



We've had a very busy week at school with lots of visits from Trustees and our Chair of Governors, to our coffee morning and Year 7 Parents Evening. Thank you to all that attended.

Our new books finally arrived in our Library which Mr McCann our Reading Teacher is very excited about. Take a look at the photos to the right on the wonderful selection. All of our pupils are now having a timetabled library slot in their English lesson as we recognise the importance of taking time to read a book. Reading continues to be a focus for us here and our INSET next week is focusing on this area.

We also had the Image Musical Theatre production company come in today and perform The Jungle Book for our Key Stage 3 pupils. It was so wonderful to see our pupils volunteering to take part in roles and performing in front of their peers. Special thank you to Ms Mander for organising this.

Message from Miss Adams (Maths Lead): Following the introduction of the Weekly Bonus Challenge this week, I am delighted to say we have had an incredible 22 students submit their entries, having completed the task in their own time. This demonstration of proactivity and engagement with their learning is the beginning of some really positive habits forming and will further support with classroom tasks. Thank you to all who have supported with this at home, either by sitting with students while they complete it or even just mentioning it to remind students that it is an option. Special mention to 8A, where every single student submitted an entry this week! This will be a weekly activity so please keep encouraging participation and congratulate students that do take part.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kate Luke, Headteacher

If you have any issues/questions/ want to say "Hello" or perhaps let me know if there is a member of staff that has gone that "extra mile" for you and your child then please do get in touch: [Kate.Luke@Northstar-academy.co.uk](mailto:Kate.Luke@Northstar-academy.co.uk)

**INSET days: Thursday 23rd October and Friday 24th October**

**Monday 3rd November.**



Look at our wonderful new books for the Library!



Image Musical Theatre

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

## WHAT HAVE WE DONE IN OUR CLASSES THIS WEEK?

**7a** - We have completed our Science unit on Cell Processes and ended the topic with making life sized skeletons of some brave individuals! We are working in hard in maths on algebra and continue to make good progress. This week in English, we have been creating a business selling pencils and pitching our ideas.

**8a** - This week in English, we have continued working on the Garbage King where we have been writing diary entries based on the main character Mamo. We finished our unit in science on digestion and completed our assessment. In Maths we have now started our new topic of proportion and scale.

**9A Gemini** Weekly Highlights-We have been firing on all cylinders across the curriculum, diving into explosive topics, poetic reflections, and hands-on creativity! Students explored the dramatic world of volcanoes—how they form, why they erupt, and their impact on people and landscapes. From lava flows to tectonic plates, it's been a fiery journey of discovery. In science, the class investigated photosynthesis by testing leaves for starch. Armed with iodine and curiosity, they uncovered the hidden chemistry of plant life. Factorising took centre stage in maths, with students breaking down algebraic expressions like pros. Brackets and terms were flying as they mastered this key skill. In English, the class studied William Blake's poignant poem The School Boy, reflecting on themes of freedom and constraint. They drew powerful connections to Mina and Michael from Skellig, exploring how education and imagination shape identity. The kitchen was buzzing as students cooked up delicious lasagna from scratch. Layers of pasta, rich sauce, and cheesy goodness—Bellissimo!

**Maths (KS4)** - In Maths this week we have been focusing on inverting skills learned last week, beginning to get to grips with factorising linear and quadratic expressions. Special mention to Elijah, Vincent, Hayden, Alfie S, Harry, Riley and Alfie W this week who all did exceptionally well with this week's extension tasks!

**English** - English Department Highlights: A Week of Creativity and Critical Thinking. 9A & 10B: Blake Meets Skellig-Students in 9A and 10B have been exploring the powerful connections between William Blake's poetry and David Almond's novel Skellig. By analysing The School Boy, they uncovered how Blake's themes of freedom, nature, and the constraints of formal education echo through the characters of Mina and Michael. Thoughtful discussions and written reflections brought these literary links to life.

**10A** Voices from the Streets—In a gritty creative writing challenge, 10A stepped into the world of Stone Cold by Robert Swindells. They imagined new characters who might cross paths with Link on the streets of London, crafting compelling conversations using direct speech and inverted commas. The results were powerful, empathetic, and often chilling—showing a deep understanding of the novel's themes of homelessness and survival.

**Year 11** have been sharpening their pens with a focus on transactional writing. From crafting formal and informal letters to writing newspaper articles and persuasive essays, they've tackled real-world issues with clarity and conviction. A standout task was their persuasive essays on violence in the media—students debated passionately, using rhetorical devices and structured arguments to make their voices heard.

**P.E** - Our football fitness and skill application goes from strength to strength! In lessons students from years 7-11 are demonstrating excellent passing, dribbling and shooting in practices and game situations. The evidence of this progression has been seen in interschool competition against North Star 180 and Soundwell Academy this week. A 6-2-win v NS180 with goals from Tyreese, Elijah, Tommy, Ruben and OP and a 3-1 win away v Soundwell with goals from Colbie-Jae (2) and Tommy. We finish winners of the KS3 Bristol, Bath and South Glos SEND schools league, with a record of 3 wins and 1 draw and look forward to playing in the final in December!

Player of the match v NS180 was Tyreese for his all-action midfield display with a goal. Player of the match v Soundwell was Raf for his physical dominance and passing. Special mention to Tommy for scoring one of the best goals we have witnessed here at NS240 – a wonderful curling effort from 25 yards that sailed into the top corner v Soundwell.

**KS3 Pathways to Re-engage:** Big well done to Tianna who has completed a full week and had a good week. All the Reengage students have had a positive week excelling in their favourite subjects, Catering, Construction and Science.

**Mr McCann** - We've recently had a delivery of hundreds of brand-new books suitable for all year groups. Come and have a look yourselves.

Special mention to Tommy Hendy for jumping up 2 reading ages in his recent Star Reader assessment, well done!

**Art**—Year 10 GCSE artists are busy working in their "Colour" project and looking at how Matisse used his colours in his artwork. Well done to **Hayden** and **Vincent** for their hard work!

### Let's Celebrate!

**Most improved KS3:** Ruben Wyatt    **KS4:** McKenzie Jones

### 100% Attendance:

|        |          |           |         |         |            |                                                |
|--------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|------------|------------------------------------------------|
| OP     | Danteino | Honey     | Charlie | Tyreese | Ashton S   | Kaiden R                                       |
| Junior | Alex     | Mackenzie | Harry   | Jake    | Josh P     | Summer                                         |
| Ruben  | Caleb    | Archie    | Lilly   | Seb     | Tianna     | Cailan                                         |
| Cody   | Connor   | Annabel   | Raf     | Ja'dore | Colbie-Jae | Well done<br>Tianna for<br>your Judo<br>award! |
| Poppy  | Corra    | Elijah    | Joe E   | Alfie W | Bradley    |                                                |

