

# Northgate School weekly newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

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*Introduction to the  
Newsletter*

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Hi there, everyone! Welcome to the fifth issue of the newsletter. This week, we have another fuzzy pet of the week, an exciting tomato plant update, and a story! If you have anything you'd like to input, or any news you'd like to share, please send it to us at [office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk).







## A Message From the Headteacher

*Welcome back to all students and staff.*

*I hope you had a good half term and you were able to make the most of the beautiful weather. I know that the year 10 students attended school for two days at Meadway and I want to thank Anna for working with the students for those two days as well as a thank you to the students for attending and keeping the momentum of learning going. It is a very different time at the moment and schools are not breaking up for holidays in the usual way. I think we all crave a return to 'normality' but everyone has adapted well and staff and students alike are embracing this new way of working.*

*I wonder how you are all feeling about the events happening around the world? Sometimes the best way to communicate is not through words but actions. Remember that you are able to contribute to this newsletter by providing us with a drawing, painting, photograph, poem or any other discipline. We want to hear your views and feelings about your recent experiences or reactions to events. Please do email us your contributions and why not try continuing the story that is building week by week?*

*I wrote to your parents today about the possibility of Northgate reopening in a couple of weeks. I have to be guided by the science and the Government advice but we are working towards face to face contact in the Northgate building and I will of course continue to keep your parents/carers updated.*

*Please make sure you engage with Google Classrooms and keep learning.*

**Angela**



## A Message from the Assistant Headteacher

*Dear Students,*

*I hope you have all had the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine over the bank holiday and make the most of the opportunity to relax.*

*On a walk today it was lovely feeling the warmth of the sun and on my walk I saw a number of ducklings which were a joy to watch.*

*As many people celebrated Eid over the weekend I was reminded that even in the current climate how important it is to remain connected to our loved ones and how innovative people have been in doing so.*

*Wishing you all a happy and healthy week.*

***Anna***

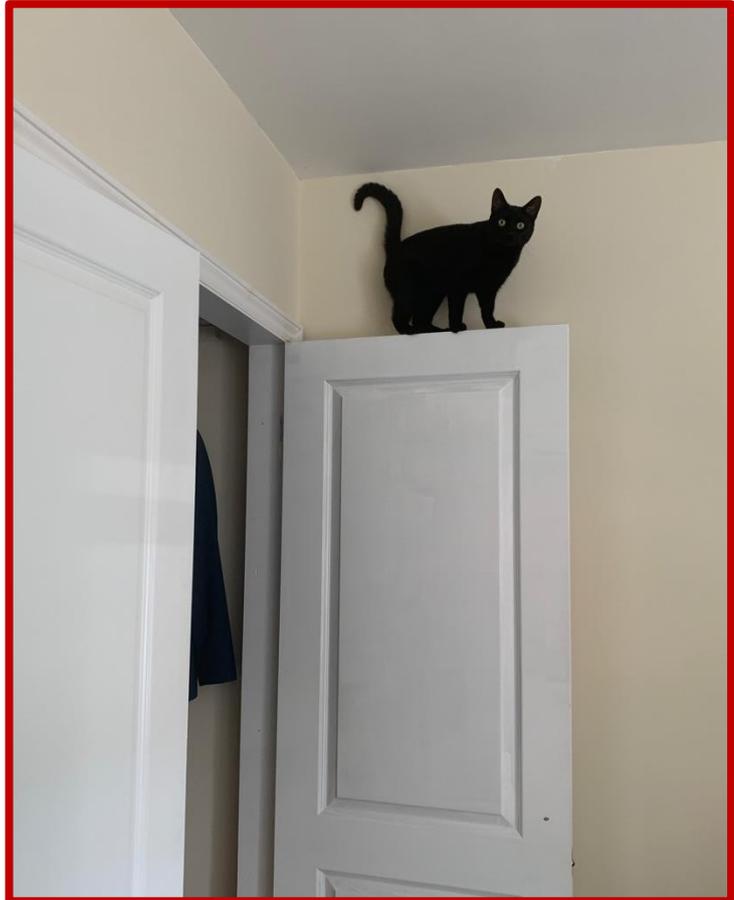
Want your furry friend to be pet of the week? Email a

photo and information about their favourite snack, sleeping place, and activity to [office@northgate.](mailto:office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk)

[barnet.sch.uk!](mailto:office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk)



This week's pet of the week is ... **Lazy Bear!**  
Here's what she had to say.



*Hi! My name is Lazy Bear – Lazy for short. Nice to meet you! Do you like my door? I love climbing up here, but unfortunately don't know how to get down, so I always have to meow for help. That doesn't stop me, though!*

*My humans say I'm extremely mischievous, but I like to think I'm just very curious. If there's something to investigate, I'll do it! I'm a regular Purrlock Holmes! My favourite place to sleep is wherever my humans were just sitting! Or behind the loom! Or on the carpet! I absolutely LOVE food, and always run to join my humans in the kitchen whenever they go in there, even if they're just making a cup of tea. You never know when you might get a treat! I also always try to eat their food, because it's really my food! I like to sit in sinks, too – don't you? Taps are AMAZING.*

*I'm very small, so whenever I go to the vet, they have to give me the same dose of medicine they give to ferrets. I don't mind, because my human takes me to the vet in her special backpack, and I get lots of treats. Well, that's all! See ya later!*

*Lazy*

## ***Marian's Guide to Growing Tomato Plants – Part 4!***

### **Update on tomato plants week 3**

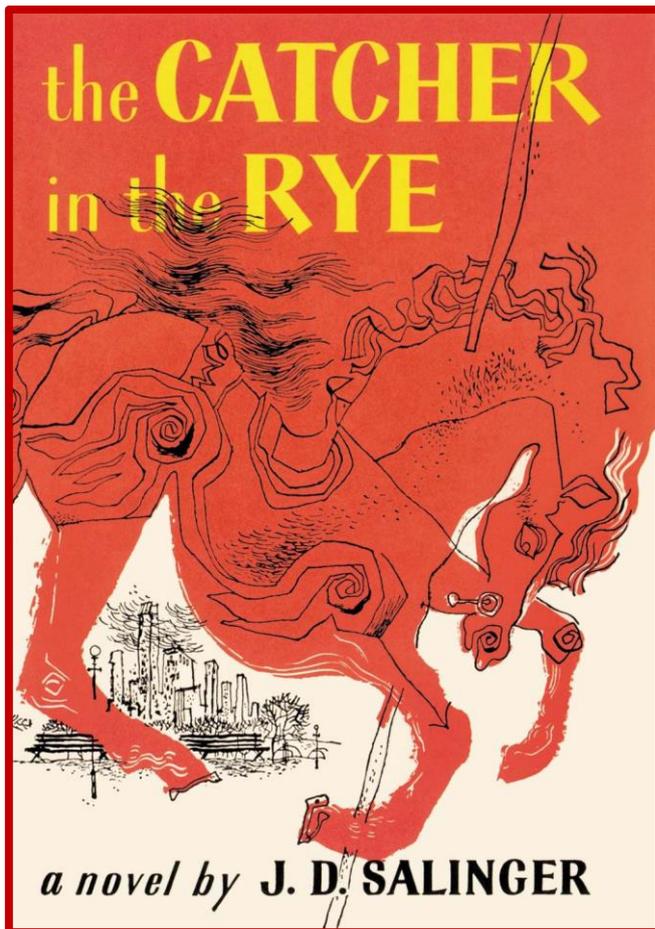
*Here's a photo of some of the tomato plants that have just been potted up. I've just gently removed the plants from the pot, being careful not to damage the leaves. Then, using my fingers, I've put them into another pot that I'd already filled with some soil. I gave them a good watering and placed them in the sun. So I'm hoping they'll continue to grow strong! Watch this space!*

*-Marian*



## Literary Corner

*The reading suggestion for this week is ...*



*This week, the recommended read is **The Catcher in the Rye**, by J. D. Salinger. The hero-narrator of this book is an ancient child of sixteen, a native New Yorker named Holden Caulfield. Through mischievous circumstances, he leaves his prep school in Pennsylvania and goes underground in New York City for three days. The boy himself is at once too simple and too complex for us to make any final comment about him or his story. Perhaps the safest thing we can say about Holden is that he was born in the world not just strongly attracted to beauty but, almost, hopelessly impaled on it.*

### What are you reading?

*Send us the title and author's name to [office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:office@northgate.barnet.sch.uk) and we'll put the book you're reading in the newsletter!*

*Jo's Inspirational Quote of the Week*

*“Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think.”*

*Christopher Robin*



This quote is from Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh. I think this is a great quote considering our generation seems to be constantly battling with the concept of self-image, self-worth and acceptance. When you doubt yourself, remember these words, stop worrying and stressing out. You are perfect, exactly the way you are!

*Here's the second part of the story. If you'd like to write the next part, email it to us and we'll include it in the next newsletter! If you want to know what happens, tune in next week!*

## ***Serial story – The Ghost in the Wind***

### ***Part Two***

The conductor's voice crackled over the train's intercom. "We'll be arriving at Kettle Station in approximately two minutes. If you are leaving us here, please ensure you keep your belongings with you and have a safe journey."

Greta put her bookbag over her head and rubbed her arms. She was nervous. What would she find at the station café at twelve o'clock? Why had her mother asked to meet her there? She looked at her watch. 11:40 AM. She would arrive with time to spare.

As the train pulled into the station, Greta looked out of the window. The platform was almost empty. She exited the train and forced herself to walk confidently down the platform. *I'll just draw more attention to myself if I look lost.*

She passed an elderly woman sitting on a bench beside the platform. Her head was lolled to one side and she was snoring gently. *I hope she hasn't missed her train ...* Greta thought, then shook her head. *Focus, Greta.* She continued down the platform until she reached a sign that made her guts leap. *Station café.* A painted red arrow, peeling at its points, directed her up a flight of stairs. As she reached the top, she turned left. Then ... There it was. The café.

She looked at her watch, heart hammering. 11:46. She had time, still. Should she take a seat in the café now, or wander around a little until noon? *No. Don't delay.* Forcing down her nerves with a gulp, she stepped purposefully towards the café.

Opening the door, she looked around. Three green tables were squashed together on the right side of the café, whilst a row of sandwiches, crisps and snacks filled a fridge to her left. Behind the small counter in front of her stood a boy her age, looking down at his phone. She approached him.

"Hi." Her voice wavered.

He looked up, startled, and dropped his phone. It smashed against the concrete floor. With a cry, he grabbed it off the floor and groaned as he examined the cracked screen.

Greta turned red. "Oh ... Oh gosh, I'm so sorry ... " She fished in her bookbag for her purse. *Idiot,* she thought to herself, *what on earth are you doing? Do you think you've got hundreds of pounds in your purse to pay for that phone?!*

"Hey, uh — "

She looked back up. The boy was shaking his head at her. "Please – you don't have to. Look." He held out the phone to her. The cracked screen had been repaired.

Her eyes bulged. *What? But ...*

"H-how ... ?" She stammered. She stared at him. He grinned sheepishly and put the phone in his pocket.

"What can I get you?" He said, tapping the coffee machine.

Before she could open her mouth to reply, she heard a familiar voice from behind her.

"Philippa?"

Frowning, Greta turned around. Her mother stood there, wrapped in a camel trench coat, with a white umbrella in her hand.

"Philippa! I'm so glad you're here!" Her mother laughed, eyes flashing.

Greta blinked. *Philippa ... ?*

***To be continued ...***

## *Useful Websites*

### *Education*

*khanacademy.org*

**Khan Academy has lots of lessons on all sorts of subjects. It covers the basics right through to university-level education, so is a really flexible resource.**

*bbc.co.uk/bitesize*

**BBC Bitesize has daily lessons for all ages as well as lots of other excellent educational content.**

**National Oak Academy <https://www.thenational.academy>**

### *Mental Wellbeing*

*www.kooth.com*

**Kooth is a digital mental health support service. It gives children and young people easy access to an online community of peers and a team of experienced counsellors.**

*www.calm.com*

**A website that can help you relax and get better sleep.**

*nightline.ac.uk*

**If you need someone to talk to at night, nightline are there to support you.**

### *Healthy Living*

*bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers*

**BBC Supermovers helps you learn whilst you exercise! Make sure you are exercising daily and eating a full and varied diet.**

### *Entertainment*

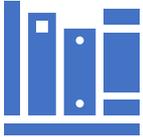
*[http://www.supermundane.com/public\\_html/supercolouringin.html](http://www.supermundane.com/public_html/supercolouringin.html)*

**Free downloads for colouring in.**

## Messages from staff

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**Ellen**



*Hello there to everyone at home! I hope you're having a good week. I have been doing lots of gardening this week! I've been listening to something I enjoy via my headphones while I pull weeds and cut grass and have been enjoying it. I've been trying to do a little bit every day, so that I don't get overwhelmed by the task but still get the job done, and it's really been working for me. I once read: 'the most important step you can take is always the next one', and I think that is so true! My movie recommendation for this week is Parenthood. It's one of my favourite films from when I was younger and it still holds up today!*

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**Marian**



*Wildlife on the daily walk....*

*Hi all, I hope you're enjoying this amazing weather! On one of my recent early morning walks, I spotted this gorgeous family of wild Canada Geese. The babies are called goslings. They always travel in a line like in the photo, with one parent at the front and one at the back. The parents stay together for life. Canada Geese were brought from Canada to England over 200 years ago to decorate the Royal parks and now they're living in parks all over the UK. Sometimes you can see flocks of them flying in a V formation from one park to another. I think they're really beautiful birds. Bye for now!*

