

May 15th 2026

Headteacher's News

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils, who completed their SATs assessments this week. We have been extremely impressed by the resilience, maturity and determination they demonstrated throughout the week, and they should all feel very proud of their efforts. We would also like to thank the staff for giving up their time to organise and run the breakfasts each morning, helping the children begin each day feeling calm, settled and ready to do their best. A huge thank you goes to the parents for generously contributing towards the food.

Next week is **Neurodiversity Week**, where we will be raising awareness and celebrating children's differences. Our school recognises that some pupils may experience difficulties with attention, emotional regulation or sensory input, and we are committed to creating a calm, inclusive environment where all children can access learning successfully. To support this, we have developed a new **Concentration Aids and Sensory Regulation Policy**, which will come into effect after the May half term. The policy and accompanying Q&A document are attached. As part of our whole-school approach, staff teach practical self-regulation strategies and provide carefully selected concentration aids that are appropriate and effective within the classroom environment. In recent months, we have noticed an increasing number of children bringing fiddle toys into school. While some concentration aids can be helpful, others may become a distraction to learning. We therefore kindly ask that children do not bring toys or concentration aids into school unless they have been formally agreed with the class teacher and SENDCo. Please also note that gel-based fidget toys are not permitted in school due to safety concerns. We encourage all families to read the policy and Q&As to understand how these approaches will be implemented across the school. Thank you for your continued understanding and support. Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

Viking Day

Year 4 enjoyed an exciting Viking Day with History Off The Page, travelling back to 878 AD for a day of immersive learning. The children became part of a Viking village and all looked fantastic in their Nordic outfits. Even the hall carried the aroma of smoke from the fire, helping to bring the experience to life. The children took part in many hands-on activities, including weaving, making metal Thor's hammer pendants and candles. They also practised forming a "shield wall" and listened to fascinating Viking stories. The day was a fantastic way to bring history to life, and the children showed great enthusiasm throughout this memorable experience. Thank you to all the parents who came in to help!



**EVERY CHILD
EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY**

Important Dates

18th—22nd May
Mon 18th May
Tues 19th May
Tues 19th May
Thurs 21st May
Fri 22nd May
25th—29th May
Mon 1st June
Tues 2nd June
Tues 2nd June
2nd -12th June
2nd—5th June
Fri 5th June

Sat 6th June
W/C 8th June
Mon 8th June
Mon 8th June
Wed 10th June
Fri 12th June
Mon 15th June
Wed 17th June
Wed 17th June
Mon 22nd June
Wed 24th June
Wed 24th June

29th June—3rd July
Mon 6th July
Wed 8th July
Wed 8th July
Thurs 9th July
Fri 10th July
13th—17th July
Mon 13th July
Mon 13th July
Tues 14th July
Wed 15th July
Wed 15th July
Wed 15th July
Thurs 16th July
Mon 20th July
Tues 21st July
Wed 22nd July
23rd July—31st Aug
1st & 2nd Sept
Thurs 3rd Sept

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Neurodiversity Week
Y6 Learning basic CPR skills
Y1 Visit from Garg Animal Encounters
Y6 visit to Crucial Crew
Y3 Instrumental Concert
End of term
Half term
Inset day
First day back at school
Y2 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
Y4 National Multiplication tests.
Bring donations of Teddies for the Fayre
Non-uniform day in return for a bottle for the Tombola.
PTA Summer Fayre
Y1 Phonics screening
Reception trip to Willows Farm
10am Sparrows visit to the Library
Class Photos
Y3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
10am Starlings visit to the Library
Y5 Egyptian Day
10am Wrens visit to the Library
10am Kites visit to the Library
Y1 trip to Audley End
5.30pm—6.30pm EYFS Welcome Evening for children starting in Sept
Y6 Residential PGL Overstrand Hall
10am Harriers visit to the Library
10am Hawks visit to the Library
Consultations and transition meetings
Move up day
Sports Day
Art Week
10am Kingfishers visit to the Library
2.50pm KS1 Art work sharing with parents
2.50pm UKS2 Art work sharing with parents
10am Nightingales visit to the Library
2.50pm EYFS Art work sharing with parents
Y6 Performance at South mill (details TBC)
2.50pm LKS2 Art work sharing with parents
9.15am Y6 Leavers Assembly
2pm Break up for summer holidays
Occasional day
Summer Holidays
Inset day
Start of New School Year

Safeguarding

As part of our ongoing commitment to online safety, we would like to remind parents and carers about the risks associated with anonymous chat websites and apps such as "Omoggle." These platforms can expose children to inappropriate content, contact from strangers, bullying, and requests for personal information or images. We encourage families to talk regularly about online activity, remind children never to share personal details online, and ensure privacy and parental control settings are in place. To support safeguarding in school, these sites have been added to our filtering systems and cannot be accessed on school devices. Further advice can be found through the UK Safer Internet Centre and the NSPCC.

Enriching the Curriculum—Viking Day Continued



Library Visit

Swifts and Kestrels visited the library this week. Olivia from Swifts Class explained, "We walked down to town, where Elizabeth and Sarah read us a story, then we took part in three activities: learning how to borrow a book from the library, playing a game of clipboard bingo involving finding books within the library, and selecting a book that we would like to borrow next time we visit. On the way back, we did get rained on!" They all really enjoyed the experience and learnt a lot.

Reminders and Updates

Toys, Loom Bands and Fidget Toys

Please remember that children should not bring toys or collectables into school, including loom bands, Pokémon cards and fidget toys. These items are causing distractions and swapping/trading issues.

Please note that **loom bands** are not allowed in school due to safety concerns, and fidget toys are only permitted where agreed for specific SEND needs. Thank you for your support in keeping these items at home.

Lateness

Please ensure you leave enough time in the morning to get your child to school in time for registration at 8.50am. Lateness is very disrupting for the teacher and class. If you do have a valid reason for being late, please call the school office in advance and we will inform the teacher. Children who arrive after 9.30am are marked as an unauthorised absence for that session unless there is evidence of an appointment.

Taking a child out of school: If you know in advance that your child is going to be absent from school, please fill out an absence request form, which is located on the home page of the school website. Please remember that if you take your child out of school for a holiday this will not be authorised. Time out of school will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, which need to be agreed with Mrs Tanner in advance.

Weather

The weather is very unpredictable at the moment, so please ensure your child is well equipped. Please ensure they have a raincoat on days when wet weather is expected. On hot days, please ensure that high-SPF sun cream is applied before school, and remember to provide a sun hat and water bottle.

Important Message from our Crossing Patrol Person

Please can all drivers be reminded that they are required to stop when a crossing patrol person is on the road, even if the children have already crossed or are waiting to cross. Drivers who ignore this can face fines of £2,000 and points on their licence if reported. Let us keep everyone safe!

Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: Nikhail and Mya

Puffins: Evgenia

Owls: Ezra

'Learner of the Week' certificates were focused on learning powers and our school code.

Robins: Chit

Wrens: Ethan

Starlings: The whole class for their care in looking after the caterpillars.

Sparrows: George

Skylarks: Ava

Swifts: Harvey

Nightingales: Tate

Kingfishers: Charlotte

Kestrels: whole class for excellent behavior on their visit to the library

Kites: Maurice

Harriers & Hawks: All of Year 6 for working so hard and coping so well with their SATs! Brilliant work children!

Vacancies

Are you interested in casual work at Northgate? We are looking to add more casual Midday Supervisory Assistants to our team to provide cover on an as-and-when-needed basis. If this would be of interest to you, please contact Mrs Jeffcoate in the school office for an application form at secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Community News

Special Celebration

Thank you to all the children across the school who made birthday cards for a local member of the community.

On Thursday, a group of children from EYFS visited Lisbeth, who lives in a local care home. Lisbeth, who was born in 1921, is celebrating her 105th birthday!

Her care home hoped she would receive 105 birthday cards, and Northgate alone sent an incredible 160 cards. The children from Nursery and Reception were wonderful with Lisbeth, and she was very emotional when she met them. They sang "Happy Birthday" to her, creating a truly special and memorable moment for everyone involved. We send Lisbeth our warmest congratulations and very best wishes.



Northgate School Association

Summer Fayre Saturday 6th June 2026 12 pm–3 pm

We are still in need of lots of wonderful volunteers to help make it the best Summer Fayre yet! If you are able to help, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-63891585-northgate>

We also welcome donations for:

- **Teddy Stall:** Please donate teddies in good condition between 2nd–5th June.
- **Bottle Tombola:** Please bring in a bottle for the non-school uniform day on 5th June.

Events wouldn't run well without your support! Thank you The PTA Team.