



2024/25

Term 5 Newsletter

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Our Mission

We **N**avigate **S**uccess **T**ogether with **A**mbition and **R**elevance



Good news: Message from the CEO

We are pleased to announce that Serra Orumlu has been successful in her application for the role of Headteacher with North Star Academy Trust. During her time as Deputy Head at North Star 82°, Ms Orumlu has demonstrated that she is passionate about the education of our children and is committed to providing an enriching and supportive learning environment where pupils are happy and make good progress. She has been with the Trust for many years and we are delighted that she is taking the next step to become a Headteacher.

In September Ms Orumlu will start her new role at North Star 180° in Bath. She will continue to support at North Star 82° while the Headteacher is absent, and Phelim Byrne, Assistant Head, and Shane Case from the North Star Academy Trust Central Team will continue to support in all aspects of senior leadership.

We would like to congratulate Serra and assure you that she will continue to have oversight of North Star 82.

Kaye Palmer-Greene
Chief Executive Officer

Dear parents/carers,

As we reach the end of Term 5, I would like to say that it's been a busy and exciting term filled with enriching learning opportunities, engaging trips, and continued progress across the school.

From hands-on construction sessions at North Star 240°, to exploring wildlife at The Bristol Zoo Project, and diving into water education with *Down the Plughole*, our pupils have had plenty of chances to bring their learning to life beyond the classroom. We've also been proud to see our students taking part in wider community events like the Bristol Together Championships, demonstrating teamwork, respect, and inclusivity.

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff, supportive families, and wonderful students for making Term 5 such a success. We're looking forward to building on this momentum as we head into the final term of the school year.

Serra Orumlu
Deputy Headteacher

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Important Dates for the coming term

2 June – Term 6 starts
13 June – Pupil review day
18 June—Positive points trip to Ninja Warrior*
23 June—INSET day
25 June—Sports Day
27 June—Positive points to Blaise*
2 July—Blaise orienteering*
9 July—Year 6 Leavers trip*
17 July—Attendance trip*
18 July—Summer presentation

*Parents/carers of the students who are attending these trips will be contacted the previous week.



Uniform

Please remember your child should come each day in the correct uniform, which is:

black /dark grey trousers or skirt

white polo type shirt

navy blue jumper

Further uniform is purchasable from the school office.

Free school Meals/Pupil premium

Your child could be entitled to receive free school meals, as well as pupil premium funding for the school. Please read this important letter from Bristol Mayor Marvin Rees for more information about how to claim. Somali and Polish translations of the letter are also available. You can apply to see if you are eligible for Free School Meals here:

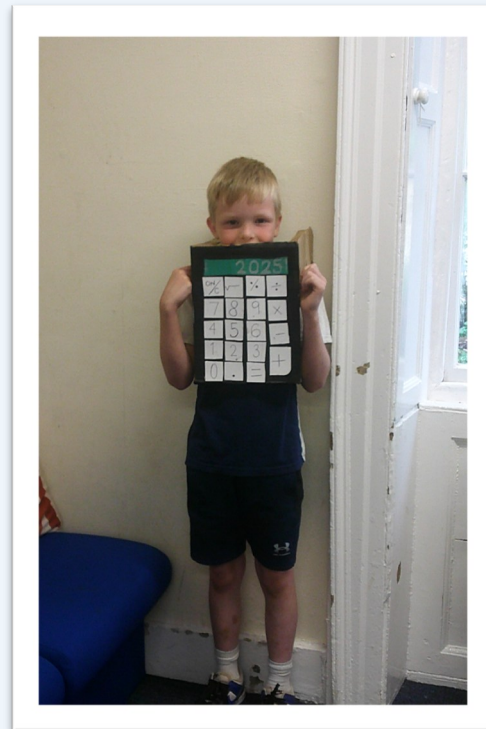
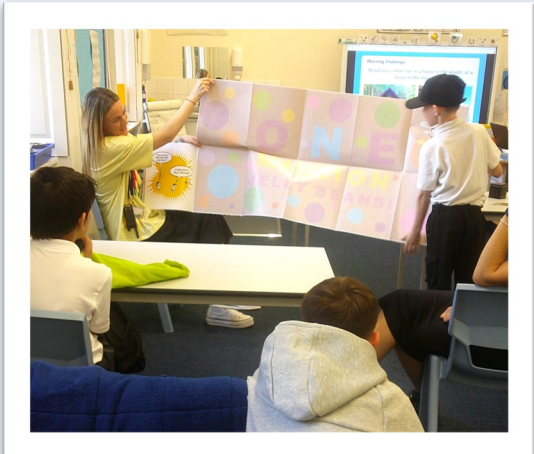
[Free school meals](#)

If you are not entitled to free school meals a hot meal can be purchased for £2.90. Payments can be made over the phone or by sending in cash or cheque, payable to North Star Academy Trust. Payments for meals are needed in advance.

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Number Day at North Star 82°



We had an amazing time celebrating *Number Day* at school!

Everyone got into the spirit by dressing up as numbers, and the creativity on display was incredible—there were so many fun and imaginative costumes! A huge THANK YOU to all the families for your fantastic support in helping your children find such brilliant maths-themed outfits!

Throughout the day, the fun continued as pupils dove into the book *"How Many Jelly Beans?"*—and wow, what a read! We were amazed to see what 10, 100, 1,000 jelly beans look like and even managed to fit 1,000,000 jelly beans onto one page!

To top it all off, we played an exciting game of *"Guess how many jelly beans are in the jar?"*—and a big round of applause to **Owl Class**, who made the closest guess and won the jar! What a fantastic day filled with numbers, fun, and jelly beans!

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Bristol Together Championships Session



We are proud to have taken part in the Bristol Together Championships—an inspiring initiative that has been running since 2012 with support from Bristol City Council.

This unique social mobility programme brings together Year 5 pupils from primary schools across Bristol, celebrating the city's rich diversity and promoting unity through sport.

Through football, the Bristol Together Championships encourages pupils to build friendships, embrace diversity, and learn about tolerance and British values. It offers a powerful platform for children to connect across communities while enriching their cultural capital in a fun, inclusive environment.



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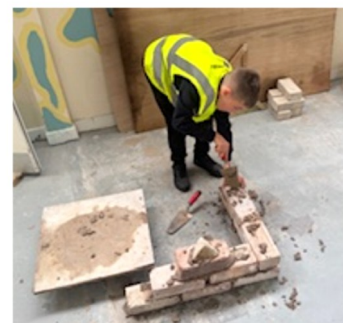
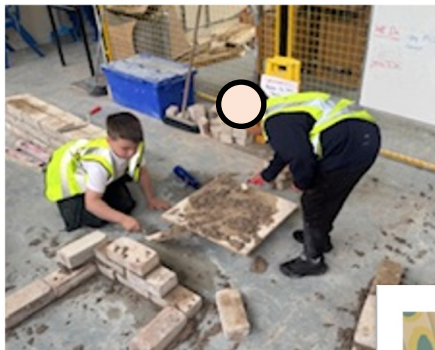
Construction Sessions in North Star 240°



Kestrels class have been getting stuck into some exciting hands-on learning this term, thanks to weekly construction lessons at North Star 240° with James Shaw, our fantastic construction teacher.

From measuring and sawing to building and teamwork, pupils have been developing practical skills in a real workshop environment. These sessions not only support their learning across the curriculum but also give them a taste of future career possibilities in the trades.

A huge thank you to James for inspiring our students and making every session engaging and fun!



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Sparrows and Kingfishers at the Bristol Zoo Project



Sparrows and Kingfishers had a fantastic day out at The Bristol Zoo Project, full of excitement, discovery, and hands-on learning. This term, our classes have been delving into the fascinating ecosystem of the Serengeti—exploring its landscapes, wildlife, and the important role it plays in global biodiversity.

Our trip brought this learning to life in the most engaging way. Pupils were thrilled to spot some of the animals they've been studying in class, including giraffes, zebras, and other incredible species that call the Serengeti home. The highlight of the day was taking part in a specially designed safari workshop, where children had the chance to deepen their understanding of animal behaviour, habitats, and conservation through interactive activities led by expert zoo staff.

It was a memorable experience that not only reinforced our classroom learning but also sparked even more curiosity and enthusiasm about the natural world. A big thank you to The Bristol Zoo Project for hosting us and to all the staff and volunteers who helped make the day so special!



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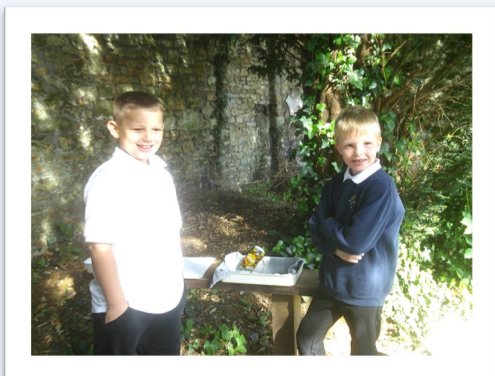
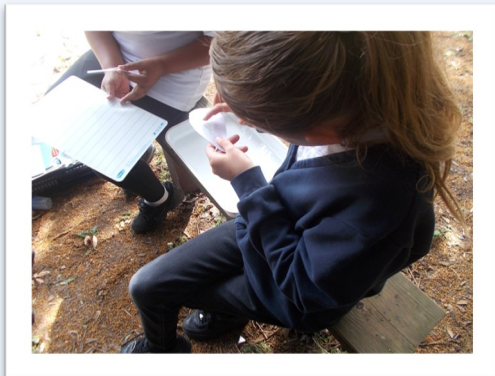
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Down the Plughole Visit

We had a visit from Wessex Water and took part in an exciting educational experience called *Down the Plughole*, all about the fascinating world of water. Through interactive activities and hands-on learning, pupils explored where our water comes from, how it's used, and why conserving it is so important.



The workshop helped bring key environmental topics to life in a fun and memorable way, encouraging students to think about how everyday actions can impact the planet. It was a fantastic session that sparked great discussions and plenty of curiosity!



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Safeguarding and the Local Offer



E-Safety

Wake up Wednesday—our IT leads have carefully selected our most appropriate wake up Wednesday posters and attached them to the next pages. If however you would

like information or advice on any other E-safety topics please ask the school.

Community offer

There are a number of free events happening in and around Bristol over the half term break. Follow the link to explore the different opportunities: <https://visitbristol.co.uk/whats-on/family-events/>

Feedback

North Star Academy Trust is committed to listening to you and working with you to resolve any concerns or complaints you may have.

In the first instance, please talk to your child's tutor if you have any concerns. They will be able to make sure they understand your concern in order to resolve it informally as soon as possible to avoid the need for you to make a formal complaint.

However, if the matter has not been resolved you may raise it formally. To do this you need to state that you are making a complaint, this can be done via telephone, email, in writing, through our 'get in contact' button www.ns180.northstar-academy.co.uk/contact. If you would like help to do this, please talk to your school reception staff who will make arrangements for someone to get in touch with you to give you any assistance you may need.

North Star Academy Trust will then review and/or investigate your complaint and this will include talking to you about it in further detail to find out what you would like to happen in order to resolve it.

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Free and independent advice and support
For North Bristol and South Gloucestershire

- ▶ Welfare Benefits
- ▶ Universal Credit
- ▶ Debt Advice
- ▶ Appeals and representation
- ▶ Help to Get Online

Enquire using our Advice Tool at
www.northbristoladvice.org.uk
Or call 0117 951 5751

Registered Charity number: 1066921



Food Banks and Food Clubs:

School have information about these.

Please contact the school office if you would like further information.

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.

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

T: (0117) 352 1888 E: welfarerights@bristol.gov.uk

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8.30 am – 1.00 pm (Wednesday closed all day)

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

You can also find advice and information, some of it specific to the coronavirus pandemic, on our website: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/benefits-financial-help>

Key Numbers:

Childline: 08001111

NSPCC: 0800 800 5000

Samaritans: 116 123

Next Link Domestic Abuse Telephone Help Line: 08004700280

Mon – Fri 8.30-5.30 and 1pm Saturday.

Social services:

South Gloucestershire – Access and Response Team – 01454 866000

North Somerset- Single Point of Access – 01275 888808

Looking After Your WELLBEING ONLINE

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 6% actively seek it out; most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'laugh off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to fear and avoidance behaviours – such as skipping school or staying indoors. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly. What begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even admit to sharing or creating violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, admitting they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being labelled a 'snitch' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with racist, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can dehumanise others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to build trust through non-judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or a safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportharmfulcontent.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or threaten to take away devices. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law, and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal, and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit onlinemedialawuk.com for more.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®