

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

September 6th 2019

Headteacher's News

Welcome back to a new school year and a warm welcome to all our new families. I hope that you had an enjoyable summer and your children have had a good start to the new year. It has been great to see everyone back settling in and looking so smart. Please see the next page for reminders of expectations on uniform. We are all really looking forward to another exciting year ahead. Welcome to all our new staff. You will have opportunities to meet them at the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions next week. We have also arranged a session where you can meet the new SENCo over a cup of coffee (see page 2 for more details).

I am at the gate most mornings so please catch me or pop into the office if you would like to make an appointment. If you would like an appointment with your child's class teacher, please write a note to the teacher, ask in the office or arrange it at the end of the day with their teacher. We do not allow adults around the back of the school in the mornings for safeguarding reasons. Adults who need to come into school must sign in at the office.

Safeguarding in schools is paramount and as all adults coming into school need annual updates, I will be holding a brief session for volunteers on Monday and Wednesday morning. If you do help in school, I would be grateful if you could ensure that you attend one of these sessions. Thank you.

All the best to Mrs Crumpler who has started her maternity leave this week.

J Tanner

Parental Involvement

We value your support and involvement in the school and there are a number of ways for you to become involved:

Guided Reading

We are looking for more parents who would like to help with reading in KS1 on one day a week or more from 9.00am to 9.20am. Having an adult with each group, makes a huge difference to the children's learning. Please email the office on their admin address if you are interested, making it clear if you would like to support in your child's or another class, or catch Mrs Pratt after school. Guided reading will start this Monday 9th September. If you would like to start to help this year, please go to the office and complete a form. Safeguarding sessions will be held at 9.00am on Monday 9th September and Wednesday 11th September and will include a supporting reading training session.

All guided readers need to attend one of the introductory sessions with Mrs Tanner shown above. Please sign in at the office and make your way to the dining room.

Important Dates

Mon 9th Sep	9.00am Volunteer Safeguarding Training
Mon 9th Sep	1.30pm Yr 4 Mad Hatter Tea Party
Mon 9th Sep	2.45pm Yr 3 Meet the Teacher
Tues 10th Sep	9.00am Yr 1 Meet the Teacher
	2.45pm Yr 2 Meet the Teacher
Wed 11th Sep	9.00am Volunteer Safeguarding Training
Wed 11th Sep	9.00am Yr 4 Meet the Teacher
Thurs 12th Sep	2.45pm Yr 5 Meet the Teacher
Thurs 12th Sep	3.45pm Yr 5/6 Football Fixture
Fri 13th Sep	2.45pm Yr 6 Meet the Teacher
Mon 16th Sep	2.45pm Rec Meet the Teacher
Tues 17th Sep	9.00 to 9.30am Coffee with SENCo
Wed 18th Sep	11.15am Nursery Meet the Teacher
	2.45pm Nursery Meet the Teacher
Wed 25th Sep	9.00am LKS2 Reading with Parents
Thurs 26th Sep	9.00am UKS2 Reading with Parents
Fri 27th Sep	9.00am KS1 Reading with Parents
Thurs 3rd Oct	9.00am KSI Harvest Assembly
Friday 4th Oct	9.00am Reception Harvest Assembly
Mon 7th Oct	Individual Photos
Tues 15th Oct	Happy School Bag Collection
Thurs 17th Oct	6.45pm-8.00pm Y5/6 Parent Info Eve
Mon 21st Oct	2.45pm Yr 4 Times Table Meeting
Fri 25th Oct	Yr 4 Duxford Trip
28th Oct-1st Nov	Half Term
Mon 4th Nov	INSET DAY
Tues 5th Nov	Yr2 Pirate Day
5th-8th Nov	Well-being Week
Fri 8th Nov	Fireworks
Tues 12th Nov	Parent Consultations
Wed 13th Nov	Parent Consultations
Fri 29th Nov	Occasional Day
Tues 3rd Dec	Happy School Bag Collection
Fri 20th Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
*Red = New Item / Change to Item	

Safeguarding

Medicines

If your child needs any medicine, please be advised that it must be in its original packaging, in date and, where relevant, have the pharmacy label attached. Children must not bring medicines to school in their bags or pockets, they need to be brought in by an adult and handed in/collected to/from the school office. An 'Administration of Medication' form must be completed and handed in at the school office by the parent/carer. Forms can be obtained from the school office or can be found on the school website. Parents need to be aware of expiry dates and replace items such as inhalers and auto-injectors prior to expiry.

Newsletter

The newsletter is our main form of communication to parents and it is usually sent out on Friday on School Comms. If you are not receiving emails or your email address changes, please let the office know ASAP.

Secondary Transfer

Year 6 children will have brought home a "Secondary Transfer 2019" leaflet this week. Please be aware that applications can be made on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions and applications **MUST** be made by 31st October 2019.

School Lunches

We are introducing a new school lunch ordering system, called School Grid, on Monday 9th September for all children. More information is being sent out via e-mail this afternoon. This new system will allow parents to make their child's menu choices from home. Don't worry if this hasn't been done though, as we are still able to make the choices with your child at school.

For children in Years 3 to 6, payment for lunches will continue to be made on School Gateway. Please note that whilst School Grid is being set up the payment link for lunches will be removed from School Gateway on the afternoon of Friday 6th September and will be back on the morning of Monday 9th September. If you are not in credit for your lunches for this half term, please can you make payment next week. Please note, the cost of a lunch has gone up to £2.60.

Payment for this half term is as follows –

Wednesdays only = £20.80

Fridays only = £20.80

Wednesdays and Friday = £41.60

Dinners every day = £98.80

Parking

Please remember to show consideration to others when driving and parking near the school. Please do not use the staff car park for dropping off or picking up your children and do not walk through the staff car park, including before or after school. This is for safeguarding reasons. Thank you

School Association

Association News

The PTA would like to welcome everyone back to school and warmly welcome all new parents, teachers and children. We look forward to getting stuck in to events and fundraising activities this year.

We will be holding our AGM during October and everyone is invited to attend to hear about our achievements of 2018/19, our plans for this year and to welcome new committee members. If you are interested in joining the committee or getting involved in any way please feel free to email ptanorthgate@gmail.com and/or come along to our AGM.

You can find us, follow us and stay in touch on Facebook. To follow our public page search for 'Northgate Primary PTA' or join our closed group, 'Northgate PTA Noticeboard' to stay on top of all things PTA related. Warmest regards, The Northgate Association - your PTA

SENCo

My name is Lynn Wallace and I am very excited to be joining the team here at Northgate. I live in Bishop's Stortford and have worked in the town for the past 19 years, having taught across the whole of Key stage 1 and Key stage 2 during that time. I am a qualified and very experienced SENDCo, who has led, supported and embedded provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities across two previous primary school settings.

I am pleased to say that I have had an exciting first week getting to know all the staff and children here at Northgate. I have also had the pleasure of meeting a few parents and look forward to the opportunity of meeting more of you at the SEND coffee morning and over the coming weeks. Thank you to everyone for your warm welcome.

Reminders and Updates

Extra Curricular Music

We are very lucky as a school to have both a Choir and Orchestra club available to our KS2 children.

Our music teacher, Mrs Newman, runs the Choir on a Monday at 12.30pm which is open to children in Years 3 to 6. Orchestra will take place on Thursdays at 12.30pm and is open to our talented instrumentalists in Years 5 and 6 who are Grade 1 standard and above. These clubs are incredibly enjoyable and there may be the opportunity to perform at exciting events such as the Hertfordshire Gala Concert at the Royal Albert Hall. Mrs Newman looks forward to seeing you there!

Uniform Reminders

It was great to see all the children looking so smart at the start of term. Just to remind you **all items must be named**.

Skirts and trousers must be smart school wear. The Upper Key Stage 2 children are expected to wear a shirt and tie. Ties are optional in Lower Key Stage 2.

Smart black shoes should be worn, without flashing lights (or with the lights turned off). Children are **not** allowed to wear trainers, fashion shoes or boots.

Children are **not** allowed to wear earrings or other jewellery in school. Children who have not had their earrings removed after the summer need to have a letter explaining the situation addressed to Mrs Tanner. Smart watches must not be worn in school. Hair accessories must be in school colours, yellow or bottle green. Thank you for your support.

During PE lessons, all children should wear bottle green shorts with their white t-shirts and a bottle green tracksuit.

Water bottles

Please could you make sure your children's water bottles measure no more than 15cm in height (with the top off) as taller bottles do not fit in the machine and this is causing regular flooding of the dining room floor. Thank you

Second Hand Uniform

We have a lot of second hand uniform in very good condition, particularly PE kit. This will be on sale in the main reception area on Fridays. Please come and have a look.