



# Northgate Council Bulletin

Improving Northgate by giving pupils a voice ...

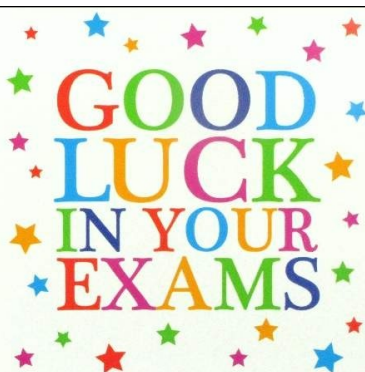
May 2023

2023

Issue 56

## Good luck Class of 2023

GCSE exams start this month for our Year 11s. They have all worked incredibly hard over the last two years, in particular, attending after school revision sessions and those during the Easter break as well as completing numerous hours of revision using online platforms available. We wish them all the best of luck in their exams and hope they can do themselves proud before moving onto the next chapter of their studies. A big thank you to staff, parents and carers, who have supported and will continue to support the Year 11s throughout their exam period.



## Upcoming events

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

1st May  
Bank Holiday

3rd May  
Year 9 Maths and Science Exams  
Battle of Hogwarts Harry Potter evening in the Library (book via Parent Pay)  
Year 9 Art Exhibition Private View for staff, parents, and friends 5pm – 6.30pm

4th May  
Year 9 English Exam

4th - 5th May  
GCSE Fine Art Exam

4th, 11th, 18th + 25th May  
Orchard Committee Meetings – meet in MA6 after school

8th May  
Bank Holiday

9th May  
Year 7 and 8 SEND partnership games at UEA

9th - 10th May  
GCSE Photography Exam

10th May  
Year 8 Parents Evening - 4pm – 7pm via School Cloud

11th - 12th May  
GCSE Textiles Exam  
GCSE Art, Craft and Design Exam

## Upcoming events continued

15th May  
Start of Year 11 GCSE Exams

16th May  
Battle of the Bookworms Quiz - primary school teams book quiz in the Library

17th May  
Year 10 Parents Guide to GCSEs  
Mid Norfolk Area Athletics at UEA 1pm - 5pm (selected pupils from Year 7-10)  
Escape from Numberland - escape room activity for National Number Day in the Library

19th - 21st May  
Year 9 + 10 Practice Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to Baconsthorpe

23rd May  
Year 10 Parents Evening - 4pm – 7pm via School Cloud

## Northgate News

Missed our last Northgate Bulletin?

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



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## Students shine at Spring Showcase

Commitment, beating the odds, courage, facing their fears, lots of talent, but an even greater amount of hard work and consistency. This is how Mr Masango summarised the recent Spring showcase.

At the end of January, students from all year groups auditioned to be part of the Spring showcase. They had about six weeks to prepare which meant they had to commit to weekly lunch time and after school rehearsals, and lots of individual work at home for some. A school band was set up made up of students to accompany each of the performances and student pianists were employed to accompany some of the piano/classical songs. The dance department had solo and group acts. Year 10 Music students also opted to set up a stage crew that was going to handle the sound, lighting and backstage arrangements.

The music performances were varied and included solo pop singers, an opera piece, the school choir, and also duets.

There were a number of collaborations between both departments where there was singing, instrumentation and dance all at the same time. The English department was even represented with a poem about Spring written by a student, embellished with music and dance. For most of us who worked with these students, the showcase itself wasn't anything close to the process of getting them there. Their attitude, flexibility to a lot of changes that came along the way, and how they took feedback, went home and came back, definitely inspired us as teachers. The transformation they went through was immense and above all the passion they expressed made a difference.

A huge well done to everyone who took part!

Milo, who took part said, 'All students and staff put immense effort into producing something incredible. For me, the highlight was overcoming barriers and being able to work and communicate well, as a group, in quite a short time frame. Everyone worked very hard to deliver an evening of entertainment and I very much believe we succeeded.'

Arnita, Year 11, also took part in the showcase and said, 'When I did the showcase I was proud that I was helping the school raise money. I was also proud of myself for overcoming my stage fright and performing in front of people thanks to Mr Masango! Now I really want to get back on stage and I have found my passion for music again!'



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

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



Follow us on Instagram: NgateDereham



Follow us on Twitter:

@NGateDereham, @NgateCouncil





## Updates from the Library

It's been a couple of months since we caught up with everything that has been going on in the Library, so Mrs Gill and Miss Lynn tell us the latest:

Reading Champions Quiz - Recently Northgate hosted the National Reading Champion Quiz East of England regional heat. We entered a team from Year 7 and Year 8 to compete against twenty three other school teams from across Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire and gave a really strong performance, finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> place. The winning school team, Thorpe St Andrew, will be going forward to the final held in London in June.



Some of our student librarians helped host the event and there was plenty of praise from visiting schools, "Your group of willing students were impressive!" "Your student helpers were absolutely wonderful and a credit to the school"



"Student helpers were amazing and a credit to the school"  
"Students were lovely"

Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Group - Every Thursday lunchtime we are shadowing the prestigious Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing and Illustration. Our first session before Easter had us discussing the covers of the books shortlisted and each week we will explore themes from the books with activities, discussions and author clips plus obligatory cake! Students from any year group are welcome to join and 'share all things booky'.



More information about the books can be found [here](#).

A reminder that the library has a wide range of revision resources available for upcoming exams - please also visit our school library page for all resources plus more available [Accessit](#).



Congratulations to the winners of our spring term Accelerated Reader tutor competition - 'Bookopoly': 7RH and 8KT. The students earned houses and hotels for reading and quizzing. They were awarded with their prizes yesterday. Well done to all Year 7 and 8 students who got involved. Look out for the next AR tutor competition coming soon!

Since our last update there have been 3 more Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires - congratulations to Eleanor G, Finley K (Year 7) and Paige W (Year 8). Well done also to fortnightly Accelerated Reader winners Tali B, Mayte S and Oliver L (Year 7) and Esme D (Year 8), and to the extremely proud half termly winner, Oliver C (Year 7).

Year 7 have now read a staggering 30,701,982 words this academic year and taken 1,278 quizzes, whilst Year 8 have read 12,925,693 words and taken 476 quizzes. 999 books were borrowed over the Spring half term with 7RH being the top borrowers with 120 books.

The top 6 borrowed books have been My Hero Academia - Kohei Horikoshi, Heartstopper Vol 2 - Alice Oseman, Top of the Class (nearly) - Tom Gates, A Good Girl's Guide to Murder - Holly Jackson, Ultimate Football Heroes Salah - Matt and Tom Oldfield and Ghosts of Shanghai - Julian Sedgwick.



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### Orchard Committee attend Gressenhall Earth Day

Members of the Orchard Committee were specially invited to take part in Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse’s Earth Day event during the Easter holidays. Eight members of the committee joined Miss Theobald in Gressenhall’s own orchard and were ready and raring to go to meet visitors. They were given the challenge to demonstrate to and support visitors in making their own biodegradable seed pots, complete with acorns or plum seeds or alternatively crab apple or Scots pine saplings. It was also an opportunity to speak to the public about our current project at Northgate, in the newly named Orchard.

Miss Theobald commented, ‘All students interacted so enthusiastically with the young children and parents that visited Gressenhall. Over 800 people came to the event so it was a very busy 6 hours. It gave our Orchard Committee members an insight into one of the hands-on demonstrations they will be giving at the official opening of the Orchard in June. Plans are underway and we can’t wait to send out invites to special guests and those that have supported the project very soon!’



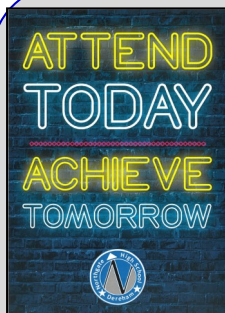
### Merit Update

The end of the Spring term saw plenty of bonus merits awarded for attendance and no negatives - close to 3200 in total! Students have now earned over 59,000 merits since September. It now means we have 5 students with 200 or more merits, 32 with 150 or more and an amazing 207 students who have already passed the 100 merit mark.

A quick reminder that merit totals reset over the summer so don’t forget to cash in your merits - Miss Theobald is on hand every Thursday lunch time in the main hall and totals are emailed to tutors each week. We have some great rewards available, just take a look at our [catalogue](#).

Remember, all merits count towards the overall House competition so keep working hard - every merit counts!

<u>Hawking</u>	<u>Rowling</u>	<u>Attenborough</u>	<u>Holmes</u>
<b>78.13</b>	<b>76.69</b>	<b>75.49</b>	<b>74.91</b>



### Attendance Matters

Congratulations to 7VE, 7DNI, 8WL, 8KPE, 9NA, 10AGR and 11AS who all won the fortnightly attendance competition last half term. Trophies and certificates are proudly on display in tutor rooms. Well done also to our attendance raffle winners for the second Spring half term - Oliver S (Year 7), Isla P (Year 8), Wyn E (Year 9), Danielle B-M (Year 10) and Sam N (Year 11). For every two-week period a student has 100% attendance, they receive a raffle ticket to win an Amazon voucher!

