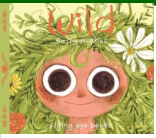


March 1st 2024

Headteacher's News

I hope you had a fantastic half term.

In assemblies this week we introduced our new value of politeness, where this week we focused on when we say 'thank you.' Please can I remind you that we would appreciate all communication from parents to any members of staff to be respectful. Teachers may not have time to look at emails daily so if you have urgent information, you need to ring the school office or speak to the teacher after school. Please address emails to the staff who you would like to receive a response from; emails not addressed to an individual may be missed as staff may believe someone else has responded. Staff endeavour to reply to emails, where a reply is needed, within 3 working days; if you have not had a response, please politely prompt the staff member. At Northgate we want effective communication with parents so as staffing is a finite resource communication please ensure your correspondence is proportionate. A key form of communication regarding your child's progress are parent consultations and we look forward to seeing you next week. This is an important time for teachers to share information about your child's progress based on their recent assessments and class work. The teachers will have books available for you. If you have not made an appointment, please contact the school office. Have a great weekend.



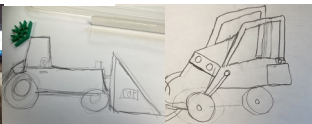
Enriching the curriculum

In union with two other local schools, the whole school are taking part in a writing project called 'Wild'. The aim of this is to help develop a range of different writing skills in our children. The children are studying a book called Wild by Emily Hughes, which is about a girl who has known nothing but nature since she was born. Bears taught her to eat, birds to speak and foxes to play; she is

unabashedly, irrefutably, irrepressibly Wild! We know that the children at Northgate will benefit greatly from this enrichment.

Mud glorious mud! In Reception this week, as part of our Forest School, the children have been inspired by our whole school writing project. They had fun sculpting mud faces and sticking them to the trees. They connected with the natural environment and foraged for objects to add features to the faces such as stones for eyes and grass for hair.

Today Year 5, enjoyed a STEM DT construction challenge run by Davinder Singh Reehal, a qualified structural engineer. Children had to design, draw and build a bulldozer using K'nex. The children loved this creative project and built some amazing constructions. The designs were judged for presentation, communication and teamwork, problem solving, operation, function and design. The teams gained additional points for extra features. The winning designers received a medal and certificate and have been entered into a nationwide competition. Well done to Bea, Martha and Orla in Class 9.



Meanwhile Class 10, 11 and 12 visited the Bishops Stortford College for a STEM science workshop. Evie and Rose explained that they watched some exciting experiments involving dry ice, in which they learned how hot and cold temperatures affects the speed of its release. The group watched how the chemical acetone reacts on polystyrene and they took part in an experiment about gravity involving a leaf blower and a plastic ball. They really enjoyed it.

Important Dates

W/C 4th Mar	PTA Mother's Day Shop
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA committee meeting
5th & 6th Mar	Parent consultations
Thurs 7th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Mon 11th Mar	9am Y5 & 6 maths games/work sharing with parents
Tues 12th Mar	9am Nursery & Reception maths games/work sharing with parents
Wed 13th Mar	9am Y1 & 2 maths games/work sharing with parents
Thurs 14th Mar	9am Nursery & Y3 & 4 maths games/work sharing
Thurs 14th Mar	2.40pm Y6 spring music concert
Wed 20th Mar	PTA Book Fair
Wed 20th Mar	Nursery Easter craft day
Thurs 21st Mar	Y3 & 4 production
Friday 22nd Mar	School Disco
Wk beg 25th Mar	House cross country final
Wk beg 25th Mar	Science week and house science quiz
Fri 22nd Mar	Y3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Tues 26th Mar	Last day of term for Nursery
Thurs 28th Mar	2pm Last day of term
29th Mar—12th April	Easter break
Mon 15th April	Start of term
April (TBC)	PTA Quiz Night at The Belgian Brewer
Thurs 25th April	2.30pm Y5 Music concert
Thurs 9th May	2.30pm Y4 Music concert
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA committee meeting
13th—16th May	Y6 SATS
Fri 17th May	PTA Outdoor Cinema
Mon 20th May	Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
Thurs 23rd May	2.30pm Y3 Music concert
27th—31st May	Half Term
Mon 3rd June	Inset Day
Mon 3rd June	Y4 National multiplication assessments
3rd—7th June	Y6 School Journey, Kingswood
Sat 8th June	PTA Summer Fayre
W/C 10th June	PTA Father's Day Shop
Mon 10th June	Y1 National phonics, screening.
Thurs 13th June	Visit from Herts & Essex Music Group
Fri 14th June	Y5 Egyptian workshop
Thurs 20th June	Visit from Woodwind Stortford
Fri 21st June	Y2 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Fri 5th July	PTA Sports Day After Party & Colour Run
W/C 15th July	PTA Ice Cream Sales
Fri 19th July	PTA Break the Rules Day
Fri 19th July	2pm Last Day of Term
2nd & 3rd Sept	Inset days
Wed 4th Sept	First day of the school year

Safeguarding

Playground Apparatus

Please do not allow your child to climb on the playground apparatus before or after school. Even if you are supervising your child on the equipment, other children are encouraged to join them when they are not being monitored. We have had accidents in the past and do not wish for these to be repeated. Please be aware that our first aiders are not available outside of school hours to administer first aid.

Enriching the Curriculum

Two teams of four children in Year 5 took part in a Maths Challenge this week online. The challenges involved estimation and general maths. In the memory test the teams worked in pairs, where there were two observers and two scribes. The observers were given 30 seconds to view a poster four times with maths related symbols, algebra and shapes. Then they had to describe the images to the scribes and they had to transfer the information on to their own poster. The scores are not in yet, but the top twenty scoring schools will be entered into a grand final shortly. Good luck Northgate.

Sport

Northgate's Gold football team played against Richard Wittington on Thursday evening for a place in the semi finals. In the first half the opposition marked tightly, but we managed to get two goals past them, which knocked their confidence. They also had a player subbed for running into one of our players. At the end of the match Northgate had won 6-0. Freddie scored a hatrick and Sebastian, Oscar and Brandon each scored. They were a good team to play against, but we are looking forward to the upcoming semi finals against Windhill21. By Brandon and Albie

Reminders and Updates

Head injury emails

We have just started using a new medical system at school, which is designed to improve communications for parents in regards to any injuries obtained during the school day. There maybe areas that need tweaking and we are aware that some parents have been alarmed after receiving emails about head injuries. Please be aware that any head bump will generate an email to parents which is purely precautionary. This is just the equivalent to the paper head bump paper form that used to come home at the end of the day. Please be rest assured that if a head injury or any accident is serious, we would always phone parents and inform them of the situation.

Northgate Bake Off

We want to thank everyone involved with the Northgate bake off. There were many fantastic cakes made and bought. Together we raised £340.40 toward future school council events. As we had so many wonderful cakes donated, we shared some with local care homes and they were delighted.

Uniform

Please be aware that we are currently in discussions with uniform suppliers and will inform parents once one has been selected. In the meantime unbranded uniform items can be purchased as long as they are in the correct school colours. Please also look at our preloved uniform rail in the office reception for any pieces you maybe in need of. Donations are very gratefully received especially yellow nursery polo shirts.

Year 5 & 6 Debating Club

Mrs Fraser, a Governor will be running a debating club on Wednesday lunch time 1-1.30pm for Year 5 and 6. This is aimed at improving the children's speaking and listening skills. A Google form will be coming out today to parents. Please let us know if your child would be interested in this. Please note there will be a maximum of fourteen children able to take part.

World Book Day Parade

On Thursday 7th March, staff and children are asked to **dress up as an adjective** e.g. turquoise, athletic, brave, cuddly, historic, with a label or sticker with their word on and if possible a definition. There should be no need to buy a costume but if you already have one, can your child think of an age appropriate adjective to match it e.g. Harry Potter with 'courageous'. Once again there will be a **World Book Day Parade**, (weather permitting) where parents are invited to come and see the children parade around the playground. Please arrive from 8.55am as the parade will begin at 9:00. Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 children will walk around the KS1 playground and children in Years 3-6 will parade around the KS2 playground. The children will walk around the lines of the netball court so it would be helpful if parents could stand inside these lines. If you have children in both key stages, please stand under the large covered gazebo between the two. Thank you for your continued support.

Celebration of Achievements

Nursery: Theo and Aiden

R1: Jenson

R2: Charlotte



This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on "Philosopher"

Well done for: Sharing great ideas in RE and PHSE, having valuable reasons and great ideas, respecting others, thinking carefully about big questions, explaining themselves clearly, bringing positive contributions to class discussions and sharing lots of enthusiasm about the many different faiths that we have looked at.

Class 1: Olivia

Class 7: Sydney

Class 2: Thomas

Class 8: Alexander

Class 3:

Class 9: Amanda

Class 4: Hedi

Class 10: Lulu

Class 5: Henry

Class 11: Oliver

Class 6: Emily

Class 12: Zac



Northgate School Association

Mother's Day Shop

To celebrate all the lovely ladies in our lives, we are holding our ever popular Mother's Day shop next week. We have some lovely gifts all priced at £3. Sales will be held during the morning break. Please bring cash on the day for your Year Group.

Monday: Nursery, Reception, Year 2, Year 4, Year 6. **Tuesday:** Year 1, Year 3, Year 5. **Wednesday:** All Years

Scholastic Book Fair

The Book Fair will be visiting on Wednesday 20th March at school pick up! An opportunity to spend your World Book Day vouchers whilst earning books for our school. Lots of fab deals available!

School Disco

EYFS/KS1- 5pm until 6.15pm (parents must stay) **KS2-** 6.45pm - 8pm (no parents)

Our School Discos are taking place on Friday 22nd March. Digital Pocahontas will be on the decks, we have hot dogs and pizza (must order in advance), glitter tattoos plus sweets and chocolates galore at the tuck shop. Tickets for entrance and hot food will be available on Ticket Source from Friday 8th March (link to follow). All tickets must be brought in advance. We're always in need of volunteers, so if you're able to help out please let us know.

February 250 Club Winner

Congratulations to ball number 46, J C Walls, who is our February 250 Club winner. Please contact ptanorthgate@gmail.com with your bank details!

Special thanks Waterstones

To encourage a world of reading and learning and to celebrate World Book Day, Waterstones Plus have donated a lovely selection of books for our Summer Fayre raffle and our school library. Waterstones Plus gives you access to exclusive offers, prize draws and events so be sure to sign up online or when you're next in shop. sign up to Waterstones Plus: <https://www.waterstones.com/plus>

Summer Fayre

We are holding our 'Beside the Seaside' themed PTA Summer Fayre on Saturday 8th June 2024 from 12pm to 3pm. If you are interested in having a stall at our event, please contact us on ptanorthgate@gmail.com. We love to support local and parent/carer businesses, plus everyone loves a bit of shopping at a Fayre!! We are also still looking for businesses and/or parents/carers who can help provide the following for the Summer Fayre: Seaside themed workshops and arcade games. If you can help, please can you contact us via our email ptanorthgate@gmail.com. Your help is very much appreciated.

Advertising posters

If your company would like to advertise something on the school gate that would be relevant to school aged children and their families. We now have a new process for this and this. For more information, please contact Mrs Homer via this email address: Advertising@northgatepta.com

Hope you all have a relaxing weekend.
Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team