



19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/carers

Students and staff have had another successful week despite the drop in temperature. Students in year 11 have been made aware of the plans that are in place to support them in the run up to their exams and the expectations regarding attendance at the prom in the summer. Mr Truan has started the task of interviewing those students that have applied to our 6<sup>th</sup> form to discuss choices – and it's a big job with over 150 applicants! Despite the weather our sports teams have continued both training and competing. I thoroughly enjoyed watching the 6<sup>th</sup> form team's match against Richard Huish on Wednesday afternoon, witnessing a last gasp winner from our team. Special mention here to the attitude of the team and their sportsmanship as they conducted themselves incredibly well. I was very proud of their conduct.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## **Parent Carer Survey**

Many thanks to the parents that contributed to the Parent Carer survey that was seeking views about our ABSolute curriculum. Having analysed the results I can pass on that

1. **86%** of respondents feel that the content covered in these sessions is important.
2. **83%** felt that the current curriculum prepares their child with the relevant skills and knowledge for growing up.
3. **74%** of respondents gave four or five stars for the quality of teaching and resources being provided through the ABSolute Curriculum.

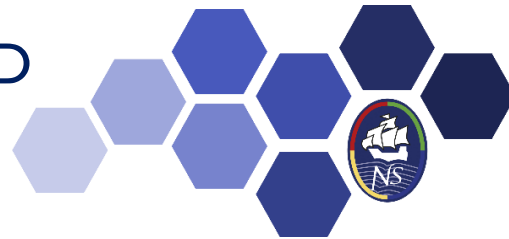
There were some comments made from a minority of respondents that suggested the quality of the delivery could be improved and that some student behaviour was going unchallenged in these sessions. These two areas have now been prioritised as a key focus of our quality assurance processes in term 4. As a school we are always keen to seek feedback and, as shown, will always take action related to any suggestions made. Thank you again for your ongoing support and suggestions.

## **Term date consultation 2025/26**

North Somerset are consulting on proposed school term and holiday dates for 2025/2026. Please click on the link to view full details,

[https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/SchoolTermDates2025\\_26](https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/SchoolTermDates2025_26)

The consultation will close on 19 February 2024.



## **Social Media use**

As a school, in line with others across the country, there has been a significant increase in the number of issues that are taking place online that are then brought into school. Please find attached two leaflets that I would urge parents to refer to regarding WhatsApp and TikTok – including the recommended age restrictions for both platforms. The leaflets also suggest some advice for parents.

## **Year 11 Photo**

Colorfoto will be in school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January to take the whole year group photo for this year's Year 11. This annual event tends to mark the beginning of the final straight for Year 11s each year and ties in nicely with the information they received in their assembly earlier this week. Staff are working hard to support Year 11 as they prepare for the exams in the summer and their next steps post 16, and events like this help students to mentally move towards these milestones.

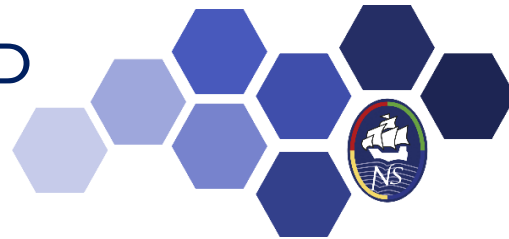
## **Donations for Ghana**

One of the SEN team, Miss Johnson, is heading to Ghana during the February half term to help build a Children's Centre in a small village called Kokrobite. The centre helps run after school clubs and holds an annual Christmas party where every child receives a gift. Last Christmas 1600 children attended and it would be great if Miss Johnson could take a number of donations to make this happen again. If you feel you are able to help please bring in the donations to main reception where they will be stored ahead of Miss Johnson departing on 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Ideally donations would include

- Jigsaw Puzzles
- Paper
- Paints
- Paint brushes
- Chalk
- Individual Chalk Boards
- Glue
- Scissors
- Thread
- Weaving Kits
- Shapes, Building Blocks, Counters
- Pencils
- Colouring Pencils and Crayons
- Clothes (children and adults)
- Shoes (children and adults)
- Toys
- Sports Equipment

If you would like to find out more about the centre please look here: <https://www.kokrobitechilterncentre.org>



**Finally...**January can be quite a challenging month and the weather also plays a factor in everyone's mood. Coughs and colds seem to be doing the rounds and this can certainly impact our outlook on the day and the week. It's worth remembering that just one small act of kindness or positive interaction can also have a massive impact on people. This week I have been hugely thankful for an email from a member of the public commenting on the positive conduct of Nailsea students using the public bus, a card from a colleague at another school sending best wishes and a conversation in my year 11 History class that made me roar with laughter. I would like to think we could all try to share a little joy and warmth over the last couple of weeks of January to keep people positive. Have a nice weekend.

Take care and be kind

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Elliott', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Head teacher