

1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents/carers

Despite the incessant rain this week it certainly hasn't stopped play here at school. Students have returned from the break extremely positively and it has been a pleasure to walk the site and visit lessons this week. Our Year 11 students who were involved in some national tests, as legally requested by Ofqual, really impressed with their behaviour and attitude and I have written to those involved to both acknowledge this and thank them for representing the school so positively. Other year 11 students have completed their Food practical exams this week, reminding us again that we are getting very much to the 'business end' of the year.

It hasn't been all work though – with Mr Pate overseeing the first 'Battle of the Bands' competition in year 9 at lunchtime this week. Congratulations to 9E who won with a great performance of Counting Stars. There were 2 runners up as well, 9C and 9D. All the students did an amazing job - it was great to see so many students playing to a big audience that have never done so before! And great to see so many Y9s coming to support their classmates whooping, cheering and singing along!

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## **PTA Musical Bingo event – 15<sup>th</sup> 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>

## **Advance Notice for Cyclists**

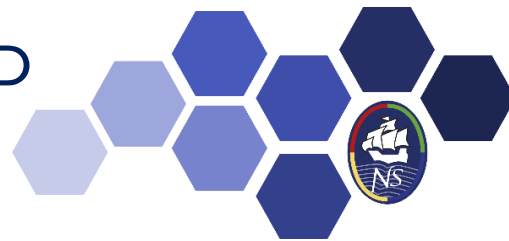
As part of council improvements the Golden Valley Path will be closed to all users at the crossing with Trendlewood Way between Monday 4 and Tuesday 13 March. Both road and path will be closed to all traffic on Monday 18 March and on Monday 25 March

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

## **Anti-social behaviour**

Unfortunately we have had a report from a member of the public that some of our younger students are congregating after school in a residential area near to the Grove sports centre. That group are behaving in a loud, aggressive and intimidating manner, damaging property and swearing at residents. The residents have asked the school if parents could be made aware as they would rather not involve the police but will have to if this doesn't stop. I would urge parents to have a discussion with their child about anti-social behaviour particularly if you live in this part of Nailsea with a child in Y7, 8 or 9.



## Your Space Meeting

The next Your Space coffee morning will look at 'Starting to address anxiety at school'. This takes place on Monday morning

4<sup>th</sup> March 9am-10.30am. Anyone interested in joining should meet at 9am in Reception.

We are pleased to welcome parents back for a hot drink, biscuits and talks. This time we have invited in 3 key people to talk to us about their work with students in school, and ideas to support young people and parents:

- Lily Jones from the NHS Mental Health Support Team, who comes into school weekly to see students 1:1 who will take us through an activity they use with anxiety.
- Jo Arnold from the charity 'Off the Record', who also comes into school regularly, and will explain the different mental health support on offer from OTR.
- Gosha Port from North Somerset Council, who will explain Early Help Parenting services available: what they are and how to access them.

There will be time to chat with other parents, share ideas, ask questions, and exchange experiences.

There will also be an Evening event with the same speakers on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 5.15-6.45pm.

All parents and carers are welcome.

## Timekeeping Reminders

The school day starts promptly at 8:40am with students being able to enter the building before then. If a student arrives after 8:40am, without prior arrangements having been agreed, they will be deemed late. Students that are late without a reasonable explanation will serve a detention at break time that day in the GLT. You will receive notification of this via Classcharts, as shown on the right.



Registers close at 9:00am and arrival at school after this time, without prior approval or extenuating circumstances will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Pupils arriving after 8:50am must report to reception to be signed in. Students leaving the site, for any reason, during the school day must report to reception before they do so that we can ensure they are signed out.

Registers are taken every lesson and in tutor time. Unexplained absences are investigated.

**Finally...** today we have received confirmation that over 200 year 7 students will be joining us in September. This will mean Nailsea will be the largest in size of student population in recent times – reflecting the choice of the local community. I am fully aware of the responsibility we have as a school, given the trust parents have placed in us educating their child over the next 7 years and this is something that I do not take lightly. I am very much looking forward to meeting our new families over the coming months, as well as those who have additional children joining TeamNailsea

Take care and be kind

Mrs D Elliott  
Head teacher