

17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We are half way through the trial examinations for both year 11 and 13 and students in these years will continue with these next week. These examinations are an important way of familiarising candidates with the rooming, environment and timings of the actual exams that will take place in the summer. The whole process is one that should be a learning opportunity for both students and staff so that there is a clear understanding of the next steps required when we return from the Christmas break. All students will receive results at the same time, replicating the August results' day, on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. I know that my year 11 History group have certainly been really focused in the lessons running up to the exam and I am really proud of their approach. Whatever happens with these trial exams, please be assured that myself and all other teachers of year 11 and 13 will continue to work hard to support each and every student to achieve their potential.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## **Sixth Form Open Evening**

Year 11 students are being supported in their choices of next steps, post 16, through a variety of ways. Sessions have been covered in our Extended ABSolute tutor programme, some students are receiving 1-1 careers interviews and when possible we have taken students to Careers Fairs. One option for students is to explore the many courses on offer here at Nailsea 6<sup>th</sup> form. Year 11 students have been given copies of this year's prospectus and it can also be accessed here [6th-Form-Prospectus-2024-WEB-VERSION.pdf \(nailseaschool.com\)](https://www.nailseaschool.com/6th-Form-Prospectus-2024-WEB-VERSION.pdf) As well as a number of traditional A Level and other Level 3 courses, students can also find out more about some newer courses on offer. These include Forensic Investigation, a Music Diploma and our Sports Programme delivered in conjunction with Priority Football. Families can come and find out more at our 6<sup>th</sup> form Open Evening that takes place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, running from 5pm until 7pm.

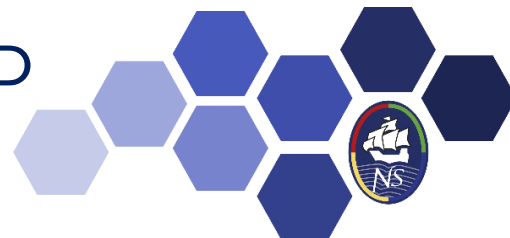
## **Your views: Bus Improvement Plan**

North Somerset Council would like to share a link to seek local residents' opinions on a number of suggested design improvements for Backwell and the surrounding area. These are planned as part of the 'Bus Service Improvement Plan' and North Somerset have been allocated £48m from the Department of Transport to help make public transport easier, faster and more coordinated across the area.

The link can be found here: [Backwell - public transport design proposals - North Somerset Council Consultations \(inconsult.uk\)](https://inconsult.uk/backwell-public-transport-design-proposals-north-somerset-council)

## **Christmas Lunch**

As a reminder Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November is the deadline pre ordering Christmas Lunch. For years 7, 8 and 6<sup>th</sup> form this will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Years 9, 10 and 11 will have their opportunity on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. All options and costs can be found through ParentPay. Please contact the Finance Team if you are having any difficulty in selecting your option.



## **How do I know what my child is learning in each subject in each year?**

Every year at Nailsea staff refine their curriculum at all stages. We know that parents are keen to know the topics that are covered and when these are covered. Every subject has a section on their subject pages that depicts their 'Learning Journey'. An example of the History one can be accessed through the link below:

<https://www.nailseaschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/History-Learning-Journey.pdf>

Parents can access this content through the curriculum section of the school website [Curriculum – Nailsea School](#), selecting the subject they would like to find out more about and clicking on 'Learning Journey'

**Finally....**those people who visited the Expressive Arts Showcase held last night were sure to have been impressed. Given the practical nature of the subjects within the Expressive Arts Faculty it is always great to see and celebrate the work of the previous exam cohort. The exhibition showcased Art, 3D Art, Media and Film Studies work created by both GCSE and A Level students, as well as the screening of films made by students in the auditorium. Another highlight was a chance to see the full shortlist of entries that were chosen from the many submitted for the Rotary Club's Photography Competition which, this year, had the theme of 'Rebuilding'. A video of the shortlisted photos can be found here

[Photo competition shortlist 23 - YouTube](#)

The Rotary club judges will be in school later this month and this term's newsletter will update us on the winners. It will be a tough decision! Have a lovely weekend.

Take care and be kind

Mrs Dee Elliott

Head teacher