



Friday 5th September 2025

This Week at North Stars: A Brilliant Beginning!

This week, your children have been nothing short of amazing! They've embraced not just the transition to secondary school, but also the exciting challenge of joining a brand-new school – one where no pupils (or staff!) have gone before!

On Wednesday, we began shaping our school culture with a strong message: everyone is included, and everyone belongs. We talked about what it means to be 'proud because we always do what is right' and explored how we would demonstrate this in our daily conduct.

Throughout the week, pupils have impressed us with their exceptional manners, kindness, and enthusiasm for learning. Their positive attitudes have set a wonderful tone for the year ahead. As part of our Inauguration 2025, pupils have been learning what it means to be a successful North Star: understanding routines, staying safe and happy, and starting to explore how we learn and remember knowledge effectively.

We've also introduced our rewards system – including how pupils can earn merits and postcards for their efforts, which they'll be able to spend in our exciting Rewards Shop later this term. We're already on the lookout for our first Word Millionaire in Reading and those striving to achieve 100% effort badges across different subjects.

It's been an inspiring start, and we can't wait to see what this incredible group of young people will achieve next!

Do not delay, tell someone today!

As part of supporting your child with the move from primary to secondary school, we are reminding pupils to always tell a member of staff if something is concerning or worrying them. Please also encourage your child to speak to either their House Champion for pastoral matters or their subject teacher if it is a concern about a particular subject.

Whilst we understand that some pupils would prefer to tell parents/carers at home initially, many queries can be addressed immediately in school, rather than your child coming home and worrying overnight about them!



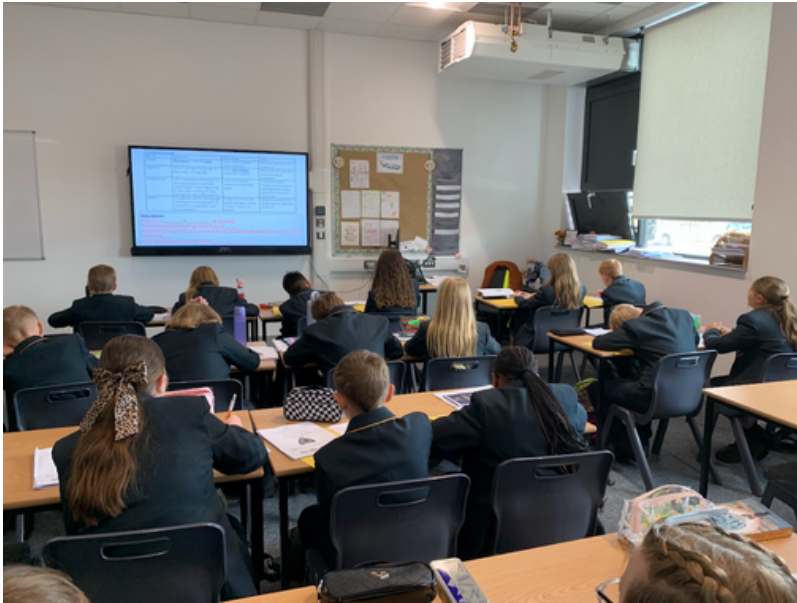
Dropping off and collecting pupils

Thank you for careful and considerate use of the roads this week. We are fortunate that Upper Farm Drive has been designed for pedestrian use with a dedicated cycle path and footpath alongside road signs indicating that we are a school zone. Therefore, we kindly request that if you are dropping your child off by vehicle, that the yellow zig zag lines outside the school remain clear, and if you are able to drop your child off away from the school so that they can use the dedicated footpath, this would also help to manage the flow of traffic at key times. We are grateful that many parents/carers have already begun to implement this. Please continue to bear with us until the Council and the Housing Developers open the road fully and we will inform you of any further progress updates on this matter. Thank you for your co-operation.



HLNA Year 7 friendship Disco!

All children are invited to the Friendship Disco which takes place on Thursday 11th September from 3.45 – 4.45pm. If attending, your child should stay in school and may either be collected at 4.45pm/walk home. If your child wishes to bring a change of clothes, they will be able to get changed in school before the disco begins. Pupils are welcome to remain in uniform if that is their wish. If getting changed, please may we request that your child is dressed appropriately for what is still a school environment. For instance, no midriffs, no low-cut tops. The Friendship Disco is free entry but there will be some refreshments to purchase if your child wishes to do so. We would advise that up to £3 will be sufficient to purchase disco-related refreshments and items such as glow-sticks. We are all really looking forward to the children getting together in a fun and relaxed way after school next week!



Co-Curricular Clubs start Monday!

Please encourage your child to join a co-curricular club that enables them to feel a full sense of belonging and inclusion at school. Please see attachment for details. We want every child to find a passion to pursue and we have many opportunities to help them do so. If you are collecting your child once the club has finished, please collect them from Upper Farm Drive. Most clubs finish at 4pm with the exception of sports clubs which will be communicated by the sports coaches.

Parent Pay and Class Charts

You should have received details about these platforms and how to log on.

Please contact the school office if you require any further information.





On a personal note,

I would also like to sincerely thank you, our families, for your continued support of our staff as we navigate the exciting journey of settling into a brand-new school and building. Your support is very much appreciated. I hope that you all have a very pleasant weekend.

Best wishes,

Kirstie Robinson.

Headteacher
Higham Lane North Academy.