

# Head's Bulletin



Friday 15th March 2019

Wk 1: Wk commencing 18th March

## Term Dates

**2018/19**

### Term 4

Mon 25th Feb—  
Fri 5th April

### Term 5

Tues 23rd April  
—Fri 24th May

### Term 6

Mon 3rd June —  
Tues 23rd July

INSET day 5—12th  
July

## It's good to talk



I was thrilled to see 97% of year 7 parents come along to the first subject consultation evening last night. It's fantastic to see such great engagement from the newest arrivals at Nailsea and the conversations I had on the door with various people were overwhelmingly positive.

I can appreciate that for parents who have a child going to secondary school for the first time, this style of parents' evening is very different to those experienced at primary school. One of the issues that we are looking to address are ways that parents can have the opportunity to speak to more teachers within the parameters we can operate within.

We are aware that a number of parents were not able to see some staff yesterday. Some of the teaching staff at school, especially those in PE, Art, Music and Drama, do teach more than one teaching group in year 7 (around 60 students) and often close to, if not more than, 100 students. Given the number of appointments available there are, sadly, going to be parents that can't see all staff with the time available on the evening. We are starting to look at the calendar arrangements for next academic year and already have some ideas on ways that the evenings could be organised and run differently and we will update parents in due course.

It's always really impressive to hear about the successes of our current and former students outside of school. We recently had two representatives from year 12 in the North Somerset Concerto competition – an amazing achievement. The quality of music making that unfolded was astounding, and the adjudicating panel with the task of selecting winners from the four finalists, had one of their most difficult challenges yet. Katherine Dumbell opened the event with an almost flawless rendition of the Strauss Concerto for Horn & Orchestra in Eb Major. This was followed by Ellie Lloyd-Jones' beautiful and emotive performance of the Concerto in C minor for Cello and Orchestra by Vivaldi. Katherine, selected as one of the two overall winners, will perform her concerto with the North Somerset Sinfonia and Concert Band in the Gala Concerto Concert on the 30 March 2019 at 7.30pm in Gordano School's Theatre and tickets will be available at the door. Congratulations to both Ellie and Katherine for such an achievement. **Mrs Elliott, Head teacher**

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## Key Dates

### Mon 18th March

Getting into Oxbridge conference

### Tues 19th March

GCSE Art exam begins (2 days)

### Wed 20th March

ABSolute session 4  
Yr 12 visit to University of Bath

### Mon 25th March

6th form students in Berlin (until 28th March)

### Tues 26th March

GCSE Photography exam begins (2 days)

## Open Door Clinics

Open Door Parent Clinics are held on Wednesday afternoons during term time for parents to speak directly with Mrs Elliott regarding any concerns or suggestions they may have.

These are held from 3:30pm until 5:30pm and can be booked through contacting Mrs Elliott's PA, Miss Jan Stirling, on 01275 852251.



## Ski Trip—Pila 2020

We are pleased to announce that we are now planning the 2020 School Ski Trip which will take place during the February 2020 half term (14th – 22nd).

The provisional booking has been made with a hotel in the Aosta Valley of Northern Italy. Parents should have received notification of the trip via a letter on Parent pay.

To secure your child's place you must pay the non-refundable deposit of £170.00 via Parentpay. The cut-off date to register for this trip is Friday 28th March 2019 (unless all places are filled prior to this date). The £170 deposit covers the initial payment required to be paid to the travel company to confirm places. Any questions or queries, please feel free to contact **Miss Kelly**.

## Comic Relief—15th March

As this is being written the hard work of the student council is paying off as we continue to raise money on Comic Relief Day.

Students have come to school in non uniform and there have been a fantastic number of donations to the cake sale taking place at lunch and break time. The sweets at break time sold out in record time!

Next week I hope to update you on how much money has been raised for this great cause and, importantly, revealed the results of the 'Beat the Teacher' event taking place in the Sports Hall at lunchtime.

Have a lovely weekend



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