Nailsea School NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019 | Term 3

A Message from the Head

I don't think I know anybody who is sorry to see the back of January with its post Christmas austerity and oppressive self-denial. For many the start of the year is quiet, but for us here at Nailsea School, it has been another busy term. Based on the students and families I have the pleasure to work with, it is impossible not to reflect on how lucky I am to be working in education in this country. I might lose sleep over funding or curriculum and assessment changes, but I do know that in other parts of the world the challenges for other education systems are far greater.

We have had a very busy and successful term. Students are applying themselves well in lessons and their approach to learning continues to impress. We are particularly proud of our examination classes who are working hard in the run up to their GCSEs and A levels. As ever, there is much to celebrate at Nailsea as you will see throughout this Newsletter.

As many of you will know Ofsted visited us last week, and we look forward to receiving and sharing their feedback next term.

I would like to wish all of our students a restful, enjoyable and safe half term break.

Mrs Elliott

Headteacher



Save the Children.

Duke of Edinburgh Fundraisers

Members of the Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh's Award class would like to pass their thanks on to everyone who supported their fundraising efforts at the end of Term 2. As part of their Bronze Award this group of students decided to complete fundraising as their Volunteering project. They worked really well in two different, smaller, groups and decided which charities they might like to fund raise for, and how best to go about it.

The Teenage Cancer Trust was chosen by one group of students, and the idea of a festive raffle was their chosen means of making them some money. The response to prize requests and ticket sales was phenomenal. Altogether the group raised just under £700.

The second group decided to split their fundraising between Save the Children and BREAK, by organising a Christmas Jumper Day. This again, was really well supported and they raised £225.

Altogether the group raised just under \pm 1,000 which is a fantastic amount of money and a brilliant group effort.



Mr Hellier Head of Dragon House





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Governors Update

Firstly, one of our governors would like to share a very important App. that may help keep students and adults safe which has been validated and promoted by various police forces and is the only one of its kind which is free. It has a range of functionality including a two stage personal alarm which can capture sound and video. The App. can be found at:

https://holliegazzard.org/derbyshire-police-promote-hollie-guard-app/

On Safeguarding, we are very pleased to report the success of the My Concern package that the school has purchased to aid staff in recording incidents relating to student welfare which, during a recent



Safeguarding Lead Governor visit and report, was observed to be a very valuable tool.

Other Lead Governor visits have included Pupil Premium, SEND, ICT, and Outcomes for Students. We have also received extensive and in depth reports from staff regarding School data, Pupil Premium, behaviour, attendance and safeguarding.

Although a little late, we would like to wish you all a happy and successful 2019.

Nailsea Sixth Form News

Last years KS5 results were excellent, and in the recently published tables, Nailsea School Sixth Form came top of the league table for state schools in North Somerset. We're extremely proud of of our Sixth Form Students who work so hard



attaining these results. Congratulations too, to the staff who led the students through their exams.

Y.13 students are starting the run up to those vital final exams in the summer. They have taken their study leave for their mock exams which offer essential practice for the real thing. We wish them the best of luck for their mock results, and above all with preparation for their summer exams.

Next Steps

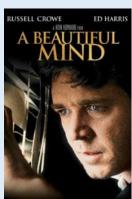
Tuesday 12 March – UCAS Higher Education Fair: All Year 12s Monday 18 March - Oxbridge Conference: Invited/Voluntary Wednesday 20 March - Bath Uni Bespoke Event: All Year 12s

Sixth Form Psychology Film Club by Nina D.

Recently in Film Club we watched the incredible drama 'A Beautiful Mind' which is based on true events. The story followed the life of John Nash, played by Russell Crowe, who's an exceptional mathematician at Princeton University. However, he becomes entangled in conspiracy and only his devoted wife, played by Jennifer Connelly, can help him decipher what is reality and what is in his mind. I won't say much more as the plot follows a series of twists and turns. I would highly

recommend this film it as it really opens your mind to how

others perceive life and teaches you lots about the mind and mental illness. It was also incredibly useful for understanding the extreme hallucinations and psychoses that some people with certain mental illnesses experience.



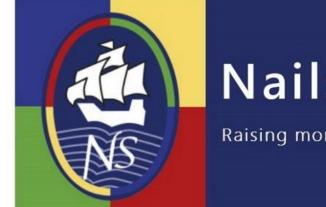
The next film showing will be "Pride" later in the term.



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Nailsea School PTA

Raising money to enhance our children's education

Pour My Bluff - Friday 8th March

This popular event returns for a 4th consecutive year. The event is a fun wine tasting evening based on the idea of 'Call my Bluff' – our 'experts' will describe each wine and you have to guess who is telling the truth!

Tickets available now from PTA members, Nailsea School Reception or email nailseapta@nailseaschool.com £10 per person (which includes wine tasting and nibbles).

Summer Fun Prize Draw 2019 - prizes shaping up to be the best yet!

Huge thanks to the local companies and attractions that have kindly donated prizes so far – these include A M Environmental Management, JSR Business Property Advisors, David Hathaway Transport, Friendship Reflexology, Puzzlair, SP Hair Company, Battle Archery, The Beauty Loft and That Cake Lady. If you know of a company who would like to add to our list of prizes please let us know.

1st Prize: £100 Cash

2nd Prize: £75 One4all Gift Card

3rd Prize: £50 John Lewis Gift Card

Plus many more prizes including: £25 gift cards, a framed photograph of Clevedon Pier, an alcohol hamper, cakes/brownies and vouchers for reflexology, escape room game for 5 people, cut & blow dry and battle archery for 6 people.

This year, as previously, tickets will be available at school and PTA events, in addition they will be **available to buy via ParentPay** and we will be selling at Nailsea Farmers Market later in the year. More details in the next newsletter.

Other PTA News:

Date for the diary: Quiz Night – Friday 5th July

Do you do online shopping? Please consider using the Easy-fundraising app to help us to raise funds. The registration process is very straightforward: visit https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ search for Nailsea School Parent Teacher Association and click "Support this Cause".



Nailsea School PTA

DO YOU KNOW YOUR

PROSECCO FROM YOUR

PINOT NOIR? "POUR MY BLUFF"

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 7PM

NAILSEA SCHOOL £10 per person

Ticket includes wine tasting and nibbles.

Additional bottles of wine available to buy.

Raffle

Tickets available from PTA members,

Nailsea School Reception, or

nailseapta@nailseaschool.com

Nailsea School PTA

Summer Fun Prize Draw

Raising money to enhance our students' education

Follow us on Social Media:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/NailseaPTA/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/nailsea_pta

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NEW STEM Club—Gets everyone in a whirl!

STEM club has started with verve and enthusiasm this term! Twenty Year 7 and 8 students have been attending every Wednesday after school since early January. A number of different activities have been done, with lots more planned!



In 'Papercopters', students tried out different designs to see which paper helicopter whirled the most and took the longest to descend from the atrium steps. Pupils tried different sizes of blades, serration of edges, weight of paperclips, and folding of blades. Super-rotating designs took over 3 minutes to descend!

Designs for spaghetti bridges ranged from the very delicate to the very sturdy, with almost all successfully carrying the M&M load. During the 'Bath Fizzy' experiment in the science labs, pupils experimented with different quantities of chemicals to see which combination produced the most fizz. 55ml of CO_2 was impressively produced by one team. The curiosity and creativity of pupils has been very impressive, and the next sessions, including balloon car racers, are looked forward to with great anticipation!

Mrs Mason Maths Teacher



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Flying the Rainbow Flag

Nailsea School is ahead of the curve, as students have led the way in opening the discussion about LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Questioning/Queer) issues. Earlier in the school year students set up a group where they could discuss their own feelings and identity.

Schools are being encouraged by Ofsted to have a better understanding of gender identity, sexuality, and the phobic behaviours associated with these issues; Nailsea School is working with its students to take the lead in this important area of wellbeing.

The group, who were formed last Autumn, worked with Ms Davies to create a statement to raise the awareness of all staff, providing a valuable insight and a sense of understanding of what it is like for LGBTQ students to have questions about their identity and the difficulties they face.

Nailsea School LGBTQ group said:

"We'd like you to know that being a teen LGBTQ can be confusing and messy. Some of us felt alone for a while, and also scared. Before you tell someone else your identity you can feel selfloathing, which is an isolating feeling. It gets much better when you find people who are like you, and accept you. Putting a label on yourself is also great, and made us feel relieved."

Nearly 30 staff attended a further voluntary training session, and many more have signed up for more information about LGBTQ issues. The staff that have attended the training session are now 'allies' and are able to wear a rainbow lanyard – the symbol of LGBTQ.

Ms Davies, who is leading the staff and student awareness campaign said:

"When you look at the statistics from the Stonewall School Report it is a real concern what these students are going through. Less than half of LGBTQ students will have an adult they can talk to at home, and so it's really important for us to provide a place where all children feel safe. The group has increased visibility of this minority group in the school and made these students feel as if they have a voice. Students and staff alike could not be more supportive of this group, affirming that Nailsea School is fully inclusive".

Staff have found the training very informative, gaining a better insight into the terms used, and feeling more confident in being able to help students who may face LGBTQ difficulties. In a recent survey, Stonewall (LGBTQ Rights Charity) found that 53% of students said that there isn't an adult at school that they can talk to about being LGBTQ. Nailsea School hopes to make it clear to all of its students that there is always someone to talk to and that all children should feel a sense of belonging.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group can email RDavies@nailseaschool.com, the LGBTQ statement can be found under the <u>Student Hub</u> section of our website.







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Winter Wonderland Competition Winners

Last term's creative writing competition saw a fantastic array of talent from our student writers. The winning entry was by Year 7 student Charlie C, who receives 1000 housepoints and his poem published in the Newsletter. Congrats Charlie and all the other runners up.

1st Place

Charlie C. for GRIFFIN winning 1000 HPs and his poem published in the newsletter

2nd Place Finn B. for UNICORN winning 900 HPs

3rd Place Will R. for PHOENIX winning 800 HPs

4th Place Rose L-J. for DRAGON winning 700 HPs



Christmas Eve Bv Charlie C.

Last night was the night before Christmas, And I was sleeping in my bed. Suddenly I heard a thud, "What was that?" I said! CRASH! BANG! SMASH! "What's that sound?" I wondered getting up from my bed.

I crept down from the stairs as quiet as a mouse, Silently I tip toed through the house, The cold floor tickled my toes, The sweet scent of mince pies tickled my nose. There before me I couldn't believe my eyes, A warm blanket of surprise!

In the background the dancing fire lit the room, Santa then approached me and said with a smile, "Hello there, young boy shouldn't you be asleep? Children up at this hour shouldn't sneak a peek! But since you're here now I must bid you farewell Good night, Merry Christmas I wish you all well!" I blinked my eyes and suddenly he was gone But the warm glowing feeling lingered on and on.

North Somerset Concerto Competition

I am delighted to hear that Katherine D has won the North Somerset Concerto Competition. Katherine is one of a number of Nailsea students who have won this competition; it's a fantastic achievement! A performance of the concerto will be on the evening of 30thMarch, time and venue to be confirmed. Katherine will be playing Strauss Horn concerto (in E flat major, op.11).

Katherine will also be playing in our Recital Concert on the 5th March at 7pm in the school auditorium along with last year's concerto winner Lydia M (Trombone) and other excellent musicians including Ellie L- J (Cello) and Stan R (Guitar). Later in term 4 we will have our Spring Concert on April 2nd when larger groups of our musicians will perform.

Mrs Perkins

Curriculum Leader of Music



NEWSLETTER

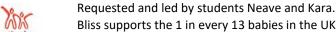
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Fundraising Events 2019

On fundraising days we offer students, and staff, the opportunity to wear non-school uniform if they donate £1. "Onesies", "morph suits" or inappropriate clothing are not permitted. Students who do not wish to support the fundraising event must wear school uniform as usual.

Term 3

Thursday February 14th, Bliss and Action for Children



Bliss supports the 1 in every 13 babies in the UK that are born premature. Funds go towards neonatal research, supporting parents and helping poorly babies have the best chance of survival.



Action for Children offers support for adoptive families, paying for activities where families can meet others in the same circumstances and by providing training courses for adopters who are experiencing challenging behaviour with their children.

Term 4



Friday March 15th, Comic Relief

Student Council will organise activities in support of this national charity campaign.



March 25th-29th, Wellspring and Nailsea Disability Initiative

This will not be non-school uniform but the Year 13 Business Studies group will be organising a week of day time and evening fundraising events that will be evaluated as part of their coursework. More information will be communicated nearer the time.



Friday April 5th, International Scout Jamboree

Requested and led by students Ellie and Chris who will be representing the UK at the upcoming International Scout Jamboree. Funds will go towards the jamboree and will also help finance a fellow scout from a poorer country to be able to attend.

Term 5



Thursday May 9th, My Concern

Funds will go towards the licence costs for the My Concern software which is proving to be an invaluable tool in the work that supports the safeguarding and wellbeing of all students in school.

Term 6



Friday June 14th, Go Orange

Requested by a local parent whose son is affected, this campaign supports the research that aims to find a cure for Muscular Dystrophy and slow down the effects of the disease. Students are encouraged to wear orange.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR FUNDRAISING



Reading Games Donation to The Hub

Members of The Hub team welcomed Joanna Jeffery MBE (Ed), AMBDA from Plymouth based company 'Read Successfully Itd.' who very kindly donated some of her amazing products to help support our Hub students with their reading, writing, spelling, social skills and language.

From all of Nailsea School and especially The Hub, we'd like to thank her for her generous donation.

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Psychology Conference

Towards the end of last term we made our annual trip to the "Pseudoscience and science Psychology A Level Conference" at the Ansom Rooms, Bristol University. This conference is organised by AQA A level Psychology textbook writer Cara Flanagan and presentations are given by a range of psychologists discussing their fascinating research.

This year we were treated to presentations firstly from Phil Banyard, who challenges a variety of unscientific claims made by the media. Magician and psychologist Oliver Meech then took the stage to demonstrate some magic tricks and explained the science behind them. He was followed by musicologist Professor Gianna Cassidy who researches how dance and singing can be used effectively in treating patients suffering from dementia.



The highlight of the day was when renowned hypnotist Andrew Newton, hypnotised a handful of student volunteers and explained some of the science behind the process (albeit not giving away all his tricks of the trade!).

Sixth form student Alfie comments:

"I thought the best part of the day was definitely Andrew Newton hypnotising some participants. Although the whole day was very informative and engaging, the hypnotism surprised me as I had never seen hypnotism being performed before, so I had doubts about how legitimate it was. The way he was able to bring people in and out of certain states was very impressive and funny to watch. Also the magician was highly engaging, and brought lots of laughter to the audience, but he also talked about the psychological tricks used in his magic work ".

I will continue to make this an annual trip for Psychology A Level students so that next year's year 12 can enjoy this experience too.

Ms Davies

Curriculum Leader for Social Sciences

Local Firestation hosts Nailsea School Students

A group of 20 Nailsea School students from years 10 and 11 were given a really in-depth look at the Firestation in Nailsea, and how it operates. Those attending had a chance to look at the personal equipment a firefighter would wear in various situations, the vehicles based at Nailsea and to find out about what happens when a 'shout' comes in.

The students all had the opportunity to try on a complete set of protective clothing, breathing apparatus and also to operate a high pressure hose. All attending were also shown some very hard hitting videos, and were given advice and a booklet on fire safety.



Thank you to everyone that helped put this visit on, all of the team at Nailsea Firestation and Station Manger Mr Stradling for organising our visit.

Mr Hellier Head of Dragon

NEWSLETTER



Hub Students Help Refugees

In the run up to Christmas, students and staff in The Hub at Nailsea School took part in a reverse advent calendar in support of Aid Box Community, an organisation which



helps refugees in Bristol and the surrounding area.

Students were encouraged to donate an item such as food, toiletries, and treats during Advent.

Due to the generosity of students, staff and their families, we were able to donate three large boxes of items.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

Ms Johnson HUB Teacher

Year 9 Sports Leaders

The Year 9 Sports Leaders are currently completing their qualification on a Tuesday lunch time. They have made a great start to the course, working well as a team to develop each others ability as a leader and role model for future generations. Within their PE lessons and extra curricular clubs they have been involved in leading warm ups and coaching peers. They have recently experienced some training which was put to the test on Monday 4th February, when they were involved in leading a Badminton primary school festival. They did a great job and I wish them every success.

Miss Wild PE Curriculum Leader





Live at the Fleece!

Would you like to join the Rock Project and play live at The Fleece in Bristol? Guitar - Bass Guitar -Drums - Vocals. Then join 'The Rock Project' for 2 hour sessions where you can learn songs, and play in a band. All abilities welcome.



Contact bristol@therockproject.com to book in for a free taster session.



NEWSLETTER - Careers Page



FEBRUARY 2019 | Term 3





Advice for Parents

If your child is interested in pursuing an apprenticeship, look out for the new nationwide Fire It Up campaign, aimed at inspiring even more young people into an apprenticeship.

Visit www.apprenticeships.gov.uk to explore the website and to find out more about the campaign and how you can get involved. If you're on social media you can show your support and follow along with the conversation via the #FireItUp and #BlazeATrail hashtags. On twitter you can also follow the main @ FireItUp_Apps account and @Apprenticeships to keep up with the latest apprenticeship information.

For apprenticeship information and guidance access amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/

Languages in the Workplace

Two graduates from Airbus at Filton, spoke to Year 9 about how they use languages at work. It was interesting to learn how the different parts of a plane are each built in different countries and therefore a number of languages are commonly spoken in the Bristol office as different teams communicate.

The importance of studying languages at GCSE was explained. Following the presentations, students are now more able to appreciate how their learning transfers into the workplace. The talk was timely considering Year 9 are currently considering their option choices. The labour market is seeing an increasing demand for language skills in order to participate in global business, effectively contribute to the British economy and manage the challenges businesses will face post-Brexit. Taking a language at GCSE increases opportunities and broadens employability skills.

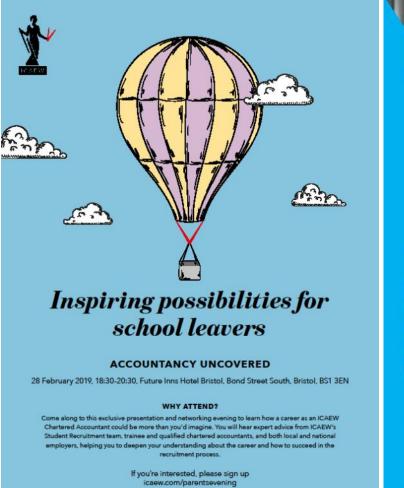


Careers Advice

1-2-1 interviews with our independent careers advisor Deb Britton take place every Monday and Tuesday. Students are referred automatically but if you would like a priority appointment speak to Mrs Watts/Mr Morris to arrange a referral.

NEWSLETTER - Careers Page

FEBRUARY 2019 | Term 3



'9 Mars than usu'

More than you'd imagine icaew.com/careers

FEBRUARY HALFTE WORKSHOPS

19th and 20th February 2019

www.weston.ac.uk/tasters

COLLEGE

Year 10 and 11

The Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancy listing showcases thousands of vacancies from various employers starting in 2019. You can apply for these apprenticeships and a place at university at the same time.

Higher and Degree apprenticeships are widening access to the professions, bringing together the very best of higher and vocational education. Degree apprenticeships give you the opportunity to attain a degree from some of our best universities whilst training in a top flight career. Tuition fees are paid for by your employer and the government, and you will be learning and earning a salary from day one. To download a copy of the listing please visit:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeships



Check the Careers Office window, plasma screens and Careers Noticeboard for up to date information on open days, live apprenticeship details and other opportunities. More information from Mrs Watts, Mr Morris or Mrs Britton.

WHAT'S ON - FROM THE LINK

For further details regarding any of these activities please contact The Link-details below

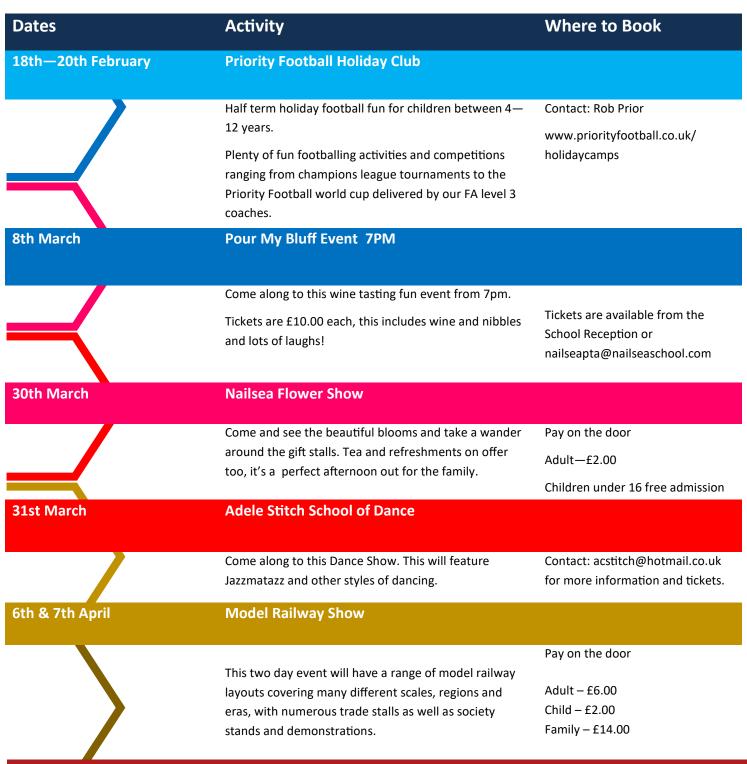


fþe Link

Community: The heart of what w

The Nailsea Link a registered charity was established in 2011 to act as a bridge between the community and Nailsea School as well being a sustainable source of income for the school. Its three main areas of activity are Facility Hire, Holiday Clubs and Adult Education. A self-sustaining charity, any surplus income generated is reinvested back into

the maintenance and improvement of the school facilities.



01275 866 787 | 07969 335735 | <u>thelink@nailseaschool.com</u> | <u>www.nailseaschool.com</u> The Link Nailsea School Mizzymead Road Nailsea BS48 2HN

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NAILSEA SCHOOL STARS

Celebrating those that have aimed a little bit higher, believed in going the extra mile and succeeded in reaching their goals. If there's someone who you think deserves "Nailsea School Stars" recognition, then please do drop us an email with details to fdavies@nailseaschool.com

- * School stars from Mr Reddiford are Angus C. and Jack L .for being the best friends anyone could be #TeamNailsea
- Ellie J and Chris W from Dragon House are stars for being selected from hundreds of Gordano District Scouts to attend this year's World Jamboree, this is a brilliant honour. Well done both!
- In Y8 Louis T, William R, Caspar P, Olivia M, Jess C, Emily M, Emily W, and Edie C, are Mrs Macleod stars for excellent progress in music, fantastic compositions and creative music ideas!
- In Y9 Mollie R, Hollie F, Eva M, Katie B-G, Mollie L, Katie E, Hallam, H, Zac L, Brooke M, Eddie R, Harry T, Sophie P, Josh B, Harry L, Sam L, Luke R, and Sam M are Mrs Macleod stars for amazing pop song performances showing great ensemble skills and musicality.
- Huge congratulations from Mrs Macleod to year 11 GCSE Music class for their GCSE solo and ensemble performances, who was so impressed by your preparation, attitude to learning and determination to continually improve their performances and achieving fantastic results! #Stars
- ★ Also Ella D, Mrs Macleod thinks you're a star for achieving grade 7 with merit in clarinet this term!
- ★ Well done to Clark L and William W from Mrs Macleod for demonstrating resilience and great determination in their performance skills this term. Mrs M has been really impressed with your performance of Elgar's Enigma Variations!
- ★ Miss Figgures nominates Abi B and Evoni P. for English stars well done, great stuff!
- ★ Mr Hellier commends Dan V for being an excellent member of #TeamNailsea. He has regularly spent some of his lunchbreaks mentoring Hub students with German lessons and has had a real impact on their learning. Just brilliant!

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION UPDATED: 13 FEBRUARY 2019

ASPIRE BELIEVE		Average points per student	House Points adjusted to 197 Students per House	Points from Challenges & Competitions	CURRENT TOTAL
×	DRAGON HOUSE	1248	245856	8700	254556 2
*	GRIFFIN HOUSE	1215	239355	8800	248155 4
	PHOENIX HOUSE	1249	246053	8800	254853
*	UNICORN HOUSE	1249	246053	7800	253853 3

How to Earn House Points

- Positive reports
- Excellent work
- High attendance
- Engaging in classwork
- Using GCSE Pod
- Taking part in competitions
- Extra-Curricular clubs and activities
- Evidence of revision
- Representing your House
- Being a member of Student Council
- Helping others (staff and students)
- Using Hegarty Maths
- Contributing to the school community
- Helping at school events
- Completing homework
- Outside school achievements

