

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

April 23rd 2021

Headteacher's News

We come to the end of another busy week where the children have continued to settle into the school routine and apply their learning. Reading skills have been a key focus this week. We are aware that children need to continue practising and developing their reading skills as many children need to accelerate their learning to be where they would normally be at the end of the year. If you would like some support as parents, there are several videos available within the 'Our Learning' area of the school website, along with suggested book lists. You can also see the progression of the reading skills that we teach. Children greatly benefit from discussions around vocabulary so please do talk to them about words they might not understand. Even fluent readers benefit from conversations about what they have read and exposure to new vocabulary. Please sign their reading record to say that you have heard them read. The KS2 children are now beginning to use the library to bring books home again.

*The more that you read,
the more things you will
know. The more that
you learn, the more
places you'll go.*

Unfortunately, due to financial constraints, we are unable to replace lost reading records without charge. If your child has lost their reading record, they will need to buy a new one for £1. Please put the money in an envelope labelled 'reading record' and send it in with your child to the class teacher.

Congratulations to Miss Goslitski who is expecting a baby and will be starting her maternity leave at the end of the summer term. Have a lovely weekend.

Reading at Home

There are lots of websites available for families to use when reading at home. Here are a few that you might want to try.

Oxford Owls

Oxford Owls [free eBook library](#) has been created to help children aged 3–11 to develop their reading skills at home. You'll find books from Oxford's most popular primary school brands, as well as stories from the *Read with Oxford* range, all available for free. Visit [Oxford Owls](#) for more information.

BookTrust

Whatever your child's age and whatever books they like to read, BookTrust can help you to find something new.

Use their [Bookfinder](#) to look for books that suit your child's interests, watch online storybooks, or see what's out this month that could be catching your eye in the bookshop or library.

Northgate School

The school website has a page dedicated to reading, offering two short videos on reading at home, as well as a reading list for all age groups. Visit [Northgate Reading](#)



Important Dates - 2020/21

Thurs 29th April	Year 5 Instrumental Concert Recording
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
Thurs 20th May	Year 6 Instrumental Concert Recording
Weds 26th May	Year 3/4 Play Recording
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
Mon 7th June	INSET DAY
Tues 8th June	Children Return to School
21st-23rd June	Year 6 School Journey
Thurs 24th June	Year 4 Instrumental Concert Recording
Thurs 1st July	Year 3 Instrumental Concert Recording
Tues 6th July	Year 5/6 Performance
Thurs 8th July	Move Up Day
Fri 9th July	Sports Day (details to be confirmed)
Tues 13th July	Outdoor Learning Day
Thurs 15th July	Take Over Day
Mon 19th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tues 20th July	End of Term at 2.00pm
Weds 21st July	INSET day
Thurs 22nd July	OCCASIONAL DAY

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding - Dangerous Parking/Driving

Following several incidents outside school this week, and numerous concerns from our neighbours relating to parking at drop-off and pick-up times, we remain seriously concerned about the safety issues caused by dangerous parking/driving in the streets surrounding our school.

Our primary concern is keeping the children safe, however recent reports have suggested that this is at risk and so measures need to be taken.

The PSCO team will be patrolling regularly in an effort to combat this and will issue fixed penalty notices should the issues continue.

We hope this will go some way to helping improve the situation and would ask you to make the safety of our children your upper most consideration when driving and parking outside school.

In order to reduce the considerable amount of traffic outside school, we would ask you to take advantage of the parking which is available to our parents and carers in the Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club car park at the top of Cricketfield Lane.

We have also received a complaint from a resident of Westfield Road regarding parents congregating at the approach to the pathway leading to school, as well as an increasing amount of cars turning at the end of the road, caused by parents dropping their children at the same point. We would ask that consideration is given to our neighbours in all surrounding roads.

Thank you for your co-operation.

School Council

School Council met today to discuss what we are going to include in a time capsule that represents the last year of school (March 2020 to March 2021).

Some of the fantastic ideas the children came up with include a photograph of a Google Classroom session, posters for social distancing and washing hands, speech bubbles describing the pandemic from a child's point of view and a video recording of the news report announcing the school closures.

We will keep you updated on how the time capsule is progressing over the coming weeks.

School Library

Reading Records

Please can we ask that reading records and school library books are brought into school by the children every day of the week, and not just on the days when they have their library lesson.

Missing Library Books

The school library have **over 500 books** which have been loaned out and have not been returned to school.

Could we please ask you to check at home for any school books, and ask that they are returned to Mrs Booth by the children during their library lesson.

School library books can be easily identified as they are stamped inside the front cover with the Northgate School stamp and each book has an individual code.

Reminders and Updates

Dogs on School Grounds Can we please remind you that dogs should not be brought past the gate onto school grounds, or tied to the school railings and left unattended. If you are waiting with your dog outside the school grounds, please consider the bottleneck around the school gate and ensure you are standing away from this area. We appreciate your co-operation, especially as some children can be fearful.

School Shoes We have noticed there are still children coming into school in trainers. Please ensure they are now wearing black shoes (not boots). *No fashion footwear, light up shoes or trainers please.* **As shops have reopened, we expect that all children will now come to school in the correct shoes.** If your child is unable to wear the correct shoes to school, please ensure an explanatory letter is sent in to your child's class.

New Uniform

Fosters Uniform Suppliers have undergone some exciting changes which they hope will improve your experience of purchasing school and sportswear from them.

They have two new, experienced members of staff and a new computer system to improve their efficiency and processes.

More information on these changes can be found in the attached letter, along with information on how to purchase your uniform for the new school year.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Olivia	R1: Benedict
	PM: Eren	R2: Faris

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on reading.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their positive attitude in reading sessions and for their excellent reading skills.

Well done to:

Class 1: Erin	Class 7: George
Class 2: Cassandra	Class 8: Isabella
Class 3: Ella	Class 9: Hari
Class 4: Franky	Class 10: Abyan
Class 5: Cadence	Class 11: Alex
Class 6: Brandon	Class 12: Joshua

Excellence Awards

Congratulations to our Excellence Award winners for the Spring term who enjoyed their Excellence Tea outside together this afternoon.

Nursery	AM: Heidi	R1: Gabriel
	PM: Agnes	R2: Mya
Class 1: Eleanor	Class 7: Isla	
Class 2: Otis	Class 8: Isabelle	
Class 3: Max	Class 9: Charlie	
Class 4: Evelyne	Class 10: Eva	
Class 5: Cadence	Class 11: Ena	
Class 6: Oscar	Class 12: Erin	

Northgate School Association

Congratulations this month go to Iain Cran who was the lucky 250 Club winner and pocketed over £500!

Want to be in with a chance yourself to win? Sign up and help the PTA to continue to fund wonderful things to enrich our children's education at Northgate!

Although restrictions are beginning to lift, it is unlikely we will be able to hold a large scale event this year so the 250 Club is an easy way to continue to support us. Thank you so much to those of you that already take part. More information and the form to sign up can be found attached to this newsletter.

Donations Required

We are in need of any spare underwear in a good condition that your children have grown out of.

Donations for all primary age children will be welcome and can be dropped at the school office.

Thank you.