

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

October 16th 2020

Headteacher's News

We are delighted that another week has passed without a pupil or member of staff testing positive so teaching and learning has continued as normal. Please can I remind everyone that we must continue to act with caution, to minimise the risk of the transmission of infection. For example, if your family has been in close contact with someone who is symptomatic, please do not send your child/ren into school until a negative test result has been received. We have a number of vulnerable staff and staff who have members of their household who are vulnerable, and we wish to do all we can to ensure our school community remains safe.

Following the success of Reception and KS1 having hot meals in school this week, next week we will trial Year 3 and Year 4 eating hot meals from Wednesday. Further details will be provided by email from the School Office.

Our thoughts go out to Mrs Pratt, who has been signed off work until December. We wish her a speedy recovery. We would like to thank Mrs Anderson who has covered the class four days a week this half term. She is very sad to be leaving us, but is unable to continue with her long commute. After half term we are delighted to welcome Mrs Ferdinand who will work with Mrs Matthews in Class 4.

Next week is assessment week, when children in Years 1-6 will complete a series of assessments to help us assess their gaps. Analysed test papers will be used to inform future teaching. Information about how well your child has completed these will be given at Parents' Evening. Unavoidably at this time, we will be unable to hold the consultation meetings in school, so parents will be able to book a slot to speak to your child's teacher by telephone. We are aware the slots are short and wish to avoid any unnecessary delays which are sometimes experienced with online meetings. Further details will follow after half term.

All weekend home learning will now be posted to Google Classrooms as the school has decided not to extend the eschools platform contract, following feedback that Google Classrooms is easier to use.

Weather permitting, the Nursery roof will be repaired over the weekend so the Nursery children will be able to return to their own room next week. Hope you have a restful weekend.

Christmas Card Competition

Julie Marson MP is holding a competition for primary and pre-school children to design her official Christmas card for 2020. The winning design will be printed and sent out across Hertford and Stortford this Christmas, with the winner's name and school printed inside. Entries must be A4 and coloured in pencil, pen or paint but no glitter. Please send entries into school by Tuesday 3rd November 2020 via your child's class.

Important Dates - 2020/21

Weds 21st Oct	Happy School Bag Collection
Thurs 22nd Oct	School Photographs
Fri 23rd Oct	Black History Day
26th - 30th Oct	October Half Term
Mon 2nd Nov	INSET DAY
Tues 3rd Nov	Children Return to School
3rd - 6th Nov	Wellbeing Week
Fri 6th Nov	Parent information videos released
Tues 10th Nov	Parent Consultations
Weds 11th Nov	Parent Consultations
Tues 17th Nov	PTA AGM
Fri 11th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day - Save the Children
Weds 16th Dec	School virtual Christmas videos released
Thurs 17th Dec	Winning House Non-Uniform Day
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 4th Jan	Children Return to School
15th-19th Feb	February Half Term
Fri 26th March	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 12th Apr	Children Return to School
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Weds 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

School Council

We held our first school council meeting last week and we all introduced ourselves and discussed the role and responsibilities of being a school councillor.

Today, we discussed the topics for our first class council meetings and held a vote to decide the reward to be given to the winning house at the end of term.

The final decision was for the winning house to have their own non-uniform day at the end of term.

We are looking forward to experiencing lots of opportunities to help and improve various aspects of school life!

Safeguarding

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. They have produced a series of home activity packs which contain simple 15 minute activities for the children to do with their families to support their online learning at home. They also provide advice pages, short videos and graphics to support parents with online safety.

[Home Activity Packs](#)

[Advice for Parents](#)

Reminders and Updates

Happy Bags

Happy Bags will be collected on **Wednesday 21st October**. Full bags can be left in the bike shelter the day before collection or before 9am on the day of collection.

Nut Free Packed Lunches

As Northgate are a nut-free school, could we please remind you to ensure your child's packed lunch does not contain nuts, even where they might be hidden in products such as granola bars, trail mixes, spreads such as nut butters, chocolate-nut spreads, nougat, bakewell tarts and pesto.

Covid-19 Update

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in both the local and school communities.

Northgate School Association

AGM - Tuesday 17th November 8:00pm

We would like to invite you to our Annual General Meeting which this year will be held on Zoom. All our parents are automatically members of the PTA and are therefore welcome to join the meeting to hear a review of the last year's fundraising efforts and on what the money raised has been spent. We also say farewell to trustees stepping down this year and welcome new trustees to the committee. If you would like to attend the meeting please email ptanorthgate@gmail.com for the details. If you are interested in becoming a trustee please also enquire via email.

250 Club Winner

This month's 250 Club winner is Nambia Ferguson who will receive a £540 prize! There are still numbers available if you'd like to join the monthly draw. Email ptanorthgate@gmail.com for a membership form and full terms and conditions.

Thank you. Your PTA

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Lilly B	R1: Noah
	PM: Aaron	R2: Maisy

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Science.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for excellent knowledge of the human body, an inquiring approach to science and accurate labelling of drawings.

Well done to:

Class 1: Aarohi	Class 7: Hannah
Class 2: Sienna	Class 8: Aaron
Class 3: Joshua	Class 9: Thomas C
Class 4: Daniel	Class 10: Isobel
Class 5: Charlie	Class 11: Kim
Class 6: Brandon	Class 12: Fraser

Enriching the Curriculum

Year 4 - Design and Technology

This half term in design and technology we have been focusing on smoothie packaging.

At the start of the term, we all made delicious smoothies

using bananas, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and orange juice. Since then, we have designed suitable and appealing packaging for that smoothie. This week we all constructed and decorated our packaging using a net. These are some examples of the fantastic smoothie

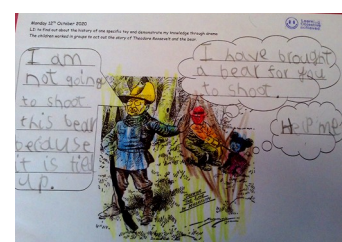


packaging the children have made.

Year 1 - History

This term in our history lessons we have been researching the history of toys. We have loved finding out about the toys our parents and grandparents played with, as well as talking about our own favourites.

We have also researched Victorian toys. This week we discovered the story behind the invention of the teddy bear in 1902. We had great fun acting out Theodore Roosevelt's refusal to shoot a tied-up bear on his hunting trip and wrote our own speech bubbles for the famous Washington Post cartoon.



Matty - Class 1