



# Northgate Council Bulletin

Improving Northgate by giving pupils a voice ...

April 2021

2021

Issue 34

## Remote Learning – well done!

As we started back our face to face teaching on 8th March, we would like to acknowledge our students' hard work and dedication during the remote learning period. We know this was not an easy time for everyone and having to adapt to a new way of working is tough. However, the Northgate 5Rs really shone through during this time, particularly with the resilience of our students. For teachers, catching up with our classes in the Google Meets gave an invaluable insight into understanding and progress made. We were inundated with top quality work being submitted. We have all learnt a lot from this experience – using new technology, being able to adapt, teaching and learning in different ways, which we are sure will be beneficial back in the classroom. A big thank you also to parents and carers for supporting our learners with their work on a day to day basis.

## Upcoming events

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

### 12th April

Summer Term begins  
(we return on Week B)

### 28th April

Year 7 Parent's Evening 4pm - 7.30pm run virtually via School Cloud (further information to follow)



## Northgate News

Missed our last Northgate Bulletin?  
Follow this link to read about all the exciting activities and news from last month.

[March 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



## Covid Testing – Thank you

Since starting back at school on 8th March, over 3000 Covid lateral flow tests have been completed by our students with the support of a dedicated team at both Northgate, Dereham Sixth Form and DESA. This involved a huge amount of organisation and planning and all ran incredibly smoothly. A big thank you to everyone involved and to our students who completed the tests calmly and sensibly throughout.





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## Merit Update

With all of the fantastic work being submitted during the remote learning period, it is no surprise that students have been awarded a huge number of merits. The total since September now stands at 41,965 merits!

We now have 4 students who have gained in excess of 200 merits, 11 students have gained 150 or more and 75 have gained 100 or more. Merit certificates, badges and trophies will all be ready to hand out at a suitable time in the near future.

A number of students have also made the most of the opportunity to cash in some of their merits recently for rewards. Popular rewards have included fidget cubes, sketch books, note books, stress balls and stationery. Miss Theobald will do her best over the coming weeks to give more students the chance to cash in their merits. In the meantime, you can take a look at the rewards catalogue and see what you might save your merits for [here](#).

Well done to 7AB, 8HR, 9AS, 10DNI and 11NO who are currently top of each Year group in the merit competition and to Hawking who continue to maintain their lead in the House merit competition.

Remember all merits contribute to the overall House competition.

Hawking	Holmes	Rowling	Attenborough
60.51	59.48	58.59	54.78

Year 8	
1st	8HR
2nd	8TLY
3rd	8HC
4th	8TKM
5th	8ASJ
6th	8AGR
7th	8JLL

Below are the current leader boards for average merits in each year group. Well done to the leaders!

Year 7	
1st	7AB
2nd	7CB
3rd	7NA
4th	7CD
5th	7KS
6th	7AH

Year 9	
1st	9AS
2nd	9SR
3rd	9AR
4th	9YC

Year 11	
1st	11NO
2nd	11JSM
3rd	11SO
4th	11KT
5th	11CMY
6th	11SCA

Year 10	
1st	10DNI
2nd	10TF
3rd	10RP
4th	10CSU
5th	10MM
6th	10VE
7th	10SE

## Attendance Matters

Congratulations to the following tutor groups who have already won the fortnightly attendance competition since returning to school: 7AB, 8TLY, 9AS, 10TF and 11SO. Trophies and certificates are proudly on display in tutor rooms.

We all know how important good attendance is and would like to thank all Northgate parents and carers for supporting excellent attendance.

Our half termly attendance draw will take place just after Easter – we look forward to seeing who will win the Amazon vouchers.



## Recycling Update

We continue our Terracycle recycling efforts with the BIC writing instrument recycling scheme and Walkers crisp packet scheme. All items are sent away to be recycled into new plastic goods. Pens, highlighters, felt tips etc can be put in the dead pen pots in every classroom and bags of empty crisps put in the boxes in the hall (if in Year 8) or handed to Student Services (for other Year groups). We have collected 153Kg of pens and 184Kg of empty crisp packets so far – keep up the good work!





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## Comic Relief



19th March saw the latest Comic Relief campaign take place. Although unfortunately we were unable to hold our usual bake sale and fundraising activities, we were determined to fundraise in some way and so held a red-themed non uniform day. A Red Nose Day quiz was posted on our social media and we hope many families had a go and also came up with their best jokes for the campaign's #sharethelaughter drive on social media.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Comic Relief and supported the event – it was great to see so much red! We are delighted to announce that **£645.27** was raised in total – well done Northgate!

## Pi Day - 14th March

As Pi Day took place at the weekend this year, students were set some optional challenges to complete to gain merits for themselves and House points for their team.

There were plenty of entries in the pi dingbats competition with special mention to Mia S (Year 7) who correctly answered all of them!

The pi inspired bakes looked so delicious - our expert chefs included Year 7s, Daisy K who made gingerbread pi biscuits and a treacle pi tart, Darcy S-M who made a fruit pie and Zack H who made pi inspired pizzas.

The final challenge was a mathematical pie and pizza challenge. Nathan H sent in the best solution to these challenges with carefully thought out workings.

Well done to all who took part and contributed to the House competition totals.



## 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 your online shopping. Please tell your friends and family too.

## Water Bottles

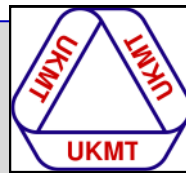
It's important to keep hydrated so the brain can work to it's maximum capacity in lessons, particularly as we move into the warmer weather.

The School Council would like to promote the use of reusable 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 for £1.40 each via Parent Pay.



## Intermediate Maths Challenge



During lockdown a number of our Year 9 and 10 mathematicians took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The problems on the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge are designed to really make students think and can be quite challenging. This year the challenge was completed online and we are pleased with the results that came through with a number of students gaining Bronze or Silver certificates. Particular congratulations go to Charlie B and Joschka M in Year 9 who both qualified for and recently completed the follow-on round called the Grey Kangaroo Challenge. We look forward to seeing how they did. Well done to all who took part, particularly in the more challenging circumstances this year.

## Lockdown Competitions

Mrs Beasley and Miss Lynn set the final Lockdown House challenges before we returned to school related to holidays and World Book Day. Students were encouraged to bake or cook a dish from another country or recreate a scene from a holiday.

The World Book Day challenge involved a picture reading in an unusual place (we had on top of a shed, in a tree and on a roof) or a pet showing off their reading skills. Once again we were inundated with entries - here are just some of them. Merits and House points were awarded to all who entered.



## Happy Easter

We wish students, staff, parents, carers and everyone in the Northgate community a very Happy Easter after what has been a challenging time for everyone. We hope you all have a well – deserved rest, ready for the summer term. Please note that we return to school on Week B.



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