



Welcome

**A Message from the Headteacher**

Our school year is once again certainly flying-by with lots happening around the school as usual. External exams are now just around the corner and all the hard work in lessons is preparing students for what is to come in the summer. If you are a parent of a student in their final crucial exam stages, please let us know if you have any concerns or queries. Working together to encourage and challenge, in equal measures, is vital to securing the results our students and your child deserves. The pressure is now on and it can be a difficult time for some students. There is always a way forward so please carefully monitor how your child is and keep us informed.

Funding for education continues to be in the news, given the ongoing industrial action. As has been mentioned although on the surface the education budget could be said to have increased, increased costs have been passed on to school. This inevitably impacts on the money that can be spent

educating and providing experiences for our students. Please be assured that I am working with the governors to take the utmost care with our budget to ensure that our money is spent most effectively on the children in our care.

In these very testing times I am incredibly thankful to the work of the students and continued support of staff, parents and governors who remind me of the priority - educating and supporting our young people to Aspire Believe Succeed. It's been another great term at Nailsea as you will see in these pages. I hope that you all enjoy a well-earned break and where required, batteries are re-charged for a very busy few months ahead.

Mrs Dee Elliott

Headteacher

Governors

A Hello 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 Gemma Broom.

Gemma Broom

I decided to apply to become a school governor at Nailsea School to gain a better understanding of the education system specifically, secondary education having previously been a school governor at a local primary school for six years. I have a finance and governance background and a keen interest in the ABSolute curriculum and maths. I'm really looking forward to working with the school and offering something back to the school community.

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 school website, www.nailseaschool.com/our-team/our-governors/

Dr Jo Edwards

Parent Governor





Sixth Form Round-Up

As we move closer towards the summer exam series, the focus for Year 13 this term has very much been on revision technique and completing their final assignments, to ensure they achieve their potential and reach their chosen destinations.

Meanwhile we have been conducting interviews with our Year 11 students to secure their place for a September start, when the next cohort will join Nailsea Sixth Form.

NAILSEA SIXTH FORM - YOUR JOURNEY | YOUR FUTURE

**RUSSELL
GROUP**

Aspire Pathway

At Nailsea Sixth Form, we ensure that our high level academic achievers have every chance at gaining a place at the most prestigious and demanding universities including Oxford or Cambridge. That high level courses such as engineering, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science or a music conservatoire are an attainable aspiration for such students.

We have recently launched the Aspire Pathway, which is a bespoke course offered to Nailsea Sixth Form students who plan on applying to one of these prestigious courses or wishes to apply to a Russell Group university.

Students who enrol onto the Aspire Pathway receive both a subject and application mentor, additional support, access to Oxbridge conferences and Open days, interview preparation and Aim Higher opportunities across their subject areas.

Mr Truan—Head of Sixth Form

In the Community

I selected to volunteer at one of the local primary schools, Golden Valley, for my term 3 and 4 enrichment. I had aspirations to develop new skills, get experience, and expand my knowledge before studying primary teaching at university. I am currently helping a year 5 class with their outdoor PE sessions, which has helped me to step outside of my comfort zone by demonstrating and assisting the children in group and paired work. I often find my cheeks are hurting from smiling too much from watching the children develop and our positive interactions! The children at Golden Valley have been wonderful to work with, and it is inspiring to know that they look up to me and hope to one day be in my position. I am really grateful for the opportunity that Nailsea School has provided me, and I am eager to improve my abilities and apply what I have learned throughout my enrichment, hopefully in my own class one day.



Hermione Y12 School President



North Somerset Magistrates' Court

Year 13 Criminology students had the fantastic opportunity to attend North Somerset Magistrates' Court this term. The day started with a talk from Magistrate M. Darg about the role of a magistrate, how a magistrates' court works and the type of cases we would witness. Students then had an opportunity to observe the court in session and see Criminology in action.

Mr. Boyce & Miss Cartwright

"It was very interesting to see what crimes are tried in a magistrates' court and what happens when someone is found guilty." Maisy – Y13.

"We spoke to a magistrate who had been working for 20+ years, who gave us plenty of facts about the magistrates' which we added to our notes for the exam." Lillie – Y13.

"It's helped me to understand the justice system and has made me more interested in working within it." Lauren – Y13.



Earthquake Appeal

Like many of us, the Sixth Form Media group were shocked and saddened by the Turkey-Syria Earthquake. We wanted to do what we could to help out, and so we decided a cake sale would bring in some money that could be sent to help. We researched different charities that offered help to these regions but decided to use the official one that Oxfam and the Red Cross were using.

On 7th March, the Sixth Form Social ETT team held a cake sale to raise funds for the Turkey/Syria earthquake appeal. Many people baked cakes or bought cakes in donation to our cause, leading to another successful event.

We raised £42.75 for the charity.

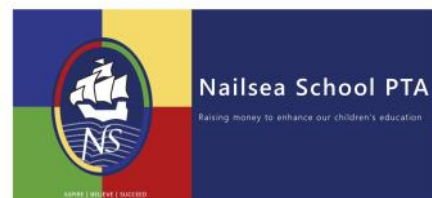
Previous to the Cake Sale, the Sixth Form social group sold friendship roses for charity. The roses included a delivery service around school where you could give people roses with their names on and we managed to raise £52.05. These events together raised £94.80 for this worthwhile cause.

Media Team

Musical Bingo

To everyone who came to the PTA's Musical Bingo event earlier in the term, thank you so much. A great fun evening was had by all and it culminated with some rousing karaoke.

Your support at our events is invaluable in helping us raise additional funds for the school, we cannot do it without your help and support. We have had some real successes this year and have been in a really good position to help the school and our children's education.



Ways to Support

As parents ourselves we do realise it is not always easy financially to support events but there are other ways you can help the PTA, as with your help we really can carry on making a difference.

- If you are on Facebook, please like and follow us and share all our posts www.facebook.com/groups/NailseaPTA
- Signing up to Easyfundraising is **FREE** and can turn your everyday online shopping into **FREE** donations to us. You can shop with over 7,000 retailers.
- Please register using this link – www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/ and search for Nailsea School Parent Teacher Association and click 'support us' There's no catch or hidden charges and Nailsea School and the PTA will be grateful for your support.

Future Events - please save the date, further information will be coming out next term

Rotary Walk - 11th June

Race Night - 16th June

Summer Raffle - 7th July

Summer Raffle

We are always very appreciative of any donations of quality raffle prizes so if any parents / carers work for a business that can donate a prize for our raffle we would be very grateful. Please drop the PTA an email at nailseapta@nailseaschool.com with information, every business that donates a prize is mentioned in our poster.

Is Finance Your Thing?

We are looking to recruit a new Treasurer, if you are good with numbers and can spare 2 days a term to help out at an event and to attend a PTA meeting, please drop the PTA an email to nailseapta@nailseaschool.com, we would love to hear from you.

Donations in Term 4

Department	Item	Donation
Sixth Form	University Visits (Coach)	£400.00
Year 11	Year 11 Prom	£360.00
Sixth Form	Recycling Bin	£100.00
Photography	Digital Cameras	£840.00
Geography	Fieldwork Equipment	£199.92
ICT Business - DT	Video cameras	£150.00
Maths	Junior UKMT Challenge	£156.00
Exams	Laptops	£969.00



Careers Update

It has been a remarkably busy few weeks in the Careers and Employment Hub. I have had the pleasure of meeting with some of our year 11 and 13 students on a one to one basis, to explore all of their options for when they leave Nailsea School, or 6th Form. This has been supported by lunchtime "pop up" sessions from The Robins Foundation, Weston College, and Access Creative College. I will continue to invite colleges and apprenticeship opportunities into school.

As always opportunities are changing daily so I urge all parents and carers to remind students to check their emails and Unifrog Interactions regularly. I also use ClassCharts announcements. Please continue to look out for information careers and employability via our social media platforms. As also we always welcome any feedback and connections! Enjoy your Easter break make sure it is restful for all.



Mrs Bennett
Careers and Employability Coordinator



Degree Apprenticeships

We held a very well attended visit for a group of year 13's with Bristol based company Synoptix, who came in to discuss their degree apprenticeship program.

Synoptix is a Systems Engineering Consultancy, supporting engineering programmes across aerospace, defence, rail, marine and power sectors. Their core engineering team applies systems engineering principles to complex projects, supported by a selection of high-calibre, scarce-skills Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).

The talk was very interesting, and highlighted the route of degree apprenticeships, particularly in engineering. At least two year 13 students are going to apply to the scheme, and we wish them every success.

Work Experience Week Year 10

26th - 30th June

Huge thanks to all our local schools, businesses and organisations that have offered our year 10 experiences of work placements.

We still have a number of year 10 students who do not have an experience of work placement arranged. Are you someone who can please help? Can your business or employer give a year 10 student an opportunity? The week runs from Monday 26th to Friday 30th June. Any offers will be greatly received even if it's not for the full 5 days.

Pathway Week Year 12

4th - 7th July

We are also looking for various opportunities for our year 12 students during their Pathway Week, Tuesday 4th July until the Friday 7th.

If you can help in any way or have a contact name for me, please email me - gbennett@nailseaschool.com. There is a huge emphasis within our school community to ensure our students leave here with having the skills to be employed, and experience of work placements is so beneficial towards this.



#WorkLifeWednesday

Career information, advice and guidance can be found regularly on our Twitter and Facebook pages we post on a Wednesday and information can be found by searching the hashtag #WorkLifeWednesday.

A list of opportunities is produced termly and can be found on our website in the 'Careers' section.

We have recently set up a LinkedIn profile for the school. If you're an alumni of Nailsea School, interested in working with us or are keen on generally seeing some of the partnerships we are developing, please do give us a follow!

Blind Date with a Book

With February being the month of love and romance, it was a great opportunity for students to try out 'Blind Date with a Book' in the library. Throughout February students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were discussing the Romance genre during their reading lessons which includes an extract from a romance genre novel. There was also an opportunity to check out a book which was wrapped in brown paper with a selection of keywords which describes the book. It was also a great talking point...judging a book by its cover!



The feedback from this initiative was really positive with students saying;

"I never would have normally picked up this book but this gave me the opportunity to try something different".

"I'm quite indecisive about what to read so it was great for me"

Mrs. Conner
Librarian

Festivals of Spain

Friday lunchtime we gathered in the auditorium to listen to Señora Dunn talk to about some weird and wonderful festivals that they celebrate in Spain.

There were some interesting videos about a festival called La Tomatina which is all about throwing squashed tomatoes at your friends and another which showed a man jumping over tiny babies, which apparently is supposed to be good luck.

Everyone agreed that some of the festivals in Spain are much stranger than anything we do in this country! Willow said that he enjoyed the lecture as it was interesting to see how other countries celebrate different festivals and Billy added that his passion for the country had increased!

Mrs Dunn
MFL Teacher



Hockey Club



The Year 7, 8 and 9 hockey teams have made a great start to this season. Turn out to training has been high with new members joining all the time. To date, matches have happened against St Kath's and Backwell with some strong wins of 5-0, 2-0, 2-0.

Congratulations to the players of the matches: -

Emily L Year 9, Maisie M, Phoebe W and Em W.

The teams have worked tirelessly in training to work the ball into the channel to exploit the gaps in the opposition, which is beginning to pay off in matches. The teams district tournaments are approaching fast so students should keep an eye out in the Health office window for updates.

Remember that you will also vote for your choice of players' player which will be awarded at sports personality later in the year so get your thinking caps on

Miss Wild
Head of Health Faculty

Get Caught Reading

We have been encouraging our students to read through the Get Caught Reading scheme we have been running in school. Students have been awarded additional House Points for being caught with their noses in a book.

A competition has been running for Year 7 students whereby those that have accrued the most House Points for reading will be entered into a prize draw, which were announced on World Book day.

The winners of the Get Caught Reading prize draw (who each won a £10 book token funded by the PTA) were:

- Maggie G in U2
- Eddie A in P1
- Isabel M in G1
- Rory W in D4



The teacher who gave out the most Get Caught Reading house points on World Book Day was Ellen Sutherland with an amazing 81 House Points. Congratulations!

Mrs. Truscott
English Teacher

World Book Day



There were so many awesome costumes from staff that it is impossible to name the winner but special mentions to Mr Anstey who stayed in character all day as Mr Twit, Miss Nicholson who spent hours on her Hungry Caterpillar costume, the Art department's beautiful Alice in Wonderland creations, the brilliant team work of SLT, Geography, Maths, the exams team and Science, The Hub and Mr Wylie's very detailed Bear Grylls costume, not to forget the beautiful glamour and glitter of the English team with their Great Gatsby get-up

There were a lot of discussions about books taking place all day around the school with teachers sharing their favourite books and promoting subject specific reading. As a school, we did a great job promoting reading and encouraging our students to read regularly.

Thanks to #TeamNailsea for getting involved. Remember to keep awarding Get Caught Reading house points in tutor time and in lessons as there will be another prize draw in the summer term.

Mrs. Truscott
English Teacher





Nailsea Squad Head to Rosslyn Park

Nailsea School is excited to be taking part in the world's largest schools rugby 7's tournament, Rosslyn Park. A fantastic success, as the first team of its kind in recent history to compete on behalf of Nailsea School.

With a history dating back to 1939, Rosslyn Park 7s has since evolved into the largest school rugby tournament with over 10,000 boys and girls aged 11-18 competing annually.

The Nailsea School squad were selected as one of 275 teams in U16 Colts category for 2023.



With over 1,000 state and private schools applying for the tournament in 2022/23, it is a fantastic achievement for the squad and the school.

Mrs Elliott, Headteacher said:

"I am so thrilled that our Under 16 Colts are on their way to Rosslyn Park. The team have worked hard both on and off the pitch to make this happen. Well done to them and to their coaches - they should be very proud of the success they have earned."

The tournament draws inspiration from current and past professional players, coaches and support staff participating students will be able to immerse themselves in an elite environment playing against and watching the next Academy and International rugby stars of the future.

Fourteen students from years 10 and 11 were selected for the team. The students were thankful to have received sponsorship from Pure Comms, JSR, and the Nailsea School PTA as well as working on fundraising themselves to help cover the costs of a new kit, away-day hoodie and travel.

Nailsea School congrats the team on its success, we are very proud of your accomplishment.



Well Done - Sports Hall Athletics Success

Congratulations to Emily L in Year 9 who has been selected to represent Avon for Sports Hall Athletics in the following events Lap, Speed Bounce, Vertical Jump and the 8 lap Paarlauf.

Sports Hall Athletics is an indoor form of Track and Field Athletics for children between the ages of 4 and 16. It was created by George Bunner MBE to provide a safe and warm environment for young athletes to train during the winter months.

Since its development it has grown in its significance and today an estimated one million youngsters compete in the school's framework from across the country. Entry is based on fitness and the development of multi skills, encouraging youngsters to become involved in athletics.

Sports Hall Athletics has always promoted friendship and competition whilst also having fun.

Congratulations Emily your achievement !



Ring-Ding-Ding!

Congratulations to Roxy M who worked with her team the Dings to secure the South West Regional Rugby Cup, this term.

The Year 10 student plays in the U16s category and help secure the 50:0 victory over Bude RFC, the Dings are a South Gloucester team based at Frenchay in Bristol

Well done Roxy – a great result!

Skydiving for Charity



Well done to catering team member Ms Lea-Wilson, who is aiming to raise £10,000 for Zuia Trafficking and Mama Joshua and her family. Zuia Trafficking is a charity that works towards ending human trafficking, and abuse towards women and children in Tanzania. The second charitable cause is to raise money for Mama Joshua and her family, part of their house was washed away in heavy rains and Rosemary is helping to fund the re-building of a new home for Mama Joshua and her family.

Rosemary will be leaping from a plane on July 29th and is looking for sponsorship for her skydive. If you'd like to help Rosemary and either of these causes – you can donate through Just Giving or directly to www.zuiatrafficking.org – ref SKYDIVE.

This is an incredibly brave thing to do – well done Rosemary for inspiring #TeamNailsea and helping these causes.



Reducing our Carbon Footprint

In December it was announced that schools would receive additional funding to help with energy efficiency. Nailsea School received £42,000; money which has been spent around the school to decrease our use of energy and thereby reduce our carbon footprint.

For some years now we have been replacing our lighting to more efficient LED panels and this funding has enabled us to move one step closer to its completion. The funding has allowed us to roll-out the programme to the Sports Hall, the Auditorium and it has also enabled us to make some upgrades to our Plant Room, including new technology which monitors our hot water and our heating system.

Over the Easter break we will extend the project to the Green Lecture Theatre, the corridors by the technology department and the large student break out area of room 161. High use areas such as the Sports Hall will see the school making a saving of up to 76% of our energy usage.

We continue to strive to make our school as carbon efficient as possible.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

This term ten year 11 students embarked on their Duke of Edinburgh expedition. These two days were the culmination of 2 years hard work planning and preparing. The groups set off from Yatton with the goal of arriving at Cheddar Reservoir for the end of their second day, with many of the students in the group having had no navigating or walking experience before embarking on the award.

With the exception of some light drizzle and a strong breeze, the weather gods remained relatively on side over the two days and this helped keep morale levels high. Both groups exceeded their distance aims and were given additional navigational challenges on each of the days. Students have shared personal highlights regarding pushing themselves, encountering nature first hand and witnessing a range of different scenery.

Staff involved with supporting the groups were hugely impressed with the determination, teamwork and encouragement demonstrated across the two days. Well done all!

Mrs Wells

Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator

House News



Well done to Phoenix for their Charity Week held in Term 3, they raised an impressive £1254.99, to be shared between Off the Record (£765.21) and Yatton & Congresbury Wildlife Action Group (£489.78). The week was great success culminating in the resurrection of Live Friday, where we were treated to some amazing live performances by our talented students.

Phoenix Fundraising Totals
Non School Uniform £668.21
Raffle Tickets £489.78
Sweets/Cakes and Guess the Baby £97.00



This term sees the Unicorn Charity Week, they have arranged a collection for the local foodbank, a clothes recycling fundraiser (Cash4Clothes), a sponsored walk, raffle, cake sale and another Live Friday event. They are fundraising for a number of charities - Cancer Research, Children's Hospice South West, Bristol Children's Hospital Grand Appeal and Clevedon District Foodbank (Trussell Trust).

Next term sees Griffin taking the lead in the Charity Week!

Year 7 - Year 11



Students across the year groups are invited to this Ski Trip taking place next year.

The trip includes a training programme to equip students with the skills they need to hit the slopes. There are also opportunities for progressing experienced skiers.

More information has been sent out via Parent Pay, including costs and payment schemes.



Can you help?

The PE department are looking to re-stock their sporting equipment and are looking for the following:

- 34"+ Hockey Sticks
- Size 4 or 5 Footballs/Rugby balls
- Size 5 Netballs
- Badminton rackets
- Badminton shuttles
- Kettle bells
- Dumb bells
- Resistance bands.....just to name a few of the items we are looking for.

If you have any equipment that is gathering dust and you'd like to give it a second lease of life - please get in touch and see if it can be put to good use by our students.

Thank you from the PE department

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, or you have a great story to share then please do drop us an email with details to fdavies@nailseaschool.com

YEAR 7

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Mrs Wheeler gives a big shout out to Seren S for their positive attitude and always helping others.
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Mrs Cooper is giving star-status to Ewan T for being generous with your time and ideas to help your peers and your teacher.
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Ms Thompson is giving star-status to Sam G, Harry C, Sophie G, Rachel H, and Grace V for their amazing climate change products!
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mrs O'Reilly is really impressed with Libbie D for her persistence and effort with learning the French language.

YEAR 8

- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Mrs Ruddy is awarding 'star status' to David B for a fantastic start to his English lessons at Nailsea.
- ★ In Maths faculty, Mrs Rogers is awarding 'star status' to Brody M for making fantastic progress in his maths lessons.
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mr Paillier is giving star-status to Maddie W for producing some outstanding spoken French in the recent speaking assessment. Bravo!

YEAR 9

- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Ms Jacobs is really impressed with the Year 9s who went on the Noughts and Crosses trip for their fantastic attitude on the trip. You did yourselves and Nailsea School proud!
- ★ In Expressive Arts faculty, Ms Hancock-Martin is really impressed with Olivia M for spending time in the art department and independently completing her final piece.
- ★ In Health faculty, Mrs Wells gives a big shout out to Frida C for working tirelessly in lessons to improve, stretch and challenged herself in every lesson.

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YEAR 9 CONT.

- ★ In Maths faculty, Mrs EL Sutherland is really impressed with Liam S for improved knowledge retention and contributions in maths lessons.
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mrs Dunn is awarding 'star status' to Aaron R for dedication to learning a 2nd language.

YEAR 10

- ★ In Business / IT faculty, Mrs Wheeler is really impressed with Sam P for working consistently in lessons to improve, stretch and challenge themselves.
- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Ms Jacobs gives a big shout out to Freddie T for his focus and determinations in lessons -- always striving to do his best.
- ★ In Health faculty, Mrs Macleod is really impressed with Year 10 Health and Social Care Students for their hard work, motivation and resilience in their preparation for their controlled assessment this term.
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Mrs Nicholson is awarding 'star status' to Tiger W for his wonderful effort and focus in all our lessons.
- ★ In Maths faculty, Mrs Rogers gives a big shout out to Anna P for showing an amazing commitment to her learning.
- ★ In MFL faculty, Mr Paillier is awarding 'star status' to Daisy B for consistently taking pride in your Spanish work and completing the Aim Higher homework to an excellent standard.

YEAR 11

- ★ In English / Drama faculty, Mrs Jones gives a big shout out to Eve L & Poppy R - brilliant stuff
- ★ In Health faculty, Miss Wild is awarding 'star status' to Sam G for his focus and determination in lessons - always striving to do his best. His shooting stats are off the chart!
- ★ In Humanities faculty, Mrs Nicholson is really impressed with Romily S for her fantastic result on our recent History test.
- ★ In Maths faculty, Mrs EL Sutherland is really impressed with Dylan Wr for helping others and sharing.
- ★ In MFL faculty, Miss Cahill is really impressed with Year 11 French group for taking their revision so seriously in lessons recently.
- ★ Mrs Hollingdale would like to name Abi O'L as a Nailsea School star! For her commitment and contributions to the DEN lunch club as helping as her volunteer assistant.

SIXTH FORM

- ★ In Sixth Form, Miss Wild is giving star-status to Hannah L, Amy P, Annabel S, Lily BJ, Izzy D.
- ★ In Sixth Form, Mr Boyce is really impressed with Y13 Criminology for showing resilience and commitment in preparation and completion of their controlled assessment.
- ★ In Sixth Form, Miss Cahill gives a big shout out to Jack H and Lily H for being AMAZING sixth form ambassadors and giving up so much of their time to support KS4 student.
- ★ In Sixth Form Mr Reddiford's History stars for amazing independent work over A level NEA: Caity K, Rosie J, Sophie J, Jack H, John W, Darren S, Lauren P, Gemma N, Sophie P, Sam C, Sam M, Jack H, Connor M, Rebecca B, Katie B