

February 9th 2024

Headteacher's News

The 2024 edition of Safer Internet Day took place this week. This special celebration, which takes place in February of each year, aims to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all, especially for children and young people. This year's theme was 'Inspiring change. Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. The internet is such a key part of everyone's lives it is really important that children understand how to use it sensibly. Things change so rapidly it may feel hard to stay on top of what our children are doing, but there are many websites that support parents, including the UK internet centre. They have top tips for parents and carers to help support their children to stay safe and happy online. This includes subjects such as;

- Inspire change by modelling how to be safe online
- Make a difference by having regular discussions about the online world
- Manage influence by researching the content and games your child enjoys the most
- Navigate change by knowing where to go for further support

For more information regarding these, please visit their website:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

Other website for parents include, NSPCC, National Cyber Security Centre, or CEOP Education.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

Year 6 travelled back in time on Monday to experience life in a Victorian school in 1897, just as the country starts to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The children dressed up in period costume, girls and boys lined up separately and bowed to the teacher when entering the room. They sat in silence, only speaking when spoken to. The children learnt reading, writing and arithmetic and wrote with a fountain pen which had a steel point. This was dipped into an inkwell. The children relished this fantastic immersive experience.



On Monday, year six took part in a Victorian day. We all dressed up as Victorian schoolchildren and 'Ira', (or master Irons) lead us through the day. In the morning, master Irons was our teacher, and he acted like a school master in the 1800s would have done. He taught us Dictation, Spelling, Maths, Science and History, whilst being strict and taking no nonsense. In the afternoon, we looked at some Victorian artefacts and toys that children would have played with in that era. By Oliver



As part of their topic on Oceans, **Year 4** visited the Sea Life Centre in Southend this week. They had a brilliant time observing and learning all about marine life. They were very well behaved and lucky with the weather to be able to explore the seashore.

"We visited the spectacular Sea life centre in South End. Happily, we wandered around the aquarium and discovered lots of new creatures such as clown fish, zebra sharks, butterflies and even snakes. After our lunch we had the chance to play on the beach, it was so much fun!"



Important Dates

Wb 12th Feb	House netball tournament
12th– 16th Feb	Festival of Literature
Wed 14th Feb	Y1 visit from Garg's Animals Workshop
Wed 14th Feb	PTA Valentine's Day Tuck Shop
Thurs 15th Feb	Northgate Bake Off
Fri 16th Feb	Year 1 Historical Tea Party
Fri 16th Feb	10.30am Cake Sale
Half Term	19th - 23rd Feb
Fri 1st Mar	Stepping Stones coffee morning
Fri 1st Mar	Year 5 & 6 Science Show BS College
W/C 4th Mar	PTA Mother's Day Shop
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA committee meeting
5th & 6th Mar	Parent consultations
Thurs 7th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Thurs 7th Mar	2.40pm Y6 Spring music concert
Mon 11th Mar	9am Y5 & 6 maths games/work sharing with parents
Tues 12th Mar	9am Nursery & Reception maths games/work sharing with parents
Wed 13th Mar	9am Y1 & 2 maths games/work sharing with parents
Thurs 14th Mar	9am Y3 & 4 maths games/work sharing with parents
Wed 20th Mar	PTA Book Fair
Thurs 21st Mar	Y3 & 4 production
Friday 22nd Mar	School Disco
Wk beg 25th Mar	House cross country final
Wk beg 25th Mar	Science week and house science quiz
Fri 22nd Mar	Y3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Tues 26th Mar	Last day of term for Nursery
Thurs 28th Mar	2pm Last day of term
29th Mar—12th April	Easter break
Mon 15th April	Start of term
April (TBC)	PTA Quiz Night at The Belgian Brewer
Thurs 25th April	2.30pm Y5 Music concert
Thurs 9th May	2.30pm Y4 Music concert
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA committee meeting
13th—16th May	Y6 SATS
Fri 17th May	PTA Outdoor Cinema
Mon 20th May	Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
Thurs 23rd May	2.30pm Y3 Music concert
27th—31st May	Half Term
Mon 3rd June	Inset Day
Mon 3rd June	Y4 National multiplication assessments
3rd—7th June	Y6 School Journey, Kingswood
Sat 8th June	PTA Summer Fayre
W/C 10th June	PTA Father's Day Shop
Mon 10th June	Y1 National phonics, screening.
Thurs 13th June	Visit from Herts & Essex Music Group
Fri 14th June	Y5 Egyptian workshop
Thurs 20th June	Visit from Woodwind Stortford
Fri 21st June	Y2 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Friday 5th July	PTA Sports Day After Party & Colour Run
W/C 15th July	PTA Ice Cream Sales

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Dangerous parking outside school can cause increased safety risk to both children and parents. The yellow zigzag lines outside school indicate that stopping or waiting is strictly prohibited. The highway code states that these areas should be kept clear during school hours. These restrictions are there to keep you and your children safe. Parking inconsiderately can put people in danger! Please see an idea for parents to consider in reminders overleaf.

Enriching the Curriculum

This week our **silver and gold team** played football against Howe Green. Here are two accounts of the matches: *The silver team participated in an eventful match against Howe Green. With the blow of the referee's whistle, Howe Green gained possession resulting in an early free kick, which as deflected into our goal. It ended up being a 7-goal thriller with Finley getting a hatrick. Howe green won 4-3. By Finley B and Harry R.*

The Gold Team had an exciting match wining 5-2 against Howe Green. Jack G scored a brilliant header from the corner after half time and Freddie C scored four goals! All the players were very chuffed. By Albie and Harry Though the website "Children Today Changing Lives" under accessible authors, **Year 2** joined the Canadian author and poet Jordan Scott and heard him talk about his award winning book "I talk Like a River". The story is a about a boy who stutters but who is given a whole new way of approaching his speech! <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/i/i-talk-like-a-river/>.

Today **EYFS** completed a sponsored dance to raise money for refurbishing the EYFS garden area. The children were fantastic and had a wonderful time. They showed all their amazing dance skills, they boogied, congaed, whirled, spun and jumped all around the hall! There was also a cake sale. Thank you for all of the sponsorship money and cake donations. We really appreciate your support and generosity. The money raised, which is already over £1,000 and equipment brought will be enjoyed by children for many years to come.



Reminders and Updates

End of Spring Term for Nursery

Due to heating works taking place in the Nursery classroom over the Easter holidays and preparation work that needs to take place beforehand, Nursery will be finishing the spring term on Tuesday 26th March (two days earlier than the rest of the school). We apologise for the inconvenience.

Walking bus

To help keep our children safe, we were wondering if there are any parents that might like to think about volunteering to start a walking bus? This system was in operation a few years ago and worked well for everyone. Parents dropped their children at the rugby club for a certain time and then volunteers walked the children down in time for school crossing Cricketfield Lane safely. Now we have, Tony our crossing patrol man.

Saving water

Affinity Water are working with schools and pupils to save water. They are running an exciting poster competition tailored to inspire pupils to think of new ways to save water. Our Eco council will be covering this subject in assembly soon. Meanwhile, if any pupils would like to enter on behalf of the school, first prize is a water-saving Water Smart garden worth £5,000, runners up receive £500 and each school will receive a free water butt. Please find attached on a separate flyer attached, how to enter the competition.

Celebration of Achievements

Nursery: Aasiyah and Hamza

R1: Jack **R2:** Luca S

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on "Computing"

Well done for: writing an algorithm and programming Beebot on their first try, understanding scratch coding and supporting others in computing, having fantastic knowledge of coding and developing their coding language in their free time, making an excellent, interactive quiz on scratch, making important sensible points in our e-safety discussions this week, excellent understanding of bop coding, a brilliant technology magazine cover, excellent team work while using robots, persevering and using great solving skills. Well done children!

Class 1: Ava	Class 7: Myla
Class 2: Teigo	Class 8: Lily
Class 3: Faith	Class 9: Sidney
Class 4: Matilda	Class 10: Joe
Class 5: Mason	Class 11: Fletcher
Class 6: George	Class 12: Susie



Northgate School Association

Valentine's Day Tuck Shop

Our Valentine's Day Tuck Shop is taking place on Wednesday 14th February where you can buy lollies and treat bags at pick up time. Lots of delicious sweets treats! Please bring cash if you can although a card machine will be available.

January 250 Club Winner

Congratulations to ball number 110, Joyce Martin/N Martin, who is our January 250 Club winner. Please contact ptanorthgate@gmail.com with your bank details!

Sponsorship

Do you own or work for a company that would like to sponsor our Northgate PTA?

We have lots of exciting school & community events planned such as our Mother's & Father's Day shops, Outdoor Cinema and our Summer Fayre above.

In return for sponsorship, your logo and company will be featured in the event advertising within the school community and to the wider community where appropriate. Contact us via Facebook or email us on ptanorthgate@gmail.com for further details!

PTA Team

We still need you! Our PTA is looking for new committee members and volunteers to help deliver events and raise much needed money for our school. We have lots of fantastic events in the 23/24 diary but we do need help to run them successfully.

We are specifically looking for a PTA Secretary who will support our committee meetings and support the team. If you have good record keeping skills, attention to detail and good listening and computer skills- we need you!

Any time you can spare would be most gratefully received. Please do contact me on ptanorthgate@gmail.com.

Hope you all have a relaxing weekend.
Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team