



We will remember them

On Friday 10 November, students from Year 7 led Northgate High School's remembrance service in our Garden of Remembrance. The purpose of this day is to ensure that the sacrifice of those who have fought in wars is not forgotten. We wear a poppy as a mark of respect, as it is said that poppies grew on the turned-up soil of the Western Front.

This year we chose to mark the anniversary of the Korean War, which is often called the 'Forgotten War' as it has been overshadowed by the end of the Second World War and the beginning of the Cold War. We

also chose to commemorate the arrival of the Empire Windrush, which brought citizens of the British Empire to England from the Caribbean. Many of those on board had contributed to the war effort during World War Two.

The service included readings, a two-minute silence and moving rendition of the Last Post played by Ned in Year 13. Ned has played for us for a number of years and we would like to thank him for his commitment, as this was the last time he will play for us.

If you play a bugle, a trumpet, or a similar instrument, please let us know of you would be able to take over this role next year.





The dance show was a triumphant success!

Nobody invented dance. It is deep in the heart of every culture through history; it embraces multiple genres, styles and traditions and is constantly evolving. The ability to express, communicate and learn through dance is something that is valued at Northgate High School. With over 70 students performing on stage, this year's annual dance show was a triumphant success!

Students spent the day at DanceEast participating in technical and dress rehearsals before performing to a full house that evening. 'The dance show is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the success of the students, but it also acts as a brilliant revision tool,' said Miss Patrick.

GCSE and A Level dancers have a written exam at the end of their course. Their movement memory prompts automatic recall of learnt material without conscious thought so when they sit the written paper they will be able to remember their creative journey, discussions in class, and analysis of why they are moving or choreographing.

The students enjoyed a fantastic opportunity to perform and entertain, but they also completed intense revision that will help prepare them for future exams.



The evening also showcased the rising talent we have in KS3, with the Dance Club performing work that was more challenging and complex in structure and technical demand than in previous years. Katy from Year 9 said 'It was so nice for

everyone to be together and show what we have been working on.' Izzy from Year 9 commented 'It was a really fun day and so nice to do it with my friends. It was really inspiring to watch the older dancers as their work was amazing.'

Northgate library continues to thrive

Earlier this year, one hundred students took part in a rather unusual Century Read. They spent the whole day reading, and the participants raised £1194.94 for the Al-Tazid Foundation, a charity dedicated to improving life in Bangladesh. The funds from the students contributed to their Clean Water Project, which builds safe wells for people to source water from, protecting them from natural and man-made pollutants.

The Northgate High School library holds over 17,000 resources for students who are encouraged to use the library for work and research. Students are given an introduction to the library at the start of Year 7 to help them grow familiar with its organisation and contents. Our library holds books of all genres, along with a prominent wellbeing section and books which accommodate all reading abilities, along with disability-friendly books, which use braille or dyslexia-friendly formatting.

The Accelerated Reader program helps to boost the skills of students in the younger years, testing their reading comprehension and using a target system to encourage them to read. Students are free to ask librarians for book recommendations, and they are encouraged to explore the library and experiment with genres to identify books which would suit their tastes.

Student librarians are volunteer workers, who are trained to work efficiently and appropriately within the library setting. Accommodations



are made for student librarians with particular work styles or disabilities. We greatly appreciate all of the work that they do!

Matt Howard, Student Librarian

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 20th December 2023	End of Term
Thursday 4th January 2024	Spring Term starts
Tuesday 9th January 2024	GCSE Music Concert
Wednesday 10th January 2024	Year 10 Work Experience Information Evening
Thursday 11th January 2024	Year 11 Parents' Evening



Highly sought-after award scheme

The popularity and success of the Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to grow at Northgate High School after an extremely successful intake of applications for the Bronze Award programme (which is available for all students in Year 10) and the Silver Award programme (which is available for all students in Year 12). This highly sought-after award scheme consists of participants carrying out four sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skill and Expedition. Participants are trained and prepared for two expeditions, a trial expedition, followed closely by a qualifying expedition where participants are tested on their navigation skills, first aid knowledge, teamwork, campcraft and resilience.

The training sessions took place after school over a course of 10 weeks, focussing on topics such as first aid, map skills, navigation and orienteering, campcraft, food plans, route planning and route card writing. Participants worked



with their expedition teams to ensure that they took full ownership of their expeditions by committing to routes, checkpoint locations and times.

The Bronze expedition season kicked off with an initial practice expedition over the weekend of 20/21st May across the Alton Water/Holbrook area where teams had to journey approximately 15-18km. Many lessons were learnt

across the weekend with lots of adjustments identified ready for the qualifying expedition – these included navigational tweaks, equipment to pack and food plan alterations, to name just a few.

The qualifying expedition took place over the weekends of 10/11th June and 24/25th June in the countryside between Grundisburgh and Wickham Market. Groups had to be fully



self-sufficient over the course of the weekend, carrying everything that they would need including tents, Trangias, food and clothing. Groups walked pre-plotted routes across the countryside using an OS map, keeping to predetermined checkpoints. All groups demonstrated incredible resilience and perseverance despite the warm weather, long distances and

extremely heavy bags!

Our Silver Award participants completed their practice and qualifying expeditions over consecutive weeks at the end of the academic year. The practice expedition took place along the Suffolk coastline requiring groups to complete a 7-hour journey on each of the three days. The cohort all successfully passed their qualifying expedition in North



Norfolk. Well done all!

A special thank you to all our volunteers who helped over the course of the expeditions. Without the selfless generosity of these members of staff, we would not have been able to facilitate the Duke of Edinburgh Award for over 100 participants!

Mr Songhurst and Ms Turner
D of E Coordinators

Our students really did us proud!

The sun shone and Year 10 enjoyed a fantastic week of work experience from 12th-16th June 2023. Our local (and not so local!) employers provided a range of amazing work experience placements for our students in sectors ranging from technology to education, healthcare to hospitality, mechanics to law, animal care to finance, energy to sport, local government to construction, logistics to childcare and hair and beauty. The week offered students the invaluable opportunity to find out, in person, more about the world of work.

Our students really did us proud with the motivation and commitment they demonstrated towards preparing for their work experience week. All producing a detailed CV and cover letter application for their placement. Northgate staff enjoyed visiting students in the workplace, returning to school impressed with the range of work our students were involved with and with our students' determination to make the most of all of the opportunities available to them.

It was heartwarming to hear the positive feedback bestowed on our students by the employers. Some students have been offered part-time work at their organisation; others have been offered the opportunity to complete an apprenticeship with the company once they leave school. Callum is a shining example. Having completed his work experience placement with Orwell Motorcycles, his manager was so impressed with him that Callum was offered a Saturday job and is discussing the possibility of completing an apprenticeship with the company at the end of Year 11.

Emily and Poppi, who both completed their work experience with DanceEast, had an equally



positive week, "I thoroughly enjoyed my work experience" said Emily, "The people were incredibly friendly and were always open to answering questions and offering help. It was very relaxed and everyday was different. I gained lots of knowledge on the different types of jobs in the workplace". Poppi echoed this, saying "I learnt so much and I hope to

maybe return in the future as an employee." Emily and Poppi's manager at DanceEast, Zoe Ablitt, was just as enthusiastic about the girls' contribution while on work experience.

Work experience plays a huge part in influencing young people's future career aspirations and every one of the work experience placements provided gave our students an invaluable, real-life appreciation of the workplace. Now in Year 11, these experiences are shaping the decisions that students are making as they form plans to continue their education and training.

A big thank you to all of the employers who support our Year 10 work experience week; we simply could not provide this valuable experience to our students without you.

■ **If you are able to offer a work experience placement to one (or more!) of our Year 10 students for the week of 10th-14th June 2024, please contact: workexperience@northgate.suffolk.sch.uk.**



Experience in a court environment

As Year 13 Law students, we recently had the opportunity to work with the University of Suffolk staff and a former Crown Court judge to prepare and take part in a Mock Trial.

We had chosen our roles prior to the trip and each student was

allocated to a role in which they felt comfortable and confident.

Grace, who played the defence barrister stated that the best part of her role was, "Her arguments resulting in an acquittal and working in a team". Adnan, who acted in the role of prosecutor said that he

enjoyed, "Meeting an actual judge and gaining the opportunity to work in a courtroom".

All in all, a fantastic opportunity to experience a realistic court environment.

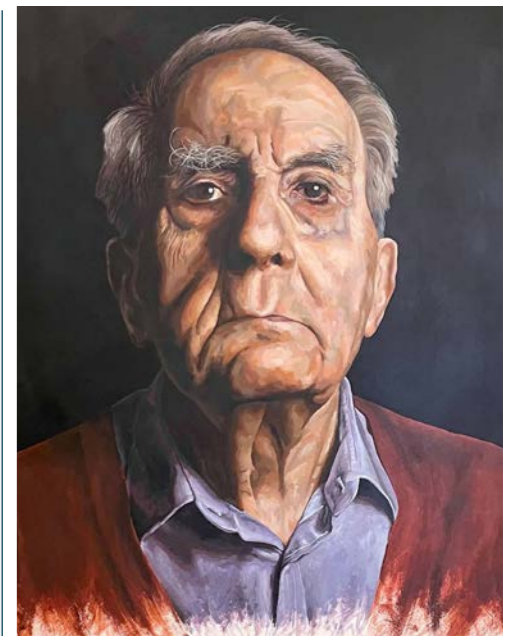
Bella Year 13 Law student

Anna Airy Award winner 2023

Congratulations go to former Northgate Sixth Form Year 13 art student Sophia for winning the prestigious Anna Airy Award 2023, with her portrait of Frank Bright MBE (pictured right). The exhibition was organized by the Ipswich Art Society and hosted at the UCS Waterfront Gallery overlooking Neptune Quay. The long-established exhibition is renowned for showcasing the talents of young artists aged 16-20 from all around the county. Indeed, all the Northgate entries that were submitted were short-listed from a

huge entry of student work from the Ipswich area and beyond.

Mr Beattie, Head of Art & Design, offered his congratulations to all other Northgate art students who contributed towards the exhibition and notably, Phoebe, former Year 13 student whose work was awarded a commendation certificate. All the work looked stunning within the space and was admired by fellow students, family, teachers and artists of all ages. The open exhibition was well-attended by the Ipswich community.



Northgate School Uniform and PE Kit

At Northgate High School, we take pride in our school uniform and ask all parents and carers to support us in maintaining high standards. School uniform is worn by all students until the end of Year 11. Students should only come to school wearing their PE kit on the days that they have PE.

All items must be clearly marked with the student's name.

Uniform

- Plain black school style trousers
- A light blue shirt/blouse
- The branded Northgate embroidered jumper or sweatshirt
- White, navy, black or grey socks
- A plain black or dark blue head covering may be worn for religious reasons
- Accessories such as belts and hair bands should be plain and consistent with the Northgate uniform colours

Hair and Make Up

- Hair natural colour with no extreme styles
- Subtle makeup
- No fake nails/nail polish
- No visible jewellery
- 1 single nose stud (Year 9, 10, 11)
- 1 x pair ear studs



Shoes

Footwear must answer yes to the following three questions:

- Are they low heeled and black?
- Are they free from different coloured logos?
- Are they leather/faux leather?



PE Kit

- Northgate polo shirt
- Northgate shorts or sport shorts/skorts blue or black
- A Northgate sweatshirt, rugby shirt or microfleece in cold weather
- White sport socks
- Sensible multi sports trainers
- Northgate tracksuit bottoms or plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Plain navy or black football socks

Boys

- Plain black/navy leggings under shorts

Girls

- Plain black/navy sports leggings