

Northgate Primary School Newsletter

November 5th 2021

Headteacher's News

Hope you had a great half term!

I hope your child has enjoyed our Wellbeing Week which has had a focus once again on the Five Ways to Wellbeing. Please see page 2 for more details of all the exciting things the children did.

Thanks to the PTA for supporting this event by funding our visitors and to Miss Williams (our PHSE lead) for organising the week.

"Just Talk" is Hertfordshire's mental health and wellbeing campaign, involving over 35 local organisations and co-produced with young people. This year's Just Talk Week is 15th-21st November and is focusing on the importance of kindness – how we can all benefit from being a little kinder to ourselves and each other. Young people, as well as their parents and carers, are invited to get involved and promote positive mental health in Herts.

This year's campaign week will be taking place online and in schools and colleges across the county. You and/or your children will be able to access a range of FREE information webinars throughout the week, on important topics including:-

- How to look after your own wellbeing
- Coping with stress and anxiety
- Managing conflict within the family
- Supporting mental health in young people with neurodiversity
- Healthy eating
- The benefits of physical activity
- Daily mindfulness sessions

There will also be a host of great content on their social media across campaign week, from the many partners that work together on the Just Talk campaign, and the inspirational Mental Health Ambassador and Speaker, Antonio Ferreira, on his experience of mental health issues and how to get through them. To keep up to date you can follow @JustTalkHerts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

See the full webinar schedule, as well as a range of FREE resources, videos and information [here](#).

Also, please take a look at their new mental health and wellbeing information leaflet for parents and carers in Hertfordshire [here](#).

I hope some of these resources can support you and your family. Have a lovely weekend.

Safeguarding

Dangerous Parking Outside School

We have received a specific complaint about a double parking incident outside school this week which has been reported to the local PSCO. For the safety of all Northgate children, and our near neighbours, please do not park on or around the speed limiting bollards, speed humps or yellow zig zag lines.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Important Dates - 2021/22

Tues 9th Nov	Parent Consultation Meetings
Weds 10th Nov	Parent Consultation Meetings
Mon 15th Nov	PTA AGM
Weds 17th Nov	Happy School Bag Collection
Weds 1st Dec	Early Years Christmas Production
Thurs 2nd Dec	Flu Immunisations (Rec-Y6)
Weds 8th Dec	Year 2 Christmas Production
Thurs 9th Dec	9.15am Class 1 'Magic of Christmas' (20 mins)
Fri 10th Dec	9.15am Class 2 'Magic of Christmas' (20 mins)
Fri 10th Dec	Christmas Jumper/'Elf Yourself' Day
Mon 13th Dec	KS2 Pantomime (Southmill Arts)
Tues 14th Dec	KS1 Pantomime (in school)
Tues 14th Dec	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Lunch
Weds 15th Dec	KS2 Christmas Lunch
Thurs 16th Dec	KS2 St Michael's church carol service (pick up from church)
Mon 20th Dec	PTA Break the Rules Day
Mon 20th Dec	End of Term at 2.00pm
Tues 21st Dec	Jubilee Occasional Day
Weds 5th Jan	Children Return to School
14th-18th Feb	February Half Term
Mon 21st Feb	INSET DAY
Weds 2nd March	Happy School Bag Collection
Fri 1st April	End of Term at 2.00pm
Tues 19th April	Children Return to School
May 2022	Year 2 SATs
9th-12th May	Year 6 SATs week
30th May-3rd Jun	May Half Term
Mon 6th June	INSET DAY
7th-10th June	Year 1 Phonics Week
7th-24th June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Thurs 30th June	Happy School Bag Collection
Thurs 21st July	End of Term at 2.00pm

Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to seeing parents in school for the consultation meetings on the 9th and 10th of November. This year will be different from previous years as we will be spread out across several areas. You will be able to find the class teachers as shown below;

- * EYFS and Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the hall
- * Classes 5, 6 and 7 in class 7
- * Classes 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 in the ICT suite

Both parents may attend, however all adults **must wear masks**. We need to ensure the health of our whole school community and therefore teachers are not expected to meet face to face with parents not wearing masks, unless you are exempt and bring an exemption badge.

Teachers will have the children's English and maths books to show you at the meeting.

If you have not yet reserved an appointment with your child's teacher, please do so this weekend as bookings cannot be made after 08.30am on Monday 8th November.

Wellbeing Week - Five Ways to Wellbeing

Northgate's Wellbeing Week built upon our understanding of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing through various activities, as well as flourishing pupil's understanding of how to look after themselves and what they can do at home to ensure they have good mental health.

'I learnt that it is ok to feel sad and worried, it helps us when we speak, get creative, get active and go outside'. (Zach cl10)

'The week has taught me how important sleep is'. (Griff cl10)

During the week the children have experienced a variety of 'active' sessions. These included basketball, mini circuits, netball and yoga. The focus of these lessons was to remind us of the link between having a healthy body and a healthy mind. The lessons also gave pupils an opportunity to participate in a sport they would not have tried previously. Several children said 'I would now take up netball, as I loved the lesson'. Huge thanks to Mrs Smith who gave up her time to help to develop the students' wellbeing with netball activities.



Wellbeing was also present within our core subjects. In English, the children wrote their own version of 'The Magic box' by Kit Wright. The children filled their own box with metaphorical things that make them feel happy and safe. It was beautiful to hear the children share such precious moments with their peers and see them reflect on 'the small things' in life. Archie, Class 8, shared his poem in assembly (see below). In

maths, the children worked in small groups to complete motivational maths challenges. After the lesson the children were asked to reflect on the importance of overcoming challenges and the journey our brain takes to learn new knowledge. We hope this growth mind-set will be present in their future lessons.

Each key stage also planned their own activity afternoon where the children could choose their lesson. These included pond dipping, gardening, baking, peppermint cream making, mosaic designing, skeleton creating, code cracking and outdoor sports. The children flourished within these sessions. One child said, 'This has been my favourite day at Northgate' and this could also be seen in their huge smiles as they went home.

The whole school then came together to share their positives from the week with an assembly with Miss Williams and a very special visitor, who performed a whole school yoga session via Google Classrooms.

Grace Williams
PSHE Leader

I will put in the box, a miniature spark from a glistening firework, a golden trophy as shiny as a star, the tip of a shark tooth from a Megalodon, My box is fashioned from, metal, ice and gold, with spikes on the lid and shoes in the corners, its hinged are the toe joints from a dinosaur. Archie (cl8)



Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: Maxwell

R1: Robbie

R2: William

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for always being supportive of others and insightful comments on what affects our wellbeing during the Retune workshop.

Well done to:

Class 1: Thomas

Class 7: Elisa

Class 2: Benedict

Class 8: Archie

Class 3: Otis

Class 9: Jack and Amelie

Class 4: Bill

Class 10: Aaron and Zach

Class 5: Elsie

Class 11: Annabel

Class 6: Jack

Class 12: Hari

Northgate School Association

AGM - Monday 15th November

You are all invited to our Annual General Meeting, taking place from 7:30pm in school. Find out how the money we raise is being spent and about our plans for the year ahead. Do consider joining the committee too - new trustees are very much needed! Refreshments will be provided.

Happy School Bags - collection day 17th November 2021

Hopefully your child brought home a sack to collect any clothing you no longer have need for to donate to charity via the Happy School Bags scheme. We receive commission on the items we donate so now is the perfect time to have a clear out. They will accept clothing (no underwear or logo'd school uniform), paired shoes, console games, handbags, belts, hats and accessories, jewellery, toiletries and perfumes.

Preloved Christmas Jumper Sales

While you're having a sort out, we are looking for donations of Christmas jumpers and accessories your children have outgrown for our Preloved Christmas Jumper Sales. These will take place on Friday 26th November and Friday 3rd December in time for the school's Christmas Jumper Day! The times and location of the sales will be publicised nearer the time. Please take your donations to the school office throughout November.

Christmas Trees

We will be selling Christmas trees this year! These will be available to pre-order for collection on 3rd December from school. Top quality non-drop Nordmann Fir trees from 4ft to 13ft will be available at a really great price. We will have sample trees for you to look at before placing your order. Full details and prices coming very soon.

Christmas Cards Fundraiser

Our Christmas card fundraiser is always so popular and we will be running this again this year with local company CZ Design and Print. Forms and full details will be sent home next week with your children with a return date of 19th November to enable your orders to be received in plenty of time to send out before Christmas.