

May 22nd 2026

Headteacher's News

This week was **Neurodiversity Week**, with a focus on recognising that every brain works differently. The WID Committee led an assembly on "Flipping Your Lid", inspired by Dr Dan Siegel's hand-brain model. Children learnt how strong emotions can sometimes influence behaviour both at school and at home. The assembly explored common triggers such as worries, friendship difficulties, tiredness, and feeling overwhelmed, while reinforcing that all emotions are valid and normal. Children also discussed a range of regulation strategies, including breathing exercises, movement breaks, and talking to a trusted adult. In class, children have had further opportunities to reflect on their own triggers and explore ways to regulate themselves using the class regulation toolkit.

By learning more about their brains and emotions, children are developing a greater understanding of when they may need support to manage and regulate their feelings. Please see the parent fact sheet attached to this newsletter. We hope you have a **fantastic half term** — the weather is looking fabulous! We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Tuesday 2nd June**.

Enriching the curriculum

Instrumental concert

Yesterday, **Year 3** performed brilliantly in their instrumental concert. The whole year group sang and performed to classical music using scarves. Some children showcased their musical talents with solo performances. Well done, everyone.

Animal Encounters

On Tuesday, **Year 1** had a visit from Garg Animal Encounters. The children experienced many small creatures, including a white-faced scops owl, a tenrec hedgehog (which is closely related to an elephant!), a hissing cockroach, a royal python, a bearded dragon, a chinchilla, and a giant African millipede. The children were able to stroke the animals and observe them close up, making it an exciting and memorable hands-on learning experience. This is always a truly magical experience.



Safeguarding:

Water Safety—Float to Live

As the weather becomes warmer, many families choose to spend time near water, whether at the beach, swimming pool, or on days out. It is important for children to learn how to float if they ever find themselves struggling in water. To help your child keep safe, please see the [RNLI beach safety guidance and video](#) for helpful advice and practical tips on floating safely.

Important Dates

Tues 2nd June	First day back at school
Tues 2nd June	Y2 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
2nd -12th June	Y4 National Multiplication tests.
2nd—5th June	Bring donations of Teddies for the Fayre
Thurs 4th June	3.30pm Y6 Parent Q&A regarding residential trip (Hawks classroom)
Fri 5th June	Non-uniform day in return for a bottle for the Tombola.
Sat 6th June	PTA Summer Fayre
W/C 8th June	Y1 Phonics screening
Mon 8th June	Reception trip to Willows Farm
Mon 8th June	10am Sparrows visit to the Library
Wed 10th June	Class Photos
Fri 12th June	Y3 Trip to Celtic Harmony
Mon 15th June	Y4 Trip to Stansted Mountfitchet
Mon 15th June	10am Starlings visit to the Library
Wed 17th June	Y5 Egyptian Day
Wed 17th June	10am Wrens visit to the Library
Mon 22nd June	10am Kites visit to the Library
Wed 24th June	Y1 trip to Audley End
Wed 24th June	5.30pm—6.30pm EYFS Welcome Evening for children starting in Sept
29th June—3rd July	Y6 Residential PGL Overstrand Hall
Mon 6th July	10am Harriers visit to the Library
Wed 8th July	10am Hawks visit to the Library
Wed 8th July	Consultations and transition meetings
Thurs 9th July	Move up day
Fri 10th July	Sports Day
13th—17th July	Art Week
Mon 13th July	10am Kingfishers visit to the Library
Mon 13th July	2.50pm KS1 Art work sharing with parents
Tues 14th July	2.50pm UKS2 Art work sharing with parents
Wed 15th July	10am Nightingales visit to the Library
Wed 15th July	2.50pm EYFS Art work sharing with parents
Wed 15th July	Y6 Performance at South mill (details TBC)
Thurs 16th July	2.50pm LKS2 Art work sharing with parents
Mon 20th July	9.15am Y6 Leavers Assembly
Tues 21st July	2pm Break up for summer holidays
Wed 22nd July	Occasional day
23rd July—31st Aug	Summer Holidays
1st & 2nd Sept	Inset day
Thurs 3rd Sept	Start of New School Year

*Red = New Item / Change to Item

Attendance this term

Yr	%
R	95.9
1	95.1
2	95.6
3	95.5
4	95.6
5	95.3
6	96.3

Our target	96%
Whole school	95.6%

0 days off	100%	Fantastic
5 days off a year	97%	Good
10 days off a year	95%	Slight concern
20 days off a year	90%	Concerned
30 days off a year	85%	Very concerned

We appreciate that some children, at times, struggle to come into school. If you would like support, please speak to your class teacher or email Mrs Rogers, our pastoral leader. Our school attendance policy is available on our website for further information, including information about fining for unauthorised absence.

Enriching the Curriculum

On Tuesday, **Year 6** visited Crucial Crew and took part in a range of interactive workshops focused on staying safe and making responsible choices. The children learned about topics including road safety, online safety and first aid, and they



represented the school brilliantly throughout the session. This week in DT, **Year 5** developed their food preparation and cooking skills by exploring Brazilian cuisine. The children prepared Moqueca (a traditional Brazilian fish stew), baked Pão de Queijo (Brazilian cheesy bread), and made Brigadeiros (Brazilian chocolate truffles) for dessert.

The children enjoyed learning new culinary techniques, tasting different flavours, and discovering more about Brazilian culture through food before tasting their dishes.

Thank you to Mrs Ferdinand and Miss Hartley for their hard work in organising everything.



Reminders and Updates

INSET day:

Just a reminder that we have an **INSET day Monday 1st June**

School Library Books:

Please remember to check at home for any school books, as these must be returned to their class.

Uniform

Skirts, dresses and trousers must be smart school wear.

Children in Years 5 and 6 are expected to wear a shirt and tie; ties are optional in Lower Key Stage 2. Smart black shoes must be worn, without flashing lights (or with the lights turned off).

Sandals, trainers and boots are not permitted.

Extreme hairstyles, including tramlines, are not allowed.

For PE, children should wear bottle green shorts or green track-suit bottoms with a white T-shirt.

Earrings, jewellery and smart watches are not allowed in school, and hair accessories must be bottle green.

Earrings:

If you plan to have your child's ears pierced during the summer holidays, please do so early in the break to allow enough time for earrings to be removed before the start of term.

Parking:

Please do not park in the entrance to the staff car park at any time, as it restricts staff and visitors from entering or leaving, but more importantly this must be kept clear for emergency vehicles. Thanks for your co-operation.

Celebration of Achievements



This week's stars of the week were:

Ducklings: Halle and Tala

Puffins: Freddie **Owls:** Hussain

'Learner of the Week' certificates were focused on learning powers and our school code.

Robins: Vinnie

Wrens: Harley

Starlings: Louis

Sparrows: Sebastian

Skylarks: Thom

Swifts: Violet

Nightingales: Isabella

Kingfishers: Jonas

Kestrels: Florence

Kites: Lara

Harriers: Oscar

Hawks: Jacob

Scooters as part of Pulse

After half term, we will be launching scooters at lunchtime as part of our PULSE provision. This will begin as a trial, and we are excited to offer children another active and enjoyable opportunity during the school day.

Please note:

- Only school scooters will be used.
- Children must wear a helmet whilst scootering.
- Children may either use a school helmet or bring in their own clearly labelled helmet from home.
- If your child is bringing their own helmet, please ensure it is in school on the correct day:

Tuesday – EYFS

Wednesday – KS1

Thursday – LKS2

Friday – UKS2



Staff will spend time revisiting the rules and routines with children before they begin using the scooters.

Northgate School Association

PTA Summer Fayre Saturday 6th June 12pm-3pm

Our Summer Fayre is all set for the Saturday after we return to school, and we are all looking forward to a fantastic afternoon of family fun!

A huge thank you to everyone who has already donated prizes, bought raffle tickets and signed up to help. Your support really does make a difference.

There is still time to volunteer on the day, and we would love a few more helpers to ensure all stalls run smoothly. If you can spare a little time please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B48AEAE23AAF85-63891585-northgate>

We will be gratefully accepting donations of cuddly toys during the first week back — please drop any donations to the School Office. Friday 5th June is also a non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle donation for the tombola.

Don't forget to return your raffle ticket stubs and cash to your child's class teacher or the School Office for your chance to win one of our amazing prizes! We have a huge variety of prizes, including: *a Liverpool shirt signed by Steven Gerrard, Charlotte Tilbury skincare and beauty products, men's and women's sunglasses, gift vouchers, hampers and much more!* Please see the flyer attached for more information.

Thank you again for your continued support. The PTA Team