



2024/25 Term 5 Newsletter

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Our Mission

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



As we approach the half term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past few weeks and to thank you for your continued support and partnership.

It has been a busy and productive half term here at North Star 240. Our students have embraced their learning with enthusiasm, and I am proud of the progress they are making. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or through creative arts and enrichment activities, our pupils continue to impress us with their resilience, creativity, and kindness.

As we move into the final term of the year I would like to remind all our students that our Year 11's will be sitting the remaining GCSE English, Maths and Biology exams. We are very proud of their attitudes towards their exams and how kind and respectful the entire student body has been whilst the exam season runs its course.

Term 6 is jam packed with more activities to raise the cultural capital of our students. I can't wait for the term to begin!

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8B's trip to Bristol Museum.

This term, 8B have been diving deep into the fascinating world of ancient civilizations, focusing on the Egyptians, the Romans, and the Maya. To bring our learning to life, we took an exciting trip to the Bristol Museum, where we explored real artefacts and exhibits connected to our studies! There was also a chance to look around the rest of the museum, a first for some of the students.



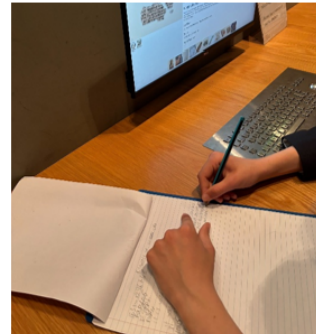
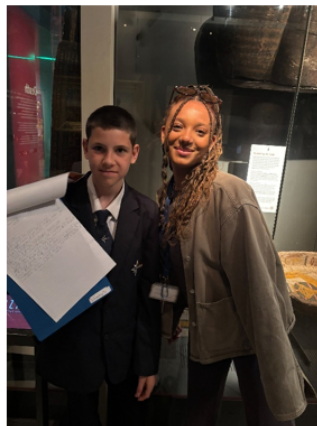
Each student came prepared with a clipboard and checklist, ready to gather key information. They focused on the Egyptians and their findings will be used in our up coming mid-point assessments. It was fantastic to see everyone so engaged and curious!

The Museum offered a brilliant opportunity to see History up close – sparking lots of thoughtful discussions and note taking.

We're very proud to say that 8B represented NS240 brilliantly throughout the day – from taking the bus to and from the museum, to navigating public spaces – everyone handled it with maturity and enthusiasm.

Overall, it was a memorable and enriching day!

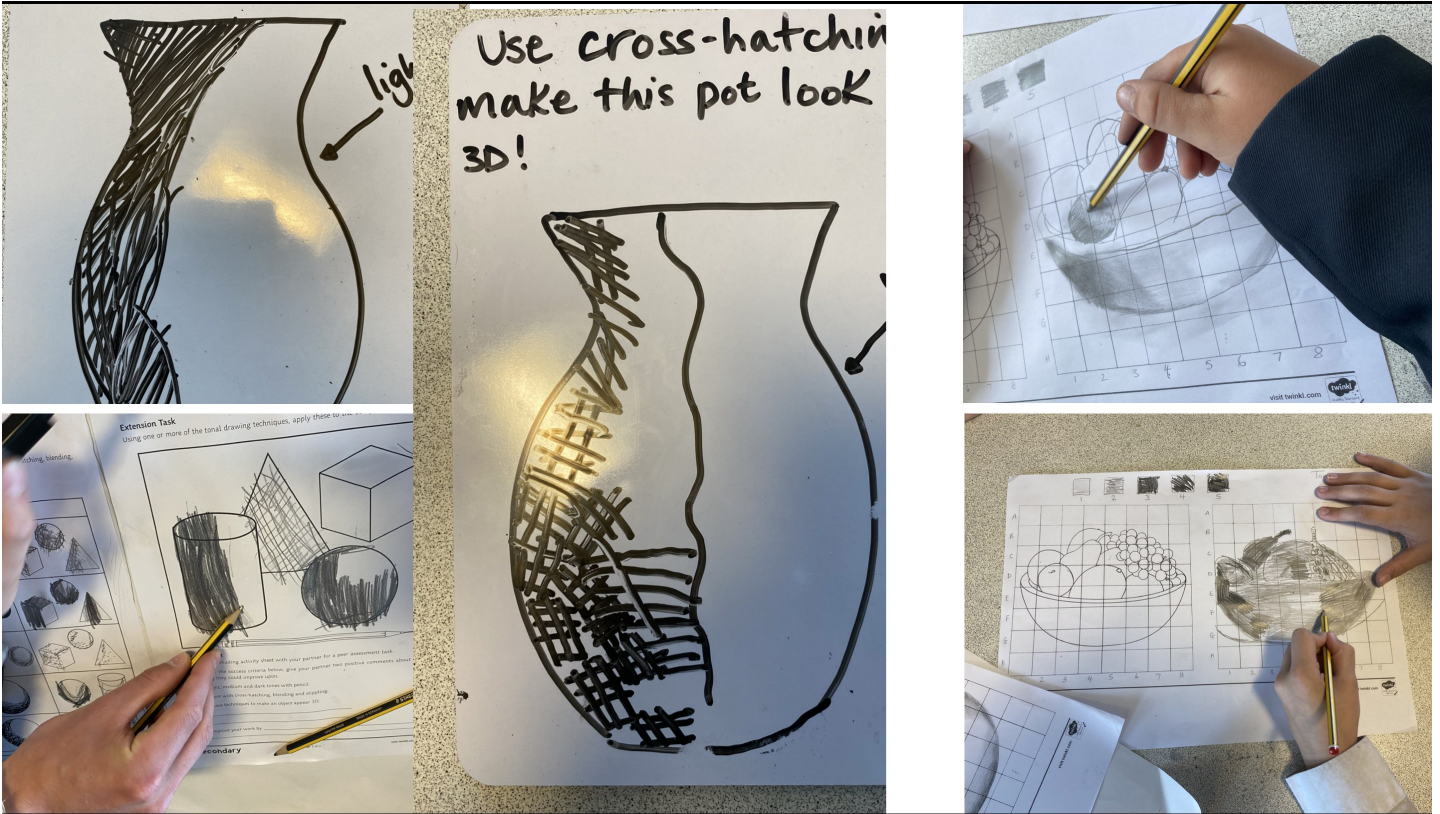
Miss Bartlett 😊



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ART



Year 7 have been busy in the art room this week, looking closely at how we add shading to our drawings and the difference it can make to our drawings. This has involved using grids to help with drawing skills, and producing some tricky "do now" starter activities on white boards.

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20 May
World Bee Day

BEE INSPIRED
by nature to nourish us all

On the 20th of May 2025 we celebrated World Bee Day. Mr Manship was 'buzzing' to tell all our students about the wonderful work bees do day in day out. Don't worry he didn't 'drone' on too long, there was a 'hive' of excitement with all the facts our students found out!

What's the buzz about?

We all know the bee basics. They're important pollinators. They make honey. They make buzz. They like to join you at picnics.

But did you know that they also provide us with medicines and even help keep our planet beautiful and healthy?

[What's the buzz about bees?](#) Follow this link to find out more interesting facts about bees and take part in an interactive quiz.

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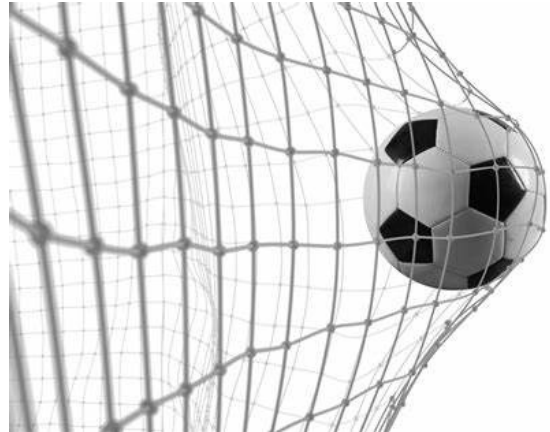
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PE



On Thursday 1st May, KS4 students welcomed Snowden Village school for the first time to play football on the NS240 AstroTurf.

After an unbeaten season, the team captained by Seb Harrison were eager to extend their winning run and started the game extremely well, scoring within the first two minutes with a well taken finish from Charlie Robson following a corner. The team played extremely well and showed why they are the Bristol, Bath and South Glos SEND schools champions, scoring a further 10 goals, eventually finishing 11-1 winners. Goals were scored by Ja'Dore Stewart (3), Charlie Robson (2), Joe Elworthy, Alfie Wlaznik, Alfie Stevens, Damarae Pearson and a first ever goal from Mckenzie Jones.



Darts

On Friday 9th May, KS3 and KS4 students from NS240 and NS180 played their first ever competitive darts match. Also thought to be the first SEND school's darts match to take place in the West of England, 16 students competed in 301 single leg games with winners progressing from quarter-finals to semi-finals and then finals. Games were played with high levels of skill and sportsmanship, with students from each school interacting extremely positively with each other. Eventual winner of the KS3 final was James from NS180, beating Charlie Robson in an excellent final. The KS4 winner in an all NS240 final was Cailan Dicks, beating Ja'Dore Stewart in a very high scoring game.



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PE



Also, on Friday 9th May, NS82 played NS240 in their latest installment of year 6 v year 7 football. Once again, the game was hotly contested with both sides playing some excellent football, creating chances. The most pleasing element of the morning was witnessing the development of all student's engagement and resilience to cope with challenges, successes and areas for improvement. The year 7 team from NS240 won on this occasion 3-2, with goals from captain Archie Day and Colbie-Jae Norman (2).

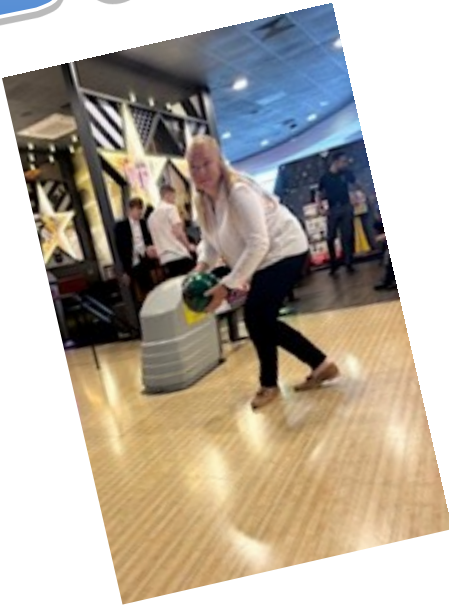
In term 6 we look forward to another packed schedule! KS3 and KS4 students will play football against our mainstream neighbours St Bedes for the first time, play football friendly against Aurora Hedgeway and have a return darts fixture against NS180. We also look forward to playing cricket fixtures against Broadoak School in Weston and against New Horizons at Lodway cricket club in Pill.



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Bowling



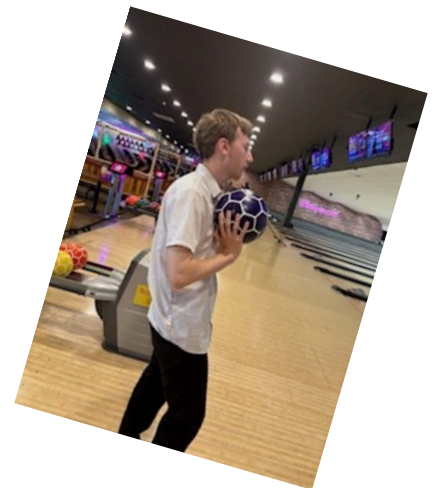
10 students with the highest attendance were rewarded with a trip to the bowling alley. We had a mix of both key stages with Raf and Kieran from KS3 and Joe, Vinny, Alfie, Josh, Ja'dore, Ashton and Seb for KS4. Miss Wall, Mr Williams, Miss Smailes, Miss Gosling and Miss Luke all got involved too!

The group split into 2 with Mr Williams taking Joe, Seb, Vinny, Alfie and Ja'dore. The first game was a thrilling one with Joe and Mr Williams battling for first, Joe coming out on top. Seb and Alfie were also battling but at the other end of the table, to make sure they did not come last. The second game was even more high scoring with Alfie making a major come back (using the advantage of the sides being up this round) and taking the top spot joint with Mr Williams. A special shout out goes to Joe for getting a total of 6 strikes!

On the other team, things were quite even throughout until Miss Smailes took the win with Ashton coming a close second place. During the second round some took it more seriously than others with Miss Gosling subbing in for Miss Luke and causing a storm up in the podium spots. Ashton took third place and despite her efforts, Miss Gosling couldn't knock Miss Smailes off the top spot so very graciously came second.

Overall, a very enjoyable morning was had and well done to all the winners!

Written by Miss Smailes and Joe Elworthy.



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Unacceptable is a fantastic applied theatre project, developed by Narrative Alchemy aimed at raising awareness, kick-starting conversations and promoting cultural change around **sexism, misogyny, sexual harassment and sexual violence**.

The writers created the play to be engaging, non-judgemental, and to empower boys to reflect on their actions, while also showing girls that they do not have to tolerate unacceptable behaviour and acting as an early intervention for schools.

Sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence are, unfortunately, an issue for every school in every community in the UK. In order to combat these issues, we need to understand and raise awareness of what they are, what creates them and what can be done to expose and respond to the harmful attitudes that perpetuate harassment and gender injustice.

The performance used simple story-telling and narrative theory techniques to cover:-

- What is sexual harassment?
 - What is sexist language?
 - What are sexist stereotypes, attitudes and behaviours?
 - Where do these stereotypes, attitudes and behaviours come from, where can they lead and what are their effects?
 - What is consent?
 - How can you respond to and/or report these behaviours?
- How do we create lasting change?

Miss Lamkin said— 'A very thought-provoking performance...good mix of sensitive and emotionally charged moments with some humour as well. Students responded well to this. Performers were engaging, and talked to our students in a kind and intelligent way.'

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Laser Tag Madness in Weston-super-Mare!

What a day! Staff and students hit up Laser Quest in Weston-super-Mare, and let's just say—things got competitive real fast. The second we put on those vests, it was game faces on and laser blasters at the ready. Out there, it's every player for themselves... until the staff become the ultimate targets.

The arena was a full-on battle zone, with students ducking, weaving, and ambushing at every corner. Surprise attacks landed, dramatic dodges were pulled off, and some serious laser tag skills were revealed. By the end, no one really cared about the scores—it was all about the chaos, the teamwork and the fastest trigger finger.

"They say courage is knowing the laser beams are flying and still stepping into the arena!"



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E-Safety

Wake up Wednesday—our IT lead has carefully selected the most appropriate wake up Wednesday poster. Every news letter addition this will be attached to back of the issue.

Should you want any further help or advice on E-safety please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Community offer

There are a number of free events happening in and around Bristol over the half term break. Follow the link below to explore the different opportunities [Free Events in Bristol - VisitBristol.co.uk](#).

[Home](#) | [What's On](#) | [Free Events](#)

Free Events in Bristol

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.ns240.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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Uniform



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

Boys

- Navy blazer
- Black tailored trouser
- White school shirt
- School tie - clip on
- Navy V jumper (V-neck so tie is visible)
- Black, plain, sensible shoes
- Hijab – Navy Blue or Black

Girls

- Navy blazer
- Black school skirt
- Sensible black tights to be worn with school skirt
- Black tailored trousers
- White school shirt
- School tie - clip on
- Navy jumper (V-neck so tie is visible)
- Black, plain, sensible shoes (open-toed or backless sandals are not appropriate)
- For safety reasons, high heels are not acceptable.
- Hijab – Navy Blue or Black

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: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/travel-and-free-school-meals/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 and via Arbor app. Payments for meals are needed in advance.

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**NO
PHONE
ZONE**



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