

February 24th 2023

Headteacher's News

What a start to the half term! Yesterday was quite an eventful day with a water leak in class 2. All the children coped brilliantly with the changes. I would like to thank all the staff who pulled together to deal with a difficult situation. Class 2 will be working in the KS2 library next week.

It was lovely to share all the Year 6 musical talents in their instrumental concert yesterday with the families. Congratulations to Year 6 for some stunning performances. Thank you to Mrs Cheung, our music teacher, and our year 6 teachers for organising this.

In assemblies this week we introduced our new value of forgiveness and our new learning power, creative thinking chameleon. In our assemblies across the half term, we will be looking at different events and festivals. If you are interested in coming to talk for about 10 minutes about either Ramadan or have a scientific job that you could talk about in National Science week, please let the school office know.

We look forward to seeing you next week at our consultation evenings. If you have not made an appointment, please contact the school office.

World Book Day Parade

World Book Day is next **Thursday, 2nd March**, and children are asked to dress up as their **favourite book character**. We are delighted once again to have a **World Book Day the Parade**, where you are invited to come and see the children parade around the playgrounds. At the start of the day, the children will go to their classrooms. Then parents can enter at 8.55am and wait on the Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 playground for the children all to come back out and parade in their costumes - weather permitting.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and 2 children will parade around the key stage 1 playground and children in Years 3-6 will parade around their own playground. The children will walk around the lines of the netball court so it would be helpful if parents could stand inside of these lines. If you have children in both key stages, please stand under the large covered gazebo between the two playgrounds.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 2nd March at 8.55am.

There will be no KS1 guided reading on this day.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our families who have friends and family members in Turkey and Syria.

Have a lovely weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

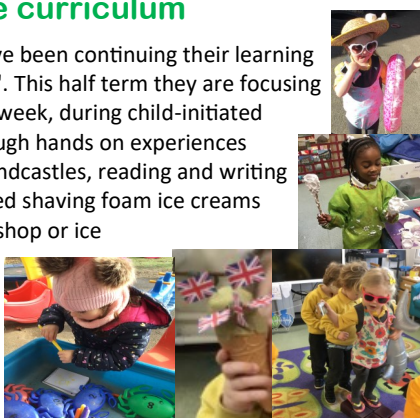
This week the **nursery** children have been continuing their learning topic of 'Wow! What can you see?'. This half term they are focusing on places to visit. Throughout the week, during child-initiated learning time, children learnt through hands on experiences such as, playdough, ice creams, sandcastles, reading and writing numerals on crabs, making coloured shaving foam ice creams and buying items from a souvenir shop or ice cream parlour.

In particular, the children adored dressing up ready for a day at the beach.

Gymnastics Competition

On Wednesday, Northgate took part in a gymnastics competition which was kindly hosted by Stortford Gymnastics Club. There were seven different schools there (including us); Hilmead, Windhill, Richard Whittington, St Josephs, Readings Jr school, St Michael's Northgate. We all did our best, and ended up finishing in 6th place. Windhill won it, closely followed by Richard Whittington and Hilmead, who took third. St Josephs came 4th, Readings 5th, and St Michael's 7th.

By Evelyn Class 8



Important Dates

Tues 28th Feb
Tues 28th Feb
Weds 1st March
Weds 1st March
Wed 1st March
Thurs 2nd March

Thurs 2nd March
Fri 3rd March
Mon 6th March
Tues 7th March
Thurs 9th March
Fri 10th March
Mon 13th March
Tues 14th March
Weds 15th March
Thurs 23rd March
w/c 27th March
Mon 27th March
Mon 27th March

Tues 28th March

Weds 29th March

Weds 29th March
Weds 29th March
Thurs 30th March

Fri 31st March
Mon 17th April
May 2023

Mon 1st May
Mon 8th May
Fri 12th May
9th-12th May
Fri 19th May
29th-2nd June
Mon 5th June
Sat 10th June
w/c 12th June
Mon 26th June
12th -16th June
12th -23th June
Tues 13th June
w/c 17th July
Thurs 20th July
Friday 21st July

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

the computing curriculum in KS1 and KS2 9am
Parent consultations 3.30 –6.30pm
Parent consultation 3.30–6pm
Class 3 parent consultation 3.30pm–6.30pm
Happy Bag collection
Class 2,3 7,8 parent consultations 3.30pm—
6.00pm

World Book Day
Y1 Garg Animal Show
7.30PM PTA committee meeting (online)
Year 1 phonics meeting 9am
Year 5 Spring Music Concert
PTA School Disco (EYFS/KS1 and KS2)
PTA Mother's Day Shop: R1, R2, Y1, Y3 & Y6
PTA Mother's Day Shop: Y2, Y4 & Y5
PTA Mother's Day Shop: Nursery & All Years

Year 3/4 production
Creative thinking week
Year 3 visit to Colchester Castle
**9.00am reception challenge with
parents/work sharing**
9.00am LSK2 Challenge with parents/work
sharing
**Morning children 8.45am/afternoon children
2.45pm nursery challenge with parents/work
sharing.**

9.00am KS1 challenge with parents/work sharing
House cross country final
9.00am UKS2 challenge with parents/work
sharing

Term Ends **2.00pm**
Children return to school
Y2 SATs Week

Bank Holiday
The Kings Coronation Bank Holiday
2pm PTA committee meeting (in person)
Y6 SATs Week
PTA Film Night (EYFS/KS1 and KS2)
Half term

INSET DAY
PTA Summer Fayre
PTA Father's Day Shop
7.30pm PTA committee meeting (online)
Y1 Phonics Week - (plus Y2 phonic catch ups)
Y4 Times Tables Tests
Happy Bag collection
PTA Ice Cream Sales
End of Term at 2.00pm
Occasional day

Safeguarding

Have you heard of the JusTalk app?

Schools and safeguarding professionals are reporting that children and young people are receiving harmful and inappropriate messages on the JusTalk app. After investigations by DfE Online Safety Experts, they have created this comprehensive guide to JusTalk that outlines what the app is, whether the JusTalk app is safe and their top tips on how to mitigate the risks it poses to children and young people. Please click [here](#) for more information.



In **Year 3** we have been learning about rocks and soils. On Monday, we investigated soil in our local area. We took samples from different locations around the school grounds, then we looked at them through magnifying glasses to see what we could spot in the different types of soil. We learnt all about different soil types and also how important earthworms are to the environment.

The **Wellbean Gardening Club** started again on Wednesday lunchtime. The members planted seeds to grow herbs for a herb garden they are designing by the front office and got potatoes ready for chitting. Northgate also received certificates from the RHS for achieving Level 1 and 2 in the RHS School Gardening Awards. Well done children! If your child would like to join, please see the attached flyer.

Wonder Dome Visit. On Friday 24th February, Year 5 were very lucky to have a man with a portable planetarium come in to school and tell us all about space. We went inside a huge dome tent where we could lie down and look up, it felt like we were actually in space with Tim Peake! It was a wonderful experience and I hope they can come again. By Eden Class 10



Year 6 had a Victorian school lesson on Tuesday with Master Irons. In the morning, the children made pens and used ink for writing. Charlie had a little trouble when an ink pot exploded in his face! During the afternoon, the children made their own Victorian games and looked at many original Victorian artefacts. All the children looked wonderful in their outfits and enjoyed experiencing the differences between school in the Victorian era and school in 2023.



Reminders and Updates

Happy Bags will be coming home today in your children's bookbags. The bags will be collected on Wednesday 1st March. Please leave your donation bag in the bike shed by 9am that morning. Please see the flyer for more information.

Tony, our new **crossing patrol** person has enjoyed his first week. Thank you for welcoming him. He will now be on crossing patrol from 8.25am—9.00am and 3.00pm—3.35pm as he has noticed that some children arrive earlier to school in the morning. **Important:** Please note there will be no crossing patrol person outside school in the afternoon on Tuesday 2nd March.

We are pleased to inform parents that the **Mathletics** is back up and running!

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will be open to book until Monday 27th February at 9am. If you have not done so already please log on to School Cloud northgate.schoolcloud.co.uk to book your appointment. For further details see the e-mail sent 22ND February.

Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Vanya & Allegra R1: Otto R2: Oliver

This week our 'Learners of the Week' focused on Geography. Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for: working really hard to learn how to read grid references, brilliant understanding of the ocean, describing different stages of a volcano, locating the 7 continents and 5 oceans and excellent map reading skills.

Class 1 Heidi	Class 7: Amanda
Class 2: Nicolae	Class 8: Arabelle
Class 3: Bededict	Class 9: George
Class 4: Leto	Class 10: Freddie
Class 5: Rory	Class 11: William
Class 6:	Class 12: Eva

Communication to staff

In recent weeks a few staff members have been upset by emails written to them from parents through the class email. The class email addresses were introduced to support positive communication between staff and parents, so please be mindful of this.

We would prefer not to go back to where all emails are sent through the school office. Thank you for your support.

Northgate School Association

Photography Competition

February's Photography Competition theme is "Love and Pancakes"! Please see attached our poster. We can't wait to see all your photo entries of "Love", "Pancakes" or both!

Please send your entries to calendar@northgatepta.com. Our deadline is 1st March 2023 and we can only accept entries from Northgate pupils and please no photos of children in.

School Disco

Just a reminder that our School Discos are taking place on Friday 10th March at the following times: **EYFS and KS1**- 5pm to 6:15pm
KS2- 6:45pm to 8pm

Tickets can be purchased via the following links:

EYFS & KS1 <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/t-rpqrnpn>

KS2 <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/northgate-school-association/t-ealxejk>

As always, we need volunteers for our events, so please sign up using the following link;

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-disco>.

Without you, we can't run the event!

Mother's Day

Our Mother's Day Shop will be taking place week commencing 13th March. All goods are from UK businesses. Each gift will be £3 each and the children can buy on the following days at their morning break:

Monday 13th March: Reception, Years 1, 3 and 6

Tuesdays 14th March: Years 2, 4 and 5

Wednesday 15th March: Nursery and All Years

If you are free for an hour or so on the above dates, we need your support to run our shop, so please do email ptanorthgate@gmail.com

Standon for Schools

Standon Calling is an unforgettable festival weekend for your family. Immerse your brood in the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside, with entertainment for all ages across main stages, woodland, water and dedicated kids' areas.

For every order placed, using our unique booking link below, 10% of the total face value will be donated to Northgate PTA. Plus we get discounted tickets!

<https://go.kaboodle.co.uk/Northgate-Primary-School-CM232RL>

The more tickets bought via our unique link, the more money is raised for our school – and the more fun will be had by all at Standon Calling!

Your PTA Co-Chairs: Geri Wren & Jo Parrott