



NORTON NEWS

Spring 2026 Edition

Easter Reflections from the Headteacher

As we reach the end of another busy term and prepare for the Easter break, I want to take a moment to reflect on just how much we have achieved together since Christmas.

The stories shared throughout this newsletter speak volumes. They capture the dedication, creativity and care shown by our staff every day, and the progress our students continue to make in so many different ways. Whether academic, personal or social, the growth we are seeing across the school is something we can all be incredibly proud of.

This term has also seen some significant milestones for our school.

We are delighted to have established a Clinical Offer, strengthening the therapeutic and wellbeing support available to our students. We have opened our new library, creating a calm, welcoming space that promotes reading, curiosity and a love of learning. These developments reflect our continued commitment to providing an environment where students feel safe, supported and inspired.

We have also been pleased to welcome visits from OFG Directors and our School Improvement Partner, both of whom have been genuinely impressed by the positive changes and improvements they have seen across the school. Their feedback is a real testament to the hard work of our staff and the strong culture we continue to build together.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our parents and carers for your ongoing support, trust and partnership. Working together is vital in helping our young people thrive, and we are very grateful for the encouragement and collaboration you show us throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another successful term. I hope the Easter break provides a well-earned opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term as we continue to build on this momentum.

Best wishes,
Judith Buckingham
Headteacher



Ukeila joined OFG in 2021 as a Drama Psychotherapist and has contributed to the development of the clinical offer in schools across the Midlands. She comes to Norton College as an experienced Clinical Lead and plans to support the school in embedding the clinical offer.

Over the Summer Term, Ukeila will begin transitioning to Norton College from her current setting. She hopes to spend her summer term getting to know all the children and staff, both on- and off-site, and will be supporting the school with staff training, the annual review process and much more.

Ukeila is passionate about providing safe, nurturing spaces for children to express how they feel and believes that a collaborative approach is the way forward in helping all children find their voice. She has over a decade of experience in the health and social care sector and, as a trauma-informed practitioner, will be on hand to ensure that the clinical offer is communicated to both school and home, in line with Outcomes First Group's clinical offer.

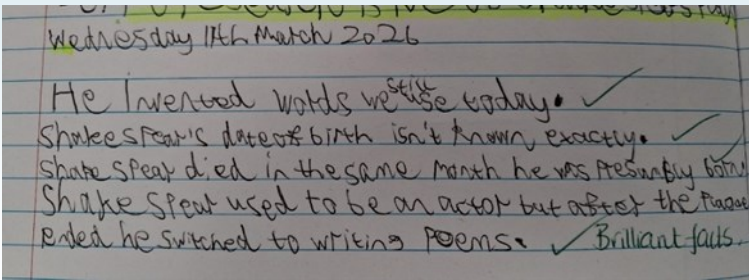
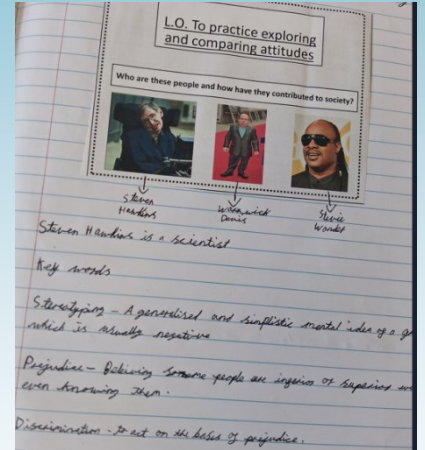




English

This term in English!

Our GCSE students have been exploring the theme of discrimination, looking at how prejudice and stereotyping can be shown within texts.



Our KS3 students have been learning about who Shakespeare was and why he is still significant today. Students have

explored Shakespeare's language, researched some of his plays and created their own Shakespearean insults!

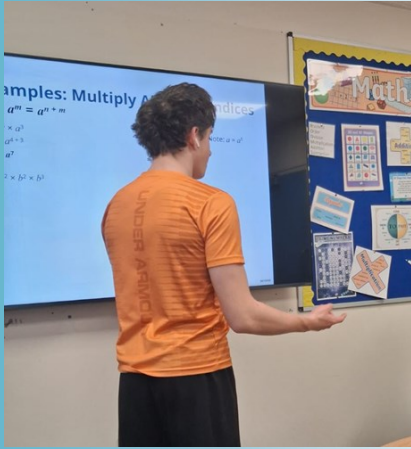
Our **World Book Day** celebrations were a spectacular success, filled with imagination and literary flair! The school was buzzing with excitement as staff transformed into a colourful array of book characters, bringing stories to life across every corridor.

The highlight of the day was the grand opening of our brand-new school library, a dedicated space designed to inspire a lifelong love of reading in all our students. It was wonderful to see the community come together to celebrate the magic of books and mark this exciting new chapter for our school.



Maths

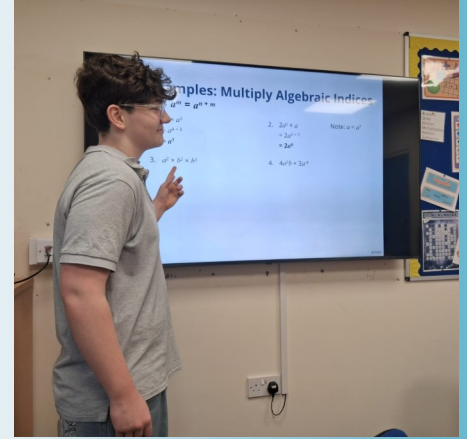
This term, pupils have been strengthening their maths skills through hands-on activities.



A highlight was exploring Pythagoras' Theorem by building and rearranging shapes, helping pupils see how the two smaller squares combine to form the largest.

In algebra, pupils have been simplifying expressions and working with indices, focusing on clear steps and explaining their reasoning.

Across all lessons, pupils are encouraged to try challenging problems, learn from mistakes, and celebrate progress.



Construction & DT

Students in Construction and Design Technology have been developing practical skills and creativity through a range of hands-on projects this term.



In Design & Technology, students have designed and built motorised vehicles, applying their understanding of mechanisms, simple electrical systems, and basic engineering principles. They have also constructed wooden model aircraft, developing precision in measuring, cutting, and assembly while learning about structures and materials. Additionally, some students have undertaken a guitar kit build and finish as a side project, assembling components and applying surface finishes to create a high-quality final product. These projects support the curriculum by encouraging students to design, make, and evaluate functional products while working safely in the workshop.

Students studying the Pearson BTEC Level 1 Introductory in Construction have gained valuable practical experience through trade-based activities. Learners are currently manufacturing wooden picture frames, developing skills in measuring, joint cutting, and decorative finishing. They have also been practising decorating techniques, including surface preparation and paint application, alongside basic brickwork skills such as accurate setting out,

mortar use, and maintaining level courses.

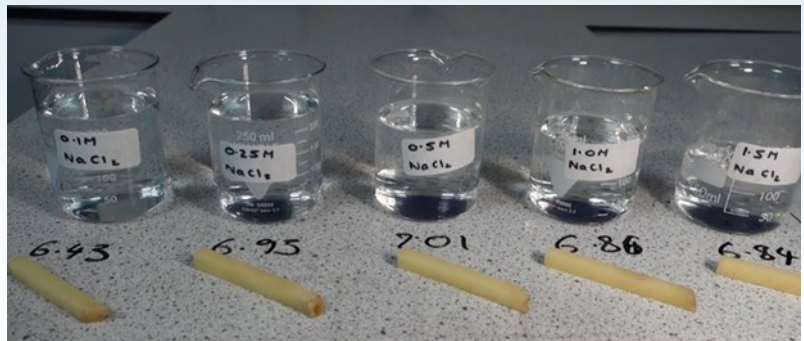
Science

This term Key stage 3 students have been studying chemistry (atomic structure, bonding and the periodic table) and physics (forces, friction and air resistance with practical work involving cars, parachutes and aeroplanes).

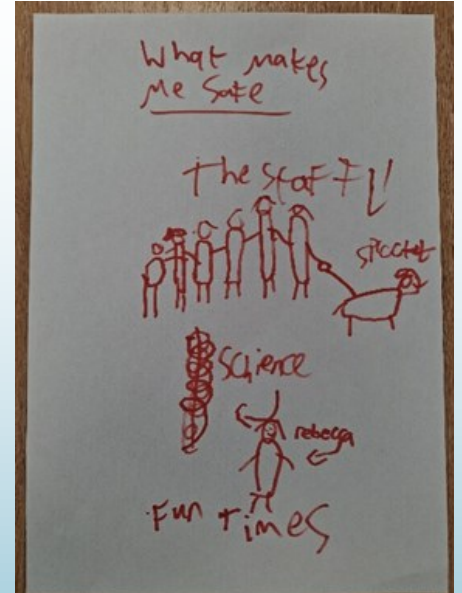
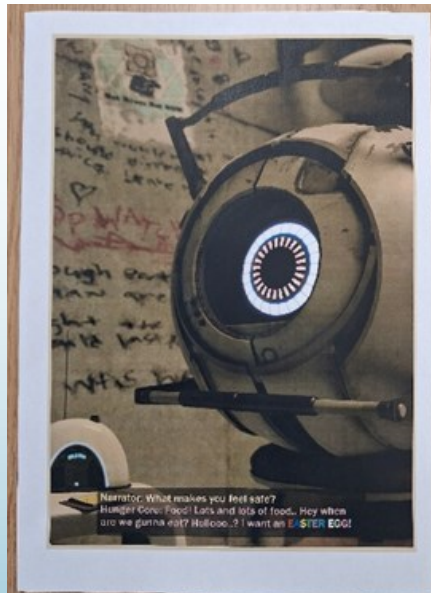
Key stage 4 students have been studying infection and disease (Entry Level) and plant structure (Further Entry Level and GCSE).



Observing plant leaf structure with a Microscope (GCSE Biology)



Investigating osmosis in potato cells (GCSE Biology)



Winning posters – Science Week Competition “What makes you feel safe”.

We also celebrated International Women and Girl's day by promoting some of the wonderful women in science with a wall display. We celebrated World book day and we have a collection of science-related books students can borrow or read during Science Film and Book Club which runs every day at break and lunchtime.



Key stage 3 – making parachutes to investigate air resistance



Celebrating International Women and Girl's Day in science

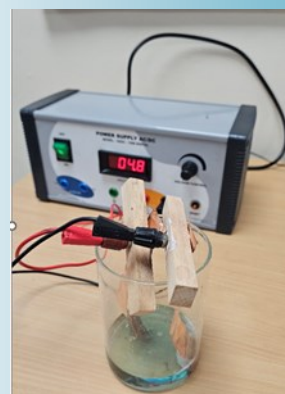
The GCSE chemistry students did an electrolysis investigation, and the GCSE biology students were studying plant structure.



Celebrating World Book Day in Science



UK science week science quiz



GCSE electrolysis.

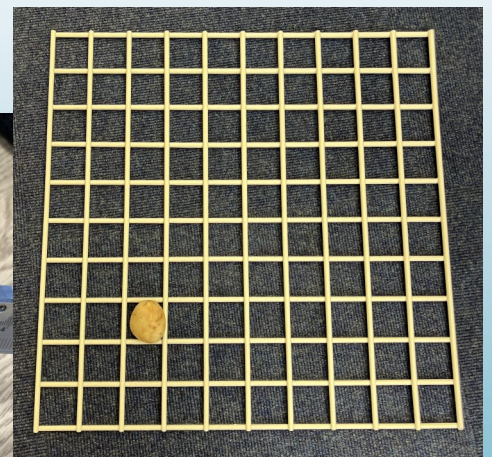
All GCSE students have been hard at work, preparing for the GCSE coming up next half term. Good luck to all those students and keep working hard!

Humanities

The Humanities Department has had an exciting and busy term, with students exploring a wide range of thought provoking topics. In RE, pupils examined the ideas of good and bad, discussing moral choices, ethical dilemmas, and how different beliefs shape people's understanding of right and wrong. Meanwhile, in History, students stepped back into 1066 to investigate the Norman Conquest, uncovering the causes, key events, and lasting impact of this pivotal moment in British history. Through lively discussions and interactive activities, learners have developed strong critical thinking skills and a deeper appreciation of the world around them.



As part of Science Week, In GCSE Geography we created a climate change experiment. Students explored how rising temperatures and environmental changes affect our planet, linking scientific concepts to the real world issues they study in Geography and wider Humanities. At the end of this term, the GCSE Geography students are going to Weston-Super-Mare to carry out their first field study on coastal erosion.



PSHE

Throughout the Spring Term, students at Norton College Worcester have followed a purposeful PSHE curriculum designed to build confidence, self-awareness, and essential life skills. Across both half terms, pupils took part in practical activities, discussions, and reflective tasks tailored to their needs.

In Spring 1, the theme "The World I Live In" supported students to think about their futures, strengths, and aspirations. Through the Incredible Futures curriculum, they explored career pathways, personal qualities, and what motivates them. Children's Mental Health Week and Apprenticeship Week added further opportunities to develop resilience and learn about real-life routes into work. Pupils strengthened communication, teamwork, and decision-making skills, with many showing increased confidence and pride in identifying their goals.

In Spring 2, the focus shifted to "Self-Awareness". Linked to Neurodiversity Week, students learned how they think, learn, and communicate, and what helps them stay calm and regulated. Each year group explored age-appropriate content, from recognising personal strengths in Year 7 to preparing personal statements and long-term goals in Year 11. Pupils engaged maturely in group work, role-play, and reflection, developing greater confidence in expressing themselves and understanding how their choices influence wellbeing and relationships.

Next half term, our theme will be "Changing and Growing", which will introduce healthy lifestyles, personal development, and positive relationships in a clear and age-appropriate way. Lessons will cover physical and emotional changes, personal boundaries, and staying safe, delivered sensitively and in line with statutory guidance to support students' wellbeing and informed decision making.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week
March 16 - 20, 2026

Place2Be's CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK
9-15 FEB 2026

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026

Information Technology Systems Analyst
Job Profile

Teacher
Job Profile

Fashion Designer
Job Profile

NORTON COLLEGE WORCESTER

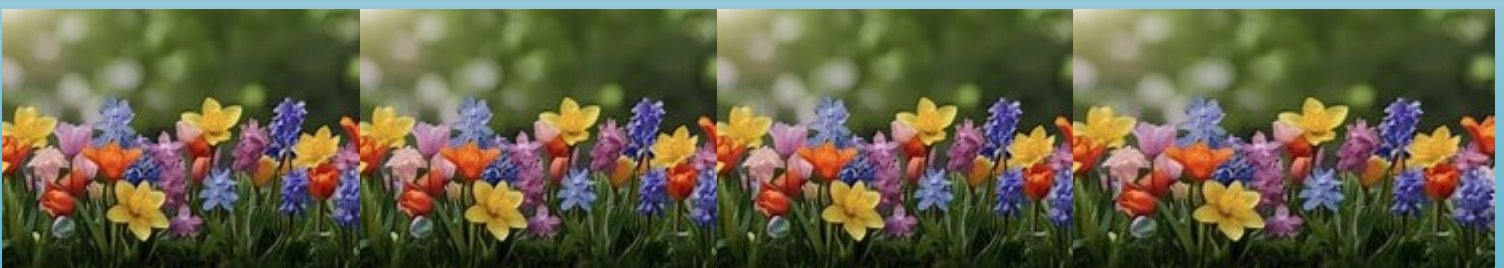
Cookery



This term, the Catering Department has shown exceptional skill and enthusiasm as students explored a wide range of recipes—from Chicken Curry, Chicken Kiev, and Creamy Chicken and Bacon Pasta to sweet favourites like Vanilla Yoghurt Cupcakes, Chocolate Brownies or Blondies, and Biscoff and Chocolate Chip Cookies. Each dish has helped pupils build confidence in essential cooking techniques, including seasoning, baking, dough making, and precision work with layered treats such as Millionaire's Shortbread.

Students also impressed with their Cinnamon Rolls, Ultimate Burgers with homemade buns, and themed dishes for special events, including Soda Bread for St Patrick's Day and Crazy Face Pizzas for Red Nose Day. Their creativity, teamwork, and increasing independence in the kitchen reflect the dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm they demonstrate each week, helping to create a vibrant and engaging learning environment.

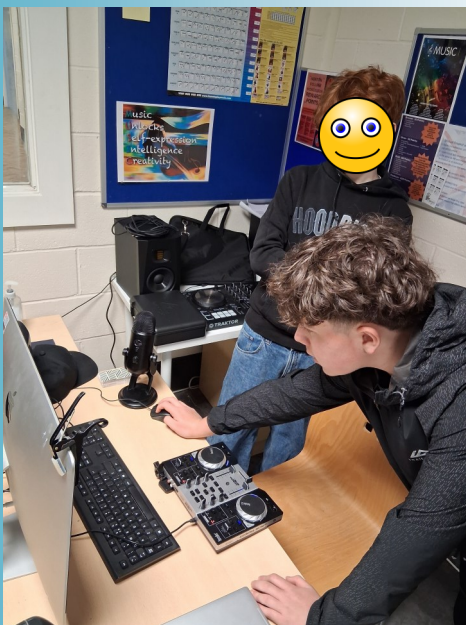
It's been a term full of flavour, fun, and fantastic progress!



Music

This term has brought a wave of new faces into the Music Department, and it's been fantastic to see fresh enthusiasm filling our practice rooms. Students have shown growing passion for both piano and drums, with many already making impressive progress. Our DJ equipment has also been put to full use, adding energy and creativity to sessions as learners explore new skills and performance techniques.

At KS4 and KS5, students are now well underway with their Bronze Arts Award. They have begun developing their projects with confidence, demonstrating commitment, independence, and a genuine interest in broadening their musical knowledge. We look forward to seeing how their work evolves over the term and celebrating their achievements.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



In PE lessons this term, we have continued to broaden the range of physical activities the students take part in and have particularly focussed on team activities. KS3 have been enjoying dodgeball and cricket, where we have been looking at different tactics as well as performing as a team player. Respect for each other's strengths and weaknesses is such an important aspect of team sport, and we will continue to drive this through the ethos of the college.



Our KS4 and 5 GCSE and BTEC in Sport students continue to work hard and are making excellent progress in their studies. They have been involved in various fitness testing and will be looking at developing a programme to improve their overall fitness.



Each Friday afternoon a coach from Worcester cricket club has been doing some extra training with us in the sports hall. Students and staff have enjoyed honing their skills with a professional cricketer... who knows maybe we have a future Andrew Flintoff in our midst!!!

Job Spotlight - A Sports Journalist reports on, analyses and produces content about sporting events, athletes and the sports industry.

Pastoral

Celebrating Student Achievement and Enrichment This Term

We are delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all our students for their fantastic effort this term. Across the school, we have seen remarkable moments of growth, resilience and success. Our young people continue to rise to challenges with determination and courage, and we couldn't be prouder of everything they have achieved.

New Pastoral Hubs: Supporting Students Every Day

This term, we are thrilled to introduce two new Pastoral Hubs. These thoughtfully designed spaces provide students with familiar faces, consistent strategies, and a calm, nurturing environment. Whether a student needs time to regulate, talk through a worry, or simply reset in a peaceful space, our dedicated team is always available to offer support. Our commitment remains steadfast: to be a trusted listening ear and to help every student stay confident, regu-

Enrichment Beyond the Classroom

Off-Site Adventures

With colder weather setting in, many of our off-site enrichment activities have taken place indoors. Students have enjoyed a variety of experiences, including:

- Bowling
- Escape rooms
- Laser tag
- Pool
- Driving range sessions



These opportunities not only provide fun and challenge but also help students build teamwork, communication, and confidence.

On-Site Clubs and Activities

Our on-site enrichment offer has been equally exciting. Highlights this term include:

- Our very own golf simulator
- Weekly Cooking Club
- Film club
- Arts and crafts
- DJ workshops
- A variety of sports sessions
- Coaching from an external cricket specialist



Alongside these, firm favourites such as board games, chess, baking, and cooking have continued to thrive, giving students a wide range of creative and recreational outlets.

Celebrating Success: The Friday Tuck Shop

Each week, the Friday tuck shop remains a much-anticipated event. Students can spend the points they have earned through sustained effort, positive behaviour, and meaningful contributions—giving them a tangible way to celebrate their successes.

Looking Ahead

We are continually reviewing and expanding our enrichment offer to ensure it remains engaging, varied, and student-centred. We look forward to working closely with our young people to make these opportunities even richer in the months ahead.

New Rewards System!

Our new rewards system has been launched with valuable input from the Student Council, building on the Norton Values of *Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Kind*. Next term, students will have even more opportunities to earn rewards points by showing their commitment to these values alongside lesson engagement. Points can be spent in the tuck shop or used toward personalised educational items—students have already chosen rewards such as climbing shoes and sports equipment, tailored to their individual interests. We look forward to developing this system further next term to celebrate and reward the fantastic academic progress and personal development our students continue to demonstrate.

Climbing

Taking our students climbing offers more than just a physical activity, it helps build their confidence, resilience and trust in both themselves and their peers. They work on developing effective communication whilst learning to manage their fear which creates a sense of accomplishment for our students. We have some brilliant climbers at Norton and we are proud of the progress they continue to make.

Orla



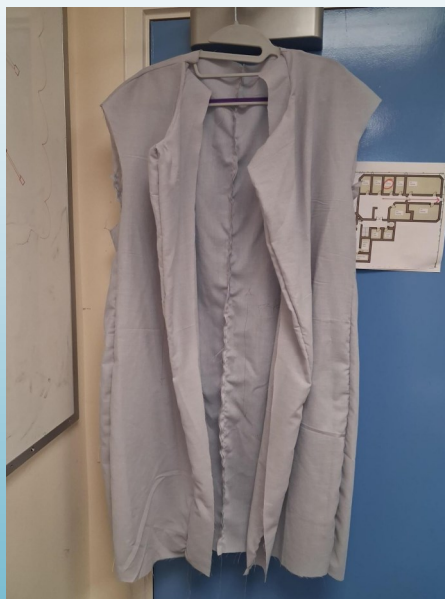
Sewing & Crafts

The sewing and craft room is a wonderful space where students can explore their creativity in a calm and welcoming environment. This term, we have been teaching basic sewing skills to our new students, helping them learn different stitches and understand their uses.

For the opening of our new library, students were encouraged to make their own bookmarks and take ownership of their reading journey.

We have also seen success in developing sewing machine skills across the group. One student, in particular, showed fantastic dedication by creating a coat for a character cosplay project.

Tyler



Lego Therapy



It has been very exciting to offer our students Lego Therapy, which gives them a great chance to develop their teamwork and social skills whilst being creative! We have some great plans for next term so watch this space!

Claire and Tyler

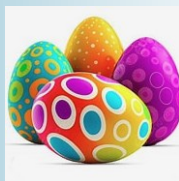


Drama



In Drama we have been working on character development and scene setting in our new immersion room! I am looking forward to starting a Drama Club next term which will be held on a Thursday Lunch time for any students who are interested. Have a great Easter!

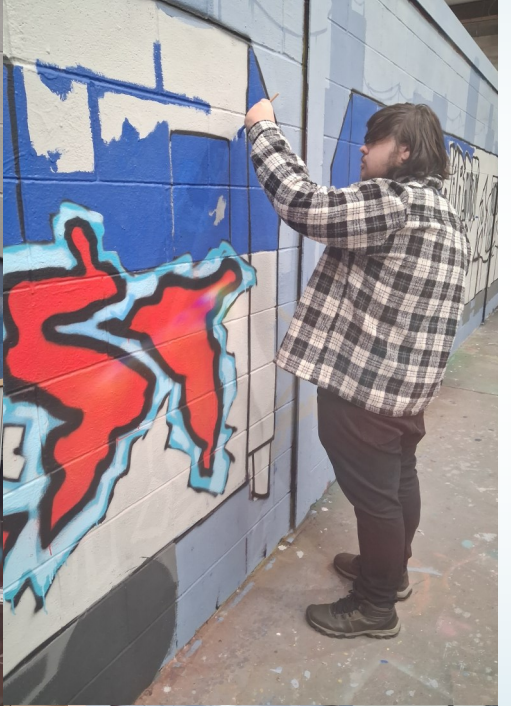
Claire



Art

This year so far has seen us kickstart the Arts Award for our KS4 and KS5 students. We have 8 young people engaging in this qualification, which comprises some practical work (currently exploring their graffiti lettering styles and applying, with aerosol paints, to a subway car mock up on the art room wall), a trip to Digbeth, to experience the array of legal graffiti walls that Birmingham writers and street artists are currently producing art on, which will be taking place after Easter, some traditional areas of art study into inspirational artists and an opportunity to share their newly acquired skills with each other.

Our KS3 students are taking part in the same graffiti subway train project for now, with the national curriculum for art being introduced gradually. The students are enjoying using the aerosol paints, testing themselves with a new medium. Once completed we will have a shared mural, pictures of which will be shared in future newsletters.



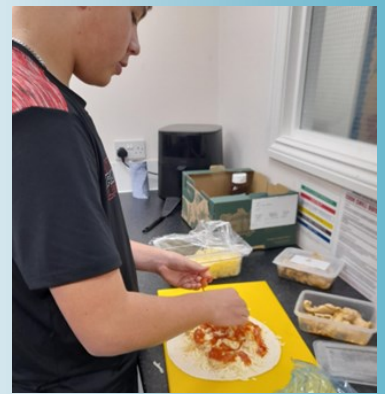
Evidence for Learning



In the Evidence for Learning Room we have been working on various skills for individual targets. Whether that's focusing on working with peers, building confidence, preparing for adulthood or strengthening those all-important literacy skills.

We do this in a range of ways from cooking to art, topical discussions to games. Each activity is had a targeted outcome and is designed to engage the students.

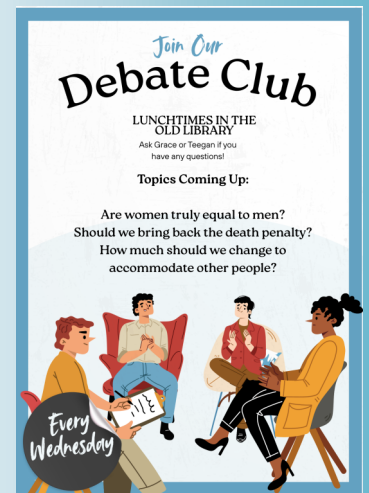
In form we have been working on what Norton Values mean to us. How students can be SAFE, show and receive RESPECT and how we can all be KIND, in all kinds of ways.



Debate Club

This half term, Norton College Worcester set up its first Debate Club. The club has had several positive sessions over the last few weeks, with students presenting educated and mature viewpoints on topics such as the use of AI and, following International Womens Day, discussing whether they believe women are treated equally to men.

Students attending the club have worked collaboratively to establish clear rules to maintain order and ensure inclusivity in the club, such as using a talking tool to encourage turn-taking and a ten-minute cool-down period after debates about sensitive topics. Student Stanley Stratton also designed an anonymity box for the club to use, allowing less confident students to still express their views.



Following the emphasis the college has been putting on its school values of 'be kind' and 'be respectful', the students have clearly taken this on board and demonstrated these values throughout the sessions. They have exercised their maturity and commitment to fairness and calm discussion and have listened to and developed on views presented by fellow students.

We are excited to continue developing the Debate Club and engaging in more lively discussions as the school year progresses!

Careers

Careers Events Inspire Students at Norton College Worcester

Norton College Worcester has recently welcomed several external organisations to support students in exploring future pathways, with a series of informative and engaging careers events taking place across the term.

Careers Worcester and SENDIASS Visit

We were delighted to host professionals from Worcester Careers Service and SENDIASS, who met with parents, carers, and students to share valuable guidance on post-16 options.

Their presentation focused on the Supported Internship Programme—a tailored pathway for young people aged 16–25 with an EHCP who want to continue learning alongside practical work experience.

In Worcestershire, these internships are delivered by five specialist organisations offering high levels of support to help SEN students access meaningful employment. The programme typically runs for 6–12 months, combining 30% academic study with 70% work experience and life skills development.

Students can explore a range of sectors including healthcare, retail, hospitality, horticulture, business, and childcare—giving them the chance to pursue specific interests while trying out new areas.

SENDIASS staff also outlined how families can access their services and shared further information about SEN careers support available locally. Parents and carers expressed their appreciation for the

Army Careers Visit – January 2026

In January, students visited the Army Careers Office in Worcester, accompanied by Norton College staff. They were welcomed by Lance Corporal Lewis, who delivered an engaging presentation covering all aspects of Army life—from recruitment routes to career progression and the process leading to military discharge.

Students learned about the wide variety of Army roles, the qualifications required for each trade, and watched several short films showcasing real-life experiences. They remained focused throughout, asking thoughtful questions and demonstrating Norton's core values at every stage. After the session, pupils reflected positively on what they had learned and how this could support their ambitions for the future.



Apprenticeships Talk – February 2026

The Worcestershire Apprenticeship team visited Norton College Worcester to deliver a careers talk and host a drop-in session. Their expertise helped students and staff gain a clearer understanding of the diverse apprenticeship pathways available. Many students found the session invaluable in helping them consider the next steps in their educational and career journeys.

This talk went alongside national Apprenticeship week where students had the opportunity to watch apprenticeship videos, look at routes and investigate how apprenticeships work.



Where are they now?

My name is Tom, and I attended Norton College Worcester six years. Prior to attending Norton College I struggled in mainstream school, with my behaviour and attitude to learning.

When I joined Norton College I felt I was treated differently and encouraged to try new activities. The staff would listen to me and help me to overcome my anger issues. With constant trust and support, I was able to develop friendships with fellow students, learning new skills, allowing me to remain calm.

Whilst at Norton College I developed an interest in boxing allowing me to mentor and coach younger students. This alongside my academic qualifications supported me to access a local college, doing a Sports and Services course.

I am now at the end of my first year at College and I have been offered a place on the next level course doing Public Services. I have career aspirations to enter the Police Force and hopefully become a detective.



Mental Health & Wellbeing

At Norton College Worcester we are delighted to celebrate Chris Evans as OFG's Mental Health First Aider of the Month — a well-deserved recognition for someone who brings exceptional compassion, insight, and commitment to our community.

Since stepping into the role of Mental Health First Aider, Chris has embraced the position with enthusiasm. He is a trusted and valued presence for both students and colleagues, offering calm thoughtful support.

One of the standout qualities that makes Chris so deserving of this award is his active engagement with the MHFA community. Whether he is contributing reflective insights, or asking thoughtful questions, Chris consistently learns from others while generously sharing his own knowledge and experiences. His contributions uplift the whole team and model what community-centred practice looks like.

What makes this achievement even more inspiring is that Chris continues to offer this level of care whilst managing his own personal challenges. His resilience, empathy, and unwavering dedication are deeply appreciated by everyone around him.

Chris's work embodies the values we hold at Norton College Worcester; kindness, courage, and genuine care for others. This recognition is richly deserved, and we are very proud of him.



Congratulations Chris on being named Mental Health First Aider of the Month.

Mental Health Helplines - UK

Samaritans - 116 123 (free 24 hour helpline)

SHOUT - Text SHOUT to 85258 (free, confidential, open 24 hours)

CALM (for men) - 0800 58 58 58 (open from 5pm to midnight every day)

Papyrus (below 35) - Call 0800 068 4141 (young suicide prevention open 9am to midnight every day)

YoungMinds (young people & parents) - Crisis Messenger text YM to 85258 (available 24/7)
Parent Helpline 0808 802 5544 (Mon-Fri from 9.30am to 4pm)

Would you share? It could save a life.





Easter Wordsearch



D Z A B W Y D A G Q P G L Z S I V C E V O M F T
 N O S S M B J F K X P Y M M R Z S P O O C P U O
 C X H X U Z R W F M Y M B U I M V D H J Q B S S
 B B W C N O V Y U K X W R Q Y M C G R W F A W X
 Q T E V O Q N U Q S N R V J Y X C B X A F L T P
 A E D X B A N K H O L I D A Y K C I O V C O O P
 T A N T W Q T Z W S K C I H C T K L C N U W A G
 C S E W C L A V I T S E F T I O H M X Q N R H U
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 L E D T L T C O E Y Q K V B R L Y G M P O B T J
 N R A T H A V L T W N P Q U P A R A D E M H W X
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 J A G E L S X T S P R I N G B X L P A R F A Q G
 G B A B F O Q S G G E U S T E K S A B L D I E X
 R P F F Z Y N V D C R R U O U Q M W E I V Y D P
 Y N N U B J Q U L E D A F F O D I L S G P J P K

Ash Wednesday

Easter Sunday

Bank Holiday

Good Friday

Chocolate

Daffodils

Decorate

Festival

Baskets

Bonnet

Chicks

Easter

Parade

Spring

Bunny

Cards

Eggs

Hunt

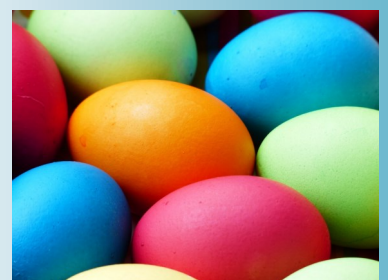
Lamb

Lent

All correct answers will be entered into a draw to win a bar of chocolate.

To enter, please write your name below and hand in your completed sheet to the office.

The draw will take place on Friday 17th April 2026.



Name:

St Patrick's Day

St Patrick's Day Brings Irish Cheer to Norton College Worcester



Norton College Worcester burst into vibrant shades of green this week as staff and students united to celebrate St Patrick's Day in true Irish style. The campus was alive with energy as the community embraced a day filled with themed activities, warm camaraderie, and plenty of traditional Irish "craic."

Students enjoyed a series of classroom tasks inspired by Irish culture, ranging from creative projects to cultural exploration. Staff also joined in the festivities, proudly wearing green to mark the occasion and contribute to the lively atmosphere across the college.

A highlight of the day came courtesy of the college's catering department, which prepared a special Irish-themed menu for both students and staff. Their hearty Irish stew proved especially popular, perfectly complemented by freshly served slices of traditional Irish soda bread. The culinary offering added an authentic touch to the celebration and was warmly received by all who tried it.

The event once again showcased Norton College Worcester's enthusiasm for cultural engagement and its commitment to creating memorable experiences for the whole college community.



Red Nose Day at Norton College Worcester

A Day of Laughter, Creativity and Community

Our Comic Relief Red Nose Day celebration brought a fantastic burst of colour, laughter and positivity to Norton College Worcester with students fully embracing a fun-filled and inclusive enrichment experience. The day was designed to promote creativity, teamwork and positive relationships—values that sit at the heart of our school community.

Students enthusiastically took part in a wide range of nose-themed activities, including the popular.

Design-er-Nose, where learners showcased their individuality and imagination through creative artwork. The Task Master challenges added an energetic twist, with students attempting playful activities such as balancing a nose on their own and throwing noses into cups — resulting in plenty of smiles and laughter all round.

One of the highlights of the day was “Pin the Red Nose on SLT”, which sparked great amusement and encouraged positive, light-hearted interactions between staff and students.

The Whose Nose? Challenge — matching the “Year of the Nose” to the year staff were born — proved especially popular, strengthening relationships and creating a real sense of shared fun.

A Red Nose Day quiz rounded off the activities, allowing students to work together and celebrate their successes.

The Red Nose Day spirit continued into lessons with students creating funny-face pizzas during their cooking sessions.

These hands-on activities not only reinforced practical skills but also allowed learners to express their creativity in an enjoyable and relaxed way.

Overall, the day created a warm, joyful atmosphere across the school, with excellent student engagement and a strong sense of community spirit throughout. We are incredibly proud of how our students embraced the activities and of the staff who supported the event, making Red Nose Day a memorable and meaningful celebration for everyone involved.



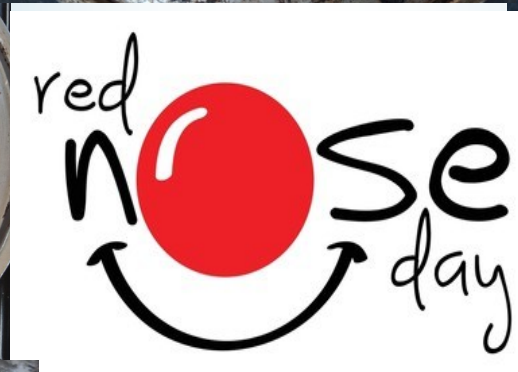
Comic Relief Red Nose Day

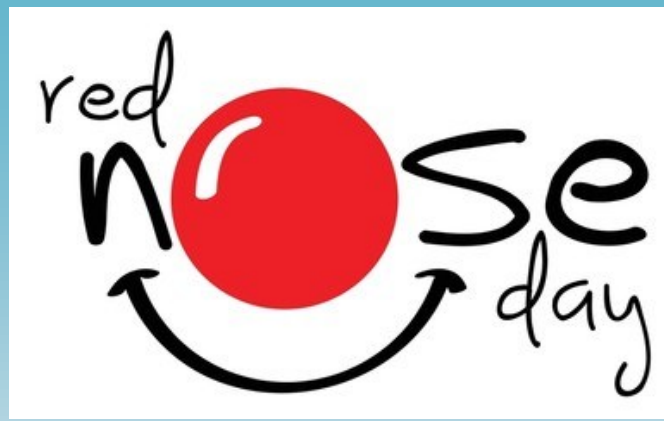
A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who donated to Comic Relief

We have raised £95.00 so far

Our Just Giving Page is still open if you would like to donate

Students made 'Funny Faces' on their pizza's during their cookery lessons.





Our Comic Relief Red Nose Day celebration brought a brilliant burst of energy to the upstairs unit at college, with students fully embracing a fun and inclusive enrichment session. Activities ranged from a lively "Pin the Red Nose on SLT," which sparked plenty of laughter, to the ever-popular "Guess What Year Staff Were Born" challenge that encouraged positive staff-student interactions. Learners also enjoyed designing their own creative red nose artwork, showcasing individuality and imagination. The event created a warm, joyful atmosphere across the school, with excellent student involvement and a strong sense of community spirit throughout the day.



My name is Ally and I am the new Family Liaison Officer for Norton College Worcester.



Joining NCW in February, my background is in working with children and young people with SEN requirements, and previously supporting victims of crime.

As a Family Liaison Officer (FLO), my job is to strengthen partnerships between home and school, in order to ensure all pupils and their families receive support when needed.

As the main point of contact for families, I am working on building trusting relationships with students and caregivers to encourage attendance and positive engagement. Part of this means that I maintain regular contact, carrying out home visits, and being at the other end of the phone for those who need extra support. I also provide early engagement opportunities for families prior to a child joining the school. This means that I am also responsible for the transition plans, making sure these are created in a collaboratively way with the student and their families, and allowing flexibility with these, if required.

Another large part of my role is to assist with increasing attendance with those students that face barriers to attending site. For these pupils, I often carry out home visits and regular wellbeing sessions to promote positive relationships, build trust, and transition them back to site or help set up alternative learning plans.



Parent Workshops and Support



<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/sendias/sendias-training-and-events/sendias-workshops-parent-and-carers>



<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/>



<https://www.carersandcommunities.org.uk/>

Attendance Matters

At Norton College we know that every child's story is unique.

Feeling safe, connected, and understood is at the heart of learning — and regular attendance plays an important part in helping young people build those feelings over time.

Being in school is not just about lessons; it supports social development, confidence, friendships, emotional regulation, and the routines that prepare pupils for adulthood.

If your child is absent from school please call 01905 359 257.

Where possible, we kindly ask that medical appointments are arranged outside of school hours

If your child is finding it hard to come into school, contact:

Ally Farmer, Family Liaison Officer, Alyxandra.Farmer@nortoncollege.org.uk

Or

Heather Rees Boughton, Assistant Head – Safeguarding & Attendance, Heather.Reesboughton@nortoncollege.org.uk .

Together, we can help every young person feel safe, valued, and ready to learn in a way that works for them.



Safeguarding Support During the Easter Holidays

Although school is closed for the Easter holidays, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils remains our priority. We know that worries and concerns don't pause just because school is not open, and we want families to feel supported throughout the break.

If you have a safeguarding concern and would like to reach out to us, you can email the school at safeguarding@nortoncollege.org.uk

This inbox is monitored daily during the holidays, and a member of the safeguarding team will respond.

If your concern is urgent or you feel a child is at immediate risk, please contact the Family Front Door for your local authority:

- **Worcestershire:** 01905 822666 (option 2)
- **Gloucestershire:** 01452 426565
- **Shropshire:** 0345 678 9021
- **Warwickshire:** 01926 414144

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need support. You are not alone, and help is available throughout the holiday period.

| Attendance Information | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------|
| Attendance Rate (%) | Days/Half Days Missed | Lessons Missed |
| 95% | Days missed: 9 Half days missed: 18 | 90% |
| 90% | Days Missed: 19 Half days missed: 38 | 190 |
| 85% | Days missed: 28 Half days missed: 56 | 280 |
| 80% | Days missed: 38 Half Days Missed: 76 | 380 |
| 70% | Days missed: 57 Half days missed: 114 | 570 |
| 60% | Days missed: 76 Half Days Missed: 152 | 760 |
| 50% | Days missed: 95 Half days missed: 190 | 950 |



Key Dates

Terms Dates:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Easter Holiday: | Monday 30th March—Monday 13th April 2026 |
| Sumer Half Term Holiday | Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May 2026 |
| End of Summer Term | Friday 17th July 2026 |
| Inset Days: | Tuesday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September 2026 |
| First Day of Term: | Thursday 3rd September 2026 |




Have you registered for Schoop?


This is the new communication app that we are currently rolling out to improve communications between home and college.

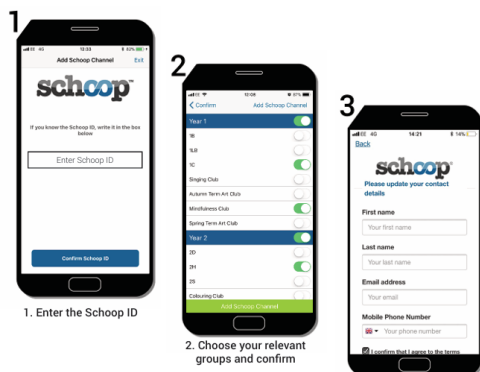
If you haven't already done so please follow the information below:

Schoop ID: 25222

Download the app by browsing the correct link below on your phone.

 www.schoop.co.uk/android

 www.schoop.co.uk/apple



1. Enter the Schoop ID

2. Choose your relevant groups and confirm

Useful Dates

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 23rd April | St Georges Day |
| 20th April | Arts Award Trip |
| 27th April—28th April | D of E Bronze Trip |
| 27th April—8th May | Living Eggs |
| 12th May | GCSE Exams Start |
| 18th May | Yr9 & Yr11 Options Eve |
| 12th June | GCSE Exams Finish |

