

March 2nd 2018

## Headteacher's News

What an interesting week we have had! On Tuesday lunchtime we had a fire alarm which everyone dealt with calmly and sensibly. If there had been a fire, we would have evacuated the site through the new gate on the field and headed up to the Rugby Club, who have kindly agreed to host us in this situation. This would get the children well away from the burning building, leave Cricketfield Lane clear for the emergency services and give parents suitable parking facilities.

Wednesday's challenge was the weather. We always try to keep the school open to enable learning and avoid inconvenience to parents, but also have to consider everyone's safety. So we changed the day somewhat, with the children watching a film over lunchtime before returning to afternoon lessons that were adapted for smaller class numbers, followed by some outdoor play, rather than assembly. Those children who were collected early prior to afternoon registration were marked absent—this is required for safeguarding reasons and clearly very important as we were reminded by the previous day's fire alarm. Teachers always record separately children who leave within a session. Parent consultations were unfortunately postponed but it enabled the staff—half of whom live outside Bishop's Stortford—to get home safely in the daylight. We look forward to seeing parents next Wednesday instead. Please don't forget to come early to look at your child's books. The school will close after the final appointment at 6pm.

The Northgate team proved how successfully they can work together in these unusual circumstances this week and I wish to thank all the staff for their extra efforts, including Mr Parker for keeping the site safe, those who helped grit the school grounds when Mr Parker's van broke down (and the parent who gave him a cup of tea while he was waiting for the AA!), and those who travelled from areas where there was significantly more snow than Bishop's Stortford.

We are hoping for warmer weather next Thursday so we can share our wonderful World Book Day costumes with you at our Playground Parade at the start of the day. In the meantime, I hope the children enjoy spending their World Book Day tokens which came home with them today.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a restful weekend.

## Reminders

Please ensure that your child is suitably dressed for the cold weather—we had several children this week without jumpers in school. If it is still very cold next week, please ensure that they bring a warm coat, boots, gloves, hats etc. Children may be outside for long periods at lunchtime.

## Important Dates

6th Mar	Year 4 Sea Life Aquarium
7th Mar	3.30-6.00pm Parent Consultations
8th Mar	<b>World Book Day</b> (children to dress up as a book character)
9th Mar	School Disco: 6.00-7.00pm KS1 & Foundation 7.15-8.30pm KS2
12/13th	EYFS Mother's day Breakfast
12th - 16th Mar	<b>Dazzling Discovery Week</b> Science activity with parents: 9-9.30am KS1 9-9.30am Lower KS2 9-9.30am EYFS 9-9.30am Upper KS2
13th Mar	11am Prospective Parent Tour
14th Mar	2.50pm Year 3 Work Sharing
15th Mar	11.20am Nursery am Work Sharing
16th Mar	2.45pm Nursery pm Work Sharing 2.45pm Reception Work Sharing 2.45pm Year 2 Work Sharing
20th Mar	Year 5 Instrumental Concert
22nd Mar	3.00pm Year 5 Work Sharing
22nd Mar	Year 6 Instrumental Concert
23rd Mar	3.00pm Year 4 Work Sharing
23rd Mar	2.45pm Year 1 Work Sharing
26th Mar	2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing
27th Mar	Years 3/4 Show (afternoon and evening performances)
28th Mar	Break up for Easter
29th Mar	Children Return to School
16th Apr	School Association Film Night
20th Apr	Half Term
28th May-1st Jun	Inset Day
4th June	Summer Fayre
9th June	<b>Sports Day</b>
6th July	Break up for Summer 2018
20th Jul 2018	INSET DAYS
3rd & 4th Sep	Children Return to School
5th Sep	

\*Red = New Item

## Safeguarding

Please make sure we have up-to-date contact details in case there is an emergency and we need to contact you. Please make sure that there are several people named, in case the first ones are not able to be contacted. Many thanks.

## Enriching the Curriculum

### Year 2 Gymnastics competition

This week some of the Year 2 children represented Northgate at a gymnastics competition at the Bishop's Stortford Gymnastics Club. The children who took part did really well and really enjoyed taking part. Miss Freeman was very proud of how they represented the school.

### Science Week

For Science Week we are kindly asking for any donations from your recycling box. There will be a box in the office and the following items would be useful: Newspaper, bubble wrap, juice cartons, milk cartons, margarine tubs, egg boxes, cereal boxes or plastic bags. Thank you in advance—Miss Jones, Science Subject Leader

## Reminders and Updates

### World Book Day

World Book Day will now take place next **Thursday, 8th March** and children are asked to dress up as their **favourite book character**. The arrangements remain the same and are as follows: Children will go to their classrooms at 8.45am, after they have been dropped off, and parents can wait in the playground for them all to come back out and parade in their costumes.

### Guided reading

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO GUIDED READING ON WORLD BOOK DAY.

There will also be no guided reading on Monday March 12th and Tuesday March 13th due to Dazzling Discovery Week.

### Parent Consultations

The parent consultations which had to be cancelled on Wednesday, will now take place next **Wednesday, 7th March**. Wherever possible, please arrive 10 minutes early for your appointment so that you can go to your child's classroom to view their work before your appointment.

## School Association

The School Disco is next Friday, March 9th. Foundation & KS1 from 6-7pm and KS2 from 7:15-8:30pm.

Tickets will be on sale in the playground before and after school on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday next week, priced at £2.50 for Foundation /KS1 and £3 for KS2. You can also buy tickets on the door for an extra £1. Refreshments and Glo-products will be available to buy during the Disco.

In response to parental feedback, we have asked the DJ to reduce the volume at the disco this term.

Children attending the KS1 Disco must be accompanied by an adult. If you are bringing younger siblings or non-Northgate children, please give their names to the volunteers at Reception.

For safety and safeguarding reasons, NO COATS, MOBILE PHONES OR CAMERAS are allowed at the KS2 Disco. Any phones/cameras found will be looked after by Mrs Tanner and handed to an adult at the end of the evening.

**We still need more volunteers if the disco is to go ahead.** If you are able to give your time, please complete the survey at: [School Disco March 9th 2018 Survey](#)

## Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: (am) - Arabelle  
(pm) - Evlyn  
Reception: (R1) - Niamh  
(R2) - Maddie

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

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for sharing their ideas, listening to others' contributions and asking complex questions about the text.

Well done to:

Class 1: Leanne	Class 7: Bella
Class 2: Ailsa	Class 8: Ariana
Class 3: Martha	Class 9: Jasmine
Class 4: Sammie	Class 10: Fraser
Class 5: Erin	Class 11: Ciara
Class 6: Lucy	Class 12: Giada

## SEND

### DSPL3: Parent Workshops

DSPL3 are running two workshops in partnership with Families Feeling Safe. They are:  
Managing Strong Feelings  
Communications  
Please find further information on the attached flyers.

## Community

### Holiday Bible Week 2018

Holiday Bible Week will be taking place between Monday 6th—Friday 10th August 2018 at Bishop's Stortford Pre-Prep School.

This is a fun packed, week long holiday club for children aged 5-11, run by the churches of Bishop's Stortford.

There will be games, crafts, puppets, Bible study and singing, all with a circus theme.

Sign up online now .....

[www.holidaybibleweek.co.uk](http://www.holidaybibleweek.co.uk)

[Facebook.com/HBWStortford](https://www.facebook.com/HBWStortford)

### Kitchen Vacancy

Can you help us plan, prepare and serve healthy school meals as a General Assistant at Northgate Primary school for 2 days, 6 hours per week, term time and lunch time only from £7.50 per hour?

In return we offer career progression opportunities, flexible working, free uniform and other benefits.

To apply or for more information, please contact Jo Daymond on 07580 744404 or Julie Gibbs on 07812 323743.