

February 8th 2019

Headteacher's News

We have had a wealth of different experiences this week. The children from Year 1 upwards thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to listen to an author at the Festival of Literature. They all returned buzzing from their sessions and I hope it inspired them to read new books. Please don't forget we will be celebrating World Book Day next month, starting the day with our book character parade.

This week our Healthy Schools Week has covered a wide range of aspects to support the children's health and wellbeing. See below to find out more about what the different classes have covered.

'Aspects', our local family and pupil support service, support children 5-19 at school and also offer help to families. Information can be found at <http://www.aspects.org.uk>.

Next week will be busy too. We will have our first KS2 house general knowledge quiz. The children will also be completing a range of assessments to support information about their progress.

Northgate are delighted to welcome two new Governors this term. Ros Fraser, a reception parent, has spent the majority of her career working in secondary schools as an English teacher. She currently works with an educational charity, developing and delivering a programme of school improvement, and hopes to bring her insight and experience to her Governor role at Northgate.

Paul Norton, a Nursery and reception parent, is Regulatory Director for a global pharmaceutical company where he reviews and ensures compliance with relevant regulations. Paul believes his skills will transfer well to a school environment to help ensure Northgate's compliance with appropriate regulations and to provide a safe and enriching space for the children to grow. We thank them for offering their time to support the school by joining our Governing Body.

The Life Bus / Healthy Schools Week

The children have really enjoyed the Life Bus visiting Northgate this week. Each year group had a different programme and these were:

- Nursery: Taking Care of Myself, focusing on how the body gets energy and the importance of personal hygiene.
- Reception: All About Me, focusing on how the body gets energy, medicines and dealing with sadness.
- Year 1: My Wonderful Body, focusing on a healthy diet and how a person's behaviour can hurt others' feelings.
- Year 2: Feelings, focusing on recognising, naming and understanding how to deal with feelings.
- Year 3: Meet the Brain, focusing on qualities of friendship, reasons why friends fall out and skills for making up.
- Year 4: It's Great to be Me, focusing on understanding that everyone is unique and understanding the key risks and effects of smoking and drinking alcohol.

Important Dates

Wed 13th Feb	1.30pm Tea Party for the 'Queen'
Thurs 14th Feb	Year 6 Victorian Day
Half Term	18th - 22nd Feb 19
Mon 25th Feb	INSET DAY
Tues 26th Feb	Children Return to School
Wed 27th Feb	2.45pm Year 2 Maths Workshop
(please note this replaces 6th Feb)	
Thurs 28th Feb	2.45pm Yr 1 Maths Workshop
Tues 5th Mar	4.00-7.00pm Parent Consultations
Wed 6th Mar	3.30-6.00pm Parent Consultations
Thurs 7th Mar	World Book Day
Fri 8th Mar	School Disco
Mon 18th Mar	9.00am NNAM + Reception Reading with Parents
	2.50pm NNPM Reading with Parents
Wed 20th Mar	9.00am LKS2 Reading with Parents
Thurs 21st Mar	9.00am UKS2 Reading with Parents
Fri 22nd Mar	9.00am KS1 Reading with Parents
Tues 26th Mar	9.00am NNAM Worksharing
	2.50pm NNPM + Reception Worksharing
Wed 27th Mar	2.50pm Yr 3 Worksharing
Thurs 28th Mar	2.50pm Yr 5 Worksharing
Fri 29th Mar	2.45pm Yr 2 Worksharing
	2.50pm Yr 6 Worksharing
Mon 1st Apr	9.00am NNAM Mother's Day Breakfast
	3.00pm NNPM Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
Tues 2nd Apr	9.00am Reception Mother's Day Breakfast
	2.45pm Yr 1 Worksharing
Wed 3rd Apr	2.15pm and 6.30pm Year 3/4 Show
Thurs 4th Apr	2.50pm Yr 4 Worksharing
Fri 5th Apr	Term Ends at 2.00pm
Tues 23rd Apr	Children Return to School
13th - 16th May	Year 6 SATs Week
22nd May	Year 6 Crucial Crew
Half term	27th - 31st May 2019
Mon 3rd Jun	INSET DAY
Tues 4th Jun	Children Return to School
Sat 8th Jun	Association Summer Ball
10th-14th June	School Journey
Tues 23rd July	End of Term at 2.00pm

Safeguarding

TikTok

TikTok is a video sharing app recommended for age 13 and above. It has the reputation for being unusually free of trolling and danger but there are some serious concerns. Please find a useful parent factsheet attached.

The Life Bus / Healthy Schools Week Cont'd

- Year 5: Friends, focusing on recognising and understanding basic emotional needs, Identifying characteristics of behaviours and rehearsing assertiveness skills.
- Year 6: Decisions, focusing on identifying risk factors involving Alcohol and recognising and empathizing with patterns of behaviour in peer-group dynamics.

Please talk to the children about what they have done.

You can find more information about the Life Bus and all that Coram Life Education do to support great learning by visiting <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk>.

Thank you to our PTA for funding this event.

Healthy Schools Week Activities

The children enjoyed a range of activities this week. Highlights have included:

- Nursery: Cleaning giant teeth, making sandwiches and fruit faces
- Reception: Cosmic yoga / 5-a-day / Super Movers
Importance of Sleep
Healthy v Unhealthy foods
Making rice cracker faces
- Year 1: Making fruit kebabs and posters to promote a healthy Lifestyle
- Year 2: Making healthy apple doughnuts
Importance of exercise in science
Keeping Healthy posters
- Year 3: Yoga
Thinking positive—creating positive though super heroes.
Making banana / yoghurt lollipops
- Year 4: Experiencing the 'Langar' - experiencing healthy vegetarian food- in RE with a Sikh 'open kitchen'.
Making well being diaries
- Year 5: Making healthy apple kebabs
PSHE– mindfulness and positive attitudes
DT - food groups and making healthy food choices
- Year 6: Making raw veggie wraps
Making banana muffins
Yoga for stress relief

Thank you to Miss Hartley for organising this event

Reminders and Updates

A very big thank you to parents who have kindly made generous donations of books, puzzles, etc. to the school. We always welcome your donations, they are greatly appreciated. Thank you

School Uniform

We have been advised by the Tesco School Uniform Embroidery Service that they will be closing on 12th February 2019. Their current supplier has set up an alternative service called [My Clothing](#) who will offer the same value service as well as supporting Northgate through their donation scheme.

Tesco are working closely with My Clothing to make sure it will be a simple transition. To log in to the new service go to www.myclothing.com and register.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery AM: Noah K	R1: Dylan
PM: Bella	R2: Viktor

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their use of colour, detail, creativity and fantastic print design.

Well done to:

Class 1: Toby	Class 7: Carolina
Class 2: Fletcher	Class 8: Violet
Class 3: Hannah	Class 9: Amelia
Class 4: Alfie	Class 10: Poppy B
Class 5: Ryan	Class 11: Koko
Class 6: Violet	Class 12: Emily

Parent Consultations

Parents consultations will be taking place on Tuesday, 5th March from 4.00pm-7.00pm and Wednesday, 6th March from 3.30pm-6.00pm.

Bookings for all children, except Nursery, are to be made on eSchools and will be available to be booked from Tuesday, 26th February at 6.00pm and will close on Friday, 1st March at 12.00pm.

For those who have not had a log in to eSchools before, letters will be going home today to explain how to log on.

For those who have previously used eSchools, you may not have logged on for a while, so please check now that you can and if you need a reminder of your password, please e-mail admin@northgate.herts.sch.uk and we will email back a new password.

Nursery parents will be able to sign up to appointments on the boards in the main school reception area from the morning of Wednesday 27th February.

If you would like an appointment with the SENDCo, and have not yet met Mrs Webb, then contact the school office to book an appointment. She is available on Wednesday, 6th March from 3.00pm-6.00pm.

School Association

We hope the children enjoy the film night. Thank you for supporting the event and especially to those who have volunteered to help out. Thank you also to Mrs Boom and Mrs Aziz for organising it.

School Disco

The next school disco is on Friday, 8th March. We need lots of parent helpers to make it a great event. Please sign up here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Z7C5Q53>