



North Star 265, Term 1, 2026, Week 1

Notes from our Head:



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back to a new academic year and Week 1 has already gone. It has been great to see all our pupils returning and they have made a brilliant start. I have had lots of really interesting conversations finding out what everyone has been up to. I've already had lots of visitors to my desk showing off some brilliant work and showing great attitude towards school and each other.

Like last year we will be recognising a class of the week for their hard work and effort. This week we are celebrating Oak class who have really shown off what they can do already in Year 8.

It wouldn't be the start of the year if we didn't have some changes. In Secondary we now have a new additional class for Year 9, Lime.

Just before the Summer North Star Academy Trust agreed to open a provision for Primary age pupils in Bath. This small setting for up to 10 children will operate as a satellite provision to our school North Star 265. We look forward to working with the staff team there and sharing our expertise with them. I hope you agree that this will be an exciting opportunity which we will all learn from. We hope in the future to be able to bring the pupils from both sites together for some events.

We have welcomed lots of new staff; Miss Fairhall in Chestnut, Mr Kinnear joins us full time in Oak, Mr Bates is our new PE teacher, Miss Block joins us as our Speech and Language Assistant, Miss Burgess has joined us and will be working at our new provision in Bath, Miss Mainstone joins us in Conkers as our Learning Support Assistant, Mr Bangoura joins Oak class as their Learning Support Assistant. Please join me in welcoming all these wonderful staff. We will be recruiting more staff throughout the year as we move towards a full opening with Key Stage 4 opening this year.

We have now started on our new menu from our new catering provider. I, for one, enjoyed the new meals, particularly the roast dinner on Wednesday. I have been asking pupils throughout the week how the food was and have had lots of positive responses. This menu is a much expanded school offer than we previously had. We now offer a meat option, vegetarian option and baked potatoes. We now should be able every pupil something they like. We will not be offering toast now as this full menu is in place. This week we have allowed pupils to try the menu whether they had ordered or not. From this week, we will ask pupils to order in the morning so we can prepare the right amounts. Please do look at the menu with your child and encourage them to try the meals. If pupils bring a packed lunch we will assume they are having this unless parents contact us to order a school meal. Our school meals are free as part of our school offer so please do try them.

Lastly, if you drop off your child you will have noted that the car park is very busy. Next week we will be having tarmac put onto the MUGA and the final artificial grass layer installed. This will mean that the car park will be busier than usual. We do apologise for this. I'm afraid it is unavoidable and the work this week will mean we should soon be able to use the MUGA again.

To help us next week please could you ensure you follow the one way arrows in the car park and drive as far as possible back up to the gate before stopping. Staff will come and collect your child as quickly as possible. It would be helpful to keep parent staff conversations as succinct as possible to avoid congestion. However if you do need to speak to staff please do ring or come in to the office.

Class News



Acorns

On Monday, Harlow worked hard on writing a recount of a cycling trip from the summer. He engaged brilliantly with junk modelling and challenged himself with some place value in Maths. We would like to say a huge well done and good luck to Harlow for successfully transitioning to his new school on Tuesday this week.

On Wednesday, Zach enjoyed writing a suspense story and sharing it with his friend, Errol. Zach came in looking forward to a challenge in Maths. He persevered and tried some difficult maths questions and games. Zach was resilient with junk modelling. In forest school, Zach enjoyed making a treasure hunt with Mr Yapp.

Conkers

Welcome Back, Conker Class!

It is a great pleasure to be teaching Conker Class again this year, and I am so excited for everything we have in store!

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week, and they have made such a fantastic start. The whole Conker Class teaching team has been incredibly proud of how well everyone has settled in, shown independence and got stuck into their learning.

This term, we will be exploring our aspirations and the world of work. We are very lucky to have lots of visitors coming into school to talk to us about their careers and share their experiences. We are looking forward to discovering the many different opportunities that are out there and thinking about what we might like to achieve in the future.

In Science, we will be learning all about living things, exploring what makes something living and how we can identify and classify different living things. In Maths, we will be developing

our understanding of different operations, building our confidence with addition, subtraction and other mathematical strategies.

In English, we will be exploring stories based around different careers and the world of work. As the term progresses, we will also be busy creating lots of exciting items ready for our very own Conker Class Job Fair! The children will have the opportunity to choose a job they would like to have in the future and create a stall to showcase what that career involves.

We are already looking forward to welcoming our visitors and seeing the children share their ideas, interests and aspirations. There are lots of exciting things to come!

Well done, Conker Class, on such a brilliant first week. We can't wait to see what this year brings!

Maple

Welcome back to school!

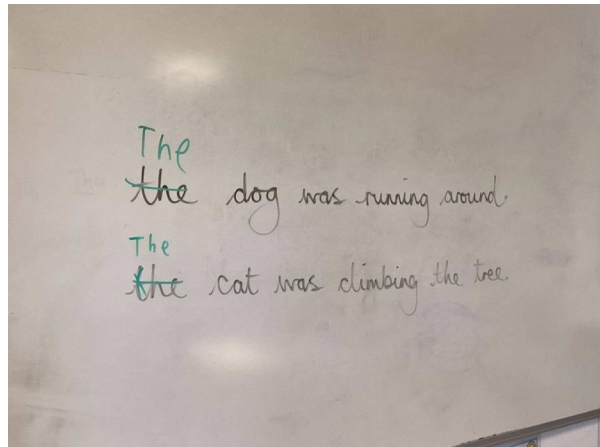
Maple Class have enjoyed a staggered start this week, which has helped us settle into new class dynamics and eased us back into our familiar routines. It's been wonderful noticing our children returning with positive attitudes and enthusiasm for learning - well done, Maple!

This week in English, we created items to go inside our time capsule and learned how and when to use capital letters and full stops correctly. In Maths, we have been refreshing our skills and in Science, we explored the question, 'How do we know if something is living?'. We also enjoyed beginning learning how to code in Computing using the software programme Scratch.

In Cooking, we made muffins, and in PSHE we reflected on how we can work together as a team in our classroom. Our Navigate curriculum also reminded us that our actions can affect others and that we all have a role to play in creating a positive environment.

It's been a great start to the year for Maple Class, and I look forward to seeing everyone continue to grow and develop this term!

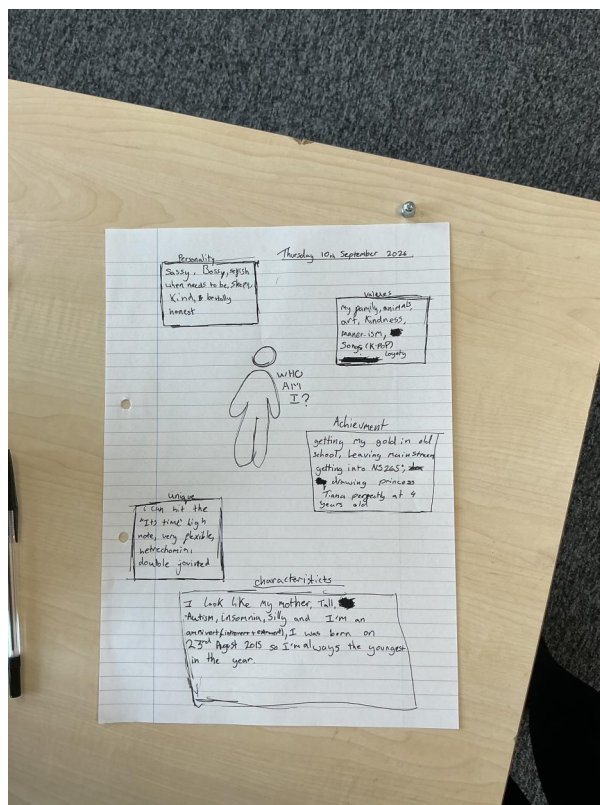


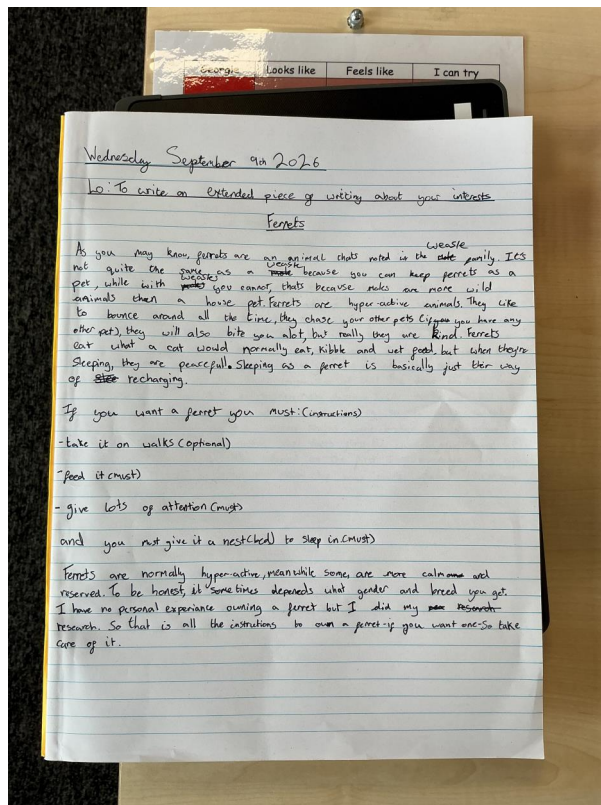


Chestnut

We have had a very positive start to the new term. Throughout the first week, all students have demonstrated excellent engagement, active listening, and a willingness to complete tasks with a positive attitude. We are extremely pleased and proud of this achievement, especially given the introduction of new staff, changes within the class, and new students. Overall, the week has been a great success.

We have also established our class standards and expectations, and all students are aware of what is expected of them in the classroom. This has helped create a positive learning environment from the outset, ensuring consistency and supporting positive behaviour across the class.





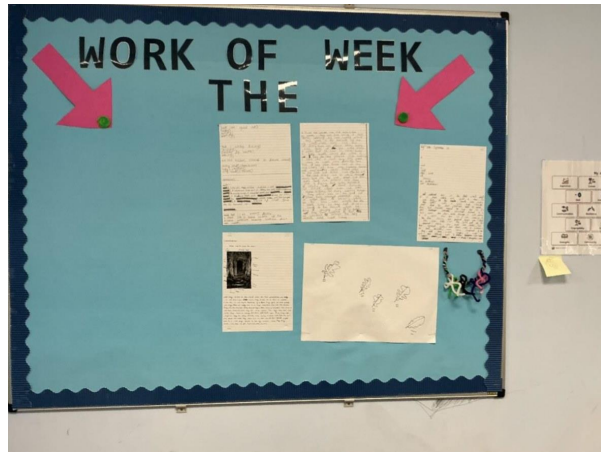
Oak

We have had a really positive start to the new academic year in Oak Class, and were all really eager to get learning again after such a long hot summer. We started with a brand new classroom space and spend some time making it look presentable and welcoming. He have already made some art to decorate the space!

The Oak pupils have produced some really imaginative work in English and this term our focus is on creative writing and how to produce exciting works of fiction. I really enjoyed reading Lenny's use of simile with the line 'Gosebumps coming like a heartbeat', Honor writing about a hidden beach behind a spooky door and Violet's characters in her story finding valuables worth

£ 3,001,000,3000,100,145!

Lastly a big thankyou to Mr Baird who I know Oak Class will miss. Good luck on your Canadian adventures!



Lime

Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

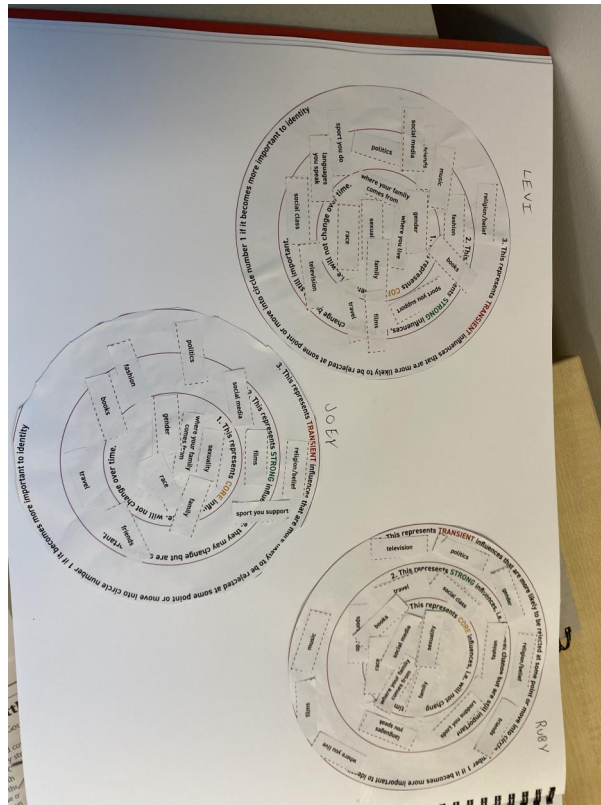
I hope you all had a good summer break. It has been lovely to welcome all the children in Lime Class this week. They have settled in well and have shown a positive attitude towards their learning.

This term, our Project Based Learning is all about dreams and aspirations. By the end of the term, the students will be showcasing these through our NS265 Careers Expo.

The students are currently completing their baseline assessments in English and Maths. Next week, we will be starting our maths cycle with Place Value. In English the students will be working towards writing a narrative.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr. Westerwijk



Wednesday 9th September 2022
 So I can identify my personal interests, strengths and future ambitions

WHAT IS A CAREER?

- Long-term job (not just a one-off)
- Something you love

WHAT DO OUR PARENTS DO?

- Voleting
- Security
- Handyman in a school

JOBS IN THE COMMUNITY:

- Doctors
- Carers
- Teachers
- Firemen/women
- Police officer
- Nurses
- Dentist
- Opticians
- Builder

WHAT ARE WE GOOD AT?

RUBY: Cooking/baking (fig-up in particular)

JOEY: Maths / I Like Physics & Space

LEVI: Rugby / Gaming

PE Weekly Update

Adam Bates – PE Teacher

It has been a really positive first week in PE, and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the students and beginning to build positive relationships with them. This term, our focus will be on Invasion Games, developing key skills such as passing, movement, teamwork, communication and decision-making. We will be using a range of fun and engaging activities to help students develop their confidence and enjoyment of PE.

Participation has been really good this week, with students showing a positive attitude and getting involved in the activities. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and willingness to have a go.

I am looking forward to continuing to work with the students throughout the term and seeing their confidence, skills and teamwork develop.