

# NORTH STAR 240°

Dear North Star Families,

Well that has gone in a flash! The academic year 23/24 has not disappointed, we have finished the year on high with lots of celebrations and trips. In this issue of the newsletter we will find out about what our students have been up to on very wet Sports day. As well as some tales of trips and a little thing called a General Election! I hope you enjoy this issue.

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## Noah's Arc

The year 8's had an amazing trip during the week to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm! They have had such a fantastic year, all working really hard and earning lots of points! Due to their positive behaviour and great attendance, they earned themselves their own class trip! Whilst there, they saw lots of animals including elephants, giraffes, zebras and even giant turtles! There was a huge maze which all of the children had a go at, luckily none of them got lost! There were a range of more tropical animals, but also some more familiar ones like goats and rabbits! 8B ended the day by playing in the huge indoor soft play area, using the trampolines, racing each other down the slides and even getting the teachers to have a go! They all had a wonderful day and represented the school with excellent behaviour and manners. Well done 8B!



## Important dates

### 2024 to 2025

- **Term 1:** 2 September 2024 to 25 October 2024
- **Term 2:** 4 November 2024 to 20 December 2024
- **Term 3:** 6 January 2025 to 14 February 2025
- **Term 4:** 24 February 2025 - 4 April 2025
- **Term 5:** 22 April 2025 to 23 May 2025
- **Term 6:** 2 June 2025 to 22 July 2025

### Insets Days 2024/25

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2024
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2024
- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
- 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025
- 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025



# Sports Day Special!

## Winners –

100M – Alfie W, 14.0s

Shot – Charlie R, 8.9m (2<sup>nd</sup> Hayden 5.8m)

400M – Sonny, 1m 27s

Long jump – Harry W, 3.90m

High Jump – Alfie W, 1.37m (2<sup>nd</sup> Mason 1.36m)

Javelin – Charlie R, 26.4m

## Tutor group performers -

8A – Tyreese

8B – Amber

9A – Hayden

9B – Vincent

10A/11A – Riley

10B/11B – Trystan/Nathan

## North Star Olympics 2024

The sporting highlight of the year is always the school sports day, and this year's event did not disappoint. It was a typical British summer's day, heavy rain followed by light rain, however, this didn't dampen anyone's spirits! Almost every student in the school boarded buses and cars as we headed to Yate outdoor sports complex to use their excellent facilities. On arrival a number of students supported the set up of all different Olympic activities, which included track and field events. In PE lessons across Term 6 students had been learning about athletics and practicing some of the more tricky skills, such as javelin throwing and the Fosbury Flop for the high jump. I'm sure some of our Year 9 students had taken flying lessons before attempting the long jump! Both staff and students pushed themselves hard and a number of personal bests were recorded. Most notably Miss Allen who completed the 100m cartwheel race, however, I'm not sure this one is an official Olympic sport! After a rain filled morning we took a well earned break for lunch, this was followed by a staff verse student football match.







## Cricket

On Thursday 11th July, year 8 and 9 students travelled down to Broadoak School in Weston-super-Mare to play our first ever cricket match. The game was played in the 'Kwik cricket' format with students batting, bowling and fielding in pairs. North Star were first to bowl and showed resilience and skill to limit more experienced Broadoak batters to 61 runs, with 2 wickets being taken by Reece D and excellent fielding from all. North Star then batted, showing excellent skills to run between the wickets and hit boundaries, with Seb H hitting 3 big fours. Ultimately, North Star fell 10 runs short of the target, but in their first game showed amazing spirit. Players of the match were Reece D for taking two wickets when bowling, Seb H for his high scoring when batting and Alfie W for his energy when fielding. All our students were fantastic on the day- communicating positively with each other and

their host peers to ensure the event was a success.

## Leavers Trip 2024

This year's leavers trip was to Thorpe Park! We all set our alarms for the crack of dawn to meet at school for 7am! After a two-hour journey and one service station stop, we finally arrived and were ready for a full day of thrilling white knuckle rides, attractions, and events.

Walking into the park, the sun beaming down on what was a beautiful sunny day, spirits were certainly high. The students were full of excitement and anticipation about what we were yet to experience.

Thankfully, given it was term time the park wasn't too busy, however, we had queue jump passes anyway so we knew we wouldn't be waiting around, win win! The students were able to try some of the best rollercoasters in the country, including the new, UK's fastest and tallest rollercoaster Hyperia!

One ride in particular that students enjoyed was Tidal Wave. As the name suggests, there's a huge wave which gets any rider completely soaked to the bone! Thanks to the sunshine this was not an issue, in fact they had so much fun they went around again and again!

After meeting at our final check-in point at 4pm, we headed back towards the car. We didn't even make a stop on the way back as the students were all shattered and in the land of nod zZzZz!!

Well done year 11's for coming so far, hope you all enjoyed your well-deserved trip!

Thank you for representing North Star 240°.



I would like to draw your attention to the Families in Focus July Bulletin, this is an amazing resource that is filled with lots of activities, ideas and support that families are able to access over the 6 week summer holidays. This will come out to you through Arbor over the coming days.

## July 2024 Families in Focus Bulletin - Part 1

### Curriculum news

When we welcome our students back in September I am delighted to announce some exciting curriculum updates.

#### Years 7 and 8

This year we are introducing some new enrichment opportunities to our students already full timetables. Along side our core curriculum offer of English, Maths, Science, Humanities, ICT and PSHE all students will have Forest School for two sessions each week. This will be delivered by our new outdoor education practitioner. In addition to this, every Tuesday our students will have Enrichment opportunities on their timetable, this will be on a carousel bases across the year with each student experiencing Textiles, Construction, Catering, Music and Swimming. I think you will agree that this allows our students to experience a wide and varied curriculum.



#### Year 9

At North Star 240° our students start their Key Stage 4 curriculum in Year 9. As with Years 7 and 8 they follow a traditional core curriculum. In addition to this our Year 9 students will start to follow BTEC accredited courses in Vocational Studies (Construction), Land Based Studies with our new outdoor practitioner and BTEC in Home Cooking (Catering).

#### Years 10 and 11

Year 10 and 11 in all schools are traditional thought of as the exam years. At North Star 240o in years 10 and 11 students will undertake a number of different accreditations from Entry levels, BTECs and GCSEs. As with Key Stage 3 students will sit English, Maths and Science up to GCSE level, ICT is compulsory for all students which is essential for all students in the modern world. Students get to chose three of the following;

GCSE Music, GCSE Art, GCSE PE. BTEC Land Based Studies, BTEC in Home cooking (Catering), BTEC Vocational Studies. Lastly, students can choose the Duke of Edinburgh award and work up to their Silver award.

Please look at our curriculum statements on our school website for further information, the new subject information is coming very soon!



All that remains to be said in well done to all our students on a fantastic year!

I hope that everyone has a safe and restful summer, whether you are home or away.

I can't wait to see what next year holds for our North Star 240° community.



**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](http://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](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