

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

February 7th 2020

Headteacher's News

Today the first of the year groups went to the Festival of Literature and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to listen to an author speak. This is one of the ways at school we support developing children's **cultural capital**. This relatively new term in education is the accumulation of knowledge, values and experiences that children need to be educated citizens; it is believed to be one of the key ingredients a student will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work. Developing cultural capital within a school setting gives exposure to children to experiences new things. Parents also have a key role developing cultural capital such as taking your children to museums etc. As a school, we are highly committed to giving our children a wealth of opportunities to help them become successful individuals. This includes the visit for year five this week from the mobile planetarium. We hope the other year groups enjoy their visits to the Festival of Literature next week. Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum - Sport

Netball

A team of Year 5 and 6's took part in their first High 5's mixed netball match after school on Tuesday. They played incredibly well against St Andrew's and fought well for a final score of 6-8. Congratulations to all and thanks to Mrs Smith for all her help.

Football

Our A and B football teams played a rematch against St Joseph's last Friday following bad weather. Both matches were incredibly competitive and with close score lines and were very well supported by parents from both schools. The boys showed excellent sportsmanship. The A team won 3-1 and the B team lost by a narrow margin. Well done to all involved.

Cross Country Championships

A group of Year 5 and 6's went to St Albans at the weekend for the Hertfordshire Schools' Athletics Association Primary Cross Country Championships. On a very cold first day of February, the children covered a hilly course of around 1600m. Although they weren't able to qualify on this occasion, the children ran really well and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Year 1 Tea Party for the 'Queen'

As part of their topic on 'London', Year 1 were very lucky to have a visit from the 'Queen' and her 'Lady in Waiting' on Thursday. The visit started with a question and answer session with questions written by the children. This was followed by a tea party which was enjoyed by all!



Important Dates

Mon 10th Feb	3.20pm-4pm Parent 'Vision for PE' Meeting
Mon 10th Feb	9.30am Year 1/2 to Festival of Literature
Mon 10th Feb	2pm Year 5 to Festival of Literature
Tues 11th Feb	2pm Year 6 to Festival of Literature
Weds 12th Feb	2pm School Council Picture Book Award
Thurs 13th Feb	2pm Year 4 to Festival of Literature
Thurs 13th Feb	Year 5 Instrumental Concert
17th-21st Feb	Half Term
Mon 24th Feb	INSET DAY
Tues 25th Feb	Children Return to School
25th - 28th Feb	Technology Week
Tues 25th Feb	Y1-6, 4-7pm Parent Consultations
Weds 26th Feb	Y1-6, 3.30-6pm Parent Consultations
Weds 4th March	2.45pm Year 2 Maths Workshop
Thurs 5th March	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Sun 8th March	Hertfordshire Gala Concert - Albert Hall
Mon 9th March	2.50pm Year 5 Work Sharing
Thurs 12th March	Year 6 Instrumental Concert
16th-20th March	PTA Mother's Day shop
Thurs 19th March	9.00am NNAM Mother's Day Breakfast
Thurs 19th March	3.00pm NNPM Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
Fri 20th March	9.00am Reception Mother's Day Breakfast
Tues 24th March	2.50pm Year 6 Work Sharing
Weds 25th March	2.15pm and 6.30pm Year 3 and 4 Show
Thurs 26th March	11.15am Nursery AM Work Sharing
Thurs 26th March	2.50pm Nursery PM Work Sharing
Friday 27th March	2.50pm Year 4 Work Sharing
Mon 30th March	2.50pm Year 2 Work Sharing
Tues 31st March	2.50pm Reception Work Sharing
Weds 1st April	2.50pm Year 1 Work Sharing
Thurs 2nd April	2.50pm Year 3 Work Sharing
Fri 3rd April	End of Term at 2.00pm
Mon 20th April	Children Return to School
May 2020	Year 2 SATs
Fri 8th May	Bank Holiday (moved for VE day)
11th-15th May	Year 6 SAT's week
25th-29th May	Half Term
Mon 1st June	INSET DAY
Sat 6th June	PTA Summer Fayre
Tues 2nd June	Children Return to School
8th-12th June	Year 6 School Journey
8th-12th June	Yr 1 Phonics Week
8th-26th June	Yr 4 Times Tables Tests
Fri 3rd July	Sports Day
Tues 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm
2nd-3rd Sept	INSET DAYS
Friday 4th Sept	Children Return to School

Safeguarding

Please make sure we have up-to-date contact details in case there is an emergency and we need to contact you. Please make sure that there are several people named, in case the first ones are not able to be contacted. Many thanks.

Enriching the Curriculum

The Life Bus

The children have really enjoyed the Life Bus visiting Northgate this week. Each year group had a different programme and these were:

- Nursery: **Taking Care of Myself** - focusing on how the body gets energy and the importance of personal hygiene.
- Reception: **All About Me** - focusing on how the body gets energy, medicines and dealing with sadness.
- Year 1: **My Wonderful Body** - focusing on a healthy diet and how a person's behaviour can hurt others' feelings.
- Year 2: **Feelings** - focusing on recognising, naming and understanding how to deal with feelings.
- Year 3: **Meet the Brain** - focusing on qualities of friendship, reasons why friends fall out and skills for making up.
- Year 4: **It's Great to be Me** - focusing on understanding that everyone is unique and understanding the key risks and effects of smoking and drinking alcohol.
- Year 5: **Friends** - focusing on recognising and understanding basic emotional needs, Identifying characteristics of behavior and rehearsing assertiveness skills.
- Year 6: **Decisions** - focusing on identifying risk factors involving alcohol and recognising and empathising with patterns of behaviour in peer-group dynamics.



Please encourage your children to talk to you about what they have learnt on the Life Bus this week. This is an important part of our health and well-being work.

You can find more information about the Life Bus and all that Coram Life Education do to support great learning by visiting <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk>. Thank you to our PTA for funding this event.

Year 5 Astronomy Day

As part of their topic on 'Stargazers', Year 5 were lucky to have 'The Astronomy Roadshow' visit on Monday afternoon. They found out lots of interesting facts about our solar system while watching an amazing astronomical display inside the dome. They were told how to identify the points of the compass by finding the north star and handled real meteorites.



Calling all Engineers

The week following February half term will be our Technology Week in school and we will be welcoming ComputerXplorers who will run sessions with the children during the school day. If you have an engineering background and would like to come into school to talk about your job with the children, help with a technology activity or even to speak in assembly, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us on admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk or pop into the office.

Boxes and cardboard tubes needed

We would like people to send any cardboard tubes, or small cardboard boxes—no bigger than cereal boxes for children to use in technology week. We do need lots! Many thanks

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Max	R1: Josh M
	PM: Faith	R2: Otis

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Science

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for engaging in the topic, excellent experiment records and inquisitive learning.

Well done to:

Class 1: Martha	Class 7: Thomas
Class 2: William	Class 8: Megan
Class 3: Matthew	Class 9: Sophie
Class 4: Harry	Class 10: Oliver
Class 5: Oscar	Class 11: Harry N
Class 6: Charlie	Class 12: Monty

Parent Consultation Meetings

Parents consultations will be taking place on Tuesday 25th February from 4.00pm-7.00pm and Wednesday 26th February from 3.30pm-6.00pm.

Bookings for children from Year 1 onwards are to be made on eSchools and will be available to be booked from Sunday 9th February at 6.00pm until Wednesday 12th February at midday. Please refer to our letter sent to parents earlier this week regarding Nursery and Reception consultations. If you would like an appointment with the SENDCo or Mrs Jones please contact the school office to book an appointment.

Community News

LOCAL ROADWORKS: Three-way lights will be in use on Hadham Road from Monday 10th February for 10 weeks for essential gas works. If this affects your route into school, please ensure you allow extra time for your journey. We have been advised that there will be a works storage container placed on the right hand layby outside of school whilst these works take place. Unfortunately this decision is out of our control. As a reminder, we have an agreement with the Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club allowing parents to park in their car park and safely walk the children down to school.

School Association

Congratulations!.... to Chris Alder who was drawn as the winner of this month's 250 Club. Chris will receive a cheque for £508! We still have plenty of numbers available for anyone who would like to join in. You can be 'in it to win it' in time for the March draw if you join and pay by 20th February. Email Mairead.wright@yahoo.co.uk to sign up.

Reminders and Updates

If you aren't receiving email from School Grid, could you please ensure you check your junk email folder and mark them as 'not junk' to correct this. Thank you.