

# Northgate Primary School Newsletter

November 20th 2020

## Headteacher's News

The safeguarding project to install new perimeter fencing is still underway. We appreciate there have been some teething problems (including staff not being able to get out of the staff car park) but hope to resolve them as soon as possible.

It was good to see the police outside school this week, checking on safe parking. Please show consideration for the whole school community when parking outside school. Just a reminder that we do have an agreement with the rugby club to use their car park at the start and end of the day.

In line with national guidelines, this week our Year Two children completed the phonics screening that they would normally have taken at the end of Year One. Parents will be informed of their child's results next week. Children who did not meet the expected level will retake the phonics screening during the summer term, when Year One complete the assessment. In the meantime, those children will receive extra support to reinforce their phonics knowledge.

I hope you have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

## Enriching the Curriculum

Thank you to the PTA for the scooters, bikes, tuk-tuk and taxi. EYFS are having lots of fun playing on them. We would also like to thank the PTA for agreeing to buy our mud suits for outdoor learning next term.



## Safeguarding

We have had a number of children in school telling us they are going to other children's houses for play dates.

Please be mindful that during the current period of lockdown, the rule is that you must not meet socially indoors with family or friends unless they are part of your household or for purposes of childcare with one consistent household. You can exercise outdoors, or visit outdoor public places, with the people you live with, your support bubble, or 1 person from another household. The rule of 2 applies to children who are aged 5 and over.

## Important Dates - 2020/21

Fri 11th Dec	Christmas Jumper/Elf Day Isabel Hospice
<b>Mon 14th Dec</b>	<b>Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch</b>
<b>Tues 15th Dec</b>	<b>Lower KS2 Christmas Lunch</b>
<b>Weds 16th Dec</b>	<b>Upper KS2 Christmas Lunch</b>
Weds 16th Dec	School virtual Christmas videos released
Thurs 17th Dec	Winning House Non-Uniform Day
Fri 18th Dec	PTA - Break the Rules Day
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term at <b>2.00pm</b>
<b>Mon 4th Jan</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
15th-19th Feb	February Half Term
<b>Mon 22nd Feb</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tues 23rd Feb</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
Fri 26th March	End of Term at <b>2.00pm</b>
<b>Mon 12th Apr</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
<b>Mon 3rd May</b>	<b>May Bank Holiday</b>
10th-13th May	KS2 SATs week
May 2021	KS1 SATs
31st May-4th Jun	May Half Term
<b>Mon 7th June</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tues 8th June</b>	<b>Children Return to School</b>
7th-11th June	Yr 1 Phonics Screening and Yr 2 Retakes
7th-18th June	Yr 4 Multiplication Tests
Weds 21st July	End of Term at <b>2.00pm</b>
<b>Thurs 22nd July</b>	<b>OCCASIONAL DAY</b>

\*Red = New Item / Change to Item

## Covid-19

Herts have issued clear guidance this week, around when you should self-isolate and how long for.

If you develop symptoms	<b>10 days</b> from start of symptoms
If you test positive	<b>10 days</b> from start of symptoms or test day if none
If you are told you've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.	<b>14 days</b> from last contact with positive case
If you have been contacted by the Test and Trace service	<b>14 days</b> from last contact with positive case
If you live in a household where others (incl. children) develop symptoms or they have tested positive	<b>14 days</b> from when they developed symptoms or test day if none
If you have been sent home and told to self-isolate as part of a bubble. Other household members do not need to self-isolate unless someone in the household develops symptoms or tests positive	<b>14 days</b> from last contact with positive case

## Fundraising

### Children in Need

Saffron (Class 9) completed a sponsored silence at school last Friday and raised £180 for Children in Need. Congratulations Saffron.



### Christmas Jumper/Elf Day - 11th December



This year we are combining our Christmas Jumper day with 'Dress Yourself as an Elf' day. Children and staff can come into school wearing their choice of a **Christmas jumper**, or anything **red, green or elf-themed**. Donations will go directly to the Isabel Hospice.

## Northgate School Association

### AGM

On Tuesday evening we held the PTA AGM and reflected on our activity of 2019-2020. We were delighted to be able to talk about our fundraising efforts that raised **over £15,000** despite the pandemic curtailing our usual fundraising events and activities. This is an incredible effort, thanks in the most part to those that have signed up to our 250 Club. We said 'goodbye' and 'thank you' to 5 trustees, and welcomed 2 new parents onto the committee and to the roles of Treasurer and Secretary. My Chair's Report is attached to this newsletter for further information.

### PTA agreed spending

At the AGM, with some reserves carried forward from last year and the ongoing fundraising already in the bag this year, we agreed to fund some items on the school's wish list. School budgets are being stretched with the additional costs of PPE, cleaning and staff cover, necessary to manage the impact of COVID. The SLT are mindful of the need to be prepared for the situation when a year group bubble may be required to isolate or should the school have to close and as such requested funding for additional copies of class reading books so that every child will be able to take home the books they need to continue their learning should it be necessary. Subject to confirming the amount, we agreed to fund these purchases. We also agreed to pay for outdoor waterproof all-in-one suits so that the children in Reception can maximise their outdoor learning opportunities, and to fund/subsidise a virtual or in-school activity for each year group, in order to enrich their curriculum learning, while the school trips that usually take place currently cannot.

### 250 Club winner

This month's 250 Club winner is Ignacio Requejo-Quintas! He has won £536 and we have raised another £804 for the PTA. Congratulations Ignacio!

### The Big PTA Raffle

There are just **16 days** left to enter the Big PTA Raffle which is being run by Parentkind to enable PTA's across the nation to fundraise in the absence of Christmas fundraising events. It is £3 a ticket and for every ticket purchased you will have 12 chances to win up to £5,000! At the same time we will raise 50% from every ticket sold supporting our PTA. Enter online at <https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/northgate-primary-school-cm23>.

## Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery	AM: Olivia	R1: Lottie
	PM: Hepzibah	R2: Imogen

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for demonstrating fantastic skills in PE and sport and showing wonderful sportsmanship during team games.

Well done to:

Class 1: Joshua C	Class 7: Griff
Class 2: Eira	Class 8: Ralf
Class 3: Olivia	Class 9: Issey
Class 4: Beatrix	Class 10: Deanna
Class 5: Theo B	Class 11: Jamie
Class 6: Ronnie	Class 12: Sam

## Reminders and Updates

### Parent Information Presentations

Parent information presentations, which are specific to each key stage, have been uploaded to the school website. These useful guides can be found under the subject areas in 'Our Learning'.

### Reporting Absence for Appointments

Please let us know of any appointments during the school day as soon as you receive notification. Time out of school should be reported by completing the 'Absence Request' form on the home page of the school website.

## Community Collections

### Residential Care Home Collection

Mrs Cope would like to thank the Northgate School Community for your donations of treats for the residents of local care homes. Our collection was delivered on Monday and the Friends of Stansted Surgery were incredibly grateful for the donations, which will be used to bring a little bit of cheer this Christmas. We have also sent them drawings, poems and decorated hands from the children. Next week we will be visiting a care home in Bishop's Stortford to distribute more of the decorated hands.



### BSLTC Food Bank Project

The Bounce Back project has now been running for 2 weeks, and between the **Tennis Club (BSLTC)** and **Northgate School**, we have already sent more than 50 bags of food to the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. This is an incredible achievement in the current situation, for which the Bounce Back volunteers (and of course the Food Bank) would like to say a massive **'THANK YOU'!** The boxes are located outside the Tennis Clubhouse and at the School, and donations are taken to the Food Bank on Tuesdays and Thursdays. *The Bounce Back Volunteers*