

Summer Newsletter 2022

A Message from Ms Yeo and Miss Wilkinson

Dear Parents

Here we are again at the end of another school year, time flying by!

We have seen yet again this year how totally amazing all your children can be. It's been another rewarding year for all the staff, seeing so much development and academic progress. The key one has been with reading, which has relied so much on the support you have given with this. Children are talking so much about the reading they are doing, their aspirations to move up levels, noticing the progress of their peers. They are really understanding the importance of this skill for their understanding of other subjects and for their future lives. I know I have said thank you to before for the time you have put into this - but just need to do that again! Any encouragement to read over the summer holiday would be amazing.

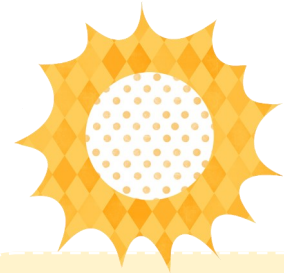
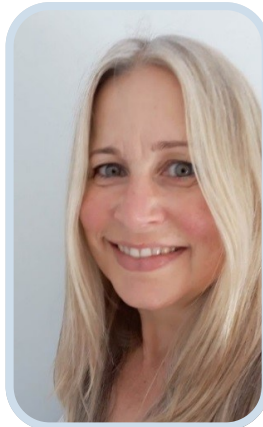
We have had some children join throughout this year. Seeing how quickly and well they have settled in has been a joy to observe and your positive feedback has been appreciated. We hope these children continue to flourish next year.

Of course, we will be sad to say goodbye to our current group of Year 6 pupils and wish them well in their next schools. Please know that we always welcome ex-pupils getting in touch with us to let us know how things are going, or arranging to call in for a visit.

For those returning in September, can we please ask that during the next academic year you try to avoid taking holidays during term time. This has a negative impact on our attendance figures, which we are keen to avoid and of course can affect pupil progress as they miss a longer series of lessons.

School will be starting with an INSET day on 1st September and then a gradual introduction of pupils from 2nd-7th September. We will be writing separately with individual details.

Other than this it only remains for me to wish you an enjoyable summer break.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21st July

End of Year Presentation

21st July

End of term 6

22nd July—31st August

Summer Holidays

1st September

Inset Day

Pupils will return in stages from Friday 2nd September



Hazel Class

Hazel class have worked very hard in terms 5 and 6. We started term 5 by welcoming two new members to the class. We then learned a story about a talking vegetable, created Talk for Writing actions for it and produced our own story. In term 6 we wrote a poem about the lifecycle of a butterfly, where one child's poem ended with a butterfly in a pie!

As we were studying lifecycles in science and writing about them as a poem and an explanation text in English, we were very lucky to have 5 caterpillars. We were able to name them (Binley, Bob, Henley, Rudolf and Jason), watch them grow, turn in to chrysalises and emerge as butterflies. We released them in the Forest School area and will be looking every day to see if they come back and visit us.

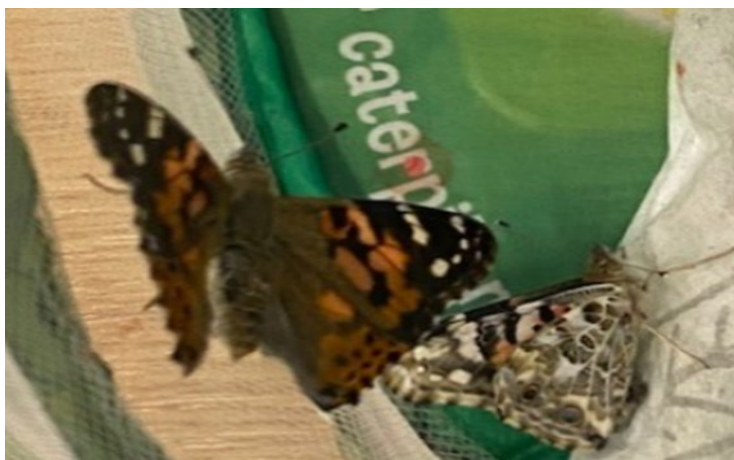
In Term 6 our topic, Beachcomber, was all about the seaside. We explored shells, seaweed and some items that should not be in the sea. We experimented to see how quickly items biodegrade and compared the seaside in the past to how it looks now.

In our Maths lessons we have been learning different ways of adding and subtracting and we can now use the column method. We have also been learning our 3- and 4-times tables and spotting the links between multiplication and division.

On Wednesday afternoons during term 5 and 6 we have been taking part in 5StarU sessions with coaches from Bristol Bears rugby team, working with Dec and Johnny. We have taken it in turns to lead the warm up and then played team games to earn points.

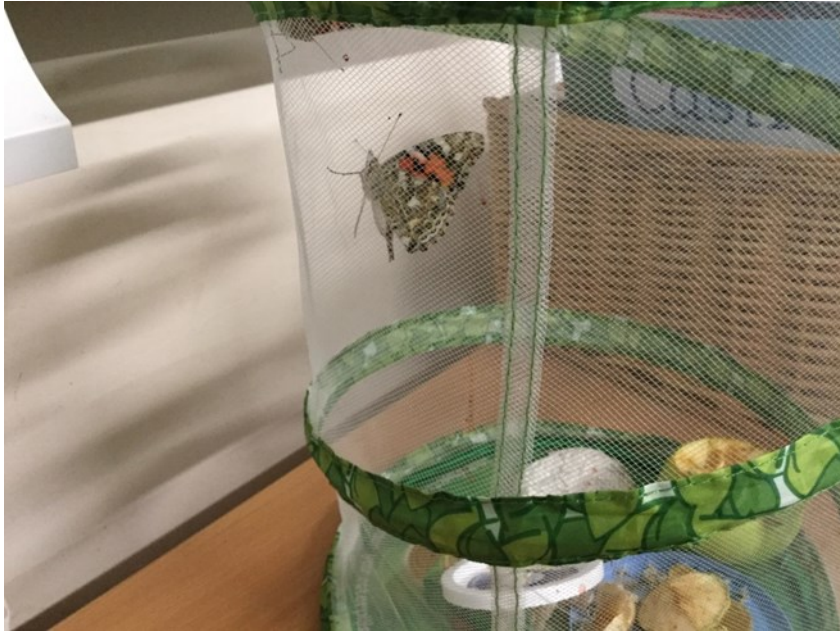
At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to six children in class as they move on to secondary school. Please keep in touch and let us know how they are settling in their new schools as we will miss them.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and break, hopefully the sun will be shining!



Juniper Class

What a great start to the summer term for Juniper class. We have been learning about life cycles. We explored frogspawn, tadpoles, froglets and then frogs. Then we had some caterpillars in class and we watched them eat all their food and make chrysalis before turning into beautiful butterflies. We then released them and watched them fly away.



Top Tips for E-Safety at Home

This term's top tip: Use parental controls as much as possible

“Parental controls allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WiFi, phone network, individual apps and devices.” – NSPCC



Parental controls can help you to:

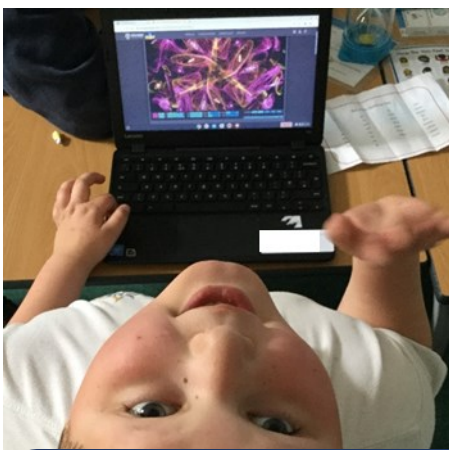
- Choose the time of day your child can go online and how long for
- Make 'filters' that block apps that could be inappropriate
- Choose what the grown-ups can see and what the children can see

What you can do:

- Explain why you are using parental controls to your child
- Remember that parental controls will not protect your children from all inappropriate content so keep an open conversation going
- Set strong passwords that your children do not know
- Visit the website below for specific details on setting parental controls on WiFi, consoles, mobiles, tablets, computers, apps, search engines and WiFi away from home**

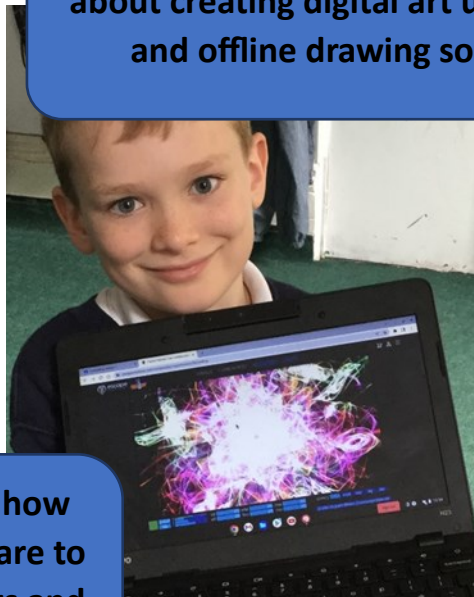
For more information, visit: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

What have we been learning in ICT lessons this summer?



Children have been learning how to use word processing software to experiment with fonts, colours and importing images

Children had a fantastic time learning about creating digital art using online and offline drawing software!



Ash Class

It has been another amazing couple of months in Ash class. The children have started to be challenged more and the topics have last 3 weeks. During this time, we have looked at four different topics; Oceans, Minibeasts, Kings and Queens and Animals.

In Literacy the children have looked at the poem 'The Marine Mammal Boogie', which they performed in the end of term assembly, and the stories 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'The Queen's Handbag' and 'Dear Zoo'. The children have had lots of fun coming up with actions for the texts, performing them to all the staff in school before changing elements of the texts and re write their own versions. At the end of this term, the children will be writing their own versions of 'Dear Zoo' in a book.

In Maths, the children have been looking at money, fraction and shapes. They have completed lots of practical activities and really enjoyed pretending to be in shops to give each other change. Our topic has been very practical, and the children have been on minibeast hunts, been part of sensory stories and have completed lots of arts activities including painting their own ocean scenes, creating their own flags and coat of arms.

In PE this term, as well practicing for sports day, they have been learning Judo with Coach Steve. The children have loved getting involved and trying to get one and other to the mat as well as learning forward rolls and cartwheels. Have an amazing summer!

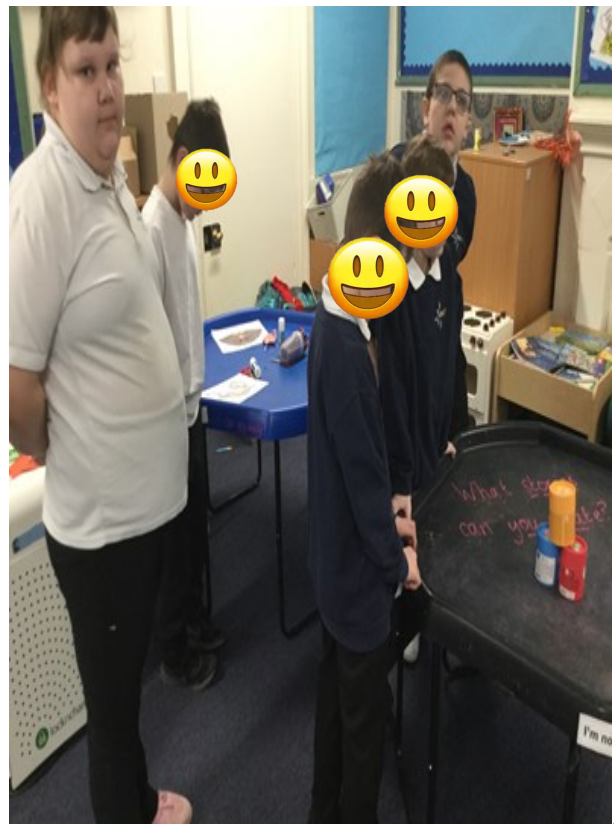


Aspen Class

Throughout this year aspen class have been trying incredibly hard with their learning, and social development. We have enjoyed all of our core lessons as well as our extra lessons such as, swimming, 5*U, drumming and PE. It has been a very challenging year with learning getting harder, changes in class and new challenges to face along the way. As a class we have been through a lot, we have seen new people join the class. Some from a different school and some from a different class, but all the same they have joined the Aspen class family. We have also had new adults join and old adults leave the class, which was very challenging because of the changes in some rules but we love it now and they just want what is best for us.

This year we are proud of the friendships we have made, the improvements in our learning and also the fun we have had along the way. We have progressed massively in all of our learning and completed more of it independently along the way. As a class we have enjoyed some Birthdays, gem in the jar treats and hub trips as a class. We have enjoyed some gardening lessons where we planted some trees and helped weed our garden space. We have also loved forest school where we have played games like animal hunts and den building.

We are sad that the year is finishing and one of our class friends are moving school but we would like to wish him all the best and are excited for the future, especially excited for the 6-week holidays and time away from learning. We are a little bit worried but in a good way about next year and moving into another class with new people but we all have amazing skills that we have learnt so we know that we will be fine.



Chestnut Class

"Now that the end of the school year is in sight, it's a time of mixed emotions in Chestnut class. As we prepare for our Year 6s' to move on to their respective Senior Schools, transitions days have become more frequent. To see our children in a new, bigger school fills us with pride and hopes for their future. Our Year 5s in the class look on and are always excited to hear what news there is from the 'big school'!

In class we have been working on a great topic called 'Super Villains and Super Heroes'. Does a hero always wear a cape and have superhuman abilities? It's surprising how many of the children in the class already know a hero in their own community. We have looked at the water cycle in science, creating our own miniature experiments to show how rain is formed using the heat from the sun. English and Maths lessons have continued to teach us essential skills like angles, fractions, punctuation and story writing. In ICT, we have created amazing looking pieces of work, which will one provide the skills needed to write application letters!

We have spent time outside, with Mr Chavez sharing some of his Basketball skills with the class, as well as preparing for the school's Sports Day. Forest School has given us the opportunity to build some awesome dens in the woods and we have even spent time preparing the soil in the garden for planting.

A busy term for the wonderful Chestnut!"



Beech Class

What an exciting two terms it has been in Beech class. We have had the pleasure of having some current students join our class and also a new student to the school join our class. As we always do in Beech, we have made them feel welcome and they are now so well gelled together, I struggle to remember Beech without them.

We have introduced social games to our morning routines, allowing children to discuss their emotions in a very positive way. This has also allowed us to develop our social skills of listening and turn taking. With such an enthusiastic response I look forward to continuing these next academic year.

In maths we have been working on fractions where the students were able to add, subtract, compare and order fractions. This was a shorter term, however we were able to move on to the angles and shapes unit. The students were able to identify angles including right angles and recognise a quarter of a turn. Though challenging at times, the students were also able to identify and draw parallel and perpendicular lines. We have also had the chance to explore different measures. The children were able to identify different units of measurement and were able to use a variety of scales. This was a very interactive unit and also the children learned a very important life skill.

Our English lessons have allowed us to explore poetry and also explanation texts. I thoroughly enjoyed our poetry unit where we learnt a poem about the lifecycle of a butterfly. This was even more enjoyable and relatable for the children as we managed to nurture our own caterpillars into chrysalis and then into butterflies. It was lovely as we named them and then set them free into nature.

I am so proud of all the hard work, academically and socially, that has taken place in Beech class. I feel privileged to have been part of this class and I know they will and truly earn their summer break! See you next term team!

Kind Regards,

Eoin Gibney





Sports Day 2022

We are sure that all will agree, that this years Sports Day was a resounding success!! It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attending and also to hear so many positive comments at the end. Despite the heat all the children put so much effort into the event, spurred on by the cheering and encouragement. It would be very hard to pick out any individual sports superstars as every one of them would fall in to this category for one reason or another! Special thanks goes of course to Mr Gibney, who having taken over this event for the first time did an absolutely outstanding job of running the show!

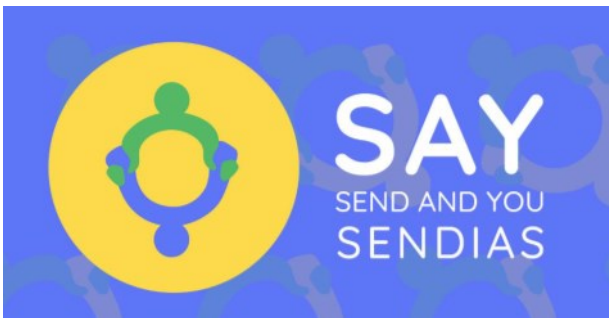




We would like to thank The Greggs Foundation again for their generous support of our Breakfast Club and in providing electrical appliances, beds and bedding and food and uniform vouchers to some of our parents / carers.

Not only do they make great cakes and other baked products, but they are generous and supportive in what has been a very difficult year for many people! Their support has been heart-warming

SEND Advice and support



SEND and You

SEND and You was originally set up as a charity in Avon in 1989 by local parents and professionals. They'd realised that better outcomes could be achieved for **children and young people with SEND** by working together.

Today we make sure that children, young people and their parents or carers get the help they need. SEND and You was formerly named Supportive Parents.

SEND and You now delivers the 'SENDIAS' (Special Educational Needs & Disability Information Advice & Support) service for three local authorities; **Bristol**, **North Somerset** and **South Gloucestershire**. Our office is in Bristol

More information can be found here: <https://www.sendandyou.org.uk/about-us/>

Benefits and Financial advice

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

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>



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
Or call 0117 951 5751



Registered Charity number: 1066921

Food Banks and Food Clubs:

School have information about these.

Please contact SENDCO Lucas Wellington for details.

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

Bath and North East Somerset – BANES – 01225396312 or 01225 396313

Safeguarding Information

We work hard in school to maintain the safety of all students. Where possible we want to help families and the wider community also be a safe place for our young people to experience. Where help is needed we are keen to sign post young people and families to some of the many resources available:

Please feel welcome to talk to one the safeguarding team within school:

Ms Wendy Yeo, Head of School, NorthStar 82°

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Lucas Wellington, SENCO

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Safeguarding

In order to keep your children safe at all times we must be able to reach you so we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of keeping your details up to date with the school office. Please inform us of any changes as soon as they occur so that we can update our contact systems. We are especially in need of your email address' as we will now be sending more communications electronically.

We would also encourage people to self-refer to specific agencies for help:

Online safety

Help setting up parental controls and advice on current issues young people face online and gaming:

www.internetmatters.org

www.saferinternet.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

Domestic Abuse

24 hour free helpline 0808 2000 247 or visit online at www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk

Mental Health

<https://www.mind.org.uk/> or call: 0300 123 3393 or text: 86463

Childline 0800 1111

Off the Record <https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/>

Kooth www.kooth.com

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 or phone: 07392 108815. [An Easy Read version of the survey is also available here.](#)

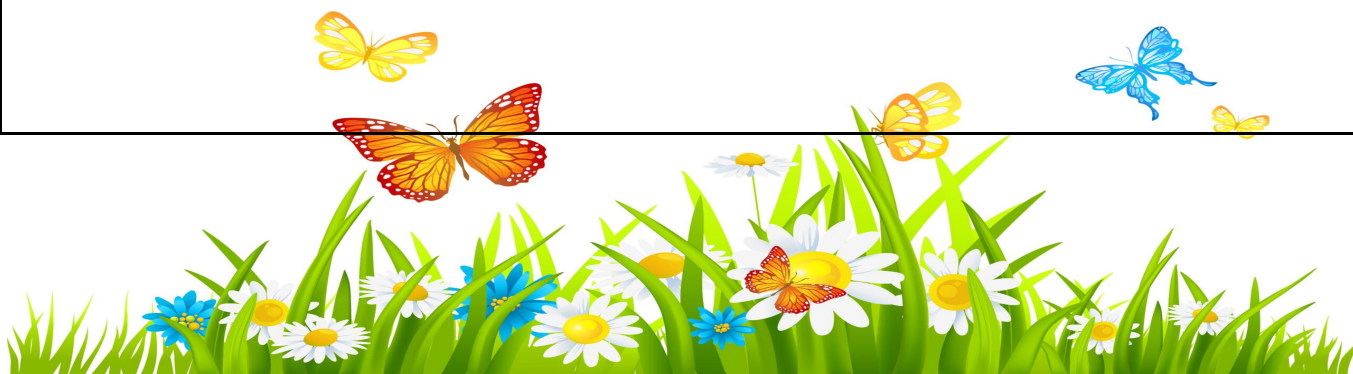
Family Hub

[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



Information from School Office

School Dinners

School Meals are priced at £2.45 and must be paid for in advance — cash or cheques can be sent in to School Office.

Uniform

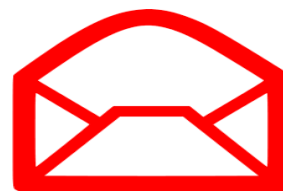
A quick reminder that the uniform consists of

- A sweatshirt with school logo
- A white polo shirt.
- Black trousers - girls are also permitted to wear skirts/pinafore in black
- Black polishable shoes.
- Jewellery – a wristwatch and a single stud in each ear are permitted.
- Facial piercings are not permitted.
- Hair must be of standard school style with no extremes in colour, cut or styling.

Trainers are not permitted as part of school uniform

Sweatshirts and polo shirts are available, with the school logo, from the school office. Prices from £7.00 for polo's and £10.00 for jumpers

School Communications



Our main way of communicating whole school information 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. (Because we would still text, call and use home school books for other individual things)

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 child. 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.

Office information

Phone number: 0117 377 2175

Email: northstar82@northstar-academy.co.uk

A reminder of the importance of any forms that are sent home to be filled in and returned to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the office, who will be more than happy to help.