



# Northgate High School

*Inspiring excellence, fulfilling potential*

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**Heads of Northgate High School, Dereham Sixth Form College and DESA: Mrs Z Galley and Dr D Hone**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the first half term draws to an end on this very wet and windy day, we are writing to wish you a happy half term holiday and also to update you on a few developments.

Firstly, it has been a very busy and productive start to the year. Our new Year 7s have settled in brilliantly and have achieved over 5800 merits in just one-half term! Year 11s have had a very successful post 16 evening and it was fantastic to see so many of them at our sixth-form Open Evening last night. Pupils have had the opportunity to see 'Life of Pi' at the Theatre Royal, Year 9s have been to Sheringham on a geography trip, there have been many sporting fixtures, our Year 6 open evening was brilliantly supported by our pupils and last week we had over 100 visitors at our Harry Potter event.

Year 9 - After half term the new Heads of Year 9 will be Ms Harris and Mr Fox, in a joint role. Both are experienced members of Northgate staff who already know and teach many of Year 9. Their email address will be [Headofyear9@ng6.unity-ed.uk](mailto:Headofyear9@ng6.unity-ed.uk). We would like to thank Mr Collinge for his work with Year 9 this half term.

Representing the school

We are very fortunate to have many staff whom facilitate extra-curricular events and teams and are very proud of the pupils who make the most of such opportunities. However, we believe that those pupils chosen to represent Northgate should also play their part in:

1. Having a positive attitude to learning in the classroom
2. Following school rules (including uniform)
3. Having strong enough punctuality and attendance so that the additional lesson time given to the extracurricular event does not hinder their academic and pastoral progress.

The vast majority of pupils easily meet the above criteria. However, if a pupil is regularly not meeting the required basic standard, they may not be able to represent the school. In the case of this happening the pupil will be told as soon as the decision is made and parents will be informed by the extra-curricular leader. The Heads will make the final decision as to whom participates, and inclusion will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Improvement in the required three areas above will mean that pupils will be welcome to join in the next match/team/visit - every event will be considered as a separate case. Thank you for your support with this.

Finally, we are thrilled to be able to tell you that as part of our University Laboratory school status we are now working closely with two schools in Australia, in addition to those much nearer home! Sharing pedagogical strategies and proven research-based methods for teaching and learning keeps the school moving forwards and will ultimately allow our pupils to achieve their very best.

We return to school on Monday 30th October, Week B, for what will be another productive, exciting, and fulfilling half term.

Mrs Z Galley

Dr D Hone

Heads of Northgate High School, Dereham Sixth Form College and DESA

