

February 27th 2026

## Headteacher's News

We are excited to mark **World Book Day** again this year on Thursday 5th March with a fun and imaginative dress-up theme! This year, children are invited to come to school dressed as an adjective. This creative idea sparks imagination while keeping things simple and affordable. There's absolutely no expectation to purchase anything new—children can put together an outfit using items they already own and choose an age-appropriate adjective to represent. For instance, a superhero outfit could show brave, pyjamas might represent sleepy, or a glittery ensemble could be described as sparkly. We look forward to seeing the wonderful and inventive ideas the children come up with!

As in previous years, we will be holding our much-loved **World Book Day Parade** (weather permitting). Parents and carers are warmly invited to watch the children walk around the playground to showcase their costumes. Once the children are settled in their classrooms, families may enter the school grounds at 8:50am and wait on either the Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 playground.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will parade on the Key Stage 1 playground, while Years 3–6 will take part on the Key Stage 2 playground. The children will walk along the netball court lines, so we kindly ask parents to stand inside these markings to allow plenty of space for the parade. If you have children in both key stages, please stand beneath the large covered gazebo situated between the two playgrounds. We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 5th March at 8:50am to celebrate together!

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we will be hosting an optional Lunchtime Book Swap. Children are invited to bring in a book from home to exchange for a different one. If your child would like to take part, please send a book into school with "Donated by (your child's name)" written clearly inside the front cover. Class teachers will gather and organise the donated books. We hope this initiative will encourage a continued love of reading and give children the chance to explore and enjoy new stories. Have a lovely weekend.

## Important Dates

3th & 5th Mar	Parent Consultations
<b>Wed 4th Mar</b>	<b>Optional Book Swap (Lunchtime)</b>
Thurs 5th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Mon 9th Mar	Y4 Trip to Sealife Adventure Southend
Week beg 9th Mar	Playing maths games and work sharing
	Mon UKS2—9am, Tues EYFS --9am
	Wed LSK2 --9am, Thurs KS1 --9am
	Y6 Instrumental Concert
Thurs 12th Mar	Mother's Day Shop
W/C <b>9th Mar</b>	Y 3/4 production 9:05 and 2:15
Fri 20th Mar	Pulse Volunteer morning
Sat 21st Mar	Science week (Fab Science/House quiz)
Wk beg 23rd Mar	House Cross Country
Tues 24th Mar	8.55am—9.10am Parent Pulse presentation
Tues 24th Mar	Y4 Local river walk
Wed 25th Mar	Rocksteady Concert pm
Wes 25th Mar	4.40pm Live Zoom for Parents re: Pulse.
<b>Fri 27th Mar</b>	<b>Break the Rules Day</b>
Fri 27th Mar	2pm Break up for Easter
<b>30th Mar—10th April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
Fri 17th April	PTA school disco
<b>Mon 4th May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
11th—14th May	Y6 SATs
18th—22nd May	Neurodiversity Week
Tues 19th May	Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
Fri 22nd May	End of term
<b>25th—29th May</b>	<b>Half term</b>
<b>Mon 1st June</b>	<b>Inset day</b>
Tues 2nd June	First day back at school
Sat 6th June	PTA Summer Fayre
Thurs 25th June	Y2 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
Thurs 9th July	Move up day
Mon 20th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly
29th June—3rd July	Y6 Residential PGL Overstrand
Tues 21st July	2pm Break up for summer holidays
<b>Wes 22nd July</b>	<b>Occasional day</b>
<b>23rd July—31st Aug</b>	<b>Summer Holidays</b>
<b>1st &amp; 2nd Sept</b>	<b>Inset day</b>
Thurs 3rd Sept	Start of New School Year
<i>*Red = New Item / Change to Item</i>	

## Enriching the curriculum

Thank you to Bishop's Stortford College for inviting our Year 5 and 6 children to an exciting Science Show on Tuesday 24th February.

Sofia and Mia from Hawks shared: "We walked down from school and joined children from other schools in the hall. Peter and Nathan from Wonderstruck demonstrated special effects used in movies. Using explosions, smoke and fake glass, they showed how these effects are created safely — and reminded us not to try anything like this at home! Some of the explosions were so loud we had to cover our ears. They were really funny and made the science so interesting."

It was a wonderful opportunity to see how science links to real-life careers, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



## Consultations

We look forward to seeing parents next Tuesday and Thursday for parent consultations, bookings can be made on Arbor. Please ring the office if you need help. A handful of appointments have been released for relevant parents of SEN children. Please book a consultation with Mrs Wallace **only** if your query cannot be answered by the class teacher.

## Safeguarding

At Northgate, we are committed to supporting our students' mental well-being. You can help at home by:

**Encouraging open conversations** – Listen calmly and without judgement.

**Keeping healthy routines** – Regular sleep, meals, and play provide stability.

**Noticing changes** – Watch for withdrawal, mood swings, or loss of interest.

**Seeking support** – Contact Mrs Rogers or a trusted professional if you're concerned.

Together, we can help every child feel supported and ready to thrive.

## Enriching the Curriculum

### National Year of Reading 2026

The National Year of Reading highlights how connecting books to children's interests makes reading fun and meaningful. At Northgate, Guided Reading remains a key focus. In small groups, children explore high-quality texts, developing vocabulary, fluency, comprehension and analytical skills, while building confidence in discussing their ideas. To celebrate reading, each year group has created a corridor display showcasing favourite books and examples of reading work. You can support your child at home by reading together and talking about what they enjoy. Find out more here: <https://goallin.org.uk/get-involved/families/>



The beautiful weather on Tuesday provided the perfect opportunity for our Multi Sports Club to get outside and practise refining their tennis skills.

The children worked in pairs, focusing on developing their coordination, control and accuracy, while also building teamwork and communication skills. It was wonderful to see their confidence growing as they practised and supported one another.

If your child is interested in joining Multi Sports Club, please contact [admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk) for further information or sign up on Arbor under clubs and activities. Mondays are for Year 1, 2 & 3 and Tuesdays Year 4, 5 & 6.



## Reminders and Updates

### Update Arbor

We are asking parents and carers take a look on Arbor to ensure that your child's details are up-to-date. Every child should have at least two emergency contact numbers. If any details are missing, you can add the information yourself on Arbor. Any changes made will be sent automatically to the office for

## Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

**Ducklings:** Monty and Jayden

**Puffins:** Teddy **Owls:** Henry



'Learner of the Week' certificates were focused on learning powers.

### Well done to:

**Robins:** Aiden

**Starlings:** James

**Skylarks:** Oliver

**Nightingales:** George

**Kestrels:** Olivia

**Harriers:** Henry

**Wrens:** Nenah

**Sparrows:** Amara

**Swifts:** Sophie

**Kingfishers:** Isobel

**Kites:** Noah

**Hawks:** Eira

## Sport: Football

On Monday, Northgate's **Gold Team** drew 2–2 away to St Joseph's. Hugo from Hawks said they created most of the chances and were pleased with their performance. On Thursday, the **Silver B Team** lost 3–2 at home to Hillmead. Sahishnu from Hawks explained that despite dominating the second half, they couldn't equalise and will work on improving their shot selection in training.

## Blue Peter Book Badge

The Blue Peter Book Badge is for keen readers aged 5-15. Children earn this badge by writing about a book they have enjoyed and creating a drawing inspired by the story, such as a character or scene. Not only is it a fun way to celebrate a love of books, but the badge also provides free entry to many attractions across the UK. Applications must be made by a parent or guardian. The Book Badge was designed by Sir Quentin Blake, who illustrated characters created by Roald Dahl. Did you know there are other types of badges you can earn for such things as: creativity, protecting the planet, being musical, sporty? Take a look here: [Blue Peter Book Badge](#)



## Northgate School Association

There are some exciting PTA events coming up:

**Mother's Day shop**—W/C 9th March- we are holding our popular Mother's Day shop to celebrate all the lovely ladies in our lives. We have some lovely gifts all priced at £5.00. Sales will be held during the morning break. Please bring cash on the day for your Year Group. **Monday:** Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 3, 6. **Wednesday:** Years 2, 4, 5. **Thursday:** All Years

**Break the Rules Day**—Friday 27th March. Details to follow.

**School Disco**—Friday 17th April. The Milky Bar Kid will be on the decks, we have pizza (must order in advance), glitter tattoos, snacks and glow items. As usual there will be two separate events and tickets are available to buy now:

**EYFS & KS1 (Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2):** 5pm - 6.15pm - parents / carers must attend.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/eyfs-key-stage-1-disco/2026-04-17/17:00/t-plqnee>

**KS2 (Y3-Y6):** 6.45pm - 8pm - drop-off & pick-up.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/key-stage-2-disco/2026-04-17/18:45/t-plqneng>

As always, we need volunteers to enable events like this to happen, so please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-62361653-disco>

The PTA Team