

# Summer Newsletter 2023



Ms Yeo

Headteacher



## Dates For Your Diary

### 21<sup>st</sup> July

- End of year presentation
- End of term 6

### 22<sup>nd</sup> July-31<sup>st</sup> August

- Summer holidays

### 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September

- Inset days

### 5<sup>th</sup> September

- See last page for details



Mrs Garland

Deputy-  
Headteacher

## A message from Ms Yeo and Mrs Garland

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last two terms have gone by so fast and what a fantastic two terms they have been! As a school we have been lucky enough to have a visit from Wessex Water, a Music Therapist and a Play Therapist, allowing us to take part in many exciting activities. As well as this, our pupils have been out on trips to Bristol Botanical Gardens exploring nature and we have had a team of visiting young scientists from Badminton school giving demonstrations using liquid nitrogen.

Throughout assemblies this term we have celebrated Ramadan, the Coronation of King Charles, World Oceans Day and Children's Art Week. As well as engaging in assemblies about diversity, friendship, Refugee Week, Internet Safety and how to look after our teeth. As part of World Ocean's Day all classes took part in an Art competition, it was so wonderful to see so many creative pieces representing our oceans.



This term our Year 6s have taken part in many transitional activities, preparing them for their move to Secondary school. Our Year 6s moving to North Star 240° have shown great maturity whilst visiting their new school and we know that they are more than ready to take the next step on their journey. We are very much looking forward to our Year 6 Leavers trip to Airhop, as well as our End of Term Presentation. We wish our Year 6 pupils all the very best for the future - we know they will do incredibly well and will miss them greatly. You will all be aware of the imminent changes to the school leadership team and that this is the last school newsletter that we will write for North Star 82°. We have both had an incredibly rewarding time supporting your wonderful children, with a total of 25 years between us. We will really miss working with both them and you. We have already been working together with both Jo Hill (interim head) and Ash Wadland (new deputy head) and know they will bring much to the school, and enjoy working here as much as we have. We would also like to take this opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to other staff who are moving on at the end of the year and who have given so much to the school; Mr Chavez, Ms Baldwin, Mr Medola and Ms Tiley.

We hope you all have an enjoyable summer break and wish all pupils every happiness and lots of educational progress for next year.

Best wishes,  
Ms Yeo and Mrs Garland



# Hazel Class



During Term 5 Hazel class took the theme 'Cook Well, Eat Well', in our DT lessons. We explored what our bodies needed to grow and be healthy and then used this to plan healthy meals. We practiced our chopping and grating skills, making pizzas and sweet potato fries. We also learnt the valuable skill of washing up!

DT lessons

English lessons

In our English lessons, we focused on rescues, starting with learning a newspaper text about a badger that closed the M5 and then created our own newspaper report about an animal rescue. To make our writing even more detailed we discussed adjectives and used them to create descriptions of settings and characters.

Our first text in English for Term 6 was based on statues that came alive in a Museum at night. We then moved on to creating instructions, learning how to make a clay pot. This tied in well with our Art lessons, where we focused on developing our work by choosing one aspect to improve on. We made clay statuettes, whittled soap and drew statues. We also enjoyed a trip to Blaise House to draw the statues next to the building.

During our Maths lessons, we spent Term 5 exploring time and money, looking at how many hours are in a day and learning how to read a 24-hour clock. We then moved on to using money, adding and subtracting to work out how much change we had.

Maths lessons

In our Maths lessons we focused on patterns and finding rules to predict numbers. We then moved on to using coordinates to create 2D shapes and then explored the properties of 3D shapes.



In July we had a visit from Carl to show us what life was like for people who are visually impaired. He showed us how he uses his stick to be able to find obstacles and how he uses technology in his everyday life to help with all the things we take for granted, such as pouring a drink.

He then played us his favourite songs on the keyboard and guitar. Some of the classes were lucky enough to be able to work with him and write songs about their lives. It was wonderful to see all of the children so helpful and supportive towards Carl, asking interesting questions and offering to carry his equipment.

Music therapist visit

Computing lessons

In our Computing lessons we set up the motion sensitive camera to investigate wildlife in the Forest School area. We found evidence of badgers, squirrels and cats.



A big thank you to you all for all your support this year. I have loved teaching Hazel class and wish them all well for September. Have a relaxing summer break.

Mrs Richardson



# Juniper Class



Term 5 and 6 have brought the sunshine as well as a lot of laughter to Juniper Class. The children have been fantastic at welcoming 2 new pupils to the classroom as well as moving from one room to another in the school. It is much bigger and has allowed the room to be set up in line with the pupils needs.



Learning wise, the children have been concentrating hard with numbers to 20, fractions, pie charts, shape and telling the time- every teachers nemesis! The class team were so impressed with how well the children did.

Maths



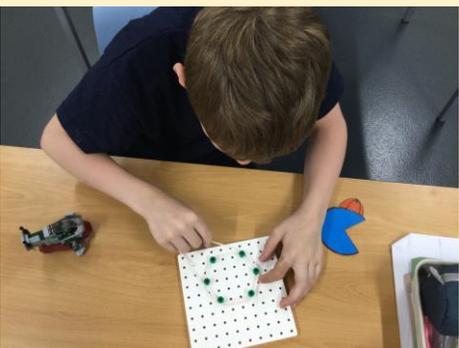
In English, using Talk 4 Writing, the children have learnt two non-fiction texts, a newspaper report based around a saving a badger from the school gardens and a non-chronological report about Polar Bears (which they were adamant was about cats due to Miss Carson's drawing ability!) They then innovated both of these text with animals of their choice. They children are now learning about a fiction (hopefully) story, with the Night at the Museum as the stimulus and all the statues in the museum coming to life. As I say, we HOPE it's fiction!

English



Our topics have allowed the children to further develop their drawing skills, looking at variety of mark making techniques including tonal shading, stippling and (controlled) scribble. They have used these to draw 3D mugs and have now moved on to using modelling clay to create 3D figures. The children have been looking at camera use in ICT and have continued working on their social and motor skills through a variety of lessons and challenges including building towers with spaghetti and marshmallows and making paper planes that travel a distance. As well as learning about healthy bodies in Science.

Topic



Many of the children in the class have also been enjoying swimming sessions at Henbury. It has been wonderful to see the children's confidence grow over the weeks from not wanting to put their faces in the water to swimming a whole length (deep to shallow) of the pool.

Swimming

## Goodbye!

To all our families, thank you for your continued support and we hope you have a wonderful summer break.  
Miss Carson, Miss Davies and Mrs Gill

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to 5 of our members of the class as they leave North Star 82 to continue their education at their secondary schools. We wish them all the best on their next adventure and we are sure that they will absolutely thrive at their new schools.



# Ash Class



**The children have been measuring in Maths, who knew Miss Bourne would be this many unifix blocks tall!!**



**It's been a busy term for Ash. We have been doing lots on our story 'the giant Jam sandwich' we wrote our own stories and even made our own sandwiches.**



**We had great fun in science week making spectacular experiments. Students from Badminton Girls School came to work with us.**

We hope everyone in Ash class has a lovely summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

From Miss Bourne and Miss James



# Chestnut Class



What a fabulous start to the summer Chestnut Class has had. In Term 5, our topic was Street View and in Term 6 it was Chop, Slice, Mash. The classroom was full of colour and we looked at different art. Most of the art that we looked at was of buildings and streets, but there was a lot of interesting and colourful styles. We looked at James Rizzi who is an artist who uses mixed media in order to create his art.

Chestnut students made a 3D project of a building. We then made our own art gallery in our calm corner, and many people from around the school enjoyed coming to visit it. In English, we worked on writing a description of a building. Chestnut children looked at different kinds of buildings, from the old buildings in Blaise Hamlet to some really whacky Air BNBs. Children then designed their own buildings and wrote a description of them, we had some really whacky ideas.



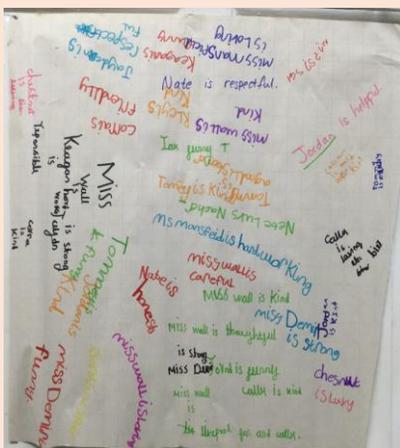
Topic

English

In Term 6, our topic was Chop, Slice, Mash. We got to go to the kitchen and practice cutting different vegetables. We also made chips and managed to not burn the school down! A favourite part of this module was our Talk for Writing in English. In English we read the story The Giant Jam Sandwich and then wrote our own stories about picnics that went wrong – there were some really creative ideas!

## Maths

In maths, Chestnut students have been working on numbers within one hundred. There has been a lot of work around number bonds, addition and subtraction. We looked at tens and ones, and used place value charts to manipulate numbers. Chestnut students also improved at basic fractions and telling the time.



Chestnut have enjoyed a lot of other activities this term. We really enjoyed having Kieffer our drumming teacher in, and there were some great rhythms. In P.E., Chestnut has had a lot of fun trying out different sports and practicing athletics for sports day. Forest school continued to be a highlight, with lots of fun activities such as fires and scavenger hunts. Chestnut worked hard on being extra kind this term, and we have a beautiful classroom display with positive attributes about all class members and staff listed. Chestnut class were so great they got several reward trips to Blaise and even got ice cream!

Activities

# Beech Class

It has been a busy term for Beech class as we wind down to the end of the year. We have been doing a lot of reflecting on what we have enjoyed about this year. Not only did we have a blast on Sports Day but we have been incredibly artistic and creative with our story writing and art lessons!

## English

In English, we have been writing many Big Write stories, ranging from fantasy worlds to the jungle! We have also been rewriting our story based on 'A Night to Remember'. We created our own story about something coming to life in a museum. We practised writing plurals and adjectives in our writing. We have also been looking at instruction writing and how to write in a logical manner. Finally, some of Beech class have been focussing hard on their phonics and been using their phonetic knowledge to improve their reading.



We have been learning about the lifeline of the human body and the different stages. We wrote about information we had learned about newborns growing into toddlers and how old age can affect people.

## Science

We have been learning about statues and statuettes. Fortunately, we got to explore Blaise and sketch some statues we found. We have been practising our sketching skills by drawing our own statues and then making improvements on them. Also, we got to make our own animal statues out of clay and wire and carved our own soap statues.

## Art

We have been busy completing our assessments and recalling what we have been learning throughout the year. We have been learning about fractions, using our own angle finders to learn about acute and obtuse angles and creating our own shapes. Also, Beech class have been refreshing their multiplication knowledge by playing Bingo and playing place values games too.

## Maths





# Oak Class



This term in Oak class we have been learning about statues. We went on a trip to Blaise Castle Park to see some huge stone statues and a modern metal statue of a dog. We also visited the Blaise museum and had a look at some more statues and artefacts.

The children wrote some fantastic stories about the caretaker locking up the school and being surprised by something coming to life. As part of our statue theme, we entered into a local competition at Henbury Community Centre and made vegetable statues. Here are some pictures!



We hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you again in September.  
From Miss Redhead, Miss Sutherland and Mr Williams

# Aspen Class

## Maths

What a great group of mathematicians we have had this year! Aspen have worked well in Maths, and particularly enjoy when we get manipulatives out such as shapes and cubes. We started looking at fractions – we spoke about sharing pizzas, most of Aspen agree that we would like at least half a fraction each! We also used skittles to look at dividing numbers into groups. We then looked at shapes and did some fun activities finding shapes and counting their sides and vertices and we even started looking at angles.



Aspen children have shown a lot of improvement in English, and it is amazing to see everyone writing at greater length, reading their work back, and showing pride in their achievements. We have done several different writing styles, and we had some interesting dream house descriptions that I am sure we'd all love to live in! This term, we read the book *The Giant Jam Sandwich*. We had a lot of fun talking about different picnics and the problems we could encounter on them. Ms Yeo even interviewed Aspen as people from the village explaining what had happened during the picnic!

## English



## Topic

Aspen class have really enjoyed both of our topics this summer. In term 5, we looked at Victorian school life. Aspen students really enjoyed learning about the differences, and we all agreed that school sounds much more fun now! In term 6, our topic was called Chop, Slice, Mash. We looked at different vegetables and learned some different cooking techniques. We all had a lot of fun experimenting in the kitchen!



Most children in our class have enjoyed swimming lessons for the last 2 terms at Henbury Leisure Centre. It has been a pleasure to see how children have not only improved their swimming skills but also their confidence, in some cases from not even going into the pool to diving into it or picking objects from the swimming pool floor. Some children even managed to swim into the deep side of the pool!

## Swimming

# Play Therapy

Sessions for teaching and encouraging team building

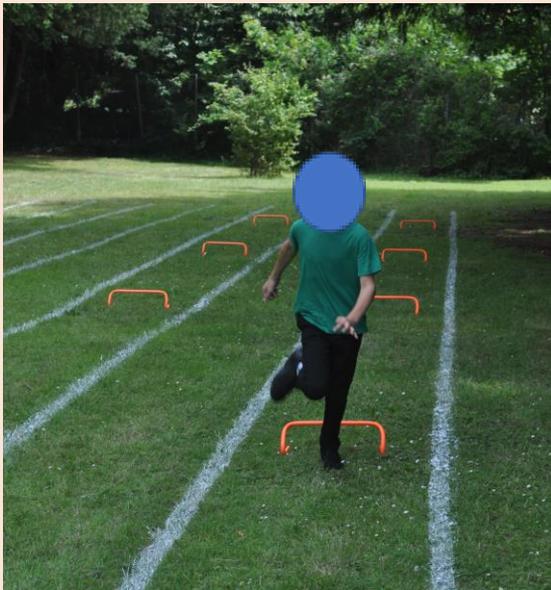


This term all of our pupils have taken part in some adventure team building sessions, through imaginative play. The purpose of these sessions was to get our pupils to work together, building positive relationships, working on communication skills.

We took part in many activities, including Hoop Lava where we had to communicate well to pass along hoops, helping our team mates make the other side. The work over the sessions involved dynamic, adventure based activities that incorporated problem solving, close group work and moments of emotional exhilaration.



# Sports Day 2023



We really enjoyed sports day when the rain finally stopped! Thank you for the great photos Miss Carr!

# Information from School Office

## School meals

Prices of school meals are increasing from £2.45 to £2.70 and must be paid in advance (cash or cheques) to the school office.



## Communication

Our main way of communicating whole school information with you will now be via **email**. This will ensure that you get information quickly and means we reduce our carbon foot-print as a school. (Because we would still text, call and use home school books for other individual things)

If we do not yet have your email address please email the school with your Child's full name.

If you need support creating a free email address please contact the school office.

## Uniform

**A quick reminder that uniform is:**

- Sweatshirt with school logo.
- White polo shirt.
- Black trousers (girls may also wear a black skirt or pinafore).
- Black shoes that can be polished
- Jewellery: a wristwatch and single stud in each ear is permitted.
- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- Hair must be a standard school style: no extreme colour, cut or styling.



**Trainers are not permitted as part of school uniform.**

## Purchasing uniform

**Uniform with the school logo is available to buy from the school office.**

- Sweatshirts: £10
- Polo top: £7
- PE tops: £7



Please provide cash payments to the office.

## Medications

Please can we remind parents of the importance of providing up to date medical and allergy information for your child. If we medicate your child during the school day then you must ensure that we are provided with sufficient supplies in order to complete this.

If your child's medical needs change in any way then you must inform the school as soon as possible.

If your child is un-medicated then this poses a health and safety risk which could result in your child being sent home.



## Office information

**Phone number:** 0117 377 2175

**Email:** northstar82@northstar-academy.co.uk

**A reminder of the importance of any forms that are sent home to be filled in and returned to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the office, who will be more than happy to help.**

# E-Safety at Home



## Advice for reducing screen time

### Set boundaries

- You wouldn't let a nine year old walk alone down a busy road and phone use is the same.
- If a child has a smartphone at a young age, you need to be aware of the dangers on their behalf.



### Set a good example

- Parents need to show children how to have healthy habits.

### Make a plan

- If screen time is affecting sleep, time to talk to each other, diet or exercise a plan should be made.
- For example: no screens in the bedroom or no screens at meal times.

## Using parental controls

*“Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone, network, individual apps and devices.” -NSPCC*

Advice from:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-46758809>

### They can help to:

- Choose the time of day your child can access the internet.
- Limit how long your child can access the internet for.
- Make filters that block apps that could be inappropriate.
- Choose what grown-ups can see and what children can see.

### What you can do:

- Explain to your child why you're using parental controls.
- Remember that parental controls will not protect your child from all inappropriate content so keep an open conversation going.
- Set strong passwords that your children don't know.

**The website below has specific details about setting parental controls:**

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

# Advice & Support

## Support for Parents/Guardians



### Support for Inter-Parental Conflict (SIPCo) A Project to Improve Parents' Relationships

Do you have a child or children aged between 8 and 14? Do you find it hard to get on with your partner or your ex? Do you frequently argue or shout at each other? Or have you stopped talking to each other because it's too difficult? If so, then this SIPCo project could help.

Whether you are with your partner, or have separated, are an LGBTQ+ parent, a parent in an extended family, or any other group, we are looking for parents and carers who live in Dorset, BCP (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole) and Bristol who:

- have a **child aged 8-14**
- are **getting into conflict** with a partner or ex-partner
- are **willing to try something new** to help reduce their conflict.

This project (called SIPCo) aims to help you learn how to reduce the amount of conflict between you and your partner, or your ex.

The help on offer will either be relationship therapy (delivered by the couple therapy charity Tavistock Relationships) or access to some online resources with local support for reducing parental conflict.

The project is trying to find out which works best, so parents will be signposted to one or the other.

The relationship support sessions (which will take place online) will help you and your partner/ex to communicate better. While the online resources are programmes that you will work through at your own pace with the support of a locally trained professional.

If you are interested, please get in touch using the details below. Referrals are open now.

FREE support programme available for parents in conflict



### For more information contact

**Dorset:**  
Simone Kettle

☎ 01305 224252

✉ [relationshipsmatter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:relationshipsmatter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

🌐 [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

**Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole (BCP):** Jessica Lanham

☎ 01202 127179

✉ [jessica.lanham@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jessica.lanham@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

🌐 [bcpcouncil.gov.uk](http://bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

**Bristol:**  
Gina Paziienza

☎ 07721 635376

✉ [relationshipsmatter@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:relationshipsmatter@bristol.gov.uk)

🌐 [bristol.gov.uk](http://bristol.gov.uk)

A Randomised Controlled Trial funded by the Youth Endowment Fund to help parents to reduce their conflict.

## Website link:

[Support for parent carers – Bristol Parent Carers](#)

Bristol parent carer forum covers the A-Z of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Bristol. They provide information for families with or without a diagnosis. This website was created to bring together all the support that Bristol has to offer and provides a calendar of SEND events in Bristol.

[Events – Bristol Parent Carers](#)

## Confidential helpline

If you need help or advice there is a helpline available:

T: (0117) 352 1888

E: [welfarerights@Bristol.gov.uk](mailto:welfarerights@Bristol.gov.uk)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri  
(8:30am-1pm)

**WEDNESDAY CLOSED ALL DAY.**

If you prefer not to make a call or email us yourself, you can ask a professional working with you, friend or relative to contact on your behalf.

More information is available on the website:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/benefits-financial-help>

## Food banks & clubs

Schools have information about these. Please contact SENDCO: Lucas Wellington for details.

## Key numbers

**Childline:** 08001111

**NSPCC:** 08008005000

**Samaritans:** 116 123

**Next Link Domestic Abuse Help Line:**  
08004700280

## Social services:

**South Gloucestershire (access and response):**  
01454866000

**North Somerset (single point of access):**  
01275888808

**Bath and North East Somerset (BANES):**  
01225396312 / 01225396313



We would like to thank The Greggs Foundation again for their generous support of our Breakfast Club and in providing electrical appliances, beds and bedding and food and uniform vouchers to some of our parents / carers.

Not only do they make great cakes and other baked products, but they are generous and supportive in what has been a very difficult year for many people! Their support has been heart-warming.



### **SEND and You**

SEND and You was originally set up as a charity in Avon in 1989 by local parents and professionals. They'd realised that better outcomes could be achieved for **children and young people with SEND** by working together.

Today we make sure that children, young people and their parents or carers get the help they need. SEND and You was formerly named Supportive Parents.

SEND and You now delivers the 'SENDIAS' (Special Educational Needs & Disability Information Advice & Support) service for three local authorities; **Bristol**, **North Somerset** and **South Gloucestershire**. Our office is in Bristol

More information can be found here: <https://www.sendandyou.org.uk/about-us/>

### **Welfare Rights and Money Advice Service**

#### **WRAMAS' Services**

- Don't know what you may be entitled to?
- Need some help or advice on a benefit related issue?
- Not sure how to fill in a claim form? Having difficulty writing about your problems?
- Want to know how your other benefits may be affected?
- Would like some advice on a new or existing claim for a disability benefit?

Claiming the right benefits or finding information can be hard work and very confusing, but don't give up! WE CAN HELP.

# Safeguarding Information

We work hard in school to maintain the safety of all students. Where possible we want to help families and the wider community also be a safe place for our young people to experience. Where help is needed we are keen to sign post young people and families to some of the many resources available:

Please feel welcome to talk to one the safeguarding team within school:



**Georgia Melias, Safeguarding and Attendance Lead**



**Jo Hill, Interim Headteacher, NorthStar 82° Designated Safeguarding Lead**

**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**

## Safeguarding

In order to keep your children safe at all times we must be able to reach you so we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of keeping your details up to date with the school office. Please inform us of any changes as soon as they occur so that we can update our contact systems. We are especially in need of your email address' as we will now be sending more communications electronically.

All contact details are stored confidentially and will not be shared.

We would also encourage people to self-refer to specific agencies for help:

Families in Focus;

North: 0117 352 1499

South: 0117 903 7770

East/Central: 0117 357 6460

Domestic Abuse

24 hour free helpline 0808 2000 247 or visit online at [www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk)

Mental Health

<https://www.mind.org.uk/> or call: 0300 123 3393 or text: 86463

Childline  
Off the Record  
Kooth

0800 1111  
<https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/>  
[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

# Additional Information

## Students returning to school

The students will return in stages from the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. The day that they attend depends on their class next academic year. The table below can also be found on the letter send home with your child at the end of the last academic year.

Date	Attending
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET - no pupils
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET - no pupils
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	All new pupils
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	All Pupils in: Juniper, Beech, Aspen, Willow (including new pupils)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	All Pupils in: Hazel, Chestnut, Ash, Oak (including new pupils)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	All pupils attend full-time from now unless a personalised timetable is in place

## Change of school meal prices

School meal prices will be increasing from £2.45 to £2.70 from September. This can be paid via cheque or cash given to the school office.

## Admin details

Please keep the school up to date with your

1. Phone number
2. Email address
3. Home address
4. Secondary contact for your child

This ensures you receive all the relevant information sent home by the office and staff.