

Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

November 28th 2025

Headteacher's News

Our thoughts are with all the poorly children and staff this week. We've seen an exceptional number of children unwell over the past few days, and we want to wish everyone a speedy recovery. To help prevent further spread of sickness and high temperatures, please ensure your child is fully well before returning to school. If your child is feeling unwell or has a temperature, please keep them at home and notify the school by phone or email.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Get well soon to all those who are not well!

Each year, there are a series of **national tests** which give parents the opportunity to see how your child's performance compares to other children nationally. As these assessments are very important, please try to ensure your child is in school on the test dates — and during the weeks leading up to them. Please avoid booking appointments, holidays, or other absences around these times:

• **Y1 Phonics Week** – 8th June to 12th June 2026 (plus Y2 phonic catch-ups)

• **Y4 Times Tables Tests** – 1st June to 12th June 2026

• **Y6 SATs** – Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May 2026

As we approach December, it's an extremely busy time of year at school, which includes **some changes to KS2 pick-up** arrangements. Please make sure you check the "Important Dates" list, or overleaf to stay aware of these changes.

Have a good weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

In connection with their recent map work in Geography, both Year 3 classes took part in an exciting orienteering walk to Waitrose yesterday. Throughout the journey, the children worked collaboratively to plot significant local landmarks, carefully recording each stage of their route. They used photographs to support their observations and added detailed notes to their worksheets to help build an accurate record of their trail. The walk offered the pupils a valuable opportunity to apply their classroom learning to a real-life setting, strengthening their understanding of direction, symbols, and map features.



Today the KS2 children walked to South Mill Arts to see their panto 'Snow White'. Thanks to the PTA for funding the event and providing refreshments for the children. The PTA are also funding Aladdin the visiting panto for EYFS/KS1. Thank you to all the parent helpers for walking with us.

Important Dates

Mon 1st Dec	PTA Elfridges shop for EYFS, Y1, Y3 and Y6
Tues 2nd Dec	EYFS/KS1 visiting panto 'Aladdin'
Wed 3rd Dec	PTA Elfridges shop for Y2, Y4 and Y5
Thurs 4th Dec	PTA Elfridges shop (final purchases).
Mon 8th Dec	Year 6 Church service
Tues 9th Dec	EYFS Christmas production: 9.15am 2.40pm
Wes 10th Dec	9.00am Nursery Christmas Carol Concert
Fri 12th Dec	KS1 9.10am/2.40pm Christmas production
Mon 15th Dec	Reception posting letters to Santa
Tues 16th Dec	11.30am EYFS/KS1 Christmas Lunch
Wed 17th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day/Santa Fun Run
Wed 17th Dec	9.00am Volunteer Coffee Morning
Wed 17th Dec	12.30pm KS2 Christmas Lunch
Wed 17th Dec	Rock Steady Concert (Time TBC)
Thurs 18th Dec	KS2 2pm Church service St Michaels Church (pick up from church TBC)
Fri 19th Dec	Break the Rules Day
Fri 19th Dec	2pm finish Break up for Christmas
22nd Dec—2nd Jan	Christmas Holidays
Mon 5th Jan	Inset Day
Tues 6th Jan	School term starts
Mon 26th Jan	Y6 Victorian Day
Tue 27th Jan	Y2 Old Northgate School walk
16th—20th Feb	Half Term
Fri 27th Mar	2pm finish Break up for Easter
30th Mar—10th April	Easter Holidays
Thurs 22nd May	End of term
25th—29th May	Half term
Mon 1st June	Inset day
Thurs 9th July	Move up day
Tues 21st July	Break up for summer holidays
Wes 22nd July	Occasional day

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

If your child is unwell and not attending school, parents must leave a message with the school **each morning before 9.00am** either by phone or emailing Absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk. We have a duty of care to ensure all children are accounted for as soon as possible each day.

The kitchen has also requested that parents remember to **cancel their child's lunch** if they are not coming in. Please do this before 8.00am to avoid charges and unnecessary food waste. Thank you.

Medicines: If your child requires medicine during the school day, a 'Administration of Medication' form must be completed. You will find the form on our school website or [here](#). An adult must hand the medication in/collected to/from the school office. **Children must not bring medicines to school in their bags or pockets.** The medication must be in its original packaging, with leaflets, in date and, where relevant, have the pharmacy label attached. It is vital that parents **keep aware of expiry dates** and replace items such as inhalers and auto-injectors prior to expiry.

Christmas Reminders and Updates

Thursday 4th December

- **KS1 nativity costumes** to be brought into school.

Monday 8th December

- **Deadline for ordering Christmas lunch.**
- **Year 6 Christmas Concert at St. Michael's Church**
Rehearsal: Pick up your child from St Michael's church at 3.00pm unless alternative arrangements have been made with school.
Please note that Y6 children cannot take school bags to the church. Please send packed lunches in a disposable bag.
If your ordering a packed lunch from school please order in advance.
Children attending Night Owls will be walked back.
- **Evening Performance**—Please return your child to St. Michael's by 6.40pm in school uniform ready for a 7.00pm start. One person to attend per child please. Service ends at 8.00pm. If your child is not attending this performance please collect them from school at 3.20pm as normal.

Tuesday 9th December

- **EYFS (Reception) Christmas Production**
Performances at 9.10am and 2.30pm in the main hall.

Wednesday 10th December

- **Nursery Christmas Carol Concert** 9:00–9:30am in the Nursery classroom.

Friday 12th December

- **KS1 (Years 1&2) Christmas Production**
Performances at 9.10am and 2.30pm—one ticket per performance.

Monday 15th December

- **Reception local walk** to post letters to Father Christmas 9:00–9:45am.

Tuesday 16th December

- **EYFS Christmas Activity Morning**
- **EYFS/KS1 Christmas lunch**
- **KS2 children need to bring a packed lunch from home.**

Wednesday 17th December

- **Food Bank Donations** (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
- **Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas fun run** —£1.00 donation to **Crisis**.
- **Rocksteady Invite-Only Concert** Timings will be emailed directly to invited families by Rocksteady.
- **KS2 Christmas Lunch**—Please order before by 8th December
EYFS/KS1 children need to bring a packed lunch from home.

Thursday 18th December

- **Food Bank Donations** (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
- **KS2 Christmas Carol Service at St. Michaels Church**
Service begins at 2.00pm
Pick up from St. Michael's church at 3.00pm
Children attending Night Owls will be walked back to school. Please note that children cannot bring school bags. Packed lunches should be sent in a disposable bag.
EYFS /KS1 siblings will be supervised at school if parents are slightly delayed.

Friday 19th December

- **Food Bank Donations** (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
- **Break the rules day** - school finishes at 2.00pm

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:

Ducklings: Maxwell and Magali



Puffins: Archie **Owls:** Phoebe

'Learner of the Week' focus on being a kind friend and adult directed activities.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers this week for a range of skills.



Well done to:

Robins:	Mila	Wrens:	Elliott
Starlings:	Stanley	Sparrows:	Arliyah
Skylarks:	Novanna	Swifts:	Erin
Nightingales:	Chloe	Kingfishers:	Ettie
Kestrels:	Thea	Kites:	Lottie
Harriers:	Dennis	Hawks:	Henry F

Christmas Cards for Pupils

To support the environment and reduce waste, we are encouraging children who would like to send Christmas cards at school to write or make just one card for the whole class. This will be displayed in their classroom for everyone to enjoy.

We calculated that if each child wrote a Christmas card for every classmate, it would result in over 13,000 cards across the school!

Thank you for your support in making this a meaningful and sustainable



Young Songwriters Competition

In association with Derosa Music Academy, Bishops Stortford Choral Society and Tees.

Calling all young voices in Stortford!

This competition is in its third year and aims to discover, encourage and showcase superb local talent. De Rosa Music are offering a terms scholarship to the winners of each category and an opportunity for their songs to be recorded in the studio.

Entries are split into three categories and may be as a solo artist, group or class

Years 3/4/5/6

Years 7/8/9

Years 10/11/12/13

Entries close 19th June 2026

Winners are announced 13th July 2026



Northgate School Association

Elfridges Shop

Our Christmas 'Elfridges' shop takes place next week!

Mon 1st December- Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 3 and 6

Wed 3rd December- Years 2, 4 and 5

Thurs 4th December- All Years (final purchases).

Each gift will be priced at **£5.00** Please bring cash into class on sale day.

The sales will take place in the dining hall at morning break.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend.

The PTA Team