



#### A Message from our Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our term 6 newsletter. As we approach the summer break, I would like to share some of the exciting things that have been happening at North Star 240°.

Once again, I have had a steady stream of students bringing me examples of their personal best work. It is lovely to be able to talk to the students about their progress and see the real pride in their work.

Year 11 have now finished their exams and I would like to commend them for their maturity and impeccable behaviour during what can be a stressful time. I look forward to seeing them on August 25<sup>th</sup> when they can come into school to collect their results. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all every success in the next stage of their education, employment or training.

Next year's Year 7 students have been visiting the school as part of their transition and I have been pleased to see how well they have behaved and engaged with the learning and activities that have been in place for them. Moving to secondary school can be daunting and so I am looking to our existing students to ensure that they are welcomed and looked after in September.

Term 5 ended with the Jubilee celebrations and, whilst I could not be there in person, it was so positive to see staff and students engaging well and celebrating together.

Staff have been engaging in professional learning and on the INSET day in June we had a full day of training from Trauma Informed Schools UK. Staff found this training hugely inspiring and we are currently working on becoming Trauma Informed accredited.

Attendance will continue to be a real focus for us next year as, in order for your child to make progress, they need to be in school and learning. I hope that you and your families have a happy and safe summer break and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Ms Grayson

#### Inside this issue

A message from Head Teacher.....	1
PSHE in NS240° .....	2
Maths @ NS240° .....	3
Queens Jubilee celebrations.....	4
Whats been happening in English.....	5
Why should I read ?.....	6
National online safety award .....	7
Catering .....	8
Safeguarding .....	9
Information for parents ...	10
Holiday activities .....	13
Staff Goodbyes .....	14

#### Dates for your diary

**21/07/2022**

Last day of Term

**01/09/2022**

INSET Day

**02/09/2022**

Start of Term 1—please  
see the information sent  
home in regards to when your  
child will return

**21/10/2022**

End of Term 1

**31/10/2022**

Start of Term 2

## PHSE in NS240°

Our Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) scheme of work aims to equip children with essential skills for life. It aims to develop the whole child through carefully planned and resourced lessons that develop the knowledge, skills and attributes children need to protect and enhance their wellbeing. At North Star 240°, pupils in KS3 have 2 PSHE lessons in a week and KS3 have their PSHE as part of their tutor time activity three times a week. We are happy to announce that PSHE/RSE will become a timetabled lesson in KS3 starting September.

Across the school, we have covered a range of PSHE topics this term:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Growth mind-set  Careers and development focus - how can we develop our communication skills?  Careers and development focus - how can we develop our teamwork skills?	Value of money  How can we budget our money?  What are 'savings, loans and interest'?  What are the different types of financial transactions?	Employability Skills  What other skills do we need to develop for the work environment?  What does it mean to be 'enterprising'?	Addressing extremism and radicalisation  Community cohesion and challenging Extremism  Equality Act	Fertility  Pregnancy  Abortion  Families  Forced marriage

## Maths @ NS240

It has been quite the journey this year in the maths department. The KS3 students have been working on a new Maths Mastery curriculum that has meant a change in the delivery of maths lessons. Staff have been working hard to ensure all students Master each concept they are taught in maths and then how to apply it for a deeper understanding. With some new resources and creative thinking the students have worked hard to improve their maths skills. We are looking to develop this curriculum further so that it matches the topic delivery of maths in KS4, this will ensure that as they move up through the school the yearly programme will be very familiar to them.

In KS4 the students have dealt very well with some changes in maths Tutors. Miss Killick is back in September and I am sure the students are looking forward to seeing her again. We do owe a huge thank you to the staff who have covered the maths teaching over the year, they being Mr Wyatt, Mr Balkham and Mr Ashman.

Our Year 11's have sat their maths exams and we wait with baited breath to see the results of their hard work. As I write this our Y10s are doing their first set of mock exams in preparation for next year, it's never too early to get ready.

There has been a lot of hard work throughout the school this year as we get back to "normal", and we would like to thank the parents for their support in encouraging their children to stay focused. One great way you can continue to support us is to have fun challenges at home that include some maths. Also, when you go shopping get them to help calculate the costs of buying things on a set budget.

This will keep their minds sharp and engaged in real world maths.



## North Star Jubilee Street Party - 26/05/22

To celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the staff and students of North Star 240° held a street party that was brilliantly planned by Ms Hawkes and Ms Hennessey.

The party was kicked off by one of our students reciting a poem and singing the national anthem, and then went on through the morning with students and staff taking it in turn to try out all of the amazing stalls and activities that were on offer. The stalls included a handmade donut van that one of our students made and then manned, and we also had Splat the Rat, a photo booth, Beat the Goalie, face painting, Hoopla, races and two massive inflatables for our staff to make themselves look silly on.



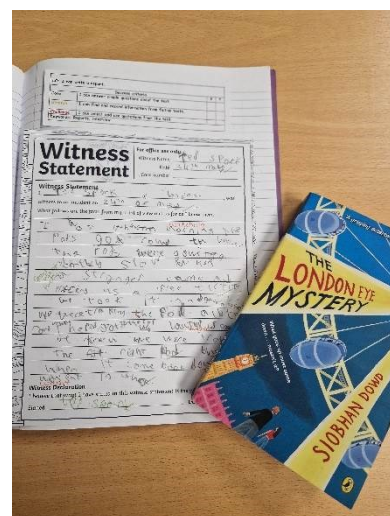
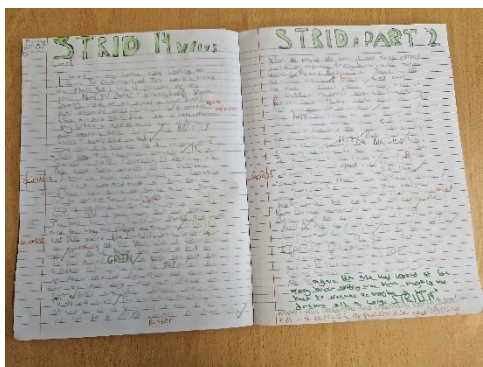
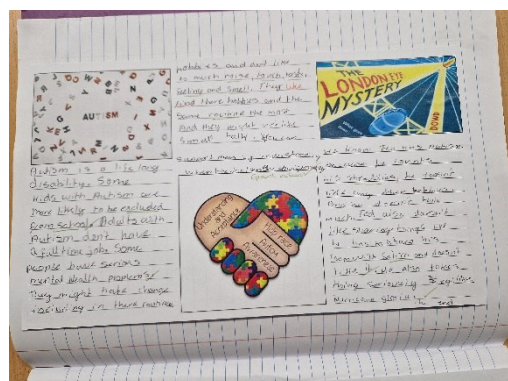
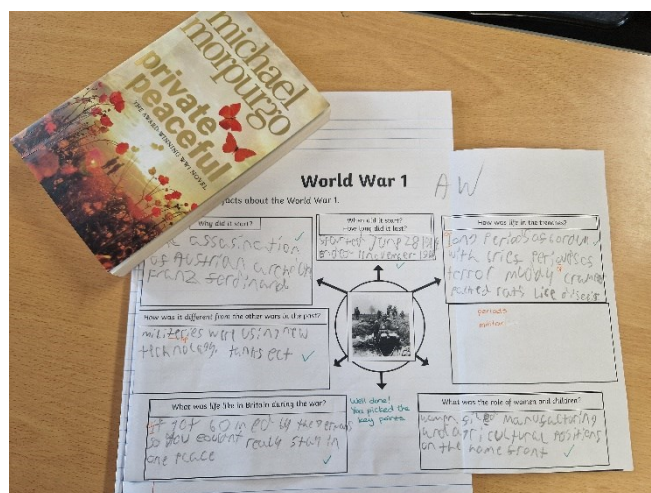
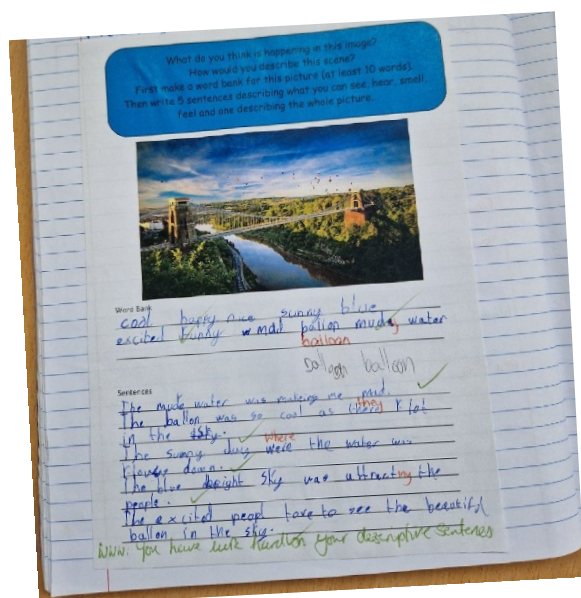
We then stopped the activities and sat down on one really really long table in the playground for a massive feast that the school's caterers put on for us. We filled our boots and waved our flags for a photo and then got straight back into the festivities.

To top the day off, Ms White got behind the decks to DJ and keep the energy up, and then the ice cream van turned up to provide some much-needed refreshments. It was an incredible day of celebrations that was enjoyed by everyone! We are very grateful to our sponsors and caterers who made the day possible, so we owe a massive thank you to Acrabounce (inflatables), Prospero Teaching, The Supply Room, Chartwells (catering),



## What's been happening in English ?

This term in English, has been a mixture of Talk for Writing and Power of Reading across KS3. Students have been exploring the themes of WW1, continents and countries and weather and climate. We have seen an incredible amount of engagement in lessons and students have been producing some independent writes, varying from poetry, police reports, autism guides and creative stories. In two of our KS3 classes they have been focusing on understanding the themes, content and characters motives within their class books; Private Peaceful and London Eye Mystery. The students have been developing their comprehension and evaluation skills, exploring the historical context and answering key questions about the story. We have seen a massive amount of effort being put into English lessons this year and specifically a high level of engagement in reading, we look forward to continuing this hard work and driving reading for pleasure next academic year. Well done everyone!



## Why should I read ?

Why should I read? Watching TV is basically the same thing but way easier. Books aren't cool. That may be true, but let me tell you this: reading books will help you impress your mates, meet new people, and live a happier, longer life!

### Impress your mates

Your mates might not think it's cool to bring a book with you when you hang out in the park. They might think it's cool, however, if you tell the most interesting stories, crack the funniest jokes and help them with their problems when they are struggling. Research from the University of Toronto has shown that people who read regularly have a 50% larger vocabulary and 50% more fact-based knowledge. Reading also improves your creativity and imagination! So? All these things will make you more interesting, funnier and better at impressing your mates with stories and jokes!

### Live a longer life

Scientists at Yale University did a study where they followed 3600 50+ year olds for 12 years. They found that the people who read for 30 minutes a day lived nearly 2 years longer than those who didn't! The people who read for more than 3.5 hours a week were 23% less likely to die. But there's no point in living a long if you're not happy – reading can also help with that...

### Reduce Stress

We all feel stressed out sometimes. Life can be hard, so we all need ways to relax. We can watch TV or Netflix, play a videogame, chill out with our friends or eat some nice food. After a long day, we might not want to pick up a book as our brain already feels tired from all the things we have done. However, research from the University of Sussex compared a few different ways of reducing stress by measuring muscle tension and heart rate. Reading a book for just six minutes (!) lowered stress levels by 68% - more than listening to music (61%), drinking a cup of tea or coffee (54%), or going for a walk (42%). So next time you feel anxious or stressed after a long day – try picking up a book – even if your brain feels tired and you don't want to spend more effort – it's actually one of the best ways to chill out!

So next time you can't be bothered to read a book, just think how much more interesting it could make you, and how much healthier and happier you could be!



Brother Kendrick Lamar: he's not a rapper, he's a writer, he's an author. And if you read between the lines, we'll learn how to love one another. But you can't do that, I said you can't do that, without loving yourself first.

— Kendrick Lamar —

AZ QUOTES



**North Star 240° recognised for its commitment  
to helping pupils stay safe online**

**North Star 240° is now a  
*National Online Safety Certified School***

North Star 240° has successfully completed a comprehensive online safety training programme demonstrating its commitment to keeping children and young people safe online.

The North Star 240°– has received a National Online Safety Certified School Accreditation for its whole school community approach to protecting children in the online world.

National Online Safety is a multi-award winning digital training provider with extensive resources in online safety, developed in line with the Department of Education’s statutory requirements.

Its CPD accredited courses and educational resources support UK schools in educating the whole school community in online safety– including all senior leaders, teachers, all school staff and parents – on how to make the internet a safer place for children.

James Southworth, co-founder of National Online Safety, said: “Congratulations to everyone at North Star 240° on becoming a National Online Safety Certified School. By completing our training programme, the school has shown its strong commitment to implementing an effective whole school approach to online safety.”

“It can be increasingly difficult for schools and parents to stay ahead of online threats and ensure both children and staff are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. We arm schools with the knowledge they need to understand online dangers and react in the best way possible to any problems.”

Mr Marsh, Head of IT and class teacher at North Star 240°, said: “Thank you for all the great effort everyone has made over the last academic year towards keeping our children safe online. It is harder now than ever to keep up with our children online, but to know how to help and advise them in times of need couldn’t be more important. Thank you to all parents and carers for all your continued support with online safety and keep up the great work!”



## Catering at North Star 240



This year, KS3 have had a rotation of enrichment lessons in the kitchen. All of the students have impressed me with their enthusiasm to try new flavours and how quickly they have learnt the kitchen protocols. We plan to continue and extend this enrichment activity next year with a learning focus on food origins.  
Mrs Hawkes – Catering Teacher

Year 10 have continued to develop and hone their cooking skills. Recently, we have been working on presentation through swiss rolls, pizza swirls and Chelsea buns.





## **Safeguarding**

As the cost of living increases so do the pressures on families. Exposure to the massive increase in online safety concerns we have seen could really be fuelling fires in the home. At North Star we want as much as possible to help out and often are able to sign post families to the support they may need:

### **Food Bank Vouchers**

Please speak to the safeguarding team in school if you need a food bank referral.

### **Crises prevention fund**

Emergency payments or household goods

Get help if you can't afford the basics like food, gas, electricity or household goods.

The Fund will be open to applications for school uniform between 11 July 2022 and 9 October 2022.

Please do not apply before this date.

We aim to process claims within 10 working days.

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/benefits-financial-help/emergency-payments-local-crisis-and-prevention-fund>

### **Esafety**

School have a subscription to National Online Safety where resources can be found relating to a large number of things from toddler screen time to how to set up parent controls on Roadblox. Some content is available online or feel free to ask for a free log in and gain access to a whole host of online information and online education programmes.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

### **Domestic Violence Support:**

Lines are open 24 hours a day and will support any family member who is in danger:

Next Link: 0800 4700 280

## Useful information for parents

Please find below important dates for next year .

### **Term dates**

Term 1 1st September 2022—21st October 2022  
Term 2 31st October 2022—16th December 2022  
Term 3 3rd January 2023— 10th February 2023  
Term 4 20th February 2023—31st March 2023  
Term 5 17th April 2023—26th May 2023  
Term 6 5th June 2023—21st July 2023

### **Inset Dates**

School closed to children  
1st September 2022  
9th & 10th February 2023  
2nd & 3rd May 2023  
5th June 2023

### **Dates for your diary**

9th November 2022—School photographs  
14th December 2022—Christmas dinner  
2nd January 2023—Bank holiday school closed  
9th -13th January 2023 Mock Exams  
15th March Yr. 9 options parent evening  
22nd & 23rd March 2023 parent evenings (dates and appointments to be confirmed)  
1st May 2023—Bank holiday school closed  
9th June 2022—Yr. 9 Meningitis & Dtp Vaccinations

**MORE DATES TO FOLLOW**



### **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](mailto: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



## Short Breaks for children with disabilities - Parent & Carer Survey 2022

Bristol City Council are in the early stages of recommissioning their Short Breaks services. We are seeking the views of parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities via an [online survey](#) which is open until **Friday 22 July 2022**.

Short Breaks are activities for disabled children and young people and their families, that allow parent carers to have time out from their caring responsibilities. They also give disabled children and young people the opportunity to go places, spend time with friends, take part in fun and enjoyable activities, become more independent and try new things.

Early engagement with parents, carers, professionals, and young people is currently underway to understand what their priorities are and what services they would like to access. The feedback will be used to develop formal proposals that will go out to public consultation later this year, with the aim to have recommissioned services in place by October 2023.

To find out more information, visit <https://bristol.gov.uk/shortbreaks2022>.

If you would like a paper copy of the survey or information in an alternative format, please email [jcu@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:jcu@bristol.gov.uk) or phone: 07392 108815. [An Easy Read version of the survey is also available here.](#)

## Family Hub

[Families can now find free and paid for school holiday activities via the new Your Holiday Hub \(YHH\) website: Your Holiday Hub Bristol - Your Holiday Hub Bristol](#)

The popular YHH programme is returning this summer offering children and young people hundreds of free, fun activities across Bristol over the six-week summer holiday. The new website means families can now search for school holiday activities - including free YHH places for children on free school meals (FSM) as well as paid for activities and clubs.

The new website makes it easier for families in Bristol to find holiday activities, all in one place, by conveniently searching what's available by location, age, or activity. Organisations offering activities can also access resources on the website as well as input and update the activities and clubs they are providing over the school holidays. The website will be updated for each holiday to reflect which activities are available over the summer, winter, and Easter school holidays.

YHH activities include cookery classes, sports, drama and learning about wildlife and the environment, and each four-hour holiday activity also includes a nutritious meal and food education

## Holiday Activities

HUB SUMMER SCHEDULE 	
Monday 25th July	9AM - 5PM / Trip to Wales, walk up Sugar Loaf Mountain, Twmbarlwm or Pen Y Fan *
Tuesday 26th July	10AM - 2PM / Life-skills: cooking workshop and community meal *
Wednesday 27th July	9AM - 12:30PM / Canoeing with Young Bristol*
Thursday 28th July	10AM - 2PM - Crafts Session with We the Curious* 4PM - 5:30PM / Youth Club Session at ALW*
Friday 29th July	10AM - 2PM Youth-Led Multi-Sports Session at Oasis Academy Longcross*
Monday 1st August	9AM - 5PM / Trip to Wales, walk up Sugar Loaf Mountain, Twmbarlwm or Pen Y Fan *
Tuesday 2nd August	10AM - 2PM / Life-skills: cooking workshop and community meal *
Wednesday 3rd August	9AM - 12:30PM / Caving with Young Bristol*
Monday 8th August	9AM - 5PM / Trip to Wales, walk up Sugar Loaf Mountain, Twmbarlwm or Pen Y Fan *
Tuesday 9th August	10AM - 2PM / Life-skills: cooking workshop and community meal *
Wednesday 10th August	9AM - 12:30PM / Rock climbing with Young Bristol*
Thursday 11th August	10AM - 2PM - Crafts Session - DIY Mugs/Coasters 4PM - 5:30PM / Youth Club Session at ALW*
Friday 12th August	10AM - 2PM Youth-Led Multi-Sports Session at Oasis Academy Longcross*

### IMPORTANT *summer* INFORMATION

As part of the Bristol City Council "Your Holiday Hub" Programme, we have partnered with other organisations to offer a wide variety of activities for children & young people throughout the Summer Holidays!

**Activities are for local children and young people, are free to attend and will include a tasty packed lunch or hot meal.**

All activities have limited spaces available (which will be allocated on a first-come-first-serve-basis). To book your child(ren)s place, please complete the booking form via the link below. <https://forms.office.com/r/VrryGNPVQT>

**Alternatively, to find out more please contact  
Rebecca Hussey on 07973 948635 or  
via email: [rebecca.hussey@oasisuk.org](mailto:rebecca.hussey@oasisuk.org)**




Monday 15th August	9AM - 5PM / Trip to Wales, walk up Sugar Loaf Mountain, Twmbarlwm or Pen Y Fan *
Tuesday 16th August	10AM - 2PM / Life-skills: cooking workshop and community meal *
Wednesday 17th August	9AM - 12:30PM / Paddle Boarding with Young Bristol*
Thursday 18th August	10AM - 2PM - Crafts Session - Tie-Die + more! 4PM - 5:30PM / Youth Club Session at ALW*
Friday 19th August	10AM - 2PM Youth-Led Multi-Sports Session at Oasis Academy Longcross*

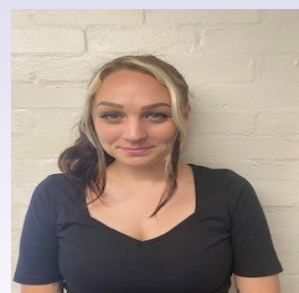
Starts: 25th July 2022 - Ends: August 19th 2022. \*Sessions are accessible by sign-up only. All activities are subject to change or cancellation. Lunch provided. Contact Becky on 07973 948635 for more info. Booking will be prioritised on a first-come-first serve basis and you will be contacted if your child **has been** allocated a space.



## Staff Goodbyes

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Wyatt, Mr Palmer and Miss White who are all off to ventures new. We would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment to the students at North Star 240°.

Good luck in all your future endeavours.



## School Dinners & Pupil Premium Funding

The cost of school dinners is £2.50 per day and needs to be paid promptly to the office.

We're encouraging all parents to find out if their child can get free schools meals and to register for Pupil Premium funding.

Pupil Premium funding goes directly to the school and pays for things like school trips, breakfast clubs, or additional teachers and assistants to provide extra support and 1 to 1 tutoring.

Please visit <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/free-school-meals> to see if you are eligible .

### School Communications

Our main way of communicating 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.

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. .

### Medications

Please can we remind parents of the importance of providing up to date medical and allergy information for your children. 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.

### Ways to contact North Star 240°

By phone : 01173 772275

Via email : [northstar240@northstar-academy.co.uk](mailto:northstar240@northstar-academy.co.uk)

Website : [Homepage - Northstar ns240 \(northstar-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.northstar240.co.uk)



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