

13<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Our first full week of 2023 has now ended and the cycle of the academic year continues, with some students sitting external exams this week and some receiving results from the November exam series. Year 9 students should have received information about the exciting start of their Guided Choices process, looking ahead to GCSE choices that will be their focus for the remainder of term 3. Year 13 parents and students should have booked appointments for their final subject evening at Nailsea school which is taking place remotely next week on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Other messages for the week can be read below:

## **Study Space**

Study Space is the place to be if students want to complete their homework at the end of school day, supported by a member of staff. These sessions take place in room 155 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students can attend on any day and can attend all three sessions if they would like. The expectation is that this is a working environment and students are expected to complete set tasks and not use the opportunity to socialise. We are aware that some students find homework completion a challenge at home and it would be great to see this supportive environment being used.

## **Anti-social behaviour**

We have received reports from a local resident who is, unfortunately, regularly having her door knocked by some unidentified Nailsea students. I am really proud that our school is so integral to our community and this kind of behaviour, sadly, damages the reputation of the significant majority of our students. I would ask that parents speak about this issue at home and if anyone has any information on any specific people involved we are keen to follow this up.

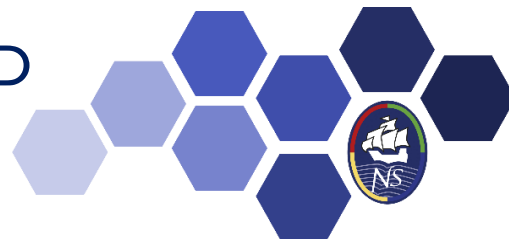
## **Household Support vouchers**

North Somerset have now confirmed the plans for the Household Support Fund for the remainder of this financial year. Families will receive a one off voucher to the value of £60 for every child that is eligible for free school meals, based on the details we have on the system next week. Vouchers will be issued as soon as possible after the date, 19<sup>th</sup> January.

**Finally...** I led House assemblies this week and unsurprisingly I took the opportunity to speak to students about the opportunity January brings for us all. The focus was inspired by this quotation from the author C.S Lewis:

*There are far, far better things ahead than what we actually leave behind. It is important to understand that we should always try to let go of our past and try focusing on the future.*

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I spoke to students about how in January, on 4 separate occasions in my life, events during those periods have taught me something and made me stronger. I concluded by stating that life does not get easier as we get older and when challenges occur we should not be discouraged, we just need to learn to handle the tough times better. As ever, the school and our staff will continue to be here to support students in building their resilience so they can handle whatever occurs in the coming months. In addition, please don't hesitate to contact us if we can offer any further support.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "DE Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher

