



# NIA STUDENT VOICE NEWSLETTER



## Student Voice Messages

This half term, Miss King led a virtual assembly focused on the power and importance of student voice.

Together, we explored why sharing your thoughts and opinions; positively, confidently, and respectfully, is such an important part of life at NIA.

Students were also reminded of the many ways you can make your voice heard in our school community. You can:

- Share ideas via the Student Council Suggestion Box near Student Services
- Join our new fortnightly Student Voice Open Forum, led by the Student Leadership Team
- Speak directly with a trusted adult if you have concerns or issues that need attention.

At NIA, we believe that using our voices to create positive change is something to be encouraged and celebrated. By developing the skills needed to collaborate with others, we are preparing ourselves not only for success in school, but for our futures beyond it.

## Student Voice Newsletter Edition 3 – Spring Term 1

### A busy half term for student voice!

So far this half term, our Student Leadership Team met with SLT and the Year 11 team to discuss the important mock exam period.



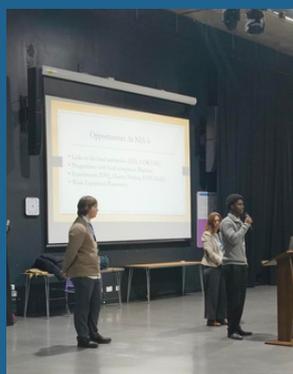
We also hosted our first Student Leadership Open Student Voice Forum where students were able to meet with the Student Leadership Team and ask questions or raise concerns.

This term, the Student Council met with Mr Austen and Mr White to discuss teaching and learning strategies and the impact of homework. We look forward to more collaborative meetings in the future.



## Assemblies this term

This term our assemblies in Secondary have given students the opportunity to reflect on lots of important topics. We have had a guest speaker from Stand Against Violence to talk about anti-social behaviour and we have heard from our Sixth Form Student Leaders about the opportunities at NIA and the importance of further education goals. Our This Girl Can committee also delivered a Primary assembly to welcome applications from Year 5 and 6 pupils next half term.



# NIA STUDENT LEADERSHIP



# STUDENT VOICE OPEN FORUM

## WHAT IS IT?

Our new Student Voice Open Forum's are drop in sessions after school, where students from Year 7 - 11 are invited to speak to our Student Leadership Team about any questions, concerns or general feedback. This will give the Student Leadership Team the opportunity to discuss and explore solutions and positive changes that can impact everyone.

Please keep an eye on the NIA6 newsletter for updates on KS5 Student Leadership initiatives.

## WHEN IS IT?

Our Student Voice Open Forum's this half term are booked for -

**EVERY WEEK B Tuesday**

3.00 - 3.30pm in room  
161.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This forum is open to ALL students from Year 7 to Year 11. It is a fantastic opportunity to meet with the Student Leadership Team and share your thoughts.

We look forward to seeing you there and having lots of positive discussions!





# NIA STUDENT VOICE NEWSLETTER



## SPOTLIGHT ON... NIA's Reading Pioneers



In this edition of our newsletter, we will hear from some of our **Reading Pioneers** committee members.

### Mrs Broadbent wins School Librarian of the Year Award!



At Northampton International Academy, we are proud that Mrs Broadbent has won the School Library Association's Secondary School Librarian of the Year award. Fundamentally, we believe that she is an amazing librarian who deserves to be recognised for all of her work. Mrs Broadbent works hard to ensure that every student has opportunities to explore literacy and reading whilst also helping them whenever she can. She goes above and beyond to make sure that students get to experience wonderful trips that may not be possible at other schools. Since she joined the school, she has transformed the library into a very accessible place that is not only a place for books but also a place for students to study, grow and share their love for reading.

We are lucky enough to have two library facilities; one for primary and one for secondary. The libraries are open for all students so that they have access to a large range of books for all ages and interests. The library has provided lots of opportunities to meet and talk with authors, illustrators and other exciting visitors such as Onjali Q. Rauf, Nathaneal Lessore and Emma Swan.

We also have a committee in the library called Reading Pioneers. We meet afterschool every week in the library. The main aim for the committee is to promote reading and to educate people about the benefits of it. When the committee first started, there was around three of us and now it has expanded to over 30 students. We all share a love for reading and have had the opportunity to go on trips and to work with The McCarthy Dixon Foundation for the Intergenerational Project.



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### **Local charity's exhibition event brings intergenerational stories to life in Northamptonshire**

Last night, Northampton International Academy opened its doors as they hosted The McCarthy-Dixon Foundation's (TMDF) Intergenerational Stories Exhibition.



The event showcased written biographies created by students from Northampton International Academy and Northampton School for Boys, in collaboration with older adults supported by TMDF.

The project, which began in June 2025, paired students from TMDF's partner schools with local older residents, giving young people the opportunity to document personal histories ranging from their childhood and education, to careers, relationships, and lessons they've learned through life. Over two sessions, the students conducted interviews, then wrote biographies which were carefully reviewed by their partners for accuracy and sensitivity.

Martin Serrão, Executive Headteacher of Northampton International Academy, explained: "This Project brought NIA pupils together with members of the local community who have lived extraordinary lives, creating a powerful platform for shared learning, storytelling and connection. Through meaningful collaboration, pupils worked alongside older participants, gaining insight into personal histories, life experiences and perspectives that extended well beyond the classroom.

The Executive Head continued: This project enabled us to actively live our #EMATter values of collaboration and inclusion, fostering strong relationships across generations. By learning with—and from—one another, participants developed mutual respect, empathy and understanding."

The exhibition last night was hosted at Northampton International Academy, who are a part of the East Midlands Academy Trust (EMAT). The event featured individual storyboards with various photographs and images, capturing key moments from each participant's life. Attendees of the event included Deputy Mayor Mike Hallam, the older community members and students who took part in the program, as well as their teachers, family and friends, and some key supporters of TMDF.

Mr Serrão explained that for his students, the experience had "not only supported their personal development and confidence, but also led to the formation of genuine friendships, strengthening community bonds and demonstrating the powerful impact of intergenerational learning."

*Article from Northampton Chronicle and Echo - Published 23rd Jan 2026.*



# NIA STUDENT VOICE NEWSLETTER



SPOTLIGHT ON...  
NIA's Reading Pioneers



#WorldBookDay

## Who are we and what do we do?

- We are a group of students who are dedicated to reading, and we call ourselves Reading Pioneers.
- We aim to promote the joy and passion for reading across our school and others, just like we are doing today.

Some of the things we do are:

- Meet with authors, illustrators and other exciting visitors who come into our school.
- Work closely with the McCarthy Dixon foundation (most recently we took part in the Intergenerational Stories Project).
- Deliver assemblies to both secondary and primary students to provide information on the benefits of reading.

