

****Bumper Edition****



Northgate Council Bulletin

Improving Northgate by giving pupils a voice ...

September 2022

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Farewells and Welcomes

At the end of the summer term, we sadly said goodbye to Mrs Anders - Head of Year 10 and History teacher, Mr Lea - Head of Year 11 and Science teacher, Miss Rowden - RS & Citizenship teacher and Mr Newman - IT Services Manager. We wish them all well in the future and thank them for the numerous years they committed to Northgate and the countless students they supported in their roles.

We also see Mrs Springall moving to a new role as Data Support Officer and Mr Beasley as Head of Year 8 and 11. We welcomed Mr Bainbridge - Science Technician, Mr Nimmock - Cover Supervisor, Ms Harris - Head of Drama and Dance, Miss Bauman - English Teacher and Mrs King - Inclusive Practice Lead, who all joined Northgate last term.

At the start of a new school year, we also welcome not only our new Year 7s to Northgate, but new members of staff too.

Mrs Sherrington - Teacher of RS & Citizenship
Miss Gostic - Teacher of Humanities
Dr Musgrave - Teacher of Science
Miss Abeyesinghe - Teacher of Science
Mrs Warrington-Price - Cover Manager

Want to keep up to date with all the goings on at Northgate?

'Like' our Northgate High School Facebook page (@northgatedereham)



Follow us on Twitter:

@NGateDereham, @NgateCouncil



Follow us on Instagram:
NgateDereham



Upcoming events

Make sure you know what is coming up at Northgate. Please note these dates are subject to change.

5th September
Staff INSET Day

6th September
Autumn Term begins (Week A)

14th September
HPV vaccinations (Year 8)

15th + 16th September
School photos

26th – 30th September
Year 7 CATS week

29th September
Year 6 Northgate Open Evening

Northgate News

Missed our last Northgate Bulletin?

Follow this link to read about all the exciting activities and news from last month. [July Bulletin](#)

Water Bottles

It's important to keep hydrated so the brain can work to it's maximum capacity in lessons. The School Council would like to promote the use of reusable bottles rather than single use bottles through the sale of Northgate water bottles. 500ml bottles with the Northgate logo or plain ones are available to order for £1.40 each via Parent Pay.





In the News

Here are some recent news items from our website and the local press:

- [EDP - 15 quirky things you only see at the Royal Norfolk Show](#)
- [EDP - Royal Norfolk Show organisers praise 2022 event](#)
- [Women in Engineering Challenge](#)
- [Norfolk Show Garden awarded GOLD at Royal Norfolk Show](#)
- [Year 9s take on Summer Snack Maths Challenge](#)
- [Rowling triumph in spectacular Sports Day](#)
- [George's Norfolk Show success](#)
- [Green Influencers venture to Gressenhall](#)
- [Science show back with a Big Bang](#)
- [Teams take on the Primary Maths Challenge](#)
- [Brilliant Club graduation](#)

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Prom Celebrations

On June 29th our Year 11 students had the opportunity to celebrate the end of their GCSEs with their prom held at Bawburgh Golf Club. It was a lovely way to celebrate the end of their 5 years at Northgate High School. There were laughs, smiles, a whole rainbow of dresses and suits as well as some interesting modes of transport. A big thank you to Mr Lea, Head of Year, tutors, teachers, support staff and parents and carers who have supported them through their time at Northgate. We hope they look back on their time with plenty of great memories and friendships that will last forever.



Charity Corner

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to our charity fundraising events over the course of the year. We truly have a generous and caring community here at Northgate and have raised an incredible £3062.45 in total! Through fundraising weeks and sponsored events, we raised money for Children in Need, the NSPCC (Number Day), Comic Relief (Red Nose Day), Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal), Save the Children (Christmas Jumper Day), Read for Good (sponsored readathon), MacMillan (bake sale) and Books 4 Africa.



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House Competition Results

After a year of events contributing to the house competition including sports day, the swimming gala, numerous house sports competitions, the weekly Friday quiz, House tokens, merits and a number of subject based competitions, the winners were revealed as Holmes, who also won back in 2020.

Congratulations to everyone who contributed in one way or another to the competitions and to Mr Llewellyn for coordinating the House Competition. Who will win next year? Will Holmes be victorious again? We look forward to students getting involved and contributing points to the competition.



Attenborough	Hawking	Holmes	Rowling
4692	5090	5210	4744

Year 6 Transition days

Wow - what an amazing two days! We had so many smiley faces of new Year 7s arriving at the gates on our transition days and they managed to pack in so much on their first two days at Northgate.

They met Mrs Graves, Head of Year, their tutors, started to make new friends and attended lessons including Maths, Art, Drama, French, Textiles, Science, English and PE. All Year 7s also received a special book and reading challenges for over the summer, from Head Librarian, Mrs Gill.

On day two, it was time for a fun-filled and educational day delivered by Forensic Minds. Students learnt about fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, DNA and Edmond Locard's principle of exchange, which states, "Every contact leaves a trace".

Some of this knowledge was then put into practice, when they took and analysed their own fingerprints. One student, Oscar, was excited to discover that one of his prints is known as an 'accidental pattern' - less than 1% of all fingerprints have this pattern. Later, students completed a microscope quiz and a question and answer session with Diane and Andy, who shared their vast experience of working in forensics with the police.

We hope everyone enjoyed the transition days

- a big thank you to everyone involved in putting the programme together.



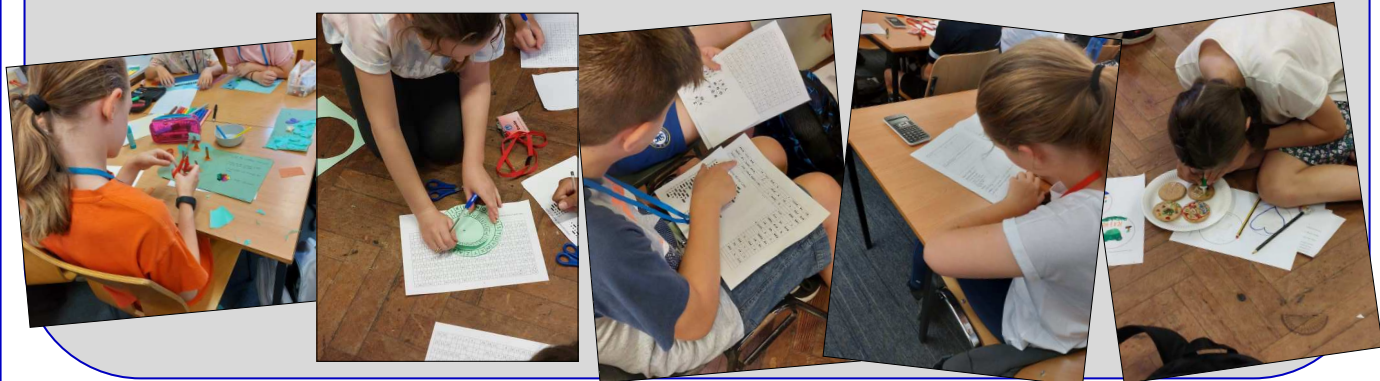


Year 7s make a positive start to their Northgate journey

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August saw many of our new Year 7s start their Northgate journey as they attended our week-long Summer School. Organised by Miss Lynn, it gave students the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of activities as well as get to know each other a little better. Throughout the week they played various 'getting to know you' games as they were split into three groups. Sessions included writing acrostic poems about their favourite places which included creating collages. There was a Harry Potter theme for Maths, converting money in Gringotts bank, scaling potion recipes and creating their own potions as well as solving problems involving the use of the time turner. There were team games and capture the flag in PE, whilst in Science they made and tested paper aeroplanes looking at which designs worked best and adjusting to get the furthest flight. In Computing they were shown how to log onto their school email accounts, looked at what3words and played some quizzes on blooket. There was the chance to be code breakers in a group activity deciphering Morse code, pig pen ciphers, Caesar shifts and substitution codes and in Drama they played team games including making shapes out of people. Groups also had the opportunity of a music lesson and to learn some first aid. All in all it was a great week - excellent attitudes, effort and focus - already displaying elements of Northgate's 5Rs, including RESPECT, READINESS and RESILIENCE. A big thank you to Miss Lynn for organising such an exciting week, to all the teachers who delivered sessions and to the Sixth Form students who supported the groups throughout the week.



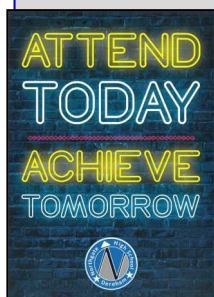
Attendance Matters

Congratulations to the winners of the attendance raffle for the second summer half term:

Braydon R (Year 8), Thomas S (Year 9), Jocelyn C (Year 10), Imogen H (Year 11). Winners will receive an Amazon voucher when term commences. For those who are new to Northgate, for every two-week period a student has 100% attendance, they receive a virtual raffle ticket. A raffle is drawn every half term, with winners receiving vouchers.



Our fortnightly attendance competition will be starting again soon, with the tutor groups gaining the highest attendance for each two-week period receiving a trophy and certificate.



Your School Council Needs You!

Look out in PART lesson later this month for information from Miss Theobald about how you can get involved in Northgate's Team Councils (Environment, Social, Well-being and News) and the School Council. We are looking for committed, responsible students who are able to put their opinions and the opinions of others forward in meetings and who are willing to speak and work on behalf of the school population. We are looking forward to getting started!



Northgate Library – more than just books

The library has been buzzing over the past year with so many competitions, events, author visits and more. We are looking forward to what next year holds and already have a few sneaky insights from Mrs Gill and Miss Lynn. There are some great events planned for September in the Library, including:



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- Roald Dahl Month – celebrating the whizz-popping world of Roald Dahl stories that continue to excite, engage and enthral children and adults alike. There will be Roald Dahl storytelling at lunchtimes in the library, Roald Dahl Tutor Quiz plus other fun events throughout September in the library.
- Banned Books Week - September 18-24. The theme this year is 'Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us'.
- Library Clubs will be starting, including Manga Club, Reading Group Club and Creative Writing Club.

Congratulations to our Accelerated Reader fortnightly winners in July - Jayden W (Year 7), Tawni R (Year 8), Gabriela M (Year 7) and Daniel A (Year 8). Jemima C (Year 8) won the half termly bookmark draw for completing 10 quizzes. Well done to another student, Bella B (Year 8) who became a Word Millionaire just before we broke up in July. All winners were presented with their prizes. There was a competition between all the Year 7 and 8 classes to read the height of Mrs Galley. Students added to their class total by completing an Accelerated Reader quiz - and it was worked out based on the word count of the books. A huge well done to 7 Integrity who were crowned winners and received doughnuts and sweets as their prizes!

Here are some mind-blowing statistics from our Year 7 and 8 Accelerated Reader scheme from last year: **Words read** - 30,985,439, **Quizzes taken** - 1,090, **Top quizzers across the whole year - Year 7** - Savannah C, Paige W (completed 51 quizzes), James A, Gabriella G, Gabriela M, Kayley H, Kourtney L, Bartosz W and Setaita K. **Top quizzers in Year 8** - Sudanez A, Bella B, Jemima C, Taylor W, Sarah B, Tallulah G, Katie H, Mia S, Maisie S, Seren W. **Students with the most words read - Year 7** - Bartosz W (1,466,983) and **Year 8** - Maisie S (1,339,690).



When a student completes an Accelerated Reader quiz, they get to vote on how they liked the book. The **books with the highest votes** included: The Heartstopper Series (all volumes had high votes), Messi: From the Playground to the Pitch, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets and Tom Gates Is Absolutely Fantastic (at Some Things). The **books which have been quizzed on the most** are: Animal Farm and Refugee Boy (both of which are studied in English). Following these, it is Heartstopper (Vol 1 & Vol 2), Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Run Rebel.

Finally, we are excited that all new Year 7s were given a brand new book to read over the summer, along with some optional reading challenges. Year 7 tutors have been given a copy too, so we will see what they all make of the book. Every member of staff has also been personally allocated a library book, linked to either their subject or a known personal interest. Support staff's books have been chosen as lucky dip recommendations.

Thank you to the library team for organising this!



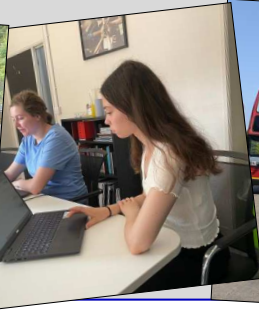


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The World of Work

The last week of term saw our Year 10 students head out into the big wide world to complete a week of work experience. They were visited during their time by teachers to see how they were getting on and progress being made. There were all sorts of businesses hosting our students this year including schools, nurseries, hair and beauty salons, the John Innes Centre, gyms, supermarkets, charity shops and many more. A big thank you to all of the businesses who provided this opportunity for our students. We are sure they gained a huge amount from the experience and it gave them a real insight into different jobs and roles.



Rowling triumph in spectacular Sports Day

At the beginning of July, we held our annual sports day. It is always a great occasion, superbly organised by the PE Department. So many students took the opportunity to take part in numerous track and field events in order to earn valuable points for their house teams. It was lovely to see the competitive spirit and also the support of those who weren't competing with plenty of cheering and clapping as competitors ran down the home straight in their various races. Mr Oldfield resided over the proceedings on the loud speaker despite the technical difficulties and once all the points were totalled it was a win for Rowling! Head of House, Mr Fair, said, 'it was never in doubt' and he was confident of a Rowling win. The House captains were presented with the House trophy by Mrs Galley and Dr Hone.



GCSE Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to all of our Year 11 students for their amazing GCSE results. It was so special to celebrate their achievements in person again and we could not be more proud of what they have achieved, particularly with the challenges over the last couple of years. We have no doubt they will go on to great things and look forward to seeing many of them start at Dereham Sixth Form College for the next stage of their education. A big thank you to staff, parents and carers who supported the Year 11s through their time at Northgate.



Record breaking merits

Last year students at Northgate earned the greatest number of merits they have earned during a school year for the last 7 years – a hugely impressive 76,141. A total of 9,865 bonus merits were awarded for excellent attendance, 11,425 were given for no negatives each half term and 4,515 were awarded for great attitude to learning in their screening. So many certificates, badges and trophies were given out across the year, including:

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- 1 student who gained 300 or more merits
- 6 students gained 250 merits
- 40 students gained 200 merits
- 139 students gained 150 merits
- 340 students gained 100 merits

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The weekly merit cashing in was always very busy with 54,079 merits cashed in altogether. Popular items included:

- 155 flexible rulers
- 282 pizza/bacon roll vouchers in Café North
- 102 stress balls
- 119 tennis balls
- 43 sketch books
- 102 footballs, basketballs and rugby balls

Merit cashing in will continue to take place on a Thursday lunch time in the main hall. A few changes have been made to the rewards catalogue which can be found on our website [here](#).

Curriculum Enhancement Days

The last two days of term saw the return of the popular curriculum enhancement days. It was an opportunity to try something different, go somewhere you hadn't been before, work with different people across different year groups. There were so many options available this year which included trips to Banham Zoo, Alton Towers and Manchester residential, the theatre in London to see Mary Poppins, Trowse ski slope, The Imperial War Museum, Pleasurewood Hills and the Rutland Water Aqua Park. There were plenty of activities available at school too which included Duke of Edinburgh's Award introduction, film club, Lego robotics, team building, Harry Potter day, book art and crafts, baking and STEM activities. A huge thank you to all staff involved in organising the activities. Based on the photos we've seen, students had a fantastic end to the school year!





Norfolk Community Foundation grant funds future STEM events

Mrs Simms in Science was pleased to announce at the end of last term, that Northgate High School and Dereham Sixth Form College have just been awarded a grant of £4000 from the Norfolk Community Foundation through the Dudgeon STEM programme! This will help fund Science Club activities at Northgate, British Science Week, trips and the CREST award scheme, as well as extra curricular Science events at Dereham Sixth Form College. Look out for more information in the Autumn term to see how you can get involved.

There have been so many events put on by the Science department this year including a Science Fair during British Science Week and a visit by Wonderstruck for some of our students. Year 7s had the chance to visit the Space Centre in Leicester, whilst Year 8s and 9s visited the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham. A group of Year 9s entered the Global Underwater Challenge and members of our Science Club took part in the Crest Discovery Award (investigating magic in science, related to Harry Potter) and Crest Bronze Award (for their Science Fair Projects). All of this is alongside their weekly after school club where all sorts of investigations and experiments have taken place.

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Camps International trip to Cambodia

During the summer holidays, six of our Year 11 students, alongside Mr Cushion, travelled to Cambodia for a once in a lifetime opportunity with Camps International. It was a chance to experience the culture, explore the country and volunteer in the local community. We received regular updates from Mr Cushion throughout their month long adventure. Here's some of what they got up to:

Team Khlar visited a couple of temples in Phnom Penh as well as a royal building. Students settled into their first camp (Beng Mealea) and visited the local temple within the village, receiving a water blessing from the monks. They began their project work which was building a chicken coup to help the local village with food security and provide an income. This involved clearing foliage and then building fencing, creating the structure for the coup itself and weaving for the roof. Students also planted banana trees for another food source and to create shade for the chickens. They made pots to capture rainwater so that the local community have more water stores to help with access to water throughout the dry season. They also planned lessons to deliver to the local primary and secondary students to help them with their English. Team Khlar got to their second camp in Siem Reap after completing their jungle trek. They trekked over a mix of terrain and visited isolated temples, waterfalls and a bat cave as well as staying amongst the local population in rural villages where they were invited into the temple by the monks in order to take part in meditation. The whole team rose to the challenge of the trek and truly immersed themselves in Cambodian culture. Before returning home they visited Angkor Wat. It was an early start to catch the sunrise and they spent the day exploring the site. They then moved on to the final camp where everyone was involved in a range of different projects. This included building toilets for the local community, teaching English to a mix of age groups at the local school and taking part in reforestation.

Well done to all involved - what amazing memories!