

December 15th 2017

Headteacher's News

I have been so proud of all our pupils this week! Their positive attitude, hard work and many talents really shone through on so many occasions! I would like to praise Key Stage 2 for the sensible way they walked down to the Rhodes Centre for the pantomime, in the snow and rain! We wish to take this opportunity to express our thanks to the School Association for paying for this event, as well as the Key Stage 1 panto and the EYFS entertainer. The children across the school thoroughly enjoyed them!

Key Stage One's production of 'Jesus' Christmas Party' was a magical play, showcasing the many talents of our pupils. They really impressed the audiences with their singing, dancing and clear speaking.

The Key Stage 2 Carol Service was a special opportunity to share the Christmas Story through music and poems. Well done KS2! Many thanks for the hard work of all the staff to put together so many amazing Christmas events.

Our Christmas Fayre was a huge success last weekend. Many thanks to all those who supported the event. We are especially grateful for the hard work of the organising committee and delighted that the event raised £4,100! It is due to the hard work of the Association at events such as this that allows them to pay for these fabulous opportunities to really enhance the end of term and to purchase greatly needed resources.

At the end of term, we will sadly be saying goodbye to two of our teaching assistants, Mrs Turner and Mrs Poole. They will both be greatly missed and we thank them for all their hard work and commitment over the last few years.

I would like to thank all the parents for their support this term, particularly those who have regularly come into school to volunteer. Your time has been greatly appreciated.

A Note from the Governors

Parent governors have a four year term before they need to be re-elected and Brian Neill's term has come to an end. He has been a crucial member of Northgate's Governing Body for some time and his experience and expertise is invaluable to myself as the new Chair. Brian is now Chair of our Resources Committee, which looks at Finance and Property, and has a key role. Brian would like to continue as a Parent Governor for another term and will be re-appointed unless anyone else expresses an interest in writing before 5th January 2018.

On behalf of myself and the Governing Body, I would like to wish all of our Staff and Families and very safe and enjoyable Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you in January.

Sarah Cran
Chair of Governors

Important Dates

19th Dec	2.00pm End of Term
20th Dec-2nd Jan	Christmas holiday
3rd Jan	Children return to school
11th Jan	Prospective Parent Tour
12th Jan	9am EYFS coffee with SLT
19th Jan	9am KS1 coffee with SLT
26th Jan	9am KS2 coffee with SLT
29th Jan-2nd Feb	Maths Games
30th Jan	9am Lower KS2
31st Jan	9am EYFS
1st Feb	9am Upper KS2
2nd Feb	9am KS1
12th-16th Feb	Half term
19th Feb	Inset Day
26th Feb-2nd Mar	Reading with Parents - dates to be confirmed
27th Feb	Parent Consultations
28th Feb	Parent Consultations
1st Mar	World Book Day (children to dress up)
15th Mar	Curriculum Information Evening - KS1 and KS2
12th - 16th Mar	Science Week— parent science activity sessions (dates TBC)
22nd Mar	Year 5 Instrumental Concert
23rd Mar	Year 6 Instrumental Concert
28th Mar	Years 3/4 Show (afternoon and evening performances)
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
28th May-1st Jun	Half Term
4th June	Inset Day
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

Friendship skills ... and coping!

Aspects are running a FREE training event in Friendship Skills...and coping! Northgate will be hosting a coffee morning for parents and carers of pupils with ASD or social communication difficulties with or without diagnosis. Please see the attached flyer for further information and to book a space.

KS2 Christmas Carol Concert - Thursday 14th December 2.00pm



Christmas Jumper Day

Everyone looked very festive in their Christmas jumpers. We raised £239.69 for Save the Children.

Year 5/6 Choir Carol Service at St Michael's Church at 7.00pm

Parents and the choir enjoyed a fantastic candlelit service at St Michael's Church on Monday evening. The choir sang beautifully and Molly and Charlotte read perfectly.

The choir will be singing to the elderly residents of Elmhurst Care Home on Monday afternoon, during school hours.

Key Stage 1 Christmas Production - Wednesday 13th December

Year 1 and 2 gave an outstanding performance of Jesus' Christmas Party on Wednesday afternoon and evening. The production included brilliant acting, fantastic singing and wonderful dancing. A big thank you to the parents who provided such amazing costumes.

KS1 Panto in School

Year 1 and 2 thoroughly enjoyed watching Aladdin on Monday and we thank the Association for organising and paying for this pantomime. Also for providing drink and biscuits for the children.

KS2 Panto at the Rhodes Centre

KS2 braved the elements to walk down to the Rhodes Centre to watch Snow White & the Seven Dwarves. The pantomime was fantastic and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We were also complimented by the Bishop's Stortford Independent Newspaper who saw us walk past their offices.

Poppy Appeal

We are pleased to report that Northgate raised £237.22 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Thank you for your support.

Knitting Club

In knitting club we are making a giant pompom. We would like to make it green and yellow so if anyone has any spare wool in these colours could you please bring it to the school office.

Bishop's Stortford North Development

Taylor Wimpey have been in contact with us and other local schools to advise the work on their Hadham road site will commence from early December for a period of 30 months. They have asked us to make parents and carers aware that no children or any unauthorised persons will be allowed on the site. They will be erecting fencing around and signs will be up but as this has previously been an area where people have walked their dogs and children have played they want to be sure that everyone is aware to prevent the risk of any accidents. Please make sure your children and any older siblings understand the dangers and do not go near this site to play.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: (am) - Elsie
(pm) - James C
Reception: (R1) - Charlie
(R2) - Martha

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on Performer of the Week

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for their excellent singing, dancing and narrating.

Well done to:

Class 1: Ruby	Class 7: Henry
Class 2: Poppy W	Class 8: Annabel
Class 3: Lewis	Class 9: Joshua L
Class 4: Jack	Class 10: Margarita
Class 5: Harry	Class 11: Jamie & Gemma
Class 6: Oliver	Class 12: Livvy

Reminders and updates

The Daily Mile

There will be **NO** daily mile on Monday or Tuesday of next week. The daily mile will resume on Monday, 8th January, weather permitting.

Guided Reading

There will be no guided reading next week, this will resume on **Monday, 8th January**. We would like to say a very big thank you to all of our helpers, you are greatly appreciated.

Years 1 and 2

Please remember to bring party clothes in a named carrier bag and party food to school on Monday morning.

School Association

Happy Bags

Thank you to those who filled the Happy Bags, we raised £105.95.

Community

The Hertfordshire & Essex High School Admissions Consultation

The Hertfordshire & Essex High School is consulting on a change to its admissions arrangements this year, following the publication of the arrangements, so that Manor Fields' girls would get priority over girls from other schools in the town. This would obviously impact on girls in other schools in Bishop's Stortford. Please look at their website for details of the changes and be aware that the school is happy to receive comments for consideration, up to Monday, 8th January 2018. Local schools will be responding and I would suggest parents make their views known.