

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

December 8th 2023

Headteacher's News

Our Christmas season started with a bang this week. The joy of Christmas was shared on Wednesday by Reception when they performed their version of the



Christmas Story. The children displayed an impressive range of skills with their narrating, singing, and dancing in their production of 'Baarmy Bethlehem.' We were really proud of them! Many thanks to all the parents for their support, particularly with supplying costumes, and to our fantastic foundation stage staff, who put the production together. Well done everyone!

On Monday evening, our Year 6 performed fantastically with other local schools at St Michael's Church at the Candlelit Carol Service. It was a magical evening with our children singing beautifully.

It was lovely to see parents today at the Stepping Stones Christmas coffee morning for SEND parents. If you are interested in coming along next time and would like more information, please contact Mrs Wallace on the following email: senco@northgate.herts.sch.uk. There are still lots more festive activities so please check dates and emails regularly. Please note that KS2 are picked up from the panto at South Mills next Tuesday. Have a great weekend.

Enriching the Curriculum

Our crossing patrol man, Tony helped reinforce road safety with the Nursery children this week. The children enjoyed the role play learning what keeps us safe around roads, they recognised Tony from their journeys to and from school.



Class 8 had a trip to Jackson Square in the week, to meet up with staff from the Night Shelter at Holy Trinity. A few weeks ago the children made a batch of soup in DT. They learnt what the shelter does to help people in the local community. 'Yesterday we went to the Holy Trinity night service and we did lots of activities. First we met Dave who showed us his photo album which showed the night service. We also met a mannequin called Bob and we dressed him up with warm clothes. It was an incredibly good trip'. By Agnes & Emily Class 8

Year 3 went on a Geography field trip to improve their map reading skills today. They headed towards Waitrose in town checking their direction on a compass and plotted points of interest along the way, such as the cricket club and the old Northgate school. The children did really well and enjoyed the process.



Important Dates

Mon 11th Dec	9.00am Reception winter walk and letter posting
Mon 11th Dec	2.45pm Nursery Christmas concert (in class)
Tues 12th Dec	1.30pm KS2 Pantomime at South Mills (pick up from theatre)
Tues 12th Dec	1.30pm KS1 Hurricane Panto visit
Tues 12th Dec	Nursery, Reception and KS1 Christmas Lunch
Wed 13th Dec	10.30am and 1.00pm Nursery Christmas
Wed 13th Dec	crafts
Wed 13th Dec	KS2 Christmas Lunch
Wed 13th Dec	9.15am and 2.30pm KS1 Christmas
Thurs 14th Dec	production
Fri 15th Dec	Reception Christmas activity day
Fri 15th Dec	Christmas Jumper day at school
Mon 18th Dec	8.45am Nursery Christmas concert (details follow).
Mon 18th Dec	Volunteer coffee 9am
	2pm KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Tues 19th Dec	Break the rules day
Tues 19th Dec	2pm End of term
Wed 3rd Jan	Inset day
Fri 12th Jan	2.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
Fri 26th Jan	Year 5 Visit from Wonder Dome
Wed 31st Jan	Young Voices Choir—O2
Mon 5th Feb	Year 6 Victorian Day
Mon 4th Mar	7.30pm PTA Committee Meeting
5th & 6th Mar	Parent Consultations
Thurs 14th Mar	2.30pm Year 6 Music Concert
Fri 22nd Mar	Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Thurs 28th Mar	Last day of term
29th Mar—15th April	Easter Break
Thurs 25th April	2.30pm Year 5 Music Concert
Thurs 9th May	2.30pm Year 4 Music Concert
Fri 10th May	2pm PTA Committee Meeting
13th—16th May	Y6 SATS
Mon 20th May	Year 6 Trip to the 'Crucial Crew'.
Thurs 24th May	2.30pm Year 3 Music Concert
27th—31st May	Half Term
Mon 3rd May	Inset Day
Mon 3rd June	Y4 national multiplication assessments
3rd—7th June	Year 6 School Journey Kingwood
Mon 10th June	Y1 National phonics, screening.
Fri 14th June	Year 5 Egyptian Workshop
Fri 21st June	Year 2 trip to Paradise Wildlife Park

=*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Safeguarding

Please find attached a link for the autumn parent and carer Online Safety Newsletter from Herts For Learning: <https://thegrid.org.uk/assets/hfl-online-safety-newsletter-autumn-23-parents-or-carers.pdf>

This publication is great source of information for parents. The topics in this addition cover, Snapchat's new 'AI Chatbot', Swiggle—a child friendly search engine designed specifically for young children taking their first steps on the internet, setting parental controls and reporting online grooming.

Reminders and Updates

Important! Crossing the road:

It has been reported to us that a few children are crossing Cricketfield Lane further up the road without using the crossing patrol man. Children have been seen crossing in-between cars, which is very dangerous. Please remind your children to use the crossing for their own safety. Thank you.

Fundraising Christmas jumper day

Friday 15th December: This year we will be supporting the Isabel Hospice. Pupils and staff can choose to wear a Christmas jumper instead of a school jumper and a tie. The rest of the school uniform must still be worn as usual. We are suggesting a donation of £1 which will be collected in class on the day.

Break the rules day

Tuesday 19th December: More details to follow shortly.

School will close at **2pm on Tuesday 19th December**. Night owls will run from 2pm and close at 6.30pm as usual.

Christmas performances and lunches

Nursery Christmas concerts—in class

Monday 11th December at 2.45pm and Friday 15th December at 8.45am.

KS1 Christmas production

Wednesday 13th December 9.15am and 2.30pm. Please bring your tickets with you. If possible, please do not bring younger siblings or be prepared to remove them if they are making a disturbance. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Reception and KS1 Christmas lunch - Important Information

Tuesday 12th December: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their Christmas lunch. **Years 3-6 will need a packed lunch sent from home on this day as there will be no school lunch option available.**

KS2 Christmas lunch - Important Information

Wednesday 13th December: Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be having their Christmas lunch. **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will need a packed lunch from home on this day as there will be no school lunch option available.**

KS1 Panto (in school)

Tuesday 12th December: Hurricane productions are coming in to school to perform "Dick Wittington".

KS2 - Panto

Tuesday 12th December: Our KS2 children will be walking to the South Mills Arts Theatre in the afternoon to watch 'Cinderella'. The children will be having a home made packed lunch in their classroom before they go as KS1 will be having their Christmas lunch in the dining hall.

Pick up from outside the theatre for year groups is as follows: **Year 3—3.20pm**

Year 4—3.25pm, Year 5—3.30pm, Year 6—3.35pm. Please note siblings in KS1 can be picked up from school from 2.55pm to help with collecting KS2 children from South Mills. To let the office know in advance please email: admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk

KS2 church service

Monday 18th December: The performance will begin at 2.00pm and finish at 3.00pm. If you have younger children in school to pick up, they can wait with their teachers until you arrive. Children must be dressed in smart full school uniform please. A reminder that there is only one space per family to watch the performance due to limited space in the church.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We were informed this week that Northgate raised £200.11 this year for the poppy appeal. They wanted us to thank you for your generous donations, that will be put towards their vital welfare and benevolent work.

The total raised in the district was £50, 634.01.



Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Ethan and Archie

R1: Henry **R2:** Lucas

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on "self managing monkey"

Well done for: challenging themselves when something is tricky, putting things away carefully and managing what is needed, using references to write some of their best and longest paragraphs, always organising themselves without needing reminders, organising resources to make sure they are ready for learning, working independently, showing independence and initiative, always challenging themselves during art and sharing their skills by helping others, independently!



Class 1: Harriet	Class 7: Sebastian
Class 2: Maximilian	Class 8: Bella
Class 3: Florence	Class 9: Cian
Class 4: Emily	Class 10: Marco
Class 5: Mason	Class 11: Penelope
Class 6: Owen	Class 12: Millie

Enriching the Curriculum Sport

Northgate All-Stars Cheerleading Squad came second at the KS2 Inter Schools Cheerleading Competition Last Saturday. Fantastic!

'We performed a wonderful cheer dance called 'Queen of the Kings' and came second place out of nine schools. Everyone did a great job with our dance. It was a very close score, we were one point away from winning.' By Alexandra Class 11

Northgate School Association

Christmas Quiz

This week, all parents/carers were sent our Northgate PTA Christmas Quiz via email. Entries need to be submitted, together with your £1, to your Class Teacher by Friday 15th December ready for the draw to take place on Monday 18th December. Each entry will receive a candy cane. Our prizes are:

EYFS/KS1: 1st Prize: Jellycat Candy Cane and Wreath, 2nd Prize: £15 Entertainer Voucher, 3rd Prize: Craft Bag

KS2: 1st Prize: The Week Junior Newspaper Subscription, 2nd Prize: £15 Entertainer Voucher, 3rd Prize: Craft Bag

Please remember there are two quizzes- one for EYFS/KS1 and one for KS2. Please choose the appropriate one for your child. Good luck!

Christmas Tuck Shop

Our Christmas Tuck Shop is taking place on Wednesday 13th December where you can buy lollies and treat bags at pick up time. Lots of festive sweets treats! Please bring cash if you can although a card machine will be available.

We hope your children enjoy their visits to the pantomime, all paid for by the PTA. We also hope your children enjoy their Christmas dinner where all the crackers and squash have been paid for by the PTA too. The PTA even decorates the dining room for the children!

Donations and Sponsorship

We just wanted to say a massive thank you to the following companies who have sponsored the PTA since September 2023:

Lit Fibre, South Mill Arts, Ab Fab Fit Club, Miss Phonics, Identity Creative, Discover Stortford, Entertainer, JellyCat, Tesco, The Week Junior and Artemis Investment Management.

We would also like to thank Vincent S.A. for their incredibly generous donation to the PTA towards our school's Sensory project. We are overwhelmed by this donation and it is very much appreciated.

Thank you to all of the above who have made such a significant difference to the PTA's work.

Have a lovely weekend.

Geri Wren (PTA Chair) & The PTA Team