

October 20th 2023

Headteacher's News

Thank you to everyone who attended the reading sessions this week, which was a great opportunity to work closely in partnership. We hope you enjoyed sharing a book together. See page 3 for lots of photos of the event.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Miss Kavanagh all the best with her exciting new stage in her life, moving up to Manchester to be with her partner. It has been a great pleasure having her on the Northgate team. She has not only been a fantastic class teacher but done an amazing job developing PE in the school. I know Northgate will always be dear to her heart as she not only has taught here, but also was an ex pupil. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Holt, after half term, who will be teaching class 10 at the beginning of the week. We are also sad to say Mrs Leeks, our pastoral lead who has decided to 'spread her wings' beyond the education sector and will be leaving us on the 3rd November. She has done a fantastic job supporting so many children, particularly those who have found it difficult with coming to school or struggled within their lessons. We wish them both all the best and know they will be greatly missed by the staff and the pupils. We look forward to welcoming our new pastoral lead in mid November.

Congratulations to the Normans for winning our house rugby competition this week. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to Miss Kavanagh for organising the event.

We have had a great end of term today with our themed RE day based on Creation and the Wonderful World. Thanks to Mrs McFarlane, our RE subject leader for organising the day.

After half term, we have an INSET day on Monday 30th October and then we will welcome the children back on the Tuesday for our well-being week. Friday is our Rainbow day, where we will be celebrating what makes us all unique and where our children can come into school wearing something that makes them happy; something that allows them the opportunity to express who they are. Please see the letter for more details.

Hope you have a fantastic half term!

Enriching the Curriculum

Today was RE Day, where the children learned about the Christian story of creation in assembly. KS1 and KS2 classes were mixed up and all children took part in various activities throughout the day such as: debating using articulate arguments, discussions and role play. The children also used their creative skills to produce fantastic art work based on the Christian Bible story. KS2 also listened to the Hindu story of creation. In the afternoon, the children worked on the theme 'Our Wonderful World'.



Important Dates

23rd—27th Oct

Mon 30th Oct

W/B 30th Oct

Wed 1st Nov

Fri 3rd Nov

Fri 3rd Nov

7th—9th Nov

Mon 13th Nov

Fri 24th Nov

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Tues 19th Dec

Fri 12th Jan

Wed 31st Jan

Mon 4th Mar

Fri 22nd March

Fri 10th May

13th—16th May

Mon 20th May

Mon 24th May

Mon 3rd June

3rd—7th June

Mon 10th June

Fri 21st June

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Half term

Inset Day

Well-being week

Individual and Sibling photographs

Rainbow Day

5pm PTA fireworks

Parent consultations (details to follow)

7.30pm PTA AGM

Year 5 Stortford fields trip

1.30pm KS2 Pantomime at South Mills

(pick up from theatre)

1.30pm KS1 Hurricane Panto visit

Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch

KS2 Christmas Lunch

9.15am and 2.30 am KS1 Christmas production

Volunteer coffee 9am

2pm KS2 St Michael's church carol service

(pick up from church)

Break the rules day

2pm End of term

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Young Voices Choir—O2

7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting

Year 5 Trip to Colchester Castle

2pm PTA Committee Meeting

Y6 SATS

Year 6 Trip to the 'Crucial Crew'.

7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting

Y4 national multiplication assessments

Year 6 School Journey Kingwood

Y1 National phonics, screening.

Year 2 trip to Paradise Wildlife Park

Safeguarding

Importance of Sleep

Sleep plays a crucial role in the development of young minds. In addition to having a direct effect on happiness, research shows that sleep impacts alertness and attention, cognitive performance, mood, resiliency, vocabulary, learning and memory.

A child who is short on sleep can swing between being grumpy and hyperactive, with effects that can mimic ADHD. Sleepiness can also affect your child's ability to pay attention, with ramifications for their performance in school.

The lead-up to and routine around your child's bedtime is referred to as 'sleep hygiene'. Having good sleep hygiene can help your child to settle to sleep and to stay asleep.

For tips on this matter please click the following link which is an Information Leaflet from Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children:

https://media.gosh.nhs.uk/documents/GOSH_Sleep_Hygiene_in_children.pdf

Your Child's Age

Infants 4-12 months

Children 1-2years

Children 3-5 years

Children 6-12 years

Teenagers 13-18

Recommended sleep time in 24 hours

12 to 16 hours including naps

11 to 14 hours including naps

10 to 13 hours including naps

9 to 12 hours

8-10 hours

For the love of Reading

We have had a successful week welcoming families into our school to read with the children. We believe the ability to read is a fundamental life skill. Please continue to encourage reading for enjoyment at home and signing the reading records. Mrs Layer discussed different ways to get children reading, such as: subtitles on during a silent programme, child friendly newspapers and magazines, websites and favourite book series. To become an avid reader, children need an expansive vocabulary; remember to explore vocabulary when talking with your children at home. Please see lots of lovely photos on the next page which were taken throughout the week. We are always reviewing and updating our classroom book corners, please see our Amazon Wishlist for new books to purchase: <https://www.northgate.herts.sch.uk/web/amazon-wish-lists/666476> Please see our website for further information on how to encourage reading and recommended books for your child's age: <https://www.northgate.herts.sch.uk/web/reading/317922> We are a Little Wandle School, please see their website for resources and videos to support early reading at home. <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Our **Nursery** children have been exploring their own likes and dislikes this week, touching on future aspirations. After half term, they will look closely at careers. On Wednesday they came to school dressed up as people they might like to be in the future. They all looked fantastic!



Year 6 have been conducting experiments based around microorganisms using bread. Slices of bread are put into separate zip lock bags and labelled. Some slices were handled a lot, some had water added and others were kept at different temperatures.



'In science, we were learning about which environment mould grows best. Our test in which the bread was touched forty times contradicted our knowledge of mould, and our test with lots of moisture exceeded what we expected! The slices were covered in mould. After that, we investigated the amount of mould on the three slices of bread and saw different results. We had to make sure it was a fair test or the result would not have been clear.' By George and Charlotte Class 11.

Reminders and Updates

Would you be interested in becoming a casual **Midday Supervisory Assistant** at Northgate? We need bank staff that we can call upon during periods of staff sickness etc... To find out more please email: admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk

Uniform

Please remember that children should now be wearing winter uniform. No summer dresses are to be worn, but we realise some children prefer shorts, so that is ok. Jewellery and earrings are not allowed at school.

Food Bank

The Bishop's Stortford Food Bank came to collect all of the Harvest Festival food donated by families of Northgate pupils. They were very grateful for everyone's generosity and said that it would truly make a difference to people in need.



Parent Consultations, 7th, 8th and 9th November.

Please note that parents will be able to **book consultations on Monday 30th at 7pm**. You will receive an email reminder prior to this. Appointments for parents of most classes will be on Tuesday 7th November and Wednesday 8th November. The appointments on Thursday 9th November are for Class 9 and Class 5, this is due to the dual teachers and their working days.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Tillie & Miguel

R1: James R2: Albie

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on 'Teamwork Tiger'

Well done for: Showing fantastic teamwork skills in Mr Brown's leadership lessons, being a true team player and role model within school, for supporting the group in DT so that everyone was involved and had a turn, during the 'Tag Rugby Festival' working hard as a part of the team and working really hard with a partner to learn tricky words.

Class 1: Max

Class 7: Joshua C

Class 2: Bella

Class 8: Dennis

Class 3: Georgia

Class 9: Orla

Class 4: Ava

Class 10: Marvin

Class 5: Charlie

Class 11: Anya

Class 6:

Class 12: Eden



Enriching the Curriculum - Sport

Northgate v Little Hallingbury Friday 13th

On Monday, the silver A team played against Little Hallingbury. We both played well and it was a good game. The final score was 5-5, but we dominated. The scorers were Anton (x2) Faily, me, Theo. Well done to everyone that played!

Ollie W



On Thursday, some year 5 and 6's took part in a tag rugby competition against local schools. We all played really well and had lots of fun playing. Both teams won most of their games, only losing one. Everyone came back with smiles on their faces.

By Holly and James

Northgate School Association

PTA Fireworks Night

Another plea! We are still urgently needing some final volunteers to support our Fireworks Night. We have lots planned but we won't be able to run all the stalls if we don't have support. If you are able to help for any amount of time that evening, we need you!

Please sign up here: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-northgate11>

Thank you to our Fireworks Night sponsor, Lit Fibre.

Christmas Cards and Gifts

Each child has been sent home with a Christmas order form today where they can create fabulous artwork over the half term holiday which can then be converted into Christmas cards and gifts. Please return it to your class teacher by Wednesday 8th November 2023. The date may seem early, but we want to ensure you get your products by the end of November!

Easyfundraising

You can help raise funds for our school without having to donate anything yourself whilst you're shopping! Christmas is approaching fast, so this is a perfect time to sign up!

Over 7,500 brands and sites will donate to us every time you use 'easyfundraising' to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself. This means you can raise money for us every time you buy clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, school supplies or anything else you might be buying online. It's easy, completely FREE and will make a BIG difference to our school.

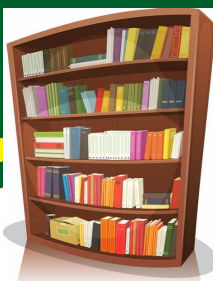
Please sign up and help us raise more: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/northgate-association/?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=raisingforaschool-fb1

Go Henry Partnership
Don't forget, our PTA has recently partnered with the GoHenry PTA Members' Programme!

Every parent that signs up using our unique referral link will get six months free membership and £5 free pocket money. £15 will be donated to the PTA when a parent signs up using the following link: <https://gohenry-uk.sjv.io/c/4840050/1601466/8511>

Hope you all have a relaxing half term.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team



Northgate Primary School

Newsletter

Reading with Parents this week.....



**EVERY CHILD
EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY**