

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

November 12th 2021

Headteacher's News

It was lovely to see so many of you at parents' evening this week. We hope you found it useful, gaining a better understanding of your child's strengths, and areas your child now needs to work on. If you have any feedback for the leadership team, please email interact@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

At school we held a two minute silence yesterday in remembrance of all who fought for our country.

We are delighted that another House Science Quiz will take place during the week commencing 22nd November, where all KS1 and KS2 children will have an opportunity to take part in the first round and winners from each class will then take part in the final. Questions will be based on topics from our school curriculum.

We are currently reviewing our Christmas performances to make them safe for everyone. We hope that most of the events will be live, although we are aware this might be subject to change.

We intend to limit the number of adults at each production, so this year the KS1 production will only be for year 2 children, with each year 1 class performing their own short Christmas celebration (see Important Dates). We are constantly reviewing the situation to keep in line with Hertfordshire guidelines.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our PTA AGM on Monday evening. More details can be found on page 2 in our Northgate School Association section.

Have a good weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

On Thursday 11th November our year 6 pupils watched a live webinar on how World War I started, the main events throughout the war, how it ended and the devastating aftermath.



'Because of our topic, year 6 had a webinar about WWI. We learnt lots of interesting facts, including the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and how WWI began and ended.

We sat back and listened to lots of fascinating facts. It was fun and educational at the same time.' (Lara, Grace and Alfie A - C12)

Fundraising

Pom Pom Sale for Children in Need

On Friday 19th November, four students from Class 11 will be holding a pom-pom sale during break time to raise money for Children in Need. They would be delighted if you could support their efforts and this amazing charity. The small pom poms will cost 50p and the large pom poms will cost £1.

Thank you. (Imogen, Megan, Violet and Evie - CL11)

Important Dates - 2021/22

Mon 15th Nov	PTA AGM
Weds 17th Nov	Happy School Bag Collection
Tues 30th Nov	9.30am Early Years Christmas Production
Weds 1st Dec	9.30am Early Years Christmas Production
Thurs 2nd Dec	Flu Immunisations (Rec-Y6)
Fri 3rd Dec	Christmas Tree Collection Day
Weds 8th Dec	Year 2 Christmas Production
Thurs 9th Dec	9.15am Class 1 'Magic of Christmas' (20 mins)
Fri 10th Dec	9.15am Class 2 'Magic of Christmas' (20 mins)
Fri 10th Dec	Christmas Jumper/'Elf Yourself' Day
Mon 13th Dec	KS2 Pantomime (Southmill Arts)
Tues 14th Dec	KS1 Pantomime (in school)
Tues 14th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Lunch
Weds 15th Dec	KS2 Christmas Lunch
Thurs 16th Dec	KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Mon 20th Dec	PTA Break the Rules Day
Mon 20th Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
Tues 21st Dec	Jubilee Occasional Day
Weds 5th Jan	Children Return to School
14th-18th Feb	February Half Term
Mon 21st Feb	INSET DAY
Weds 2nd March	Happy School Bag Collection
Fri 1st April	End of Term at 2.00pm
Tues 19th April	Children Return to School
May 2022	Year 2 SATs
9th-12th May	Year 6 SATs week
30th May-3rd Jun	May Half Term
Mon 6th June	INSET DAY
7th-10th June	Year 1 Phonics Week
7th-24th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Thurs 30th June	Happy School Bag Collection
Thurs 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Bookings are open for the "Parenting a child with anxiety" workshop which will be delivered via Zoom on 23rd November to look at understanding what anxiety is; different types of anxiety, and solution focused tools to support how young people handle their anxiety. Please see the attached flyer for more information on how to book your space.

Free School Meals

Did you know that Herts CC could save you over £450 every year? Your child could get a free school meal, worth over £450 per child per year. Applying takes around 5 minutes and in most cases you will find out straight away if your child can get free meals at school. Visit [Free School Meals](#) for more information on eligibility and how to apply.

Enriching the Curriculum

Mathletics Numeracy Challenge

Next week Northgate has entered in the **November Numeracy Challenge**, which is a part of Mathletics. This is a global mathematics challenge focused on using **Live Mathletics**. The children take part in 60-second races that test the speed and accuracy of their mathematics fluency skills. Prizes are awarded for top performing schools!

Fundraising

Christmas Jumper and Elf Yourself Day

On Friday 10th December, we will be holding our annual fundraising Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children Fund and Elf Yourself Day for Isabel Hospice

Children and staff can come into school wearing a Christmas jumper or anything red, green or elf themed.

Isabel Hospice has been providing free palliative care to its patients and their families since 1982, providing support and care to people in East Herts who are affected by life-limiting illnesses through their Hospice at Home, In-Patient Unit, Community Team, Living Well with Isabel programme and Family and Bereavement support service.

Save the Children exists to help every child reach their full potential. In the UK and around the world, they make sure children stay safe, healthy and keep learning. They lead the way on tackling problems like pneumonia, hunger and protecting children in war, while making sure each child's unique needs are cared for.

Preloved Christmas Jumper Sales

While you're having a sort out, we are looking for donations of Christmas jumpers and accessories your children have outgrown for our Preloved Christmas Jumper Sales. These will take place on Friday 26th November and Friday 3rd December in time for the school's Christmas Jumper Day! The times and location of the sales will be publicised nearer the time. Please take your donations to the school office.

Vacancies

We are currently seeking a **SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant** to work in Lower KS2. The vacancy will be for 5 mornings per week. Further information can be found [here](#).

Northgate are looking for extra **Midday Assistants** this term to help with cover when staff are unable to be in school.

If you are interested in some casual work across the lunchtime period please email the school office on secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

Northgate School Association

Congratulations to Jo Taylor who has won this month's 250 Club draw. £500 heading your way! To join our 250 Club and to be in with a chance of winning! Contact ptanorthgate@gmail.com for an entry form.

A quick reminder that our **AGM** is on Monday 15th November from 7:30pm and all are welcome to attend.

We have sent an email separately detailing all our **Christmas fundraising** fun! We really hope you can support these activities. As always, do get in touch by email if you have any questions at all about any of our fundraisers or to get involved in the PTA. (ptanorthgate@gmail.com).

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Joshua

R1: Rex

R2: Flora

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on History and Geography.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for recalling all the continents and oceans and for brilliant understanding of the different types of mountains.

Well done to:

Class 1: Teddy W

Class 7: John

Class 2: Thea

Class 8: Freddie

Class 3: Max

Class 9: William

Class 4: Joshua M

Class 10: Curtis

Class 5: Franky

Class 11: Ally

Class 6: Matilda

Class 12: Felix

Reminders and Updates

Reception Places

The application process for places at primary schools for September 2022 opened on **Monday 1 November 2021**. This process is for children currently in nursery and who are turning 5 between 01/09/2022 and 31/08/2023. The admissions arrangements for the school year 2022-23 are available on the school website [Determined Admission Arrangements](#). Applications can be made online by visiting www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2022.

Christmas Lunch

Bookings for Christmas Lunch should be made on School Grid by **Monday 6th December**. Christmas lunch will be served to the Early Years and Key Stage 1 children on Tuesday 14th December and Key Stage 2 children on Wednesday 15th December. Please only book a Christmas lunch on the day your child is being served their lunch. Please book a school packed lunch or send your child with a home packed lunch on the day your child's key stage are not having their lunch.

Happy School Bags - collection day 17th November 2021

Hopefully your child brought home a sack to collect any clothing you no longer have need for to donate to charity via the Happy School Bags scheme. Our PTA receive commission on the items we donate so now is the perfect time to have a clear out. They will accept clothing (no underwear or logo'd school uniform), paired shoes, console games, handbags, belts, hats and accessories, jewellery, toiletries and perfumes.

School Uniform Code

Today we discussed respect in assembly and the need to respect our uniform code.

Please be reminded that earrings cannot be worn in school unless a letter explaining the reasons has been supplied via the office. No extreme hair styles, e.g. shaved tramlines, and smart watches are not allowed to be worn in school.

Black shoes (not boots) should be worn in school. *No fashion footwear please*, and a suitable coat is essential.