



FEBRUARY 2023 | Term 3

Message from the Head

The end of term 3 always feels like a turning point in the academic year. We're half way through, and it's one of the moments when, with the exams season on the horizon we take stock and prepare for the future that comes keenly into focus.

This term we remembered World Holocaust Day and reflected on all that it symbolises in today's climate, what positive changes have happened since that awful time and discussed the changes we still hope to make. I am pleased to say when I listen to our students talk, the future is bright indeed!

Term 3 is one of the shortest terms but as you will see from these pages—we have filled each day with ambition, learning, achievement, kindness and friendship. Year 9s will have picked their Key Stage 4 qualifications and across the school we start to think about next steps, new beginnings, longer days and the merest hint of springtime.

Next term sees World Book Day, the start of some of our practical exams, the Unicorn House Charity Week - and much more.

Have a restful break and we will look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in Term 4.

Mrs Elliott - **Headteacher**



A Message from the Governors

Our Governing body has welcomed a number of new members over the last six months, who are bringing specific skills and qualities which strengthen our strategic capabilities, knowledge and effectiveness. Over the next couple of newsletters, we will be introducing our new Governors to you and welcome them to our school community. This term, we would like to introduce Rebecca Freeman and Nicki Winstone.

Rebecca Freeman

I am delighted to have joined Nailsea School as a parent governor in 2022. I have a vested interest in the school as I was educated here from 1993, right the way through to A levels. My time back then is one of very happy memories generated predominantly by the culture of the school which has resonated through to today with its fantastic leadership team, promoting the wellbeing and nurturing environment in which children of this generation will undoubtedly thrive. I also have two children who now attend the school in years 7 and 9. I am hoping to share over the next few years a positive contribution to the school with some of the leadership skills I have acquired as a statutory director of a UK wide Surveying Business. I very much look forward to being part of the Nailsea School Team.

Nicki Winstone

I am Nicki Winstone and I have lived in Nailsea with my family for the past 18 years. Both of my children went to local primaries and then Nailsea School. Now they have grown up, I am delighted to be able to spend time giving back to the school that helped them. I have worked in education for over 20 years, as an English teacher and Head of House. I believe that every child deserves a high-quality education and in 2019, I moved to a new role, working for a local youth charity and providing consultation to families and schools on transition and SEND. In my spare time I can be found reading, gardening, looking after my chickens or bargain hunting in the local charity shops.

As a reminder you can always find Governors at school event – we wear yellow lanyards. You can find out more about our Governors as a whole on the website [HERE](#)



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The PTA have been busy this term planning future events to raise funds for the school, so please pencil these dates in your diaries. The more support we get at events the more money we raise for extra curricular activities for the children

Race Night – Friday 24th March

Race nights are an entertaining way to get people together, promising a lively night of shouting as participants cheer their horses over the finish line!

How good are you at picking horses- could you pick a winner?



Table Top sale – May (date TBA)

You can either book a table for a small fee and sell your goods or visit the events to see what bargains you can find. More info coming soon!

Musical Bingo – Friday 16th June

Back by popular demand we will once again be running our musical bingo event. This is a great fun event and if you have not been before then come along for a night of fun and music



The PTA work extremely hard to support the activities that further the education and environment of each pupil.

This term we have supported:

- ★ **PE Dept: - £350**
Requested funding towards the U16's rugby team attending Rosslyn Park 7's tournament. The rugby team are currently raising funds to cover the cost of transport / accommodation / hoodies and asked for some help towards the costs
- ★ **Religious Education - £395**
Request for funding towards A level textbook due to a change in exam board.
- ★ **Science Dept - £250**
Request for funding for equipment for BTEC Forensics course
- ★ **Exams Office - £190**
Request for funds to cover trolleys to transport laptops used by students in exams.
- ★ **Sixth Form - £32**
Request for bulbs and seeds to improve the environment.

FUNDRAISE WHEN YOU SHOP ONLINE

Are you thinking of booking a holiday, or making a large purchase? Please consider booking via Easyfundraising. Easyfundraising allows you to access over 4,000 shops and sites who will donate to us for **FREE** every time you spend with them. These donations will help **SO MUCH**, so please sign up to support us – it is completely **FREE** and does not take long. Register now before you start shopping [CLICK HERE](#)



SCHOOL LOTTERY

We run a weekly school lottery which is a fantastic way to support the school with a cash prize winner every week and a jackpot of £25,000. Signing up is easy and tickets costs just **£1** a week, so why not visit www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Nailsea School - you never know you could be the next lucky winner – Good luck!



STAY IN TOUCH

Email: PTA@nailseaschool.com

Facebook: [CLICK HERE](#)

Twitter: [CLICK HERE](#)





School Library Book Club

A selection of students from Year 9 read and reviewed "Sade and her Shadow Beasts" by Rachel Faturoti (illustrated by Rumbidzai Savanhu) as part of a publicity campaign for the Reading Agency and Hachette Children's publishers.

"Sade has always loved escaping to her imaginary, rainbow-bright world. When her mum dies, the colours in her mind fade like old jeans, and her shadow beasts appear...Sade joins a grief support group to work through her emotions, and slowly her beasts retreat. But just as it's her turn to perform her poetry at the school talent show, they're back, larger and stronger than ever..."

As a group we discussed the visual focus of the book, not just the bright cover but the strong descriptions of Sade's imaginary world and shadow beasts. It's very different to the type of book that the students would normally read and the overwhelming opinion is that this book is very well written, it deals with a very difficult topic of loss and grief in an effective way. The characters are relatable and it shows that when you feel your world around you is falling apart that you can rebuild it.



We all agreed it is a fantastic book and it would really benefit someone who is suffering or has suffered from loss and grief. As a result of this, there is now a regular book group with our next read being; "Skin of the Sea" by Natasha Bowen, an epic and original magical/fantasy, woven with West African mythology!

Mrs Conner

Librarian

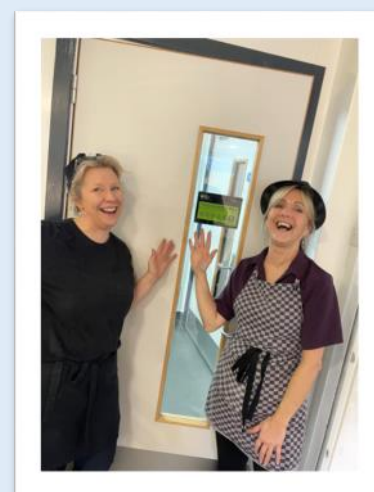
FIVE STAR REVIEW for Our Kitchen Team

With the unannounced inspection from North Somerset earlier this term - we were proudly given a 5-star for our food hygiene rating.

An all-round positive report given by the inspector, Catering Manager Mrs Kim Carter and Chef Ms Jo Poulding, and the team should be super proud of their continual hard work and keeping those standards so high.

The catering team offer a range of food including a two course lunch every week day, the menu is refreshed each term with a new menu appearing on the website within the first week of each term. They work hard with families to accommodate allergens and special dietary requirements.

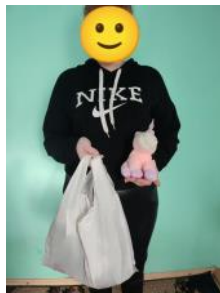
WELL DONE Kitchen Team!



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From Bristol with Love for Ukraine



From Bristol with Love

We were amazed last Christmas at just how many gifts we received on behalf of the Bristol—Ukraine support charity “From Bristol with Love for Ukraine” - the gifts have now reached their grateful recipients in Ukraine—where the war continues to devastate family life.

As these pictures show—they were met with gleeful smiles. Thank you to everyone who donated. You can find out more about the charity by visiting their Facebook page [From Bristol with Love for Ukraine - Home](#) | [Facebook](#)



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Year 12 Slapton Fieldtrip January 2023

Year 12 Geographers had a successful trip to Slapton Field Studies Centre this term to complete their fieldwork for their NEA.

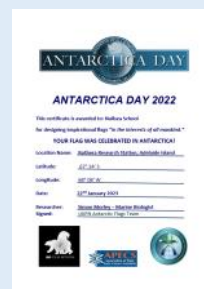
Students spent four days completing place and coastal fieldwork, using a range of techniques to investigate coastal processes and issues along the Start Bay as well as studying 'place identity' at Totnes.



Antarctic Flag Competition—An Update

Congratulations to Sam Gough in Year 7, whose winning flag has made it all the way to the Rothera Research Station on Adelaide island, Antarctica.

It was fantastic to receive a certificate and photograph, which shows one of the marine biologists working there!



Eco Club Meet Nailsea Climate Emergency Group

Our Eco Club had a meeting with Kingsley from the Nailsea Climate Emergency Group (NCEG).

Kingsley chatted to the students about their climate concerns and talked to them about the event that she is running at our school on the 21st March.



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Girls Football Squad

On Tuesday 31st January Nailsea school hosted the year 7 and 8 District girls football tournament. 15 teams from schools across North Somerset travelled to participate in the tournament with many girls taking part in their first experience of competitive football.

The Nailsea team were sublime in their performance winning all of their group stage games and narrowly losing out in the finals to finish in a valiant 3rd place, scoring 16 goals and conceding just 3.

Well done to the whole squad: Lucy J, Sofia N, Esme B, Tia F, Isla S, Georgia F, Xanthe S and Trinity WM.

Additional acknowledgement must also go out to the year 9,10 and 11 sports leaders who not only helped run and referee the tournament but also supported with the team managing.

The maturity and responsibility they demonstrated was highly commended by the visiting schools and we would not have been able to run the tournament without their input.

Well done for being fantastic ambassadors for the school: Fionnuala H, Cianna WS, Zoe V, Lucy P and Emily G.



PHOENIX

CHARITY WEEK

Cake Sale - Friday break time in the Atrium

Non Uniform Day - Friday £1 Donation

Guess The Number of Sweets - Friday in the Atrium

Guess The Baby Photo Competition

Raffle Tickets - On Sale All Week

Live Friday in the Atrium - Live Performances Friday Lunchtime

PHOENIX HOUSE ARE FUNDRAISING FOR "OFF THE RECORD" (YOUNG PEOPLES MENTAL HEALTH CHARITY) AND YACWAG (YATTON AND CONGRESBURY WILDLIFE ACTION GROUP).



Phoenix Charity Week

Phoenix House are the second house to have a turn at hosting a charity week this term, following the success of Dragon House in Term 3.

A number of events are planned and as I write this the current fundraising is up to £287. Many of the events will happen on Friday including a non-school uniform day and a "Guess the Baby competition".

Friday will also see the long awaited return of a "Live Friday" event—where students (and sometimes staff!) take to the mic to perform in front a packed atrium. Students are understandable enthusiastic to have this event back on the programme as it's status has become legendary, since it was a favourite feature pre-Covid19 times.

Phoenix are fundraising for youth mental health charity "Off The Record" and for the Yatton & Congresbury Wildlife Action Group—a charity who work to protect the environment locally.

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CAREERS HUB



Welcome

I am Gayle and I joined Nailsea School this term as the Careers and Employability Coordinator. I am looking forward to supporting everyone with anything careers and employment related!

I am in school every day, and I sit downstairs in the Careers and Employment Hub, which is room 33 by the Griffin House break out area. Students can come and find me every break, time or can send me an email via gbennett@nailseaschool.com and we can arrange a suitable time for us both to meet in the Hub.

Parents and Carers please feel free to email me with any questions and I will get back to you. As a school community we take the approach "you said, we listened" and we always welcome feedback as to how we may be able to change or improve something.

Please continue to check our social media links for weekly careers and employment updates, and Careers Bulletin's will be sent out once or twice a term.

ENVISION

Working in partnership with schools and colleges, the Envision programme works to unite young people with trained staff and mentors to tackle social issues affecting their community. The programme helps students to build confidence and essential skills.

It is a 12-week programme where the students work together to build on their business and team skills. The final session of the programme saw a number of Year 9 students attend a conference at Will Memorial Conference Centre, Bristol where they had to present to a number of Envision mentors.



Mrs Rutty Assistant Head for Inclusion & Aspiration who leads the programme at Nailsea School said of the pupils taking part:

"I was incredibly proud of the development of the students involved, they worked really hard to push themselves in their presentation, developing interpersonal and confidence skills that will really help them in their future careers. Speaking in front of an audience in such a corporate setting is something many adults would baulk at, but these students pushed themselves from their comfort zone and have achieved something very special".

The 12-week programme has resumed again this term with a number of Year 10 students who will benefit from this excellent project

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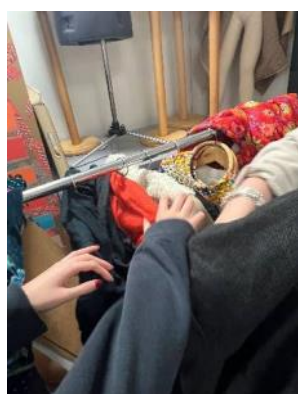


Sixth Form News!

The Sixth Form Extended Tutor Time group have been busy over the last few months, raising money for the Strawberry Line Café. This is a not-for-profit charity that provides work experience and work opportunities for young people with disabilities. In addition, this term's charity event will also benefit Young Minds charity.

Sustainable Fashion Event

On Tuesday 13th December, the sixth form media group held a sustainable fashion event. This involved getting a series of donations prior to the event for old clothes and selling them for £1 each. We also had a cake sale running alongside this, and that was a huge success. We raised almost £50 from both the cakes and the clothes.



Your Journey | Your Future

Valentine's Day Roses

This term, the Sixth Form media group decided to sell "Friendship Roses" in the spirit of Valentine's Day.

These are roses that you can give to a friend, containing a message on the attached label. This can be a message of gratitude for something this friend has done or just a thank you for general friendship.

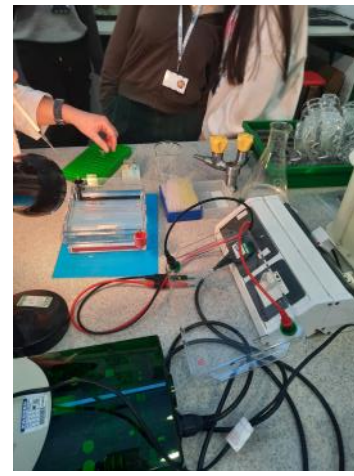
The proceeds of these roses will go towards the Mind Charity, which helps teens and adults with mental health issues, and the Strawberry Line Café. (The Strawberry Line Café provides work opportunities for people who may not be otherwise chosen for a job, for one reason or another).



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Aim Higher Workshop

On Friday 20th January, we were privileged to welcome University College Weston (UCW) into school to provide an Aim Higher workshops for A-Level Biology, Forensic Science and Health and Social Care Extended Diploma Students.

We had the opportunity to carry out a degree-level practical, including gel electrophoresis of e-numbers in sweets. The experience allowed us to understand how to use important equipment, including a micropipette, allowing us to extract exact measurements of liquids. The lab workshop allowed us to have a wider understanding of scientific equipment and complete a practical experiment, also supporting many of us in our courses. For Health and Social Care students, it supported our Unit 13 Scientific Techniques unit, expanding our knowledge of microbiology.

As part of this workshop, we learned about the university degree and foundation level degrees that UCW offer, including the Biological Laboratory Sciences FdSc. For many of us in Year 12, this provided us with another Post-18 option to consider as part of our Pathways decisions.

Thank you to UCW for coming into school. We look forward to welcoming UCW back into school for more Aim Higher workshops in the future and to learn more about the degree programmes they offer. To find out more about the courses that UCW offer, click this link:

<https://www.ucw.ac.uk/courses/>

By Lola S - Sixth Form Student



French Club

A sixth form ambassador in Y12 leads a successful weekly languages club in French which is open to those ab-initio students in Y10 who opted for GCSE French having studied this as their second language.

This is an ideal opportunity to practise spoken language skills and revise key grammar concepts that are essential to GCSE success.

A Y10 dual linguist who has been regularly attending these sessions said:

"These are very helpful and cool. I feel more confident in my language learning now. Merci!"

Mrs Cahill - Head of Modern Foreign Languages

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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 you think deserves "Nailsea School Stars" recognition, then please do drop us an email with details to fdavies@nailseaschool.com

Year 7

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Miss Evans is awarding 'star status' to Millie R for consistently working hard and aiming higher with all tasks set.
- ★ In Health faculty, Miss Wild gives a big shout out to Lucy B, Emilla G, Phoebe W, Miriam W, Eleni I, Seren S, and Alice R for the outstanding progress they have made in hockey and PE in general come rain, hail or sun.
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mrs O'Reilly is really impressed with Noah M and Oli W for his constant enthusiasm for learning Spanish.

Year 8

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Mrs Wheeler is awarding 'star status' to Anissa W for amazing work in lessons and always trying your hardest
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Ms Cowling is really impressed with Haydn T for being so organised with this laptop and always making sure to email his work to me at the end of the lesson. #BeProud
- ★ In Health faculty, Mr Taylor is really impressed with Morris C, Archie G, Daniel W, Reggie S for the outstanding progress they have made in Dance and Gymnastics across the term.
- ★ In Maths faculty, Miss Miller wants to nominate Moses A for always having an amazing commitment to learning in maths
- ★ In MFL faculty, Miss Cahill gives a big shout out to Zoe M-A for acting as a role-model to other students carrying out practice speaking exams prior to their actual assessment. A super star! #BeKind

Year 9

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Mrs Wheeler is really impressed with Louis C and Declan M for great team work and imagination with your app ideas.
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Ms Jacobs gives a big shout out to Taylor M for the outstanding progress you're making in English because of your hard work and dedication. #AimHigh
- ★ In Health faculty, Mr Miles is really impressed with Darcy P, Freya H, Sophie L, Emily L, George D
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Mrs Nicholson is awarding 'star status' to Aaron R
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mr Paillier gives a big shout out to Liam S for consistently being helpful in lessons without prompt and always putting in 100% effort!

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NAILSEA SCHOOL STARS - CONTINUED

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Year10

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Miss Evans gives a big shout out to Gracie-Jo G for working really hard in lessons and showing resilience and determination to complete coursework tasks
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Mrs Jones is really impressed with Amelia G and Milla C for their focus and commitment in English lessons. #AimHigh
- ★ In Health faculty, Mrs Gardiner is awarding 'star status' to Chloe P, Fionnuala H, Connie H for work outside of lessons. I have been very impressed
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Mrs Nicholson gives a big shout out to Jess B for always trying her best in lesson and catching up on work
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mrs Dunn is really impressed with Rosie D for her commitment to learning, as she is ab-initio Spanish and has caught up with most of the group. Well done!

Year 11

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Miss Evans is really impressed with Tom H and Kieran F for challenging themselves and showing determination to 'get it done'.
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Miss Creswick says you are a star Mollie P for amazing work in lessons and in the run up to your mock exams. #BeProud
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Ms Thompson gives a big shout out to Aliah B for completing past papers and being a super star!
- ★ In Maths faculty, Mrs Rogers is awarding 'star status' to Emily S for brilliant work in lessons and for your mock exams. #AimHigh
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mr Paillier is really impressed with Jacob C for consistently 'aiming high' in Spanish - keep up the good work!

Sixth Form

- ★ In 6th Form, Mrs Macleod is awarding 'star status' to Ciara M, Lily B, Jasmine H, Lola W, Lola S for their outstanding performance on their Health and Social Care work experience placements within the community, demonstrating wonderful levels of care and compassion. #TeamNailsea
- ★ In 6th Form, Miss Wild gives a big shout out to Sam C, Jack H and Connor M for level of commitment to their Unit 1 and 3 retakes alongside running house matches for Unit 8 coursework
- ★ In 6th Form, Miss Evans is nominating Sophie P for consistently producing a high standard of work and meeting all deadlines set throughout the whole course. A mature and professional approach that will support Sophie in her onward journey and future career. Well done.
- ★ In 6th Form, Mrs Macleod gives a big shout out to Year 12 & 13 Health and Social Care Students for exceptional levels of motivation, revision and dedication in their preparation for their January exams. Well done!! #AimHigh
- ★ In 6th Form faculty, Miss Cahill is awarding 'star status' to Jack H and Lily H for MFL 6th form ambassador role - going over and above for others! #BeKind

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