

December 16th 2022

Headteacher's News

It has been a hectic, fun festive week. KS1 did an amazing performance of 'The Late Angels', impressing the audiences with their fantastic singing, dancing and the clarity of their speaking. We were proud of them all. We wish to thank parents for their support, particularly for supplying their costumes.

Well done to the Nursery for getting us in the festive spirit with beautiful singing on Wednesday.

I would like to thank all our staff and volunteers for their time and energy putting such tremendous productions together.

Thank you to the PTA for funding the KS1 and the KS2 pantomimes. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

The children also relished their Christmas lunches this week. Our thanks go to all of our kitchen staff for the meals and to the PTA for their help.

We really appreciate that we have an amazing team and community at Northgate, who continually work extremely hard to give the best opportunities for the children.

I would like to wish everyone at Northgate a very happy Christmas and to thank everyone for their support during this school year.

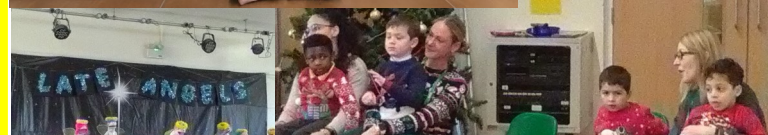
Enriching the Curriculum

Nursery Christmas fun.

The children had great fun this week with Mrs Black leading the entertainment. They sang lots of festive songs, had games and activities, plus they had a pretend snow flight and pretended to be elves in Santa's workshop.

KS1 Christmas production 'The Late Angels'

On Tuesday KS1 were delighted to present their Christmas show 'The Late Angels'. The children amazed us with their fabulous costumes, wonderful singing, lively dancing and powerful storytelling. Our Year Two children worked incredibly hard to learn all their lines and we are very proud of their efforts. It was lovely to see all the children smiling and enthusiastic as they enjoyed their moments in the spotlight! Well done KS1, you are all superstars!



Puppets Galore

The children were told the story of Christmas by Puppets Galore this morning. All the children enjoyed the joyful message and amazing puppetry.



Important Dates

Mon 19th Dec	Viking House non school uniform day
Tues 20th Dec	9.00am Volunteer coffee morning
Tues 20th Dec church	KS2 St Michael's church carol service 2pm (pick up from at 3pm)
Wed 21st Dec	Break the Rules Day
Wed 21st Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
Thurs 5th Jan	INSET DAY
Fri 6th Jan	R—Y6 return to school after Christmas break
Mon 9th Jan	Nursery return after Christmas break
13th-17th Feb	Half term
Wed 3rd March	Happy Bag collection
Fri 31st March	End of term at 2.00pm
Mon 17th April	Children return to school
May 2023	Y2 SATs Week
Mon 1st May	Bank Holiday
Mon 8th May	The Kings Coronation Bank Holiday
9th-12th May	Y6 SATs Week
29th-2nd June	Half term
Mon 5th June	INSET DAY
Tues 13th June	Happy Bag collection
12th -16th June	Y1 Phonics Week - (plus Y2 phonic catch ups)
12th -23th June	Y4 Times Tables Tests
Thurs 20th July	End of Term at 2.00pm

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

2022 has been a more normal year in school and I'm sure everyone is pleased to be back to face-to-face learning. It has been wonderful to see all the normal school activities taking place again with school journey, summer fayre, fire-works, trip to the pantomime to name just a few. There has also been a huge focus on closing the gaps in learning, skills and socialising that Covid has left us all with. The governors would like to commend all the staff for their tremendous efforts and the support parents have shown. This is the first Christmas for 3 years where we can all be with the friends and family we want to be with, so I hope everyone will enjoy this time and come back refreshed and ready for 2023.

On behalf of the Governing Body, to all the Children, Parents and Staff, we thank you for your amazing work and dedication to the learning and wellbeing of the whole school community.

We wish you and all your families a healthy and very Happy Christmas.

Laurence Foote
Chair of Governors

Safeguarding

TikTok is a video-sharing platform where you can watch and create videos, and livestream. TikTok has an age-rating of 13+ although a recent report by [Ofcom](#) highlighted that over half of 3-17-year-olds are using it.

Users can browse different videos on TikTok via a personalised feed known as the 'For You Page'. You can also search for content using topics or hashtags.

For everything you need to know about the popular video-sharing app, explore [TikTok's Guardian Guide](#) for more information.

Worried about a child?

If you're worried about something a child or young person may have experienced online, you can contact the NSPCC helpline for free support and advice. Call on [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000) or [contact us online](#)

Children can contact [Childline](#) any time to get support themselves.



Key Stage 2 Pantomime at South Mills Arts.

On Wednesday, KS2 walked to South Mill Arts to watch Jack and the Beanstalk. The characters were Jack, Jill, Crooked, Daisy the Cow and lots more! At the beginning, we watched Jack singing which was great and we loved all the dancing. At half-time, we all had a snack and drink. After the break, Jill announced that she loved Jack! There was more dancing and singing, and we all loved shouting and joining in with the songs. It was a happy ending because Jack and Jill got married, and they all became friends – even evil Crooked! It was a really fun afternoon. By Lottie B and Tallulah B-M Class 10

Northgate Christmas Door Decorations



The classes have been hard at work this week, decorating our school doors to brighten the corridors during our festive week. They are an inspiration!



Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Tom and Olly

R1: Eleanor R2: Maximilian

This week our 'Learners of the Week' focused on Musician/Performer

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: projecting their voice well during the KS1 production, for excellent enthusiasm and singing during their poem and Christmas song, amazing acting and a great angel performance, for being so reliable with their lines for the Christmas show, for wonderful singing and actions to the Christmas song, for performing the class poem and carol with lots of enthusiasm and confidence, for trying hard in their first Christmas production, for a beautiful and confident reading during the carol concert.

Class 1: Nellie	Class 7: Ruby
Class 2: Flora	Class 8: Isla
Class 3: Ella	Class 9: Alexandra
Class 4: Hazel	Class 10: Vishu
Class 5: Rosie	Class 11: Yoana
Class 6: Bella	Class 12: Jasper

Reminders and Updates

Tuesday 20th December: Carol Service at St Michael's Church

Our KS2 children will be walking to St Michael's Church on Tuesday afternoon for the Christmas carol service. They will not be taking bags to the church so we suggest they leave them in home on Tuesday. If you would like to join us, please arrive at 1.50pm and the service will start at 2pm. Due to space restrictions and current fire regulations, we request that only one parent attends for children in Years 3, 4 and 5, and up to 2 from year 6.

All KS2 children need to be picked up at the church at 3pm. Please inform the class teacher who your child will be collected by, if you are unable to pick up. If there is a last minute change to pick up on the day, please email admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk.

KS1 teachers will hang on to children if parents are running slightly late from picking up siblings from church. If your child is in Night Owls after school, provision will be made for the children to be walked back to school at the end of the service.

Please note that there will be a collection at the end of the service.

As a school we expect children to be in smart uniform at all times. Please note that the children on Tuesday 20th December should all be wearing a school jumper and **NOT** a fleece or a hoodie and, as the snow should have gone, school shoes, not boots.

Wednesday 21st December: Break the rules day: Poster attached to newsletter. This is a PTA fundraising event.

School will close at **2pm on Wednesday**. Night owls will run from 2pm and close at 6.30pm as usual.

Message from Mrs Cheung for Year 6 children.

Please can all Year 6 children bring in a recorder for music in the new year. If you need to buy one Mrs Cheung recommends the Yamaha YRS-24B Soprano/Descant Recorder.

House Point Winners

The Vikings have won the house points for this term with 3728! Well done! As a reward all children in Viking house can wear non school uniform on Monday 19th December. Please wear warm clothing with sensible shoes.



Northgate School Association

Break the Rules Day

Don't forget our Break the Rules Day on Wednesday 21st December. For every rule you break, please give a 50p donation. Please see attached our Break the Rules poster for further details of the allowed rules to be broken. Have lots of fun being a little bit naughty!

Photography Competition for 2023/2024 Calendar

Thank you for all your sparkly submissions! November's Winner is ... Myla Brunicardi, Class 5! Congratulations!

Her photo will be the prime picture on our November 2023 calendar page. You can view it and our other favourite entries on our Facebook Northgate PTA Noticeboard.

Keep sending in entries for December's "Winter Wonderland" theme. Deadline for entries is 1st January 2023.

Northgate Yellow Pages

Everyone should have received last week a copy of our first Northgate Yellow Pages advertising local businesses of our parents and carers. We hope to make this a regular publication, so please do let us know at advertising@northgatepta.com, if you wish to advertise in future editions. Here is the link to our first edition:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MWapOwVOix_OUhrMk4pWMBYOfJfcrS0mm/view?usp=drivesdk

What a 12 months!

We just wanted to say a huge thank you to all your support over the last 12 months since we took on the role of Co-Chairs and what a 12 months it has been! We have raised over £20,000 for our children's school and this money has meant we have been able to fund the following: Repair of Gazebo Roofs, 2022 Year 6 Leavers, tree play equipment, books including EYFS picture books, non fiction books and diversity books, replacement nets for football and basketball, equipment to support curriculum for Year 1, laptops, festival of Literature, EYFS ducklings, PTA gazebo for events, metal sports shed, sports equipment, book corners in each of the classrooms, 2021 and 2022 enrichment weeks (3 weeks each academic year), token behaviour jars, musical instruments, visiting poet, PE whiteboards, PE bibs, Year 4 pizza school trip contribution, 2021 and 2022 EYFS, KS1 and KS2 pantomimes and refreshments, 2021 and 2022 Christmas dinner accessories and £10,000 allocated towards the new outdoor music hub in 2021/2022 with a further £10,000 hoping to be allocated this academic year.

Without the work of the PTA, our children wouldn't have enjoyed these resources and experiences! A massive thank you! Lots of events coming up next year. Do come and join us and help at our events, as we need lots of volunteers to pull off these events.

Please see attached our formal Co-Chair report and Financial Report which we discussed at the AGM in November.

We hope you all have a wonderful festive break.

Geri Wren and Jo Parrott—PTA Co-Chairs

School Milk

If you would like to register your child for school milk simply visit www.coolmilk.com/register

If you are entitled to free school meals, you are also eligible for free school milk if required. Please let the office know so that this can be added to the weekly order.



Cold Weather Payment if receiving benefits

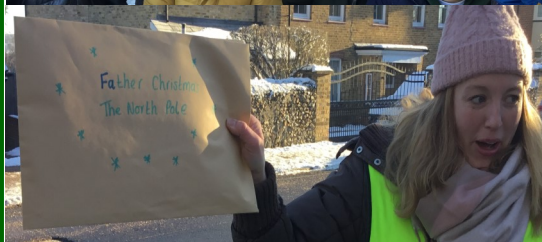
According to the GOV.UK website if you receive certain benefits you will get a payment of £25 for each 7 day period of very cold weather between 1st November and 31st March (if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, zero degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days). Check if you can [get a payment in your area](#).

Spreading Christmas cheer at school and beyond!

Meriel, Pixiebelle and Grace used their creative flair.....and lunchtimes to help decorate Mrs Clynes and Mrs Shepherd's office door. Whilst doing so, they made some extras to share with Abbeyfield's Care home in Felsted. Mrs Clynes delivered them via her mum, who works there. The residents were over the moon with the decorations as well as the handmade card the girls sent too. Well done girls; thank you for spreading your Christmas cheer!



The whole School has fun in the Snow this week!



Fundraising Christmas Jumper Day



The school raised lots of money for Crisis at Christmas! Thank you for your donations.



School Christmas Lunches

Jenny and the catering team cooked a delicious Christmas lunch for the children this week. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to the catering team for all of their hard work!



From all the staff at Northgate, have a very happy Christmas everyone!



English

Year 1 have been learning about the story of the Gingerbread Man.

This week the children enjoyed baking and decorating their own gingerbread men.

