

September 8th 2017

### Headteacher's News

Welcome back to a new school year and a warm welcome to all our new families. I hope that you had an enjoyable summer and your children have had a good start to the new year. It has been fantastic to see everyone back settling in so quickly and being so positive.

We welcome a number of new staff— Mrs Clynes, our new Assistant Head, Mrs Bull, our Nursery Teacher, Miss Goslitski, our class 6 Teacher and Miss Hathaway, the new Class 8 Teacher. It is also lovely to welcome back Mrs Gavin and Mrs Claxton, who return after their maternity leave. We wish to send our Congratulations to Miss Harding, who is pregnant and our best wishes to Mrs Witney who goes on maternity leave!

We have had a busy summer in school, with several rooms moving. We are delighted to welcome Little Ladybirds Preschool to our school. We hope that this supports our local community with the increase in child care opportunities. As a result of wanting easy access for the preschool, we have moved the staffroom, the library and the sensory room. The library still needs to be completed so, for the next couple of weeks, the KS2 children will be taking books from their own classrooms. We are delighted that the KS1 toilets have also been replaced (an aspect highlighted from the coffee sessions with the SLT last year). Thanks to all the staff who worked so hard over the summer to make our school environment such as positive one.

I am at the gate most mornings so please catch me or pop into the office if you would like to make an appointment. If you would like an appointment with your child's class teacher, please ask in the office or arrange it at the end of the day with their teacher.

### Parental involvement

We value your support and involvement in the school and there are a number of ways to become involved:

#### Guided reading

We are looking for more parents who would like to help with reading in KS1 one day a week or more from 9.05am to 9.25am. Having an adult with each group makes a huge difference to the children's learning. Please email the office on their admin address if you are interested, making it clear if you would like to support in your child's or another class. Guided reading will start next week with a supporting reading safeguarding training session. Please sign in at the office and make your way to the dining room.

#### Maths Week

Mr Glozier is organising a Maths Week from 25th to 29th September to help inspire children to become confident mathematicians. Once again we are inviting parents to come in for the first 20 minutes and play maths games with their child. Please see the dates on the list.

### Important Dates

Mon 11th Sep	2.45pm Yr1 Mt the Teacher
Tues 12th Sep	11.15am Nursery ( <b>am children</b> ) Mt the Teacher
Tues 12th Sep	2.50pm Nursery ( <b>pm children</b> ) Mt the Teacher
Wed 13th Sep	Year 5 Imperial War Museum
Thurs 14th Sep	12.45pm Reception Mt the Teacher
<b>9.00am-9.30am Maths Games:</b>	
26th Sep	EYFS parents
27th Sep	KS1 parents
28th Sep	Lower KS2 parents
29th Sep	Upper KS2 parents
11th Oct	KS1 Harvest Assembly 9.am
19th Oct	Black History Day
Fri 20th Oct	Inset day
23rd-27th Oct	Half term
W/C 30th Oct	Parent reading sessions
31st Oct	Parent Consultations
1st Nov	Parent Consultations
20th Dec-2nd Jan	Christmas holiday
3rd Jan	Children return to school
12th-16th Feb	Half term
19th Feb	Inset Day
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
4th June	Inset Day
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018
*Red = New Item	

### Secondary Transfer

Year 6 children will be bringing home a "Secondary Transfer 2018" leaflet this week. Please be aware that applications can be made on [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and applications MUST be made by 31st October 2017.

### Safeguarding

Please remember, for their own safety, children are not allowed on any of the playground equipment before or after school.

Please note that children and parents must not walk through the staff car park at any time.

Children must not be left unattended before school as there will be no member of staff to supervise them at this time.

### Harvest

Each year we celebrate harvest as a school and we would like to invite the KS1 parents (year 1 and year 2) to their harvest assembly on Wednesday October 11th at 9.00am. Unfortunately due to lack of space, we are unable to fit KS2 and all their parents in the hall so the children will share work between themselves.

### Newsletter

The newsletter is our main form of communication to parents and it is usually sent out on Friday by eSchools. If you are not receiving emails or your email address changes please let the office know ASAP.

### Parking

Please show consideration when parking near the school and please remember the safety of other children.

The tennis club have informed me that some of our parents are parking on the grass in their car parks. The school and the tennis club have a goodwill agreement which enables our parents to use this facility. However, if this continues we will lose this goodwill and this additional parking arrangement. Please park responsibly and respect the tennis club rules.

### **New Governors Needed**

We are very fortunate to have a strong team of Governors here at Northgate, helping to shape the school vision and putting it into reality. The Governors are all volunteers and give their time to help ensure the school continues to develop and grow.

We are currently in need of Governors with certain skills and who have the time to support the school. We are in particular need of Governors with a financial, property or law background. If you think you might be interested in applying, please contact the school office for an application form which needs to be returned by Friday 22nd September. If you would like to find out more about the role, please speak to one of our Governors or catch Mrs Tanner at the gate.

### **Uniform**

It was great to see all the children looking so smart at the start of term. Just to remind you **all items must be named**.

Skirts and trousers must be smart school wear. The Upper Key Stage 2 children are expected to wear a shirt and tie. Ties are optional in Lower Key Stage 2.

Smart black shoes should be worn, without flashing lights (or with the lights turned off). Children are not allowed to wear trainers, fashion shoes or boots.

Children are not allowed to wear earrings or other jewellery in school. Hair accessories must be in school colours, yellow or bottle green.

### **PE kit**

All children will now be expected to wear bottle green shorts with their white t-shirts and a bottle green tracksuit.

### **Water bottles**

Please could you make sure your children's water bottles measure no more than 15cm in height (with the top off) as taller bottles do not fit in the machine and this is causing regular flooding of the dining room floor. Thank you

### **Lost Property**

We have a large amount of unnamed items in lost property. Any items remaining in the box after Monday, 11th September will be taken to a charity shop. Lost property will be disposed of on the last Friday of the month so please check regularly if you have lost any items.

### **Celebration of Achievements**

The children's homework this week will be to design a new 'Learner of the Week' certificate so we can start next week by celebrating the children's learning. Today we celebrated children for their positive behaviour with those children who stayed in green or went into gold and some teamwork tigers.

### **School Dinners**

The cost of school dinners until the end of the first half term (Autumn) will be as follows:

<b>Per Day</b>	<b>Every Day</b>	<b>Wed</b>
£2.40	£81.60	£16.80
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Wed &amp; Fri</b>	
£14.40	£31.20	

We are pleased to let you know that from Monday, 11th September, our school dinners will be made using fresh butcher's meat.

### **Daily Mile**

The daily mile will start again on Monday, 18th September. It will be held before school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when the gates will open at 8.35am. On Tuesdays and Thursdays it will be held within the school day and therefore the gates on Tuesdays and Thursdays will not be open until 8.45am.

### **Community**

All Saints School in Bishop's Stortford are desperately looking for MSA's. If you know anyone who would be interested, please could they call them on 01279 836006. Thank you

### **Cantate Youth Choir**

Cantate Youth Choir are holding an open rehearsal this Sunday, 10th September. This is a great opportunity for children of all ages go along and try it out to see whether they might like to join. This will take place at Summercroft School in Bishop's Stortford. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

### **All Stars Cricket**

HECC will be running a winter All Stars Cricket programme, starting on 3rd October. This is aimed at keeping children involved in the game, giving them a winter exit route at HECCSport but importantly, keeping them keen through the winter to return to their clubs and schools for summer cricket. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

### **Apple Day at The Gardens of Easton Lodge**

Apples, bees and ukuleles at the Gardens of Easton Lodge, from 11.30am on Sunday, 17th September. Please find further information attached.