



Newsletter

December 2024

I hope that you are well.

At Northgate, we are gearing up for our Christmas Events. Following Pyjama Day, we are looking forward to the Great Northgate Bake Off, Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner at Café 6.

It has been fantastic to see so many of you at Open Evening, Assemblies, Pathways Evenings and on Tours. I hope that you can see what a vibrant, caring and thriving community that we are. If you are still undecided on your subjects, we have a subject taster evening on 23rd January to help you decide. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Have a fantastic break and I hope that 2025 will be the year when you join our community!

Mr Alexander
Head of Sixth Form

Congratulations to former Northgate Sixth Form Art students Alexandra, above left, and Lorcan, above right, for winning the prestigious Anna Airy Award 2024. The Ipswich Art Society organised the exhibition and hosted it 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 around the county. Indeed, all the submitted Northgate entries were short-listed from a huge entry of student work from the Ipswich area and beyond.

Mr Beattie, Head of Art & Design, congratulated all other Art and Photography Northgate students who contributed to the exhibition and notably, Erin, a former



Year 13 student whose work, pictured above, 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 Ipswich community attended the open exhibition.



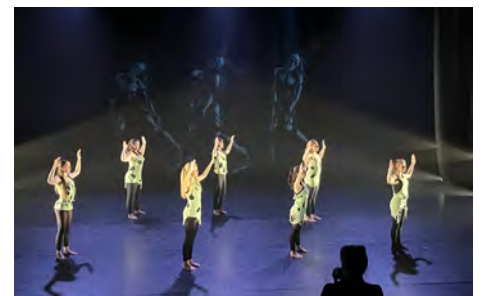
A Level Drama Exam

Year 13 students completed their Component 1 Devising exam at the beginning of November, performing to an audience of family and friends.

The exam requires students to create original devised work from a script extract and in light of a practitioner. A consistent theme of the evening was 'stalking' and audience



feedback confirmed that these two performances were haunting, creative and highly relevant to today's society. A fantastic evening of drama.



Dance show 2024

Last month 80 dancers performed two shows at DanceEast.

It was a brilliant evening with lots of positive feedback emailed in from parents!





A triumphant win!

On their first debut our Northgate Sixth Form Girls Football Team had a triumphant 12-1 win against

Wymondham College. Well done to all of the girls involved!

Year 12 Spanish food tasting

Year 12 Spanish students have been tasting typical Spanish food and chatting about the foods.

Some not so keen on cold Gazpacho at 9am!



Sociology trip to the University of Suffolk

Year 13 Sociology students recently had the opportunity to visit the University of Suffolk as part of our Crime and Deviance topic.

They participated in a mock trial of a 'witchcraft and deformation' case where students had to play the part of the defence and prosecution,

providing arguments in front of a judge. Students also had a chance to experience some mini lectures on key areas of our course and in the afternoon, carried out their own research along the marina looking at the population, possibilities for crime and crime prevention. A great day was had by all!





Valuable first aid knowledge

We would like to thank Ipswich Borough Council for coming in to run first aid sessions to some Year 12 students as part of our Enrichment Programme.

Students found the sessions enjoyable and provided them with valuable knowledge on a variety of basic first aid techniques.



PJ day at Sixth Form

Last month we held a PJ day at Northgate Sixth Form.

This was arranged by the Student Council and was a roaring success. Although the weather was freezing, students made sure that they had their thermals on!





Success at the Senior Maths Challenge

Before half term, 61 brave Year 12 and 13 students from Northgate Sixth Form, took part in the Senior Maths Challenge.

Our students did excellently – achieving 22 Bronze, 22 Silver and 5 Gold awards (a success rate of over 80% compared to a

national average of 67%!).

Our 5 gold award winners qualify for the next round. They are, from Year 12, Nathan (best in Year) and Ollie; and from Year 13, Evan and Daniel (joint best in school) and Joshua.

Congratulations to all and good luck in the next round!



Newly formed Rugby team

We have recently formed a Sixth Form Rugby team. Training is after school on Wednesdays and is going really well.

We played our first match against Woodbridge School recently and are looking forward to the rest of the season!

Young Musician of the Year awards

Northgate's young musicians took to the stage on Thursday 28th November for the annual Northgate Young Musician of the Year and the audience were treated to a night of wonderful performances.

Congratulations to every student who entered the competition and bravely performed a solo in front of an audience, who were treated to music ranging from blues and rock such as Blackbird by the Beatles and Hound Dog by Elvis Presley to classical and impressionist music such as Clair de Lune by Debussy. We could not be more proud of our fantastic students!



A first-class experience of academic lecturing

On Wednesday 20th November, we had the pleasure of accompanying 10 of our A Level English Language students to Euston, London, to attend the annual emagazine Language Conference. The event, held in an impressive 1,000 seat auditorium, provided students with a first-class experience of academic lecturing that was inspiring yet accessible, as it specifically caters for students studying Language and Linguistics at A Level.

Over the course of the day presentations were given by five specialists in their field. Dr Aimee Bailey, of De Montford University, spoke on representing gender and sexuality in discourse, a fascinating and incredibly useful talk on a key component of our A Level course, which also embraced the cultural changes and their representation in language that form a large part of our class discussions; Dr Rosemary Hall, research assistant on the Dialect and Heritage project with Leeds University, shared the work and findings of her current

investigation on dialect, how it represents our cultural and social heritage and how this is changing – the very subject that we start our A Level course with; Dr Robbie Love, from Aston University, (studied on our course for his investigation on swearing that was covered extensively by the media last year), gave us a presentation on the spoken genre, informality and language change, and the process of ‘corpus linguistics’, a way of collecting and studying data to find patterns, which is something we encourage our students to utilise for their own coursework investigations, and Rebecca Woods of Newcastle University, shared her expertise on Child Language Acquisition, which was invaluable to our students who study CLA in Year 13. The final presentation was given by technology journalist, Vicki Turk, writer for The Guardian and New Scientist, and author of ‘Digital Etiquette’. Students easily related to her examples of how technology changes language, the speed at which culture travels



online and the uncertainties about the future of language and speech with the next big tech influence of AI.

The event was extremely well-organised, the expert speakers were great, the presentations were enlightening and practically useful, and the students – who really made the most of the opportunity to learn from the experts – were a complete credit to Northgate High School. They took part in the interactive elements of the day, asked questions and took lots of notes. I have no doubt that the value of this experience will be reflected back in the classroom, and hopefully beyond.



Social Change presentations

Year 12 Psychology students have been working on their presentations on “Social Change” over the past couple of weeks. The focus on the presentation has been on the personal and social influences that lead to a bigger change in society - the last part of our

topic of social influence.

The students had chosen a wide range of topics and presented them to a high standard. We all enjoyed this activity as it helped with our understanding of the topic as well as public speaking and presenting skills.



Showing off their sharpest looks for Suit Day!

Last month Northgate Sixth Form Student Union members arranged Suit Day – a chance for students to show off their sharpest looks.



Year 11 Taster Event



Thursday 23rd January 2025, 4 – 6.15pm



Are you considering A Levels at Northgate Sixth Form?

Would you like to attend a taster session and find out more about:

Applied Science, Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Dance, Drama, Economics, English Language, English Literature, Film Studies, French, Geography, German, Graphics, Health & Social Care, History, Law, Maths & Further Maths, Media Studies, Music, Physical Education, Philosophy & Ethics, Physics, Politics, Psychology, Sociology or Spanish?

Ipswich Town Foundation will be available on the evening to answer any questions you may have about the ITFC Post-16 Programme.

Please sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/gxj5V2hKjv>,
or scan the QR code to book a space.

If you have any questions please email Mrs Cheesman on:
ccheesman@northgate.suffolk.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you there!

