

January 26th 2024

Headteacher's News

Good news! Congratulations to Miss Adams, who is expecting a baby in July. We are delighted to support the Stortford Young Songwriters competition, a new competition set up in memory of Claire Newman, an ex parent and member of staff. This new competition has the aim of discovering, encouraging and showcasing local talent. From next week, the competition is open to KS2 pupils as solo artists or as a group. The winners in each category will receive a recording studio experience. Please see the flyer attached.

In the news recently there have been reports by the World Health Organisation of the alarming 45 fold rise in measles in Europe, which they believe is as a result of fewer children being vaccinated against the disease since the pandemic. It is reported that only 85% of children starting primary school in the UK have had the required jabs to protect them from this potentially dangerous and highly contagious disease. Please contact your GP surgery for further information about the appropriate injections for your child. Have a good weekend.

Enriching the curriculum

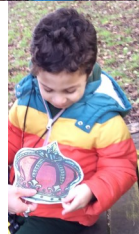
On Wednesday **Year 1** went on a walk around Bishop's Stortford looking at local historical landmarks. The walk was used to support their English work where the children pretended to be tour guides with microphones and used superlatives and directional language as part of their development of their spoken language. The children will be now using the information that they have gained to design posters and we are hoping they will be displayed in the local tourist office. Other Year 1 children explored the grounds completing a treasure hunt looking for pictures of famous landmarks in London. This is part of their topic 'Bright Lights Big City', next week they will be learning about famous London landmarks and looking at maps.

As part of their topic on Space, **Year 5** today had a visit from Wonder Dome.

"We learnt about the different planets in our solar system. We learnt how they move, what they are made of and if they have any moons. We learnt that all of the gas giants have rings and that Venus is actually hotter than Mercury (which gets cold at night) because of greenhouse gases." By Ellie and Julia class 9.

Today, our WID (Wellbeing, Inclusion, Diversity) Council have distributed a pair of colourful gloves to every child in the school. These have been kindly donated by a local charity to ensure all our children are kept warm.

The Council thought that the gloves are so colourful they should help beat the January blues! Don't forget to label the gloves before they come back into school.



Important Dates

Mon 29th Jan	9.00am Dog's Trust- whole school assembly/ workshops
Tues 30th Jan	Dog's Trust workshops
Tue 30 th Jan	Y2 walk to Northgate Old School
Wed 31st Jan	Y5 Re-tune Wellbeing Workshop
Wed 31st Jan	Young Voices Choir—O2
Mon 5th Feb	Y6 Victorian Day
Tues 6th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Tues 6th Feb	Y4 Trip to Southend Sea Life Centre
Fri 9th Feb	EYFS Sponsored dance
Fri 9th Feb	3.15pm whole school cake sale (details to follow)
12th– 16th Feb	Festival of Literature
Wed 14th Feb	PTA Valentine's Day Tuck Shop (TBC)
Thurs 15th Feb	Northgate Bake Off—(details to follow)
Thurs 15th Feb	PTA Quiz Night at The Belgian Brewer (TBC)
Fri 16th Feb	10.30am Cake Sale
Wb 12th Feb	House netball tournament
Wed 14th Feb	Y1 visit from Gargs Animals Workshop
Half Term	19th - 23rd Feb
Fri 1st Mar	Stepping Stones coffee morning
W/C 4th Mar	PTA Mother's Day Shop
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA committee meeting
5th & 6th Mar	Parent consultations
Thurs 7th Mar	World Book Day (dressing as an adjective)
Thurs 7th Mar	2.40pm Y6 spring music concert
Mon 11th Mar	9am Y5 & 6 maths games/work sharing with parents
Tues 12th Mar	9am Nursery & Reception maths games/work sharing with parents
Wed 13th Mar	9am Y1 & 2 maths games/work sharing with parents
Thurs 14th Mar	9am Y3 & 4 maths games/work sharing with parents
Wed 20th Mar	PTA Book Fair
Thurs 21st March	Y3 & 4 production
Friday 22nd March	School Disco
Wk beg 25th Mar	House cross country final
Wk beg 25th Mar	Science week and house science quiz
Fri 22nd Mar	Y3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Thurs 28th Mar	2pm Last day of term
29th Mar— 12th April	Easter break
Mon 15th April	Start of term
Thurs 25th April	2.30pm Y5 Music concert
Thurs 9th May	2.30pm Y4 Music concert
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA committee meeting
13th—16th May	Y6 SATS
Fri 17th May	PTA Outdoor Cinema
Mon 20th May	Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew
Thurs 23rd May	2.30pm Y3 Music concert
27th—31st May	Half Term
Mon 3rd June	Inset Day
Mon 3rd June	Y4 National multiplication assessments
3rd—7th June	Y6 School Journey, Kingswood
Sat 8th June	PTA Summer Fayre

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Please do not allow your children on our playground equipment after school.

Please take the opportunity to park at the Rugby club for school drop off and pick up. It is getting increasingly busy outside school and this is a potentially dangerous situation for our children.

Enriching the curriculum

Sport

Last Friday Year 3 and 4 completed in a athletic competition at Birchwood against twelve other schools. Events were, javelin, hurdle, long jump, obstacle and hurdle relay, plus various running races. We won 1st place and had lots of fun in the process. By Eliza A, Agnes and Methuli Class 8



Music

Four German exchange students, staying with local families worked with classes at Northgate this week. They were super helpful and engaged well with the children. We hope they found the experience useful and improved their English language skills. Here is one of them playing "Charlie Over the Ocean" in music, an echo song that helps students with their pitch and singing voices.



Reporting pupil's absence

Reporting your child's absence plays a crucial role in maintaining effective communication and ensuring the well-being of our students.

To report your child's absence, we kindly request that you either call the school office at [01279 652376](tel:01279652376) and [press 1](#) to report your child's absence or send an email to absence@northgate.herts.sch.uk. It is essential that this communication takes place before 9:30 am.

When reporting an absence, please provide a specific reason for your child's time away. A mere mention of "feeling unwell" will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Instead, kindly specify the nature of the illness, such as a sickness bug or high temperature. This information is vital for accurate record-keeping. If your child is going to be absent for multiple days due to illness, we kindly ask that you contact the school office by email or phone call every day that your child is absent.

For planned absences, including doctor's appointments or any pre-informed time off, you can conveniently download a Google Form from our website and submit the details through that platform. Additionally, it has come to our attention that some children reported as ill have been observed on social media enjoying a holiday or discussing it with their peers. We would like to remind you that such instances will be considered unauthorised leave. Therefore, we kindly request that holidays not be booked during term time.

It is vital that the school receives all the relevant information when your child is off, to ensure the correct marks are recorded in the register and so it does not escalate to an attendance or safeguarding issue. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Vacancies

MSA: We are looking for someone to cover Wednesday lunchtimes 12.00pm -1.30pm. If you are interested in regular work or on a casual arrangement, please contact the office on secretary.pa@northgate.herts.sch.uk

SEN 1:1: An advert will be in Teach in Herts next week regarding a position for a SEN 1:1 TA, five mornings per week.

Celebration of Achievements

Nursery: Chit and Aasiyah

R1: Sebastian **R2:** Arliyah

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on "Design Technology"

Well done for: planning and designing a moon buggy using excellent drawing skills and detail, showing wonderfully detailed plan of their design, having great discussions with their team about how to create their vehicle, using fantastic effort to shape their crater sculpture, being very creative on their cardboard vehicle design, carefully considered colour mixing for their watercolour seascape, an amazing piece of artwork based on Cezanne and Ruth Isset,



Class 1: Myon

Class 2: Maxwell

Class 3: Mia

Class 4: Hepzi

Class 5: Olivia-Rose

Class 6: Olivia

Class 7: Annabelle

Class 8: Harry

Class 9: Franky

Class 10: Thomas

Class 11: Isabella

Class 12: Elisa



Summer Fayre

Can you believe that we are already busily organising the Northgate Summer Fayre? The date of the event is Saturday 8th June 2024 from 12 noon to 3pm and we've decided on a 'Beside the Seaside' theme. As always, we do need your help to run these events. Does anyone have or know of anyone who runs the following businesses:

● Caricatures ● Balloon Modelling ● Mini Crazy Golf Hire

If you have any old sand pits, we would be very grateful too!

In addition, we are looking for people or a business who could run some fun 'Seaside themed' workshops during the Summer Fayre afternoon. If you can help, please can you contact us via our email ptanorthgate@gmail.com Your help is very much appreciated.

Valentine's Day Tuck Shop

Our Valentine's Day Tuck Shop is taking place on Wednesday 14th February where you can buy lollies and treat bags at pick up time. Please bring cash if you can although a card machine will be available.

Silver Leys Polo Club

Thank you to Silver Leys Polo Club for supporting our PTA in recent Summer Fayres by providing pony rides. We look forward to this again in June! As well as horse riding and polo lessons for children over 6 years, they offer all year round family events, dog walking, restaurants and cafes. They host corporate days as well as venue hire for parties and weddings. Annual membership gives you access to ALL their events for 12 months and is £20 single or £40 for the whole family. Plus with the code NORTH24 you can receive 25%off!

Sponsorship

Do you own or work for a company that would like to sponsor our Northgate PTA? We have lots of exciting school & community events planned such as our Mother's & Father's Day shops, Outdoor Cinema and our Summer Fayre above.

In return for sponsorship, your logo and company will be featured in the event advertising within the school community and to the wider community where appropriate. Contact us via Facebook or email us on ptanorthgate@gmail.com for further details!

Have a lovely weekend
Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team