event supports the work of [Show Racism the Red Card](#) a charity that educates against racism. Children will take part in PSHE lessons focusing on anti-racism, equality, and inclusion, helping them understand the impact of racism and the importance of standing up against discrimination



Heritage and Cultural non-school uniform day On the last day of this half term, Thursday 22nd Oct, we invite all children to come to school in non-uniform to celebrate their heritage and culture. Children are encouraged to wear suitable clothing that reflects their background—for example, colours of a national flag or a football kit from a particular country. As part of our celebrations, we will also be recognising World Afro Hair Day. On this day, children are encouraged to wear their hair naturally just be you! We kindly ask for a £1 donation to help fund special visitors. Thank you.



ADHD and Inclusion

At our school, supporting children with ADHD is an established part of our inclusive practice. Many of the strategies that support children with ADHD are already embedded in our everyday classroom provision, including movement opportunities, clear and small step instructions, visual prompts, support with transitions, grounding activities and access to pastoral support where appropriate. These approaches are available to pupils according to their needs and are not dependent on a formal diagnosis. A diagnosis does not automatically require a separate or additional package of provision; rather, we continue to use our professional knowledge of each child to identify whether any further adjustments are necessary. Our commitment is to ensure that all children are supported to access learning and make progress.

Northgate Primary School Vacancy

We are looking for a Business Operations Assistant/Receptionist to join our school team. If you enjoy working with people, love being organised and keeping things running smoothly and would love to be part of a busy, friendly school community we would love to hear from you. For further information [Business Ops Assistant/Receptionist Vacancy](#)

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:

Ducklings: Zahra and Alexander

Puffins: Ayaz **Owls:** Ewan

Robins: Maeve

Starlings: Grace

Skylarks: Arliyah

Nightingales: Penelope

Kestrels: Edy

Harriers: Jaycee

Wrens: Marnie

Sparrows: Cassia

Swifts: Charlotte

Kingfishers: Octavia

Kites: Israel

Hawks: Faith



School Councils and Committees

School Council - Gives children a voice in school. Elected by classmates, members share ideas, organise events, and help improve school life. It's a great way to build leadership and teamwork skills.

Puffins: Hallie & Thomas

Robins: Emily & Elsa

Starlings: Florence & Olly

Skylarks: Ada & Harry

Nightingales: Max & Harry

Kestrels: Emily & William

Harriers: Beren & Benedict

Owls: Marnie & Kabir

Wrens: Shaye & Filip

Sparrows: Amelia & Clay

Swifts: Hollie & Oscar

Kingfishers: Teiga & Joshua

Kites: Matilda & Tito

Hawks: Apryl & Charlie M

School Eco Council -Works hard to keep Northgate clean and green! The children help with litter picking and organise paper recycling, encouraging everyone to reduce waste and recycle. Their efforts raise awareness about caring for our planet and inspire positive change. Further to last week's announcement of our School Eco Council.

We are delighted to announce that **Winter** has been elected as the **Eco Council member for Sparrows' class**.

WID (Wellbeing Inclusion and Diversity) Committee

This is a student-led group that organises school events and playtime activities to ensure every child feels included; they take pride in supporting children's wellbeing celebrating diversity. This year there were 45 applications to be on the committee. They were all amazing and of a very high standard which made deciding the committee very difficult. Well done to everyone that applied

Year 3-Thaleia & Darcy

Year 4- Harvey, Nate, Erin

Year 5 - Georgia, Hepzibah, Chloe, Ettie, Toby

Year 6- Rosie, Lottie, Rafie, Jibrel, Millie, Anaya

Harvest Festival

Our collection for Harvest Festival started today. Please bring all food donations to school by Thursday 8th October. There will be boxes in each class for items to be placed in. These will be displayed during our Harvest Assembly before being donated to the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. Wanted items include: crisps, chocolate, tinned fruit and vegetables, sponge puddings, biscuits, coffee, tea, fruit juice, cereal, tinned meat/fish, jam, honey, pasta sauces, canned tomatoes, rice puddings, UHT milk, soup, sanitary items, toilet rolls, toiletries, cleaning items, and nappies.

At this time of year, Mrs Morgan also collects donations of cat and dog food for the charity **Herts for Hedgehogs**. She kindly takes the food to them on behalf of the school. Please bring any donations to the school office. Please note hedgehogs do not like fish or chicken flavours!