



8th March 2024

Dear Parents/carers

With a few days of sunshine this week and arriving at school in the light, it certainly feels as if Spring is very much in the air. Sporting fixtures have continued with a number of teams representing the school in a number of competitions. Many thanks to the year 7 parents that experienced their first subject evening last night and I hope the conversations were useful. As I regularly say, these evenings should not be the only time parents feel they can contact their child's teachers and I am a firm believer that early contact can resolve any issues quickly and successfully. Thanks, also, to Mrs Truscott and Mrs Conner for overseeing a number of events that recognised World Book Day yesterday. A number of students were fully involved in the break and lunchtime voluntary activities and all lessons in years 7, 8 and 9 involved some great conversations about what people were currently reading. Another great week all round!

Other messages for the week can be found below:

PTA Musical Bingo event – 15th March

Our PTA do an amazing job in supporting the school through their fundraising. The next event, Musical Bingo, takes place in March. Tickets can be purchased at £6 through this link:

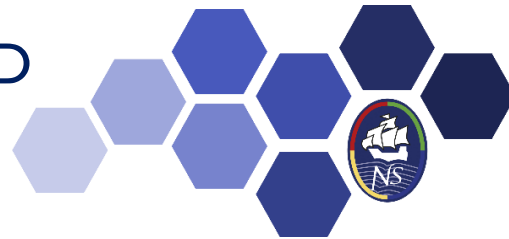
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/musical-bingo-tickets-824979234097?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

Attendance Matters

Where there are early signs that your child may be starting to have some concerns regarding regular attendance you may be contacted by your child's tutor. This could be followed up with contact from the pastoral team to look at the reasons for this and the aim is that both parties work together to improve attendance. If attendance continues to be a concern, you may be invited to a meeting with the attendance office, the Head of House or a member of the senior team to discuss the situation further.

Please be assured that steps will be put in place to support improved attendance, either based around reasonable adjustments in and around school or through the offer of an Early Help Assessment. Ongoing poor attendance, in spite of these measures, can lead to a penalty notice fine or court proceedings.

We very much want to work with students and families to ensure they regularly come to school and make the most of the opportunities on offer every day. If you are concerned about your child's attendance we can offer help and support, as well as liaising with other agencies who can provide further options. Please get in touch if needed. You can find further information regarding our new attendance guidance here: <https://www.nailseaschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Attendance-Guidance.pdf>



Advance Notice for Cyclists

As part of council improvements the Golden Valley Path will be closed to all users at the crossing with Trendlewood Way between Monday 4 and Tuesday 13 March. Both road and path will be closed to all traffic on Monday 18 March and on Monday 25 March

As part of the improvement works other road closures (both road and path) are also envisaged:

- Lodge Lane in Nailsea from Monday 11 to Tuesday 19 March and on Monday 25 March
- Station Road in Flax Bourton from Tuesday 12 until Friday 15 March and on Monday 25 March
- Backwell Bow in Backwell on Monday 25 March

Bikeability courses

Bikeability courses are being run over the Easter holiday for students in years 7-9. Details of how to book can be found on the attached flyer.

Support for parents

The mental health charity Kooth are running webinars for parents/carers to support their children with exam stress. If you are worried about your child's anxiety around exams please do consider joining one of these free sessions:

[Mon 22 Apr. 1-2pm](#)

[Thu 25 Apr. 6-7pm](#)

Finally...as previously mentioned it was World Book Day yesterday. As some of you may know Mr Jones, Deputy Head, is a published author and so yesterday was a very appropriate day for him to receive copies of his new finished book, ahead of the launch later this month. This time Mr Jones has researched into the life of Maurice Burton who was Britain's first black cycling champion. He worked with the man himself to write the book and his story is definitely one to find out more about. I don't quite know how Mr Jones manages his teaching commitments in English and Business, his love of Bristol City, spending time with family and having the time to write a book. It just goes to show that when you put your mind to something, and it is something you are passionate about, you can do anything. I am both very proud of Mr Jones and have huge admiration for him. I will certainly be buying the book. Have a lovely weekend.

Take care and be kind

Head teacher