

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

September 19th 2025

Headteacher's News

We hope that you found the Reception and Year 6 Meet the Teacher sessions informative.

Each year, our pupils take on a wide range of responsibilities across the school, giving them the chance to develop a variety of valuable skills. A particularly important opportunity in Year 6 is the role of House and Vice Captains, who support the school community in many ways throughout the year.

To select the House Captains, staff voted for those who consistently demonstrated the school values through their behaviour, attitude, and approach to learning. In addition, the children prepared and delivered a short speech to myself and Mrs Clynes, outlining the qualities and experiences that would make them strong candidates for the role.

We were incredibly impressed with the standard of all the speeches. Each child spoke with confidence and gave excellent examples of their contribution to the Northgate community, as well as the leadership and teamwork skills they have developed. The decision was very difficult, as there were so many outstanding candidates.

The successful House Captains are announced on the next page—congratulations to them, and a huge well done to everyone who took part!

There are a variety of leadership positions available at Northgate, including School Council, Eco Council, and our Diversity, Inclusion and Well-being Council. These roles give children the chance to have their voices heard, share ideas, and play an active part in shaping our school community.

Have a great weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

As a school, we aim to make topic work more engaging by providing children with a wide range of visits and experiences. On Wednesday, Year 5 visited Duxford to enrich their learning on World War II and bring history to life.



Conner from Kites shared his experience of the day:
"Two veterans gave us a tour of the planes, including a Royal Navy helicopter, and a BOAC aircraft. We learned about Sergeant Stubby, a war dog who served in the trenches during the First World War.

We explored a collection of Second World War items, such as uniforms, weapons, and medals, along with stories of the people who received them.

We watched a film about the history of aviation, from British pioneer George Cayley to the Wright brothers, who invented the first aeroplane. We also discussed the Second World War timeline, completed worksheets, and talked about today's airline industry"

Important Dates

Thurs 2nd Oct

Fri 3rd Oct

Tues 7th Oct

Wed 8th Oct

Thurs 16th Oct

Fri 17th Oct

Mon 20th Oct

Tues 21st Oct

Wed 22nd Oct

Thurs 23rd Oct

Fri 24th Oct

Thurs 25th Sept

27th–31st Oct

Tues 9th Dec

Fri 12th Dec

Thurs 18th Dec

Fri 19th Dec

22nd Dec—2nd Jan

Mon 5th Jan

Tues 6th Jan

16th—20th Feb

Fri 27th Mar

30th Mar—10th April

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Repeat Volunteer Safeguarding Session

Food collection starts for Harvest Festival

Reception 9am Harvest assembly (parents)

9.20am phonics parent workshop

KS1 9am Harvest assembly (parents)

Y2 walk to Waytemore castle

Y3 Visit from Spirit of the Wild

EYFS 9am reading with parents

Y3/4 9am reading with parents

Y1/2 9am reading with parents

Y5/6 9am reading with parents/information workshop.

Inset Day

European Day of Languages

Half Term

EYFS Christmas production: 9.15am-2.40pm

KS1 9.10am/2.40pm Christmas production

KS2 2pm Church service St Michaels Church

2pm finish Break up for Christmas

Christmas Holidays

Inset Day

School term starts

Half Term

2pm finish Break up for Easter

Easter Holidays

Pupil Premium funding

At Northgate, we want to ensure that every child has access to the support they need to thrive – both in and out of the classroom. One key way we can do this is through **Pupil Premium funding**, which provides extra financial support to schools for eligible pupils.

This funding can help in a number of ways, including:

- Additional staff support
- Help with the cost of school trips and residentials
- Access to extra resources like books or laptops
- Supporting learning both at school and at home

Why is it important to apply? If your child is eligible, the school receives extra funding to support their education. This could make a big difference to the support and opportunities we can offer – but we can only access the funding if families apply.

Are you eligible? If you are struggling financially or think you might be entitled to help, we encourage you to check your eligibility for **Free School Meals**, which is linked to Pupil Premium funding. You can check online at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

If you have questions or would like support with the application process, contact **Mrs Ferdinand** by emailing:

pupilpremium@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Safeguarding

The NSPCC website has tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your children safe online. Some examples are:

Talking to your child about online safety. For advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried click [here](#)

**EVERY CHILD
EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY**

Enriching the Curriculum

Visit from Magical Maths.

This afternoon, the Professor Poopenshtinken and his friends visited everyone's classrooms to show the children just how much fun can be had with numbers, playing games as well as reading the children's minds in front of the whole class!



Starting next Wednesday (for Key Stage 1) and next Friday (for Key Stage 2), Professor Poopenshtinken will be returning to kick off their 11 week after school programme. In the following weeks, the **Maths Detective**, **Mathemagician** and **Olympic Mathletes** will be coming along to solve mysteries, read minds and even turn the classrooms at Northgate into a bowling alley!

To make sure your child doesn't miss out on the Mathemagical fun this term, use the following link to book your child's place: [Magical Maths Club : Northgate PS.](#)

House Captains & Vice Captains

Well done to the new house captains/vice captains in year 6

Romans	Vikings	Normans	Saxons
Sophia	Eliza	Cora	Jacob
Jackson	Oscar	Amber	Annabelle
Sasha	Lily	Matty	Sahishnu
Ailbhe	Joshua C	Alex	Myla

Reminders and Updates

Making School Payments for Meals

Please ensure that you pay for your child's school meals in advance. If you think you may have an outstanding balance, kindly check your SchoolGrid account and make full payment as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Child's school records

Using Arbor, parents can check their child's contact details, medical records, dietary requirements etc. Anything that is incorrect can be amended by parents and will be sent to the office for verification.

Jumpers with no name

At the end of each school day, staff often find jumpers and cardigans left around the building, many without names. Without labels, it is very difficult to return items to their owners, so we kindly ask that all clothing is clearly named. Please see the link below for name stickers, which can make this much easier.

<https://www.stikins.co.uk/school-name-labels/>

Spare items of clothing

We are in need of spare socks and knickers/pants for reception aged children. Also, if you have any unwanted boy's school shoes in good condition, we would appreciate them as spares.

Colouring books for playtime

We would really appreciate donations of colouring books or dot-to-dot books for the children to enjoy during playtime. If you're able to donate any, it would be greatly appreciated.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: The whole class again for learning the class routines so well!

Puffins: Ilaria **Owls:** Colette

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'Positive attitude'.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: being a fantastic enquirer and showing independence in maths lessons, showing a positive attitude when facing challenges, always being attentive, showing kindness and helping others with work, trying extremely hard to understand maths, being curious on the visit to Duxford and asking lots of questions in order to learn more about WW2.

Well done to:

Robins: Grace
Starlings: Harry
Skylarks: Mara
Nightingales: William
Kestrels: Iris
Harriers: Polly

Wrens: Clay
Sparrows: Billy
Swifts: Violet
Kingfishers: Louie
Kites: Lucas
Hawks: Isaac



European Day of Languages

Next Thursday, Northgate will be celebrating European Day of Languages. Your child/ren will be sent home with a white sticky label. Please can they wear this into school on Thursday 25th September with a foreign language greeting on it. E.g. Bonjour. This will help prompt discussions in class and help celebrate awareness for the languages and cultures in our Northgate community. We have spare sticky labels in school should labels be forgotten/lost.

Clubs

We are pleased to confirm the return of many popular clubs at Northgate, including:

ComputerXplorers, Afterschool Art Club, Cheerleading, Sunset Dance, Mini Mantra Yoga, Pro-Karate, Book and Biscuits, Crazy Crafts, Lego Club, Magical Maths, Football, Multisport, Gymnastics, and Dodgeball.

We also have a fantastic range of music teachers who come into school to give children the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments, such as:

piano, drums, guitar, woodwind, flute, cello, and violin.

These lessons take place either during the school day or after school.

You can view our activities timetable on our website under *Parent Information > Clubs and Activities > School Clubs*, or click the link below:

https://www.northgate.herts.sch.uk/web/school_clubs/570674

Please check the timetable carefully to see which clubs are available for your child's year group.

- All internal clubs can be booked via Arbor.
- External clubs and music sessions must be booked directly with the individual providers.