

# Northgate Primary School

## Newsletter

December 12th 2025

### Headteacher's News

This week has been filled with festive joy! On Monday, our **Year 6** students took part in a magical candlelit service at St. Michael's Church alongside other local schools. Their beautiful singing created a truly special atmosphere.

Our **Reception children** delighted everyone with their wonderful Christmas production, *Everyone Loves a Baby*, showcasing their enthusiasm, beautiful singing, and festive spirit. Well done to all the **Nursery children**, who also delighted their grown-ups with their wonderful singing during the Nursery Christmas Songs. Adding to the celebrations, on Friday, our **KS1 children** wowed us with their fantastic production, *Jesus in the Manger*. Their hard work and talent shone through in their fantastic singing, acting, and narrating, leaving the audience full of Christmas cheer.

Well done to all the children – we are incredibly proud of them! A huge thank you to all the staff who worked tirelessly to prepare the children for these events, and to all our parents for your invaluable support, including with providing costumes. Your encouragement and involvement make these moments so special. Their productions have been particularly impressive this year with many children missing rehearsals due to so much illness. To avoid sickness spreading further, please keep your children at home if they have a temperature or are feeling sick.

Looking ahead, we have more exciting Christmas events next week! Please make sure to check the calendar for details, as we have Christmas lunches and the KS2 Carol Service, which includes a different pick-up time. This will help ensure everything runs smoothly and avoids any confusion. Many thanks

We break up next **Friday**, at **2pm**. Have a great weekend.

### Enriching the Curriculum

**Year 5** went on a Geography field trip this week around town, plotting their route on a map as they walked. They had old photos of sites and buildings from around 100 years ago and set out to find these locations again. The children took new photos to compare modern-day Bishop's Stortford with the past and identified which features have remained the same. Back at school, they wrote up their findings and reflected on how the town has changed over time.

**Year 3** enjoyed a full day of Design and Technology on Monday. The children have been learning about healthy recipes and spent the morning preparing and writing out the instructions for carrot and sultana muffins.

During the practical session, they practised key food preparation skills, including grating, peeling, measuring and weighing ingredients. The children showed great enthusiasm and were very proud of their finished muffins. They said how delicious they were!



### Important Dates

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	2.00pm Rock Steady Concert
Thurs 18th Dec	KS2 2pm Church service St Michaels Church (pick up from church TBC)
	Break the Rules Day
Fri 19th Dec	<b>2pm finish Break up for Christmas</b>
<b>Fri 19th Dec</b>	Christmas Holidays
22nd Dec—2nd Jan	<b>Inset Day</b>
<b>Mon 5th Jan</b>	<b>School term starts</b>
<b>Tues 6th Jan</b>	Y6 Victorian Day
Mon 26th Jan	Y2 Old Northgate School walk
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Half Term</b>
<b>16th—20th Feb</b>	2pm finish Break up for Easter
Fri 27th Mar	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>30th Mar—10th April</b>	End of term
Thurs 22nd May	Half term
25th—29th May	<b>Inset day</b>
<b>Mon 1st June</b>	Y2 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
Thurs 25th June	Move up day
Thurs 9th July	Break up for summer holidays
Tues 21st July	<b>Occasional day</b>
<b>Wes 22nd July</b>	

\*Red = New Item / Change to Item

### Arrive on Time and Pick up Promptly

We have recently noticed more children arriving late to school. Being on time ensures pupils don't miss important instructions and helps build good habits for the future. Please plan ahead and allow extra time for delays.

Late arrivals disrupt learning, so if you expect any issues with drop-off or pick-up, please inform the school office in advance.

### The winning house

Congratulations to **Saxons** who have earned the most house points this term. As a reward all children in **Saxons** house will be able to wear non-school uniform on **Monday**.

### The Royal British Legion

We received a message from the Royal British Legion thanking Northgate families and staff for their support with the Poppy Appeal this year. Northgate raised £497.73. Your support will make a real difference to the Armed Forces community.



### Safeguarding

In the lead-up to Christmas, please be mindful of toys and devices that contain button batteries (flat, silver discs). To keep children safe, always store button batteries securely and out of reach of children. When they are depleted, dispose of them safely, as they can still cause harm. It is also important to dispose of electrical items and all types of batteries at designated collection points in shops or at your local recycling centre. Placing them in household rubbish or recycling bins can cause fires, so please ensure they are handled and recycled responsibly. Thank you.

**EVERY CHILD  
EVERY CHANCE • EVERY DAY**

## Enriching the Curriculum

During half term, children at Northgate had the option to create a poster about a significant figure that they have studied in class. They produced some fabulous art work and have won books linked to Black History Month. These were donated by the PTA for the children's classrooms.

Well-done to the following winners:

**Y1:** Tillie, **Y2:** William, Iris, Hollie, Seb Z

and Henry,

**Y4:** Tate and

Chloe **Y5:**

Beren, Leto and

James.



## Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week are:

**Ducklings:** Parker and Leonardo

**Puffins and Owls:** Everyone for their fantastic performance in "Everyone Loves a Baby".

'Learner of the Week' focus on learning powers

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

Well done to:

**Robins:** Alex

**Wrens:** Danuji

**Starlings & Sparrows:** Everyone for their wonderful performance in "Jesus in the Manger"

**Skylarks:** Arthur

**Swifts:** Myon

**Nightingales:** The whole class!

**Kingfishers:** Robbie

**Kestrels:** Lydia

**Kites:** Teddy

**Harriers:** Alex

**Hawks:** Isabella



## Wood Chippings Required

We are looking for tree chippings to cover the worn, muddy areas of the playground so that the children can play safely without slipping.

If you know any tree surgeons or landscape gardeners, or have any contacts who may be able to help, please let Mr Parker know by email: [site206@northgate.herts.sch.uk](mailto:site206@northgate.herts.sch.uk)

## Cheerleading

The Northgate Gators took part in the KS2 Intra Schools Cheerleading Competition held at Birchwood this week and were amazing! Gators scored top marks for their motions, cannons and overall impression. The team represented Northgate brilliantly.



## Christmas Reminders and Updates

### Monday 15th December

- **Reception local walk** to post letters to Father Christmas 9:00–9:45am. Parents welcome
- Non uniform day for **Saxons**. (House Prize)

### 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**
- 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. Michael's Church** - Service begins at 2.00pm. Only one adult per child. Pick up from St. Michael's church at 3.00pm Please note that children cannot bring school bags. Packed lunches should be sent in a disposable bag. Children attending Night Owls will be walked back to school.  
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. Not non-uniform day!**
- School finishes at 2.00pm



## Christmas Food Bank Collection

Don't forget, Northgate are supporting the Bishops Stortford local food bank over Christmas. Collections will take place in your child's class on **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Next week.** Suggested Items needed are: *Tinned meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, baked beans, spaghetti, soup, tomatoes, Pasta sauce, pot noodles, pasta, rice, sponge puddings, custard, cereals, UHT milk, peanut butter, marmite, savoury snack items, crisps, Fruit juice, squash, chocolate, Biscuits, tea, coffee, sugar, deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, razors, shampoo, conditioner, soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste, hand wipes, sanitary towels, tampons, nappies of various size, baby food, laundry liquid detergent/conditioner, washing powder, bleach, antibacterial spray and washing up liquid.* Thank you.



## Northgate School Association

### Break the Rules Day—final day of term

Break any of the following rules for a 50p donation: grey socks/tights, tie (UKS2), nail polish, coloured hair, hair gel, non-green hair accessories, jewellery, trainers/fashion shoes, squash in bottles, Christmas jumpers/accessories. Only these rules apply.

### Christmas

The PTA has funded squash, decorations and crackers for next week's Christmas lunch. We hope the children enjoy it! Pre-loved Christmas jumpers are still available in the uniform shed at low prices—perfect for Christmas lunch and great for the planet!

### PTA Lottery

If you haven't joined the PTA Lottery yet here is the link: <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/members/northgateptalottery> Join [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app?utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=pta-bonus-fb1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app?utm_campaign=pmc&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=pta-bonus-fb1) to raise money effortlessly while Christmas shopping. Kind regards The PTA Team