



Northgate Council Bulletin

Improving Northgate by giving pupils a voice ...

December 2020

2020

Issue 31

Northgate shortlisted for National Award



Miss Theobald was excited to receive an email in the middle of November explaining that Northgate had been nominated and then shortlisted, along with 4 other schools from across the country, for the Environmental Practice Award at the Education Business Awards 2020! This award is given to a school project that can demonstrate a benefit to the environment and the environmental education of its pupils. This shortlisting came completely out of the blue and is something we are incredibly proud of as a school. We have worked hard over the last couple of years on our plastic campaigns, including 'bottle free Friday', two Terracycle recycling schemes and our 'war on plastics'. 2020 has been a very successful year so far, being awarded Eco Champion status by Streetspace UK in February, and winning the Norwich and Norfolk Eco Award in March, after receiving highly commended in 2019.

Members of the Environment Team and School Council joined Miss Theobald for the socially distanced virtual awards ceremony which was streamed live. It was great to have them back together and for their hard work to be recognised. Unfortunately we were not named as the winners, however we are determined as a school to continue our efforts related to environmental issues, and ensure all our students and staff are aware of the positive impact they can have, however small this might be.

Northgate News

Missed our last Northgate Bulletin?
Follow this link to read about all the exciting activities and news from last month.
[November Bulletin](#)

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



Safety First

Many of our students cycle or walk to and from school. With the dark mornings and evenings as well as the poor weather, can we please remind all students of the importance of road safety. If you are cycling, you need to ensure you have your helmet and lights, your bike is in good working order and you are aware of other road users. Please be sensible, do not ride on the pavements and try not to ride in big groups. If you are walking, please make sure your attention is on the roads and you are aware of other pedestrians. Also, if you can wear light or reflective clothing, even better!

Your safety matters to us.





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Merit Update

Students have now earned a fantastic total of 19911 merits since September. Merits have been awarded for class work, homework, projects, Satchel One quizzes, assessments, attendance, no negatives and much more! Over the coming weeks there will be more bonus merits to award for excellent screening, attendance and no negatives in the second Autumn half term.

Whilst students are currently not able to cash in their merits, there are plenty of rewards they can save up for in our new rewards catalogue.

Take a look at what's on offer [here](#). All merits contribute to the overall House competition.

Hawking	Holmes	Rowling	Attenborough
28.67	28.37	27.80	25.61

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to the following tutor groups who have been awarded the attendance certificates and trophies for gaining the top attendance in their Year group over a two week period: 7AH, 8AGR, 9AS, 9AR, 10SE, 10DNI and 11JSM.

Also, congratulations to Brooke R (Year 7), Emilie W (Year 8), Alyssa H (Year 9), Mia J (Year 10) and Gracie I (Year 11) who were randomly picked as the attendance raffle winners. All students receive a virtual raffle ticket for each two week period where they gain 100% attendance. The winners received an Amazon voucher.



Northgate Supports National Anti-Bullying Week

From 16th - 20th November, Northgate supported National Anti-Bullying Week. The campaign's theme this year was 'United against bullying'. Mrs Holt produced some resources which were used in lessons to highlight what bullying is, how to support someone who is being bullied and steps to prevent situations escalating. Throughout the week our social media channels had further information and guidance for students and parents/carers, including the official Anti-Bullying week video from the Anti-Bullying Alliance. You can watch the video [here](#). Students were also challenged to make a pledge and were asked 'What piece in the puzzle will you play?', 'How are you going to make a stand against bullying?', and 'What is it you could do to make a difference?' We received some fantastic pledges and know that there are so many students at Northgate who will make a stand against bullying.



Thank you to Mrs Holt for the promotion of Anti-Bullying week. Please remember, if you are being bullied or know of someone who is being bullied, please speak to a member of staff. At Northgate we are United Against Bullying.





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Northgate Remembers

To commemorate Armistice Day, Northgate High School and Dereham Sixth Form held a short remembrance service. The poignant event was attended by just a limited number of staff and students in compliance with Covid guidance and restrictions. Mr MacDonald, who coordinated the service said, 'Remembrance in school was a challenge this year, as we wanted to ensure the safety of everyone involved, while allowing students and staff the opportunity to pause for reflection and remember "our fallen". It is an honour to conduct this event every year and I am proud of our students who represented their year group bubbles with pride'.

The service included the poem 'In Flanders Fields' read by Head Boy and Head Girl, Jimmy and Maisie, and Year 9 student, Dexter, played the 'Last Post'. A student representing each year group, from Year 7 to 13, placed their crosses and poppies onto our Garden of Remembrance, followed by the Heads of School who laid a cross and wreath, in memory of our fallen.



The entire school participated in a two minute silence at 11am and students involved in activities outside of school, such as the Cadets, Scouts and Guides, were invited to wear their uniform. A video of the full service can be found on our [YouTube channel](#).



Easy Fundraising

Easy Fundraising is a great way to help Northgate's School Council raise funds to aid projects we would like to complete within school. Shop with any of over 4000 well known retailers via the easyfundraising website and a percentage of what you spend is passed to Northgate's School Council at no extra cost to you. Retailers include Amazon, M&S, Aviva, Tesco, Sainburys, RAC, John Lewis, and more.

Please register to support - follow this [link](#) and start shopping! We could earn lots if you go through the link when doing some online Christmas shopping. Please tell your friends and family too.



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 water bottles rather than single use bottles through the sale of Northgate water bottles (picture below). 500ml bottles with the Northgate logo or plain ones are available to order via Parent Pay. They cost £1.40 each.





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Northgate comes together for Children In Need



Many things have changed since March, however one thing that certainly has not changed is the fact that the Northgate community always comes together to support charitable causes and Friday 13th November was no exception. Despite not being able to meet with the School Council and Social Team due to current restrictions and to organise this year's Children In Need fundraising efforts, Miss Theobald, School Council coordinator, was determined that we were still able to contribute to the charity's work. Unfortunately, we were not able to do the usual bake sale and watch the teachers in goal as students aim to score past them, however we did take part in Children in Need's non-uniform theme of 'Come as Yourself'. Their priority for schools this year was the mental well-being of students and staff and we even shared some top tips to look after your mental well-being [here](#). Pudsey merchandise including wristbands, light up keyrings and Pudsey ears also went down well, particularly with the Year 7 and 8 students.



A big thank you to those who contributed. We are pleased to be sending **£794.16** to Children In Need!

Northgate takes part in Make Your Mark Campaign



During November all students from Year 7 to 13 had the opportunity to vote in the UK Youth Parliament 'Make Your Mark' campaign.

The issues students vote as the most important will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament. They will campaign to influence the UK Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers. This was an opportunity to influence decision makers who can make a real difference on the issues that matter to our young people. Make Your Mark is one of the most important and influential ways young people can take part in a democratic process.

The issues in this year's campaign included: supporting our mental health, free university places, tackling child poverty, stopping plastic pollution, increasing racial awareness in the curriculum, taking action on the climate emergency and votes at 16. Other topics included tackling discrimination and hate crime in the UK, including young people in the plan for Covid-19 recovery and protecting human rights.

Students could also vote for one of the following issues more locally: access to training and jobs, young people's voices should be heard in creating local services, leisure and culture facilities, ending the health postcode lottery, improving places to go and things to do for young people, access to technology and broadband for learning, childhood obesity and food poverty, homelessness, domestic violence and improving transport facilities.

We look forward to seeing which issues are picked by thousands of students who have taken part across the country.

Upcoming events

Due to the current situation and restrictions, event dates have not been included. However, keep an eye out on the school website and social media for any updates.

We look forward to what the remainder of the term holds and as we approach the holidays, wish all students, staff, parents, carers and the community, a very Happy Christmas!

