



# Northgate Council Bulletin

Improving Northgate by giving pupils a voice ...

July 2023

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Issue 58

## Millionaires Galore!

Congratulations to our Year 7 and 8 students who continue to excel with their Accelerated Reader quizzes.

Year 7 words read since September: 39,753,609  
and quizzes taken: 1743

Year 8 words read since September: 17,420,842  
and quizzes taken: 746

This year so far, we have had 11 students become Word Millionaires! Congratulations in particular to Eleanor G in Year 7 who has now read over two million words!

Star Reader Tutor competition update - the stars are starting to spread across the library. It's great to see so many students completing and passing quizzes, as well as writing reviews of their books. Currently leading the competition is 7RH – but all this could change in the last couple of weeks.

## Northgate News

Missed our last Northgate Bulletin?

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

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

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Follow us on Twitter:

@NGateDereham, @NgateCouncil



Follow us on Instagram:

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## Upcoming events

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

### 30th June – 2nd July

Duke of Edinburgh Assessed Expedition to Hunworth

### 4th July

Year 8 RE Walsingham Trip

The Brilliant Club Graduation event in Cambridge

Year 11 Dereham Sixth Form Transition Day  
Sports Awards Evening 6.30pm – 8.30pm

### 6th July

Year 10 Triple Science DSFC taster day

Year 11 Prom Glen Lodge (Bawburgh)  
6.30pm - 11.30pm

### 10th July

Year 10 Geography Trip to Winterton  
Poet/Boxer Matt Windle talk for Year 8

### 11th July

Writer in Residence, Matt Dickinson -  
workshops with Year 7 students

### 13th - 15th July

Whole School Production - Alice in  
Wonderland - tickets on Parent Pay

### 14th July

Sports Day

### 17th - 19th July

Curriculum Enhancement Days

### 17th - 21st July

Year 10 Work Experience

### 20th - 21st July

Year 6 Transition Days

### 21st July

Break up for summer holidays

### 14th - 16th August

Summer School for new Year 7s

### 24th August

Year 11 GCSE Results Day



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## Orchard Committee host successful opening

On 22nd June Northgate’s Orchard Committee members celebrated the opening of The Orchard with close to 50 guests including Orchard Committee parents, Northgate and Dereham Sixth Form Staff and members of the Dereham Community.

The Orchard, our outdoor learning space, includes three projects the group has been working on. There is a new small wildflower area which will replicate the wildflower meadow which has already been established on the school field. The hope is to attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators to the area and increase biodiversity.

There is a Norfolk Heritage fruit orchard, with 7 apple trees kindly donated by East of England Apples and Orchards Project. The group did lots of research into Norfolk Heritage apple trees, deciding on a mix of dessert apples, eating apples and dual-purpose ones, looking carefully at which varieties would work well together in helping to pollinate each other. They hope to be able to use the apples both in food technology lessons, in the school canteen and possibly sell some too.

Finally, following a trip to Gressenhall’s Tree Nursery last July, the Orchard Committee were inspired to create their own tree nursery. In the autumn and early winter, berries, seeds and nuts were collected and stratified. This summer there was some success with some of the sweet chestnuts germinating. Trees will continue to be grown from seeds to saplings and given away once more established.

Guests were given the opportunity to take tours to the wildflower area, tree nursery and Norfolk Heritage fruit orchard, as well as making seed bombs to scatter in the spring and biodegradable seed pots. Special booklets, created by the students, were on hand giving information about the apple trees and the wildflowers that have already been identified. Guests were also treated to food from The Feed, in Norwich.

We are incredibly proud of what has been achieved already and although The Orchard is in its infancy, we see a bright future for the area, with students and staff alike being able to make use of such a fantastic resource. We look forward to recruiting more Orchard Committee members in September to continue the work already done by students and seeing all areas of

the Orchard flourish over the coming years. To read more about the opening event and take a look at further pictures, head over to our website to read the

[blog.](#)





## Updates from the Library

Lots has been going on in the Library over the last month and a bit.

Mrs Gill, Head Library, has given us a quick rundown.

Congratulations to our Student Librarian of the Month from May, awarded to Charlotte B for her continued enthusiasm and dedication in helping the library run smoothly. Well done to Florence L (Year 7) and Harry C (Year 8) who won the recent Accelerated Reader fortnightly raffle!



Harry Potter Battle of Hogwarts Night – back in May, there was a magical evening of activities enjoyed by students as we celebrated a wizards journey. The highlight of the evening was with Norfolk Owls who brought along a variety of their owls that we were able to hold and learn facts about.

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, Star Wars Day, a lunchtime quiz was enjoyed by students ready to test their Jedi mastery knowledge.

On National Maths Day there were lunchtime 'escape room' challenges enjoyed by students testing their deciphering mathematical skills.



Four of our Year 8 Student Librarians were asked to record a short video for the School Librarian Association on how being a school librarian empowers them. This will be shown nationally as part of the SLA virtual conference.

Well done Sabrina, Sophie, Charlie and Kayley.

Our Library is even more colourful than usual with our Pride Month displays. We also held a lunchtime session with Norfolk LGBT+ Project, DSFC LGBTQ club, with our student librarians hosting. The session provided an inclusive opportunity for students to ask questions and celebrate diversity.

Our Carnegie Shadowing Reading Group has now finished with the announcement of the winner, *The Blue Book of Nebo* by Manon Steffan Ros.

We enjoyed discussing all the nominated titles.

Creative writing students continue to be rewarded with their work being selected for publication by Young Writers. The latest competition, *The Power of Poetry* will be published over the summer with many of our students' work included.

Our half termly Tuneful Thursdays continue to be a big hit in the Library with music performed by our talented students over a lunchtime. Thanks to Year 10 students Emmanuel M and Year 8 students Isobel C, Mirren W and Lilly D - contact Mr Masango if you wish to perform.

Refugee Week in June was recognised with a variety of staff reading short stories by author Tom Palmer. All the lunchtime stories were based on true events and more information, resources and fiction books were available for students to research and enjoy in the library.

Armed Forces Day was the ideal opportunity to present our Service Children with their reading pack from Reading Force. Reading Force encourages service families to share a story together by gifting a free book of their choice. If your eligible child has not received their pack, please ask them to collect this from the library.

We have many library books out on loan which are currently overdue. Students have been informed in PART lesson, however please could we ask parents/carers to encourage them to return these books before the summer holidays.



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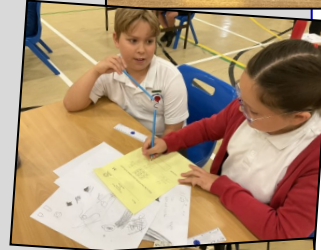
### Northgate hosts Primary Maths Challenge

On Tuesday 27th June, Northgate played host to pupils from Toftwood Junior, Garvestone Primary, Thomas Bullock, Dereham Church of England Junior Academy, Scarning Primary, Beetley St Marys and Mattishall Primary School for a Primary Maths Challenge. It was great to have some enthusiastic and competitive mathematicians, ready to take on the challenge.

There was a shuttle round and a logic round to begin with where students demonstrated excellent teamwork and communication. Lots of points were gained, with some gaining full marks on the logic round. There were just 4 points separating the top 3 teams going into the final round!

Finally it was the relay - pupils were not only testing their mathematical knowledge and team work but there was running involved too! This round was very frantic with pairs running to and fro, checking their answers and gaining valuable points. It was clear for most that this was their favourite round as there was lots of encouragement and cheering of team mates.

In 3rd place was Beetley St Marys, two points ahead of them in 2nd place was Mattishall. Just four points ahead and determined to win after finishing joint 2nd last year was Thomas Bullock. A jubilant team received their special trophy from Dr Hone and Mrs Galley and posed for a winner's photo. Congratulations to the winners and all those who took part.



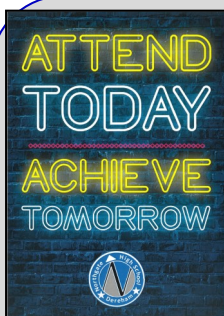
### Merit Update

Students have now gained over 70,000 merits since September - a fantastic achievement. We now have 4 students who have passed the 250 merit mark, 20 at 200 merits, 94 at 150 merits and 318 with 100 or more merits - an amazing achievement with a few weeks to go.

Miss Theobald is on hand to cash in merits, however students are running out of time to cash in before totals are set back to zero over the summer. The final merit cashing in opportunities will take place from 12.30pm - 12.50pm in the main hall on 3rd, 6th, 11th and 13th July.

Hawking are still maintaining their lead, although it is still close at the moment. Keep working hard over the last few weeks as all merits count towards the overall House competition.

Hawking	Rowling	Attenborough	Holmes
95.52	94.14	92.95	90.81



### Attendance Matters

Congratulations to 7SP, 8KT, 9HH and 10SE who all won the fortnightly attendance competition recently. Trophies and certificates are proudly on display in tutor rooms. For every two-week period a student has 100% attendance, they receive a raffle ticket to win an Amazon voucher!

We are looking forward to giving lots of merits for excellent attendance this half term to give students some merits on their return in September.

We all know how important good attendance is and the positive impact it has on progress so would like to thank all Northgate parents and carers for supporting excellent attendance.

