Northgate Primary School

Northgate Primary School
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Headteacher: Katie Penny

Dear Parents/Carers of Blake Class,

Welcome to Blake Class! I am Mrs Benton, the class teacher in Blake Class, and this will be my first year of teaching at Northgate. I really enjoyed working in Explorers Class last year during my teacher training and am so excited to be working with your children again this year.

The Blake Class team also includes Miss Turner, a HLTA who will be in our class full time and will be teaching the children every Tuesday whilst I have my planning time. We also have Miss Glassup who will be supporting the children.

Now that your child is in Year 1, we will be following The Primary National Curriculum. At Northgate, we teach through a topic-based approach where the children will cover different subjects based around this topic. Every half term will have a new Topic to focus the teaching and learning around. This helps children make links in relation to their learning and engages them fully into the subject by having real life experiences wherever possible.

This year, your child will also take part in the statutory end of year phonics screening assessment during the summer term. Rest assured, there will be many opportunities leading up to this for your child to prepare and practice, I will also be sharing how you can support your child at home.
On **Friday 11th September at 2:45pm** we will have our Year 1 curriculum meeting where I will share curriculum content, assessment plans and general information for the rest of the year.

PE
Please can PE kits be in school every day. Our PE days are **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. The PE kit should be:

- A blue t-shirt
- Black/navy blue shorts
- Black/navy jogging bottoms for colder weather
- Black daps or trainers

Please ensure these items are **individually labelled** and in a **named bag**. This will help us find any items that may become misplaced.
If your child wears earrings and it is a PE day, please can we remind you to remove these for your child **before** the school day. Long hair also needs to be tied back.

SPACE EDUCATION QUALITY MARK SILVER
MUSIC MARK PROUD TO BE A MUSIC MARK SCHOOL 2023 - 2024
Young Carers in Schools Award 2022
Ofsted GRADED GOOD
Futura Learning Partnership
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Attendance

It is essential that your child is in school on time every day. The school day starts at **8:50am** and finishes at **3:20pm**. The school gates will be opened at 8:40am and will be locked at 8:50am. If your child is unwell please ensure you let the school office know by 8.45am at the latest. At the end of the school day please collect your child from outside Blake Classroom.

Reading

We will continue to send home reading books in your child's book bags. Books will be changed on a **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday.** Regular reading is important for children's development and all areas of their learning. Please ensure you are supporting your child to practice their reading at home and sign their reading record to say they have read. Every Friday, we will be handing out reading certificates to the children who have read at least **3 times** at home that week. Thank you to all of you for your continued support in supporting your child's reading.

Show and Tell

We would love for your children to share the things that are important to them and bring them joy outside of school. This could be a favourite toy or certificate from a club they take part in, such as swimming. We will be sending letters home when it is your child's turn to take part in show and tell, which will take place on **Fridays**.

Topics this Term

Me in my world	This term, we will be learning all about Bridgwater. We will locate Bridgwater on a map and compare our town with places in the countryside. We will also learn about the history of Bridgwater Carnival in comparison to the annual carnival in Rio De Janeiro. We will conclude the term by designing and making our own carnival carts in DT.
	Half Term
The Great Fire of London	After Half Term we will begin our new Topic focus on The Great Fire of London. We will explore the diary of Samuel Pepys to find out about the events of the Great Fire of London and understand the difference between events that happened in the past compared to the present. We will use this to inspire our artwork, drawings and with our writing. We will also have opportunities to explore items from the past and share our findings also.

I have a real passion for teaching and am very excited for the year ahead. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions. Thank you all in advance for your support for the year ahead, I am very excited for it to begin.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Benton

Important Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
Friday 11th September 2026	Year 1 curriculum meeting with Mrs Benton	2:45pm
Wednesday 23rd September 2026	Town walk	1:30pm
Monday 5th and Wednesday 7th October 2026	Carnival cart making parent workshops	9:00-10:15am
Friday 2nd October 2026	Flu vaccinations	
Friday 16th October 2026	Multicultural Week parade	2:45pm
Monday 19th– Friday 30th October	**Half-term**	
Thursday 5th November 2026	School photos	
Tuesday 10th November and Wednesday 11th November 2026	Parents' Evenings	
Thursday 10th December 2026	Christmas Fayre	3-5pm
Tuesday 15th December 2026	Nativity performances	9:30am and 1:45pm
Wednesday 16th December 2026	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch	All day
Thursday 17th December 2026	Christmas Party	
Friday 18th December 2026	Last day of term	