



Dear North Star 180 Families,

The start of a new term always brings with it a message: it is never too late to improve, to refocus, and to make the most of the opportunities ahead.

For some of our student, particularly those in Year 11, this is a crucial period. With exams approaching, now is the time to truly 'lock in', to commit fully to their preparation, and to make the most of every lesson, every piece of feedback and every opportunity to refine their work.

However, this message applies across the whole school. Each term offers a natural point for reflection. What has gone well? What could be better? What small changes might lead to meaningful improvement? Our behaviour and pastoral systems are designed to support exactly this process, encouraging students to reflect, take responsibility and move forward positively.

Our first week back has already shown what this renewed focus can look like in practice. Ellis completed a ten-hour GCSE Art exam across two days with real maturity and positivity, producing work he should be incredibly proud of. We also welcomed prospective families to our Open Afternoon, which was a real success and gave visitors a strong sense of the supportive, ambitious environment our students experience each day. Year 10 and Year 11 students have also begun their work-experience placements, representing North Star 180 brilliantly in a range of settings and gaining valuable insight into the world beyond school.

We are also looking to expand our team of volunteer readers in Primary. If you are a parent or carer who could spare a little time each week to read with our pupils, we would be delighted to hear from you. This support makes a real difference to children's confidence and fluency. Thank you to Kate, our Parent Governor, for helping to promote this opportunity — further details can be found at the bottom of the newsletter.

As we move further into the term, we are excited to see what our students will achieve with this renewed sense of purpose. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping them thrive.

Serra Orumlu  
Headteacher

## Our Mission

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

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

**Hedgehogs:** In Maths, we have been learning to measure height and length. We have had a lot of fun measuring different objects around our classroom with cubes as well as learning how to use a ruler accurately. In our English this week, we have been retelling a story and focusing on making our writing more detailed and interesting for the reader. The children have written some fantastic stories and we are incredibly proud of their hard work and perseverance in their writing this week. Well done Hedgehogs!



**Rabbits:** Rabbits have had a good first week back. We have been exploring our Science topic of plants, dissecting a plant as a class to understand the different parts before planning our own plant experiment. In PSHE, we looked at different roles and responsibilities. Well done Rabbits for a great start to the term!

**Otters:** We've had a really successful return to school this week in Otters. Our highlight was learning about solar panels and renewable energy. We were fortunate enough to build our own solar oven and even cook some s'mores in the lovely warm weather that has just begun.

The children also made their final decision about what they want to learn this term in Project-Based Learning. After much discussion, they chose New Zealand. Next week, we will begin exploring some of the amazing wildlife that makes this country so unique.

**Owls:** Owls started our week beginning to learn about rivers in both our English and PBL. We have found out about the Amazon River and made a river collage. In Maths, we have been learning to divide a 2 or 3-digit number by using resources, exchanging and finding the remainder.

**Badgers:** Brilliant first week back for Badgers. We hit the ground running with some amazing writing in our Cold Write to prepare for writing fantasy stories and have learned all about subordinating conjunctions and how to make our sentences more exciting!

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

### **Year 7**

Year 7 have had a wonderful and packed first week back! They have been absolute superstars, showing great resilience as they completed their cold tasks in English and Maths.

The highlight of the week was undoubtedly our trip to Chew Valley Animal Park, where we had the opportunity to meet, feed, and learn about a wide range of fascinating animals, including Capybaras! It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved and a brilliant way to kick off the term!



### **Year 8B:**



It was lovely to welcome the class back in the spring sunshine. Outdoor learning was a real highlight, especially as we carefully chose and propagated tiny spider plant cuttings.

### **Year 10:**

Year 10 have been making the most of the sunshine while working hard on a range of practical tasks as part of their Land-based Studies. They have also warmly welcomed Ms Harrison, our new tutor and Science teacher, and we are delighted to have her join our team. In English, students have begun their GCSE studies, focusing on developing their understanding of explicit and implicit information.

### **Year 11:**

Year 11 have shown excellent commitment to their revision this week across all subjects, from PE to English. A special well done to Ellis, who demonstrated outstanding focus and determination by working for a full 10-hour GCSE Art exam this week. Please continue to encourage strong attendance, concentration and effort as we head into the final weeks before the remaining GCSE exams begin.

LET'S CELEBRATE  
*PRIMARY*

Students with 100% Points

- Alfie
- Remy
- Rory
- Jackson
- Michael B
- Theo
- Aubree
- Georgie
- Kingsley

- Alexander
- Ronnie
- Evan
- Mia
- Laurie
- Percy
- Riley B
- Tobu

- Violet
- Amelia
- Chloe
- Isaac
- Jacob
- Joey
- Kobi
- Kodi
- Logan

Most improved student of the week: **Aubree**

Class Totals



Stars of the week: **Mia, Kingsley, Ronnie, Michael, Alfie, Amelia**

Attendance: Badgers 100%, Foxes 97%, Otters 93%%

LET'S CELEBRATE  
*SECONDARY*

Students with 100% Points

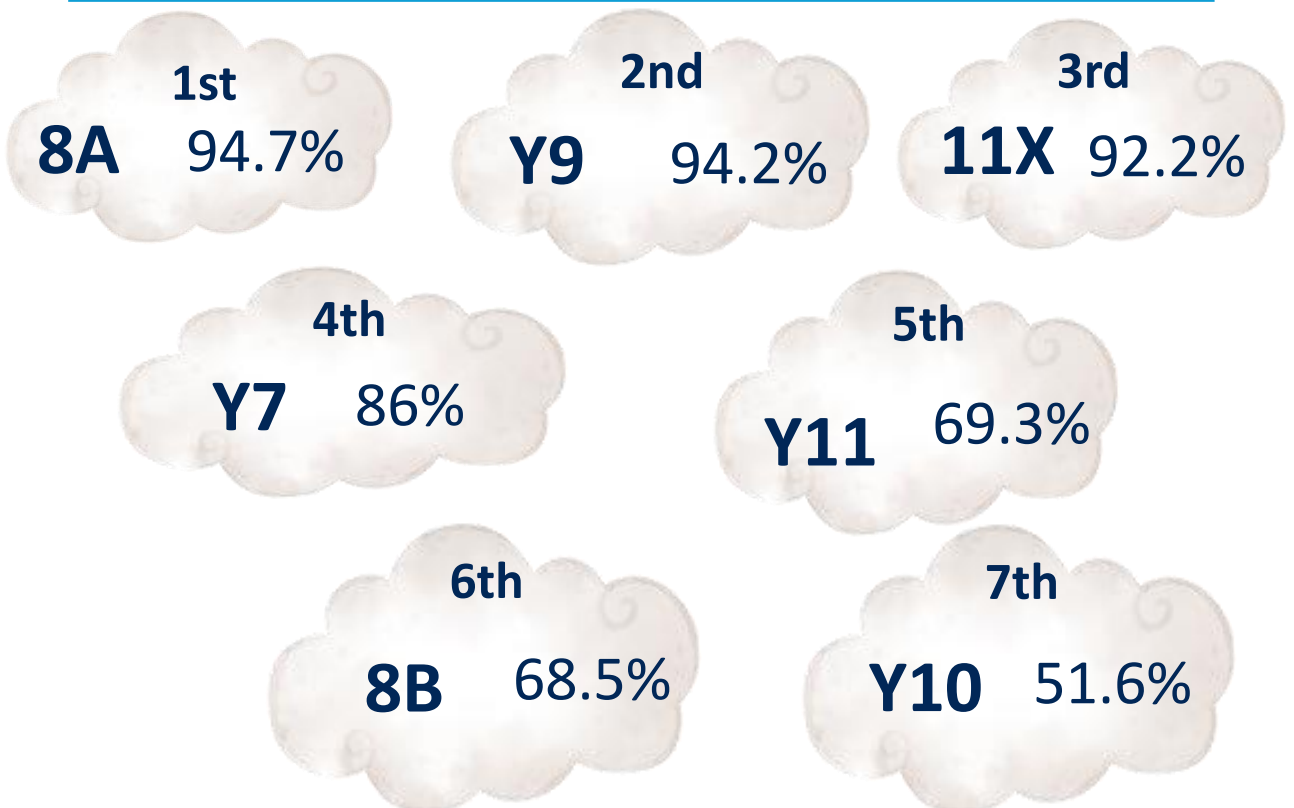
- James HC
- Adrian W
- Riley G
- Logan H
- Alistair D
- Ellis N

- Marley L
- Dylan G
- Korey B
- Riley HS
- Jack B
- Jim S

Most improved student of the week: ***Aaron W***

Student of the week: ***Riley G***

Class Totals



Attendance: Y10 84.2%, Y9 82.2%, Y7 80%

## Join Our School Reading Community – Volunteers Needed for 1:1 Reading


At North Star 180°, we are building a strong reading community and would love parents and carers to be part of it. By volunteering to read 1:1 with our primary pupils, you can make a real difference—helping to boost confidence, develop literacy skills, and inspire a love of reading.

That dedicated time with an adult helps children feel supported, listened to, and proud of their progress—small moments that have a lasting impact.

We understand that many families have busy schedules or live further away, so any time you can offer, however occasional, is greatly appreciated.


If you would like to get involved, please contact the school office or Kate on [kate.pope@northstar-academy.co.uk](mailto:kate.pope@northstar-academy.co.uk)


We would love to welcome you!


 **Join Our School Reading Community**

**Volunteers Needed for 1:1 Reading**

At NS180° School, we're building a strong reading community and we'd love parents and carers to be part of it!


 **Read 1:1 with our Pupils**

 **Support & Encourage**

 **Make a Difference**

Busy Schedule or Live Far Away?  
*Any Time You Can Give Is Valued!*

**Get Involved!**  
Contact the School Office to Volunteer.





## 10 tips to stay safe online

Pass our pointers on to your child and help keep them safe online.

- Be careful talking to people you don't know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be someone they're not online. If you do talk to people you don't know, don't tell them your personal information – such as your name, age, what street you live on, your school's name, or your location. If they ask for images or videos of yourself, say no, stop talking to them and report this to a trusted adult
- Keep your social media profiles private, to limit what others can see, and think carefully about what you share and with who. Once you've shared an image, you can't control what the other person does with it. Remember, it's **illegal** to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s
- Use AI chatbots carefully – not everything they generate is real. They might also tell you to do something that could harm you or someone else. Don't give them your personal information or photos – they could be used to make fake images, or to bully or blackmail you
- What you post online now could affect you later, like when you're applying for jobs, college or university
- If you see something upsetting, or you're bullied online, tell an adult you trust. Report it by following the instructions on the website, messaging service or social media site – you'll usually need to click the 3 dots next to a post or comment
- When reading the news online, read the whole article not just the headline. Ask yourself where the information came from, when it was published, and if it could be a hoax or made up
- Look out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you're meant to forward on or that ask you for payment details or your password
- Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money, they're almost definitely criminal activity
- Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can end up spending lots of money on them
- Remember, people make their lives look more exciting and interesting online. People often edit their photos to make them look better, or make fake images with AI tools, so don't believe everything you see. This includes gang lifestyles – they're not as glamorous as they look

## Don't feel confident talking to your child about online safety?

Read this [advice from the NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety): <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

### Further information

This factsheet was produced by [The Key Safeguarding](https://www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding): [www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding](https://www.thekeysupport.com/safeguarding)

- [Top-selling mobile games break rules on loot boxes](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c748ww9y9nno), BBC News <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c748ww9y9nno>
- [Chatbot 'encouraged teen to kill parents over screen time limit'](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cd605e48q1vo), BBC News <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cd605e48q1vo>
- [How to spot fake news](https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/how-to-spot-fake-news/), Childline <https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/how-to-spot-fake-news/>
- [Money mule and exploitation action plan](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/money-mule-action-plan/money-mule-and-financial-exploitation-action-plan-accessible), GOV.UK – Home Office <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/money-mule-action-plan/money-mule-and-financial-exploitation-action-plan-accessible>
- [County Lines Programme overview](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/county-lines-programme/county-lines-programme-overview), GOV.UK – Home Office <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/county-lines-programme/county-lines-programme-overview>
- [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexting-in-schools-and-colleges), GOV.UK – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, UK Council for Internet Safety <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexting-in-schools-and-colleges>