

NS82° School Newsletter

16.01.26



Welcome Back!

It has been another **exceptional week** at our school, and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the incredible work taking place across our community.

Firstly, I want to commend our pupils and staff for their continued **hard work and commitment to learning**. Classrooms have been filled with focus, enthusiasm, and positive attitudes, which is always a pleasure to see. Alongside this, I would also like to thank parents and carers for their **ongoing support with attendance**. Regular attendance is crucial to pupils' success, and your partnership in this area truly makes a difference.

This week has also been enriched by some **fantastic external learning opportunities**. Our pupils who attended the **bouldering enrichment trip at Clifton College sports facilities** represented the school superbly. They demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and determination throughout the experience, embodying our school values both on and off site. It was wonderful to see students challenging themselves, supporting one another, and embracing new experiences with confidence.

Enrichment opportunities such as these are a vital part of a well-rounded education, and we are proud to see our pupils engaging so positively and responsibly when representing our school.

As we reflect on another successful week, we now look ahead with excitement to **another amazing week** of learning, achievement, and opportunity. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm Regards,

Mr Byrne, Headteacher



Our Mission

We **Navigate Success Together** with **Ambition and Relevance**



THE ATTENDANCE LEAGUE

Regular school attendance is essential for your child's academic success, personal development, and building strong learning habits. When children attend consistently, they stay engaged, keep up with lessons, and develop a sense of responsibility that benefits them throughout life. Our class staff work hard to encourage attendance by creating a welcoming environment, maintaining positive communication with families, and celebrating achievements.

To make attendance fun and motivating, we've introduced **The Attendance League**—a league table that ranks classes based on their percentage of attendance throughout the term. The higher the attendance, the higher the class climbs in the league, fostering teamwork and healthy competition! Alongside the Attendance League, we also run **The Most Improved Attendance League**, which celebrates progress and effort. In this league, anonymous pupils have been selected to help raise their class attendance by setting a positive example and encouraging their peers. This initiative promotes teamwork and motivates everyone to aim higher together!





THE ATTENDANCE LEAGUE

LEAGUE TABLE

Starlings
Robins
Kingfishers
Eagles
Sparrows
Hawks
Kestrels
Falcons
Owls



THE MOST IMPROVED ATTENDANCE LEAGUE

LEAGUE TABLE

Eagles	↑
Falcons	↑
Sparrows	↑
Robins	↑
Starlings	↑
Kingfishers	
Owls	
Hawks	
Kestrels	



SAVE THE DATE!



School Term Dates

Term 1: 2 September 2025 to 24 October 2025

Term 2: 3 November 2025 to 19 December 2025

Term 3: 5 January 2026 to 13 February 2026

Term 4: 23 February 2026 to 2 April 2026

Term 5: 20 April 2026 to 22 May 2026

Term 6: 1 June 2026 to 22 July 2026



This week, it has been wonderful to see pupils **confidently using the strategies** and applying them positively throughout the school day. We have been particularly encouraged by how well pupils are working alongside their **key adults**, building trust, communication, and independence.

Through consistent support and encouragement, pupils are showing increased self-awareness and resilience, demonstrating that the strategies in place are making a real difference. These moments of progress, both big and small, are a testament to the strong relationships between pupils and staff.

We would like to thank pupils for their continued efforts and staff for their ongoing commitment to supporting every child's individual journey. We look forward to seeing this positive progress continue in the weeks ahead.

Engagement Page



Well Done to Mason
Bater for showing in-
credible pride in your
English work this week!
You are this week's Gold
Book winner!

NORTH STAR Date: 13.1.26 Absent ☐ Out of class ☐ Refusal ☐ Postponed to _____

Retrieval activity: Text map.



Learning Focus: Imitation (grammar) - I can use the suffix -ed.


Success criteria		Student	Staff
Core	I can change words to past tense.	✓	✓
Stretch	I can write past tense verbs that end with -ed.	✓	✓
Challenge	I can write sentences with past tense verbs ending in -ed.	✓	✓


This work was completed: Independently ☐ With some help ☒ With 1:1 support ☐ With emotional support ☐ Scribed ☐

Absence catch up (date): _____ Itol _____ Focus Group _____ Detention _____ Hub/LSR _____ Next lesson catch up _____ LM ☒


1. Add -ed to the words to finish the sentences.


  **wash** a) Tina washed her hands.


 **pick** b) Fay picked up the toys.

 **play** c) We played in the sand.

2. Now add -ed to these words and write your own sentences.

 **clean** a) He cleaned the table.

 **brush** b) She brushed her hair.

 **kick** c) He kicked the ball.

The Gold Book

Our Mission

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

What have we been up to?



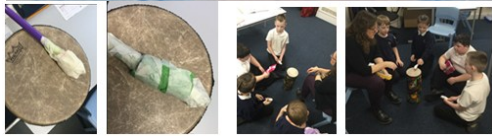
In Kestrels we have been exploring how different instruments made different volumes and pitches depending on what changes were made to the way it was played. We started with our drum and a drumstick.



We chose what materials to use to modify our drumsticks so that they would make less noise. We chose tissue paper and pompoms because they were soft and used tape to join them all together.



Once our drumsticks were finished we tested them out.



We decided that Dawson and Aidans worked best. Dawsons because he had lots of soft layers and Aidans because he struck the drum very softly. Both of these made less vibrations and therefore a quieter sound.

Bouldering @ Clifton



We're excited to share that the Kestrels and Hawks will continue their bouldering programme with sessions running every Monday from **12th February**, covering **weeks 2–5 of this Term**. All sessions will take place at the **Chellaram Bouldering Wall at Clifton College**. After such a fantastic first bouldering session—full of energy, confidence, and teamwork—we're really looking forward to building on those skills and seeing everyone progress over the coming weeks.

What have we been up to?



In Hawks this week, we have been learning about different suffixes we can add to the end of words and how they change their meaning. We also went to our first bouldering session and had so much fun!

In Robins we have started our new Project Based Learning about the extreme Earth. We have been learning about deserts, the Arctic and Antarctica. We talked about why it would be difficult for humans to live in these places.



We enjoyed creating landscapes using pastel chalks.



This week we have been learning how to saw and whittle sticks, using our fine motor skills. The weather has been a challenge this week with all the rain so we have been making dens to keep out the rain. We had a lovely picnic of juice and biscuits under our den on Thursday when the rain was super bad.

In the garden we have been learning about our pond and how important it is for our garden. We have been building small bug hotels next to the ponds especially for our amphibian friends to feel safe in and hope that all the frogs will survive the winter.



Would you like support with....

Education

Communication

Physical and Mental Health

Support with your Local Offer

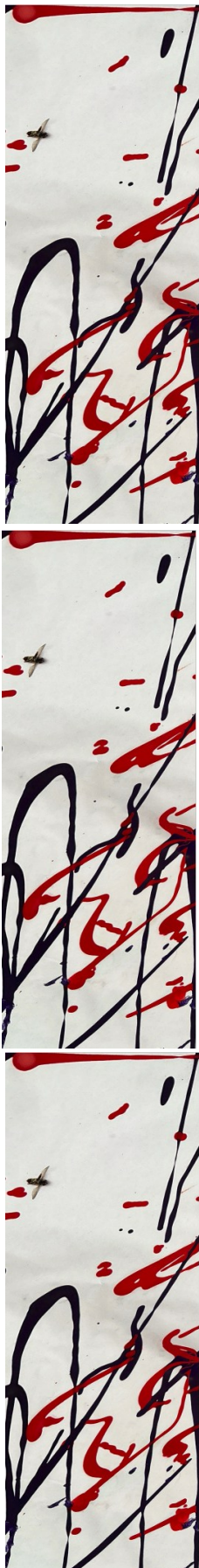


Contact LIFT



07352743648

lift@northstar-academy.co.uk



Dear Families,

We are delighted to announce the launch of **LIFT**, our new outreach service designed to support pupils, families, and the wider community. LIFT stands for **Learning, Inclusion, Families, Together**.

What is LIFT?

LIFT is a holistic provision that brings together educational, emotional, and practical support for families. Our aim is simple: to empower every pupil and family to thrive, both in school and beyond.

How will LIFT help you?

- **Attendance Support**— Helping to break down the barriers to attendance.
- **Communication Support** – Help with emails, applications, healthcare access, and more.
- **Health & Wellbeing** – Nutritional advice, emotional regulation, and stress management.
- **Daily Guidance** – SEN activities, childcare support, and local offer navigation.
- **Education** – SEND support, transition planning, and educational advice.

We are proud to introduce **Matt Lee**, our dedicated LIFT Mentor, who will work closely with families to provide tailored support and guidance.

Why LIFT?

Progress is stronger when we rise together. LIFT is here to ensure that every pupil, family, and community member feels supported, connected, and empowered.

Warm regards,

Mr Marsh, Assistant Head Teacher



Primary

Boys

- ◇ Black tailored trousers
- ◇ White school or plain shirt (with collar)
- ◇ Navy school jumper logo
- ◇ Black, plain, sensible
- ◇ Hijab – Navy Blue or



Girls

- ◇ Black school skirt
- ◇ Sensible black tights to be worn with school skirt
- ◇ Black tailored trousers polo
- ◇ White school or plain polo shirt with
- ◇ Navy jumper
- ◇ Black, plain, sensible shoes (open-toed or backless sandals are not appropriate) shoes Black
- ◇ For safety reasons, high heels are not acceptable

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 for more information about how to claim. You can apply to see if you are eligible for Free School Meals here:

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](#)

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 and via Arbor app. Payments for meals are needed in advance.

Our new supplier Aspens will be taking over the catering in our school In term 2. We will keep you updated with any menu changes in due course.

A message from the office;

In the event your child is ill please contact the school office on **01173772175**.

Choosing option 2 to report the absence.

If you need to update any information we hold for your child such as contact numbers or address changes you are now able to do this via the Arbor app. If you have yet to log in please visit <https://login.arbor.sc> and click **Forgot your password?** to finish setting up your account.

Breakfast Club!

We are excited to introduce our new Breakfast Club, available every morning for all children. This is a great way for pupils to start the day with a nutritious breakfast and a positive, calm environment before lessons begin. We look forward to welcoming everyone—no need to book, just come along and join us!

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