



## A Message from the Head

As I write this to you, I am sat in a near empty school building in what would have been week 5 of term 4. Instead of revising Functionalist and Marxist views of society in my double lesson with year 13 sociologists, I have been sending returns to the Department of Education reporting on how many key workers' children are using the school site today. Things really can change in a fortnight!

Yet, in many other ways things have not changed. Our staff have, once again, risen to the occasion in these odd times and continued to support students by being in school on a rota basis and in setting work for students remotely. Our students, be they those in school or those working from home, are showing huge amounts of resilience in adapting to the changing landscape, contacting staff with queries as they arise and our parents have continued to offer very welcome messages of support.

We thought it important that this newsletter continued to be shared with parents, reflecting the amazing opportunities and achievements that have happened since February at Nailsea School. I hope reminiscing on these will bring a smile to all.

Looking forward to seeing you again soon.

Take care and stay safe

Mrs Elliott  
Headteacher



## Pour My Bluff – 5

### Star Review



Lots of fun was had at 'Pour My Bluff' in February – big thanks to our 'Experts' and all those that came along on to taste on the night. We raised just over £290 which this year will be added to the 60@sixty total. PTA members were over the moon to receive a 5 star review from one parent – 'Just wanted to drop a quick note to say what a great evening we had on Friday. It was our first PTA event as our boys are in year 7 and we were really impressed. Everyone was lovely and welcoming, and it was very well organised. Thank you!'



## STEM - Solutions for the Planet

Two year 7 teaching groups were lucky enough to have the opportunity to work with Solutions for the Planet for a full day, considering ways to make the world better and how to be more sustainable.

During the day, students were joined by mentors from Tarmac who supported them and helped them to develop their ideas and plans as part of a national Big Ideas competition.

Four groups chose to give up their time and continue with their competition entries. They were joined by Tarmac mentors every week for 7 weeks in order to create business plans and PowerPoints exploring their solutions for the planet.

The four submitted entries are: 1. PEGI, 2. Positive Press, 3. Meat Free May, 4. Put A Stop to Plastic

We are now currently awaiting the list of shortlisted entries for the next round - the regional finals!

Miss Creswick

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## A Message from the Governors

Dear Parents/carers, students and staff,

I just want to give my thanks to all of you in this very difficult time. Our wonderful community of Nailsea is working hard to support each other, making sure that our elderly and vulnerable are well looked after with food, medicines and daily check ins.

The same goes for our school community. Staff are in school providing a safe place for students whose parent(s) work in key roles or who are vulnerable. The work behind the scenes is thorough, time consuming and challenging in this unprecedented situation. I am so glad that we have strong leadership in Mrs Elliott and her team who are dealing day to day with government updates and the unpredictability of managing the provision for those students in school. Thank you to staff who are in school planning and delivering activities for our students and to those who are preparing home learning to ensure that education continues as best it can. I also commend our students who have worked so hard in preparation for exams that now are unlikely to take place and are in an unknown situation regarding their grades and future options. Their sensible and mature attitude helps whilst we all wait for further guidance.

In a time of uncertainty, there is hope. In a time of isolation and loneliness, there is support, and in a time of need, there are unsung heroes who put themselves forward despite the risks to their own personal safety.

At 8pm on Thursday, I stood applauding our NHS workers with tears in my eyes. I also applaud with grateful thanks each and every one of our staff, students and families who together, will help us get through.

Best wishes and keep safe and well.

Jo Hopkinson

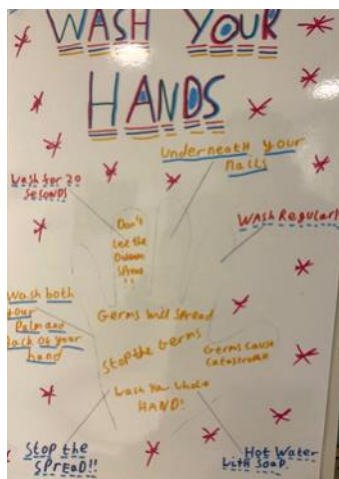
Chair of Governors



## Wash Your Hands!

Before the school was closed to all but a few children, Year 8 were asked to design a handwashing poster to go up around the school. The designs were excellent, and the winner was picked by Mrs Elliott to be reproduced and displayed around the school.

A helpful reminder to all!



## Food Parcels

During the first week of partial closure the school delivered food boxes to our student families in need, driving to catchment areas such as Long Ashton and Tickenham. The food was really appreciated by our families who were really grateful for the supplies.



## Enterprise Award for Nailsea Student

Year 11 student, Natalie B, has won a Business Enterprise competition from Weston College. Natalie will be awarded her prize of a £100 Amazon Gift Voucher, when she attends Weston College in September.



WESTON  
COLLEGE

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## Wellspring Counselling

Wellspring Counselling's Wellbeing Practitioners who offer sessions at Nailsea school are pleased to confirm that they will continue to offer weekly 1:1 wellbeing sessions to students for the rest of the year.

As an addition to the regular 6-8 week session offer, they recognise that lots of students are now worried about exams being cancelled, not being able to see friends, struggling with 'cabin fever' etc so they are offering a shorter 'self care' intervention which focuses on sleep, keeping a routine, addressing worries, and negative thoughts, etc.

The service will be structured and within the usual boundaries, with session timeslots agreed and students contacted by phone once confirmed. Referrals will be taken electronically. If your child is interested in signing up for these sessions, you or your child would need to contact their Heads of House who will support them to make the referral.



## WELLBEING SUPPORT

With all of the changes going on, some young people may feel unsure how to continue to support themselves and look after their wellbeing.

The Wellbeing Practitioners at Wellspring Counselling are offering free wellbeing support to children and young people (aged 11 to 18) during the Covid-19 outbreak.

We are able to offer an initial assessment session to establish whether this is the right support for you, followed by 5 telephone sessions to help you learn skills to boost your wellbeing.

This will involve working your way through our Wellbeing Workbook sent to you via email, and discussing the material during weekly phone sessions.

### What's included?

- Relaxation Techniques
- Stress Management
- Scheduling in Activities
- Identifying Your Strengths
- Building & Maintaining Relationships
- Useful Websites & Resources

If this is something you're interested in, please contact Krissie for more information on [krissie@wellspringcounselling.org.uk](mailto:krissie@wellspringcounselling.org.uk)

*This support is suitable for mild difficulties with wellbeing or mental health. Unfortunately our Wellbeing Practitioners are not able to work with young people who are struggling with difficulties which are complex, causing high levels of distress or where the difficulties pose a risk to the young person's safety.*

## 'An Inspector Calls'

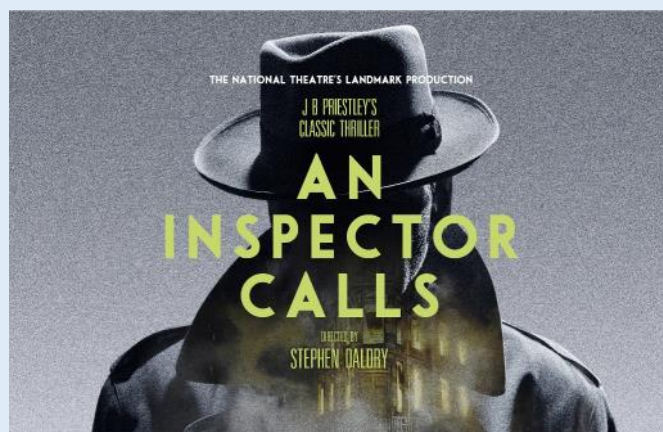
On Tuesday 10th March a group of Year 10 and 11 students travelled to Cardiff's New Theatre to enjoy Stephen Daldry's award winning version of J B Priestley's play.

Daldry's visionary, radical, challenging version of JB Priestley's classic thriller, hailed as the theatrical event of its generation, has been seen by more than 4 million people worldwide and it was great to add Nailsea students to the number.

When Inspector Goole arrives unexpectedly at the prosperous Birling family home, their peaceful dinner party is shattered by his investigations into the death of a young woman. His startling revelations shake the very foundations of their lives and challenge us all to examine our consciences.

Priestley's message is perhaps all the more relevant in our current climate, that our actions have a direct impact on those around us. In the words of Inspector Goole himself: 'I tell you that the time will soon come when, if men will not learn that lesson, then they will be taught it in fire and blood and anguish.'

Miss Creswick



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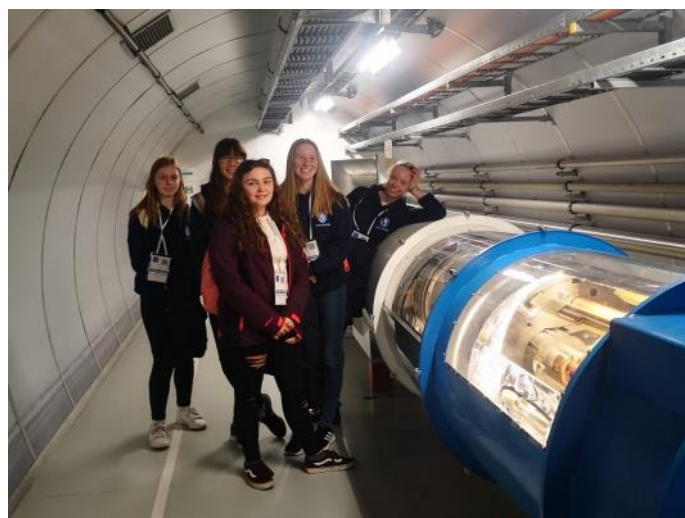
## Trip to CERN

Earlier in the year, 16 students from Y12 and Y13, Mr Smith and Dr. Hewitt travelled to CERN. We stayed at a Youth Hostel in central Geneva. CERN is The European Organization for Nuclear Research.

The group were fantastic, immaculately behaved, positive and enthusiastic about the learning. Socialising-wise we all ate out one evening at a popular local spot eating the local speciality fondue! Plus we took part in the Famous Physics Quiz! On the last day we had the opportunity to look around Geneva's old town, with many choosing to climb the bell tower of the cathedral for the 360 degree panoramic views of the city and the surrounding Alps.

As for the learning, the students found out about 'the standard model' and particle physics, matter and antimatter, the discovery of the Higgs-Boson, plus the role of Einstein's theories of relativity on mass and energy. We also learned how combinations of magnetic and electric fields are used to accelerate particles. Beyond CERN, the tour of the UN buildings highlighted the importance of international cooperation and how the pursuit of scientific enlightenment can bring countries together to achieve magnificent feats.

Mr Smith



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## Medical Mavericks

More than ever, now is a time to celebrate our NHS, raise awareness and encourage our young people to be the next generation of medics, nurses and health and social care workers in all capacities.

On 27th February, we were incredibly privileged to welcome Medical Mavericks to carry out workshops throughout the day. Students had the opportunity to learn how to take blood (from a model called Andy!), try out keyhole surgery and ultrasound their bones. Many of our students were very keen to learn whether they were going to grow in height any more! A firm favourite of the day was a range of glasses which showed students what it was like to live with an eye condition, such as being registered blind, after a stroke or cataracts. It was overwhelming to see those students take on a caring role for their friends and support them round the Super Lab and develop those key caring skills to work in the sector. Students were able to carry out their own ECG and take a print out home. Students enjoyed taking their peak flow readings, looking at their veins through a UV light and look at their retina through an eye scanner.

Later in the day, a special workshop for KS5 students further encouraged students to learn about the practicalities of the sector. They had the opportunity to try stitching fake skin which proved a great challenge! They had the opportunity to look at the inside of a smoker's lungs and carry out more extensive testing. They also watched a video of an endoscopy.

All of the sessions started with a discussion of the range of careers that students could consider in the NHS – [www.healthcareers.nhs.uk](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk) was highly recommended as it gives students the whole range of possibilities of working in the sector. Many more Health and Social Care career ideas and resources are available in school in the Health and Social Care room (146), so when we're back open fully - please do come and take a look.

Mrs Macleod



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## ♪ Music Composition Competition ♪

Now is an ideal time to take part! Entries will be judged in three categories:

- YRS 7-9
- YRS 10 & 11
- YRS 12 & 13

There are no restrictions on instrumentation, which may include voices, acoustic and/or electronic instruments and computer-generated sounds.

Entries will be judged on 3 things:

- Compositional idea
- Originality
- Creativity

### The closing date will be 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Please email your compositions preferably as MP3s. Zip files of Sibelius, Garageband or Logic will also be acceptable to: Mrs Perkins [lperkins@nailseaschool.com](mailto:lperkins@nailseaschool.com)

The BBC are also running a composition competition that you can enter directly. This is the link for the BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4mY3MbSJ5G2LvSbzZPbc85G/bbc-young-composer-2020>

## Antigone - University of Bristol

12 lucky Year 10 Drama and English students had the opportunity to take part in a Classics workshop at the University of Bristol.

The day was in partnership with the talented theatre group [Actors of Dionysus](#) (aod) which has over 25 years' experience performing adaptations of ancient Greek drama and writing inspired by myth. This includes a brand new adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone* that had recently toured, which was set in a dystopian future.

The actors ran workshops which were practical in nature looking at things such as character, chorus, ancient and modern staging, context, original performance conditions, and practical rehearsal techniques. The students did amazingly well, and threw themselves straight into the tasks.

After the workshop, the group visited Bristol Museum and Art Gallery before returning to school at the end of the day. Well done to the group for their contributions to the workshop.

Miss Creswick



## The Young Journalist Programme

We were really excited to send four lucky competition winners to The Young Journalist Programme at University College London.

Run by InvestIN, the Young Journalist Programme, allows students to work with a group of journalists from some of the world's most renowned media brands. During the day, they were immersed in the world of journalism through a series of interactive role plays, seminars and Q&A sessions.

The winners were able to experience some hands-on journalistic activities, including pursuing a thrilling corporate manslaughter investigation and recording their own news story.

As part of the day, they were also coached on how to maximise their chances of becoming a top journalist, starting now. Importantly for some, they gained a competitive edge over other aspiring journalists, and a 'super-curricular' experience to include on their UCAS applications.

InvestIN are currently running online sessions in a range of disciplines.

Six additional career experience programmes LIVE & ONLINE in May for students aged 15-18. These programmes give students the opportunity to gain crucial career coaching in a live, interactive environment, from the comfort of their own homes.

A full list of those available for students aged 12-18 can be found here: <https://investin.org/collections/all>. As a partner school, we are entitled to 10% off all events using the code: NAILSEA19

Miss Creswick

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YEAR 8  
LOGO DESIGNS

Year 10 Fine Art

Possessions and Obsessions



YEAR 7  
FRUITS &  
VEGETABLES



## Art & Photography at Home

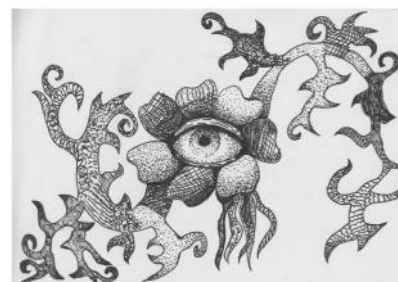
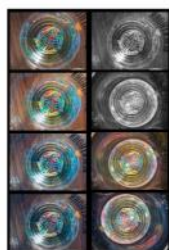
Some great work being sent home from the art and photography work at home lessons. Year 10 photographers were tasked with finding opaque and transparent items in their home, and then contrast these in a photograph.

The year 7s were asked to draw a fruit and a vegetable from observation.

The year 8s have been looking at circular logos, and how they might combine these to create new brands. It's great seeing the quality of the work being produced – keep it up!



YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY TASK 1:  
OPAQUE AND TRANSPARENT



Year  
9

Humans  
and  
Nature

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## World Book Day

World Book Day—our annual celebration of reading, took place on Thursday 5 March. Nailsea School library encouraged students and staff to celebrate by dressing up as a character from a book, complete a book silhouette trail at lunchtime and by baking some book themed cakes, which proved very popular. We had some amazing cake designs and the students voted to choose their winner. Thank you for all your support.

Mrs Corkerton



## London – Trip 2

The second trip to the Saatchi Gallery and the Natural History Museum took place earlier in the term. The students were exceptionally well behaved.

The exhibition, which included 150 original artefacts, was to celebrate the findings of Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon when they unearthed the tomb in 1922. Our journey through the gallery accompanied King Tut on his journey to the afterlife and his quest for immortality - ending with a mind blowing 10ft quartzite statue of Tutankhamun.



The second part of the trip, to the Natural History Museum allowed students to enjoy the celestial map adorning the walls of Earth Hall which provides a beautiful backdrop to the Museum's giant metal Earth sculpture.

The most intact Stegosaurus fossil ever found takes pride of place in Earth Hall, at almost six metres long.

Students were surrounded by remarkable objects that told the story of our planet and solar system, including moon rock, precious metals and fluorescent minerals. These specimens told their own stories of Earth's chaotic past.

Despite being a really long day, the behaviour and enthusiasm of the group was impeccable. It was clear that those on the trip had had a great day and that they had enjoyed both the exhibition and museum.

Miss Creswick

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## Careers Advice

Students in need of next steps advice, especially those in year 11, 12 & 13 can contact our Independent Careers advisor—Mrs D Britton by email: [dbritton@nailseaschool.com](mailto:dbritton@nailseaschool.com)

## Special Effects — Drama Workshop

Katy and Izzy ran a beginner workshop for special effects make up. Both students are really interested in make-up design and are self-taught. They very kindly offered to teach the Bronze Arts Award students, some of their skills. They taught them how to do bruises and cuts with a variety of makeup and using different techniques. Following the skills shared Year 10 and 11 Arts Award students got to try their hand at the special effects. The results were excellent especially for students trying these skills for the first time. A big thank you to Izzy and Katy for running the workshop.

Miss Hitchings



## How to Help our Immune System

Year 7 have been finding out about fruit and vegetables. They were set the task of finding out ways that they could get their 5 a day by coming up with 10 tips on how to add more plant based foods to their diets. These tips might come in useful as we all (or most of us) are at home and trying to keep our immune systems strong. Oli produced this as part of his home learning.



Useful recipe sites whilst cooking at home.

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110219205301/https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/AllPublications/Page1/DCSF-01137-2009> & <https://www.supercook.com/#/recipes>

Mrs Hounsell

## 'Term 4 Yoga/Meditation Trial - Tutor Time'

To offer some alternative support to Year 11 students with their mental well-being, Miss Cahill (Curriculum Leader of Modern Foreign Languages) offered some introductory sessions to yoga, meditation and relaxation during tutor time. A few members of staff even joined in - Mr Graf, Miss S, Mr Hellier and Ms Shoesmith to name but a few!



The students had an opportunity to do some candle gazing (a form of meditation) where you stare at a flame to still the mind and experience some physical yoga poses or deep relaxation in the form of a visualization.

P2 and U1 have not been forgotten - students returning to Nailsea Sixth Form, will get an opportunity to try these techniques in the future.

A small group of students, even joined Miss Cahill for a P6 lesson, showing commitment to learn more about this topic. You know who you are girls - thank you for your energy and giggles!

Miss Cahill

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## SPORTS PERSONALITY 2020

It is that time of year again, when we start talking about one of the biggest events on the school's social calendar...**SPORTS PERSONALITY 2020!** As promoted in your assemblies, it is planned that this event will be held on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020** at **Cadbury House**, obviously we cannot confirm the booking at the present time, so we will wait to hear what advice the government gives as the weeks progress.

Our Sports' Personality awards evening is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our students' participation in sport and fantastic achievements from across the school year. As well as the awards there will also be a range of activities on the night, such as, the BIG Sports Quiz, Buffet food, Disco and our Special Guest Speaker.

We are very happy to announce that **Jess Thirlby** will be the Sports Personality guest speaker this year. Jess is an ex-Nailsea student, former England netball player and current Head Coach of the England national netball team.

Tickets for this event will **cost £13.50** and will go live on ParentPay as soon as we have confirmation that the event can go ahead.

Please remember to be able to attend Sports Personality 2020 students **must** have attended a sports club **or** represented the school in a fixture **since September 2019**.



## Spotlight on Netball - Mrs Wells.

The spring term got off to a wet and windy start with a busy sporting fixtures calendar.

It has been fantastic to see the year 11 girls' netball team turning up to training regularly despite the exam pressures they are facing. Their first game came against a very strong Clevedon team who included a number of regional players within their squad. This additional experience helped Clevedon secure a 15-1 win despite a strong defensive display from Elsie H and Sofia L. Unfortunately Gordano were unable to raise a full year

11 team and so the team played a mixed year 10 and 11 opposition. It was superb to see some excellent passing down the court and circle link up play from Katie H, Molly D and Jasmine R in this game. Prior to our next game against St. Kath's the year 10 and year 11 netball teams received a training session from Yvonne Pearson coach of Weston Netball Academy. Despite some brilliant tips and a strong start the depth of St. Kath's team allowed them to bring fresh legs on in the final quarter and win the game 7-5. Miss Wild took the team to Backwell for their first away fixture. Missing a number of key players, the team had a mix up with a number of girls playing out of position. Well done to Alice for showing such versatility on this occasion.

Whole squad: Sofia L, Elsie H, Molly D, Alice W, Jasmine R, Katie W, Neave L, Katie H, Elise S and Emma H.



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## Year 7 Hockey - Mrs Gardiner

Year 7 have smashed the start of the Hockey season. They have played amazingly well in all games winning every single one so far. Some games have been dominated so well by Nailsea that conditions were imposed to stop certain people scoring (Maisie H). It has been lovely to see over 10 girls at training every week, and the way in which they play has developed so much since Christmas, with the width of the pitch being the main focus to allow positional play to develop. Keep up the good work girls and I look forward to seeing you get better as the years go on. I have high hopes for the tournament, good luck girls!

## Year 8 Hockey - Miss Wild

Year 8 Hockey players have made a great start to the season with numbers increasing each week adding to the depth of the squad. The team have made some real progress in their use of width and increased in confidence running with the ball.

They have played three games this season all of which have been tightly fought with just one goal being the difference Amy P, Lilli D have both received Players of the match so far this season.

## Year 9 Hockey - Mrs Wells

Following on from the strong season last year the year 9 hockey team have made the move from small sided games to full pitch 11v11 matches combining the squads of both the A and B teams from last year. Their opening fixture came against Gordano and the team started well using the width of the pitch to full effect and switching the ball from one wing to the other. Gordano struggled to keep up with the pace the ball was being moved in attack and some excellent attacking play from Maddie P, Molly P, Amy P and Ellie R led them to finishing 4-0 winners. In their next game they faced an inexperienced St Kath's team and injury to usual goalkeeper Jess A ahead of the game meant Izzy D stepping in and offering to fill the role of keeper. Some lovely passing from a midfield quintet of Ruby C, Millie F, Cassia M, Jess C and Lily BJ along with a solid defensive display from Lauren B led to a 6-0 victory. The next opponents were a vastly more experienced Backwell team who started the game strongly and quickly opened up a 4-0 lead. Ella B however quickly adjusted to her role as sweeper filling in for the absent Lauren B and some quick thinking from Ruby C from a free pass led to a fine solo effort from Jack S, with confidence lifted and some relentless running from Hannah L to win the ball back all over the pitch Nailsea quickly replied with 2 more goals and only seconds remaining on the clock. Unfortunately, this was not quite enough time and the game ended 4-3 to Backwell. The team completed their season with a confident and dominant display against a tough Priory team. One goal in the first half from Jess C was all that separated the teams and a great win to top off a superb season so far.

Whole Squad: Jess A, Cassia M, Lauren B, Ella B, Lily BJ, Ruby C, Millie F, Hannah L, Molly P, Maddie P, Ellie R, Amy P, Izzy D, Jack S and Jess C.



## Year 10 Hockey - Mrs Gardiner

Year 10s started the season with a mixed bag. They played well against a tough St Kath's A team and lost 8-4. However the play developed exceptionally well at half time. Against St Kath's B team, there was a 17-0 win and player of the match was Lillie. The game against Backwell was another win (a grudge match we had never won before) with the player of the match being Tallulah. Another win for the girls against Broadoak (18-1) and with Nailsea being so far ahead, certain players were taken off the pitch and conditions imposed on the game. Rosie was player of the match for this game. I hope they continue to play well and the tournament is as successful as the season has been so far.

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**Year 7 & 8 Rugby Festival - Mrs Wells**

At the start of February, a group of year 7 and 8 girls travelled the short journey up the road to Nailsea and Backwell RFC to take part in a rugby festival which gave them an opportunity to receive some top quality coaching and also experience some game play alongside students from Backwell and Churchill. The girls had a range of previous experience and all had great fun getting muddy and developing their skills. Well done: Lilly W, Maisy H, Emily W, Sian T, Rosie D, Gracie D, Evie H, Lucy P, Isla T, Momo H, Olivia M and Roxie M.

**Year 11 Football – Mr Graffagnino**

A massive well done to the year 11 football team who are through to the semi-finals of the Somerset Cup. Along the way they have beaten Clevedon, Writhlington and Castle. They face Norton Hill at home in the semi-finals (TBA).

**Swimming Gala – Mr Graffagnino**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March Nailsea took part in the annual North Somerset swimming gala. The following students took part and were a credit to the school finishing 5<sup>th</sup> Overall. Well done team.

George L, Finn B, Florence R-I, Grace L, Anaska L, Eddie R, Charlie H, Oliver S, Jenny C, Meg A, and Rosie D.

**Athletics – Mrs Wells**

Despite the school indoor athletics competitions taking place before the Christmas holidays the Area finals were not until the start of February and took place at Bristol Grammar School with qualifying students from across the county competing against one and other. The PE department want to pass on their congratulations to Ruby D in Year 8 and Emily W in Year 7 who qualified and represented the school at the competition. Well done.

**Extra-Curricular - Mrs Gardiner**

We have had the opportunity, in conjunction with Wesport, to offer extra clubs and activities to our Year 9, 10 and 11 students. Victoria, from Mindrun4girls, has been running sessions with Year 9s in lessons and furthermore an after school club beginning to develop sport and mindfulness.

Matt from @thegym in Nailsea has set up a Gym professor programme which was open to Year 10 and 11 students. Matt, and some colleagues, came and spoke with our Year 10 and 11 students, to promote this programme which began on March 13<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to hearing about it from the students in the summer term.

**A Message from the PE Team**

As the PE department are following government guidelines regarding sporting fixtures and competitions all end of season tournaments and competitions for the Spring term have been postponed and it is hoped that they will be accommodated at a later stage when further information is received.

The PE department are loving reading about all of the physical activities students are doing at home and in their back gardens. Keep up the great work, check out the challenges we have set and don't forget to involve family members to aspire to those gold challenges.

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## Year 7 Science Fair – Mr Early

Over terms 2 and 3 Year 7 students have worked hard on their Science Fair projects. This involved aspiring to create and developing a project they were interested in, overcoming challenges and believing in themselves and their teammates. They produced some amazing projects.

The Year 7 Science Fair has been running for 3 years now and this year's projects have been the best yet. A set of 14 projects made it through the competition to showcase their projects to the whole of Year 7.

### The winners were:

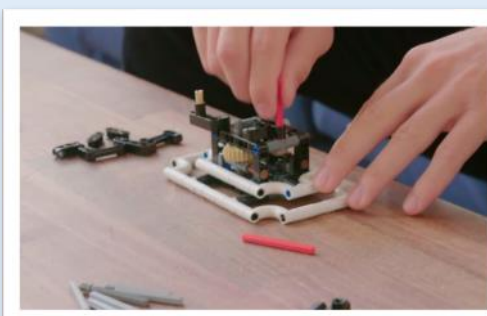
Tom F – For an amazing Lego robotic arm and developing his project independently.

Ben B – Great explanation and understanding of the science underpinning his project.

Hope E, Eliza L and Erica M – Your passion and commitment to protecting the environment and developing changes to the school environment with the planting of trees.

Joe T and Seb T – An amazingly well constructed project, which you down scaled just to be able to show in the Science fair itself.

Speaking with all the science teachers, every project produced this year has been fantastic and a very well done to every student who took part. I look forward to next year's Science Fair!



PHOTOS FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY - Students undertook a range of projects including making a robotic Lego arm, an exploding watermelon, investigation in to pollinators and a homemade lava lamp.

## Flying Start Challenge Competition Update

Volunteers from GKN Aerospace selected two teams from Nailsea to participate in the regional final at the Aerospace Museum. The successful students Edie C, Scout E, Elliot G, Niamh H, James F, Charlie H, Adam H & Tom E. did a fantastic job, taking part in various activities throughout the day, including a tour of Concorde. They tested their planes in competition with other schools. Although these students did a fantastic job, they were 'pipped at the post' by another school and were not put through to the final at Yeovil Fleet Air Arm Museum.

I've been part of #TeamNailsea for many years now and I wanted to share how proud I was of all the students who took part in the competition. From the outset, the quality of the work was exceptional, great teamwork. They were all extremely polite, engaging and did the school proud. Well Done!

Miss Allright

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## Anniversary Orchard

Three year 7 girls have taken the initiative to plant an orchard to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the school. The students who are part of the Nailsea School Climate Action Group wanted to plant the orchard for a number of environmental reasons.

Fruit tree blossom provides an excellent source of pollen for insects such as bees, flies and moths which are absolutely necessary for the fertilisation of the food we eat. Meanwhile the trees themselves will absorb carbon off-setting some of the effects of climate change.

Students are asking for donations of fruit trees including apple, pear and cherry trees, or financial donations to make the purchase of trees.

The students are hoping for an orchard of 60 trees and so far have reached just over half of their target. A group of volunteers helped by planting 36 trees in the grounds at the front of the school prior to the school closing.

Over the years the trees will develop to provide fruit and be a reminder of the schools 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The trio are really grateful to all those that have donated so far. Anyone interested in supporting the project can email Mr Perry on [CPerry@nailseaschool.com](mailto:CPerry@nailseaschool.com).



Hope E, Eliza L and Erica M heading up the campaign



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# "THE WORLD IS ON FIRE"

## GRETA JOINS THE SCHOOL STRIKE IN BRISTOL



Greta with her school strike for climate sign in front of hundreds of supporters in the march



BY AVA T.



'There is no planet B!'

"BLOOMIN' GRETA" said a man as I was walking to hear Greta's speech. Thousands of people from all different places gathered to hear Greta Thunberg speak and take part in the march a few days ago. Lots of school children didn't go to school on Friday because of how important our future and our climate means to us.

I support the climate change movement because if we don't do anything now, we won't have any time left to fix our climate. It's our last chance! Joining in the school strike helps as the more people who go, the more people will start thinking about what we can do to reduce climate change and what will happen if we don't do anything. Lots of people are still against supporting climate change, so the more people who take part in helping our planet the more likely it will help to stop the climate from getting any worse. School strikes will get the message across the world so more people will change their minds and join in to help the cause.



Strikers on a previous March

## Why is climate change so bad and what can we do about it?

### GRETA HAS RECEIVED LOTS OF HATE:

"Mentally ill Swedish child" said by a Fox News guest.

The conservative provocateur Dinesh D'Souza compared her look to a Nazi propaganda poster.

Around 15,000 people are believed to have attended Friday's Bristol Youth Strike 4 Climate rally, churning up College Green and angering many. Lots of people came to see Greta speak and then joined in the march straight after. Although she has many supporters, she has been receiving a lot of hate on social media and from politicians. On Facebook someone said, "She should be burnt at the stake".

Donald Trump also mocked Greta and posted on Twitter, replying to a video of Thunberg's speech at the United Nations climate action summit:

"She seems like a very happy young girl looking forward to a bright and wonderful future. So nice to see!"

Lots of people were very angry at the grass on College Green getting ruined from all the protesters but it is easy to be fixed. If people are getting worried about the grass getting destroyed, why aren't they worried about the world getting destroyed?

Causes of Climate change are greenhouse gases, most importantly carbon dioxide and methane. These are made when fossil fuels are burnt. Meat and dairy production, producing cement and the processes such as the production and use of fertilisers. The planet is generally getting hotter, but some seasons can be temporarily be cooler. Extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, heatwaves, drought, wildfires and floods - are predicted to become more intense and frequent. The processes causes more heat to be kept near Earth's surface, warming our world. **What can we do to help?** The best thing we can all do is to put pressure on the government to act urgently. Changes in our everyday lives like: Saving energy in your home, vote for people that are campaigning to help stop climate change, take the train, not the plane, give money to green charities and reuse and recycle. Finally despite all the criticism it worth remembering what Greta said on Friday: "We will not be silenced because we are the change and change is coming whether you like it or not."





## 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 you think deserves "Nailsea School Stars" recognition, then please do drop us an email with details to [fdavies@nailseaschool.com](mailto:fdavies@nailseaschool.com)

- ★ We can't select just some 'Nailsea School Stars' this term—you have all been amazing! A big well done for your resilience, hard work and kindness to all of our students.
- ★ Thank you to all of the site team and cleaning staff who have come in each day to open up and care for the building.
- ★ Thanks to the catering staff for making sure we all got fed!
- ★ Thank you to the support staff (including IT, Finance, HR, The Link, Events, Data, Exams, Communications, Learning Support & DEN coordinator, Technicians, Admin & Reception, Librarian, First Aiders, Careers, Safeguarding, Wellbeing & Pastoral) who are quietly keeping everything ticking over behind the scenes.
- ★ Thank you to the Heads of House & teachers who are providing so many new ways of working & keeping our minds and bodies healthy and active.
- ★ Thank you to our Headteacher and brilliant Governors who help to keep the school on track.
- ★ Thank you to our community and to our fantastic PTA who support our school in so many ways, way beyond fundraising.
- ★ Thank you to the parents and carers who are supporting the school and helping to educate their children, in these unusual circumstances.
- ★ Thank you to Wellspring who put the Wellbeing of our community at the heart of all they do.
- ★ Thank you to those that have donated to the foodbanks and supported our communities and your neighbours in any way they can, including the church groups and our Connect worker.
- ★ Thanks to the Nailsea Covid-19 Help Group—who are doing so much to keep our community together even during isolation.
- ★ Huge thanks to all the Key Workers and all those people who are going out to work when everyone else is being asked to stay safe at home.



**YOU ARE ALL STARS—THANK YOU!**



Have a lovely Easter Break  
#StayHomeStaySafe

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