



## Welcome

**A Message from the Headteacher**

The school year is once again flying-by with lots happening around the school as usual.

Phoenix Charity Week has been supporting the homeless charity St Mungo's – we're looking forward to hearing about their fundraising totals next term, the chocolate raffle seems to have done exceptionally well (who knew?!). The House Charity weeks help to focus our student's attention on helping the wider community. It's been great seeing the students select their cause, learning what is important to them and watching them fulfil their own objectives. Next term sees the last of the charity weeks when it is Unicorn House's turn.

We've enjoyed hearing about the various trips that have taken place – Cern, skiing, fishing, and theatre trips to name some of those featured here.

I have been delighted with the approach and focus shown by Year 11 and Year 13 students towards their forthcoming exams. Some students will have had practical examinations already such as Food Tech and Drama, this term and the feedback has been good.

As a reminder for those students experiencing the pressure of exams – or any student where you may feel concern, please keep us informed and we can work together on improving outcomes.

I hope that you have a very good Easter and I look forward to see you, for what I hope is a slightly less damp Term five!

Mrs Dee Elliott

**Headteacher**

## Governors

**A Hello from the Governors**

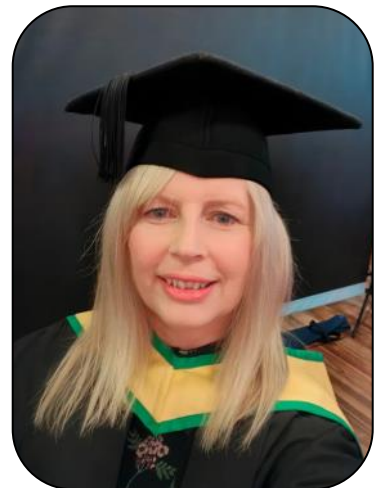
Our Governing body are selected because of the specific skills and qualities which strengthen our strategic capabilities, knowledge and effectiveness. Please join the Governors in extending our congratulations to our colleague Debbie Stephens, who has recently been awarded her Master's degree in Educational Leadership.

"As a School Business Manager, completing my Master's degree in Educational Leadership has been rewarding and challenging at the same time.

I won't pretend it was easy but it was definitely worth completing. As a working parent it took perseverance and commitment to find the time and discipline to complete my assignments, attend the on-line lectures and the face-to-face training days. However, this qualification will be with me for life, enabling me to advance within my career. With hindsight, I do wish I'd continued my education following my A levels, as it is most certainly easier to study without working or being a parent at the same time. I hope that all of you who are focusing on your GCSEs now and in the future can appreciate that all of the hard work you put in now will be the building blocks for your future careers, and that learning can be an enjoyable life-long journey".

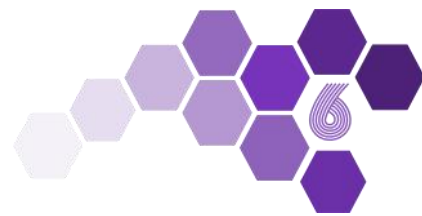
Good luck to all our students in their coming exams!

Debbie Stephens



PS: You can find out more about our Governors team as a whole on the school website:

# Welcome



## Sixth Form Round-Up



My time as Head Prefect has been a truly rewarding experience. Nailsea School and Sixth Form has offered me nothing but support during my seven years here and so being able to give back to our community has been a pleasure. I've been able to develop as a person, learning about leadership skills and overcoming barriers such as public speaking. I'm very grateful to Nailsea Sixth Form for offering me this opportunity and I'm forever thankful for their support in becoming who I am today. Good luck to all students sitting exams this summer, and I wish all our Year 13 students the very best in their future destinations.

NAILSEA SIXTH FORM - YOUR JOURNEY | YOUR FUTURE

## Aspirational Learners

Our ambitious Sixth Form students continue to further develop their subject knowledge through the completion of our 'Aim Higher' tasks, engaging in critical thinking activities designed to expand their understanding beyond the specification.

Every term we recognise the achievements of those students who have been successful in completing multiple tasks across their level 3 studies, discussing their research with teaching staff and explaining the links between taught content and the wider concepts explored.



Mr D Truan

**Assistant Head  
Head of Sixth Form**

## Independent Thinkers



Through our weekly Pathways Programme, Year 12 students have been completing a diverse range of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) to support their progression onto post 18 destinations. MOOCs allow fields of interest to be explored, acquiring additional knowledge that can provide an excellent platform to support the transition into higher education and employment. The self-paced nature of these courses allow the practice of effective time management and can build independent study skills.

Mr D Truan

**Assistant Head  
Head of Sixth Form**

## Community Ambassadors

Our Sixth Form Prefects, in collaboration with Year 11 House Captains and our school Eco Club, have been leading whole school assemblies this term on the devastating statistics of plastic waste as part of our drive towards raising awareness of impactful environmental actions. Students actively participated in the planned tasks, which included selecting true or false answers for a number of statements, such as; If plastics were a country, it would be the world's 5<sup>th</sup> largest emitter of greenhouse gases.

The results from a recent student questionnaire were also shared and there are follow up actions for the Eco team across the remainder of the academic year.



Mr D Truan  
**Assistant Head**

**Cash for Clothes – 12<sup>th</sup> April - 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

We will be raising money by collecting your old donated textile items, these will be recycled and the PTA will receive cash in return. Large wheelie bins will be available at the front of school for your donations. Items must be clean reusable / re-wearable. Please only donate items on the list.

**CASH FOR CLOTHES WE ACCEPT**

- Adult & Children's Clothing
- Paired Shoes
- Handbags
- Belts and Hats
- Soft Toys
- Bed Linen
- Large Bath Towels
- Lightweight Curtains

**CASH FOR CLOTHES WE DO NOT ACCEPT**

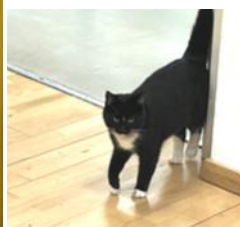
- Dirty, damaged or wet items
- Underwear and socks (unless brand new with tags / packaging)
- Any items not stated in the 'We Accept' list.

**Table Top Sale – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Save the date – for our next event, we will be holding a Table Top in the school atrium on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 10am – 12pm. Each table costs £15 large and £10 for a medium sized and must be pre-booked.

**Musical Bingo**

Thank you to everyone who came along to Musical Bingo, we had a fantastic night, with much laughter, cracking singing with our impromptu karaoke and even dancing at the end. We must say a BIG



thank you as ever to our com-pere Ken who always keeps things moving along at just the right tempo. To top the evening off we even had a visit from Sushi the Explorer who wanted to join in the fun.

**School Lottery**

We run a weekly school lottery which is a fantastic way to support the school with a cash prize winner every week and a jackpot of £25,000.

Signing up is easy and tickets costs just £1 a week, so why not click on the link [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/nailsea-school](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/nailsea-school) and buy a ticket, you never know you could be the next lucky winner – Good luck!

**Term 4 Funding**

This term we were pleased to fund the following:

Geography - Magazine subscription	£130.00
Psychology - Online Learning Aid	£90.00
Youth Worker Boat trip— Fishing trip	£240.00
Youth Worker Breakfast club—toaster and kettle	£62.00

Thank you for your continued support - we endeavour to keep supporting the school with items that benefit #TeamNailsea



## Crime Scene to Courtroom Workshop

### An Exciting Day for Criminology and Psychology Students



As Criminology students, we recently had the opportunity (alongside A Level Psychology students) to attend the highly interactive Crime Scene to Courtroom workshop. The day allowed us to apply what we've learnt in class to a recreation of a real-life murder investigation and trial.

The day began with a 999-call reporting a murder, immediately thrusting us into the role of investigators.

With the guidance of Simon from Zakon, who has a background in real-life murder investigations, law, and criminology, we worked through practical exercises collecting and analysing evidence.

We learnt first-hand the meticulous process of an investigation, from securing the crime scene, to interviewing witnesses and documenting findings. The investigator taught us

techniques like blood pattern analysis, latent fingerprint processing, and crime scene mapping. It was fascinating to see the scientific methods come to life right before our eyes.

As the investigation progressed, we had to make critical decisions that ultimately built the case we would argue in a mock crown court trial. We were walked through courtroom procedures and the judicial system before stepping into our assigned roles - prosecutors, defence, witnesses or jury members. Our court judges even had wigs!

There was so much tension as both sides passionately debated the evidence, put witnesses on the stand, and made convincing arguments to sway the jury. Having been the ones to gather the evidence, we had to defend the integrity of our investigation and decision-making. In the end, the jury decided the fate of the accused, "we find the accused not guilty!"

The Crime Scene to Courtroom workshop was an amazing opportunity that showed us how exciting (and nerve-racking!) working in the crime sector could be. We finished the day with smiles on our faces, a crime solved and a glimpse into potential future career paths.



By Ellie R and Izzy D  
Year 13 Students



## Photography Competition

Back in December we were happy to announce that Erin R and Harrison P had won first prizes in the Photography competition, kindly supported by the local Rotary Club. We have more **good** news to share! In the next round of the competition, Erin's photograph came first, winning her £50. Harrison won another £20 as a runner up in this round. Congratulations to both photographers.

Ms R Davies  
Head of Creative Art Faculty



## Year 7 Clay Work

Last term year 7 completed their first major project in art, concluding their sketchbook studies with these awesome clay pieces inspired by artists who were fascinated by natural forms. Within these clay pieces you will see... the veins of a sprout leaf, the pips of an orange and other shapes derived from nature.

As a class we have looked at the organic shapes of Peter Randall Page who is a British contemporary artist, he has international reputation for his sculpture, drawings and prints, much of which is based on the geometric patterns found within nature.

We also looked at the work of international artist John Beadle who was born and works in Nassau, the Bahamas. He combines

natural and manufactured materials to create pieces that reference and warp their original forms often using natural materials.

Miss A Hancock Martin  
Teacher of Art | Assistant Head of Phoenix House

## What are our Key Stage 3 Spanish students learning this term?

- Year 7 – My School

Year 7 Spanish students are learning all about the topic of school this term. What are the main differences between Spanish and English schools? They are learning how to articulate what their favourite lesson and why, expressing different views on their subjects alongside describing their school day and timetable.

- Year 8 – What shall we do?

Year 8 Spanish linguists unpick everything about making plans to go out. This unit of learning includes making excuses, describing what they will wear and also incorporates learning about sporting events.

- Year 9 – Youths in action

We delve deeply into how youths can make a difference this term, learning about children's rights and Fairtrade. We take time to explore why it is important to recycle and take part in fund raising in order to make a difference to the local and global community. Grammatically, we explore what a modal verb is in readiness for GCSE learning should these wonderful Hispanists choose to take their learning further at Key Stage 4.

Miss J Cahill  
Curriculum Leader of MFL



## Democracy in Action

Nailsea School A Level Politics students were able to attend Prime Minister's Questions after receiving tickets from the office of Liam Fox MP. Toby and Tom accompanied by Mr Jones Head of Humanities and Politics, spent the afternoon in Parliament.

Where in addition to attending Prime Ministers Questions, Tom and Toby toured the Parliamentary Estate and were given a personal tour of the House of Lords by Baroness Willcox of Newport, a former Drama teacher turned politician.

Tom said:

*"It was fascinating to be in the heart of Westminster, being in the Commons, seeing Prime Ministers Questions in person and experiencing the electric political tension in the Commons chamber. It really brought the textbook to life. I am hoping for an exam question this summer on the House of Commons as I feel the day really did open my eyes to how Parliament works in practice."*

Tom continues:

*"Baroness Willcox's tour of the Lords was fascinating and her story of how she went from a Drama teacher, to a local councillor, to council leader and then to the Lords was inspiring. A great example of the possibility of normal people ending up in the Mother of all Parliaments."*

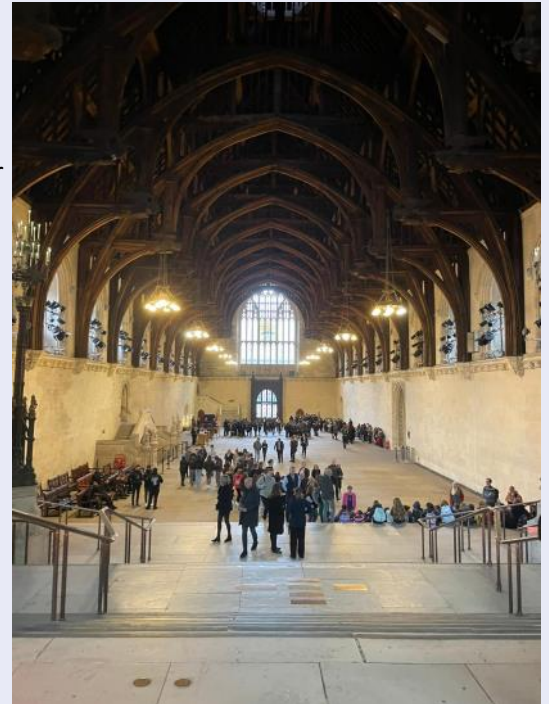
Toby adds:

*"Being in the Commons rubbing shoulders with the Ambassadors of Panama and Costa Rica, and seeing familiar political faces like Lee Anderson, Jacob Rees Mogg, Caroline Lucas, Lord Mandelson and Sir Lynsey Hoyle was an experience I will never forget. However, the highlight of my day was seeing Prue Leith from The Great British Bake Off meeting her Tory MP son in the lobby!"*

The Houses of Parliament welcomes students in to learn about democracy in action and this was a great opportunity for the Politics students to see the place and procedures of how the country is run.



Mr I Jones  
Head of Faculty - Humanities







### Ski Trip to La Thuile

Nailsea School's recent ski trip to La Thuile in February was a resounding success, offering students a delightful blend of

adventure and learning. From the comfortable travel to the engaging activities and warm accommodation, the trip left a lasting impression on both staff and students.

The journey to La Thuile was a seamless and enjoyable experience, despite the length. The coach drivers demonstrated exceptional friendliness and were always available to assist the students. Everyone travelled without any health issues, and all students exhibited exemplary behavior throughout the trip.

We unbelievably experienced a diverse range of weather conditions throughout the week. With sunny snowy landscapes to start, culminating in a memorable snow fight in a blizzard on the last day. Some of us hadn't seen snow like it before.

The accommodation provided a clean and welcoming environment, ensuring the students' comfort throughout their stay. The restaurant's delicious three-course meals each night, along with a continental breakfast each morning, added to the overall enjoyable experience. Evening activities were thoughtfully planned, including a delightful pizza night, a captivating tour of the town, and the exhilarating experience of ice skating in an Olympic ice rink.

Overall, the Nailsea School's ski trip to La Thuile was a well-rounded and enriching experience, offering students a perfect blend of education, adventure, and camaraderie.

Mrs E Sutherland

Teacher of Maths | Duke of Edinburgh Leader | Ski Trip Co-Ordinator



### Student Voice:



- This term we learned about being resilient and having a growth mindset. Instead of saying "I can't do it," we should say "I can't do it yet." We did activities to see what we're good at and what we need to work on. If we focus too much on the things we're not good at, it holds us back. But if we think "I can learn this," it opens up new chances. Having a positive mindset is super important! (Lily, Year 7)
- This term, we talked about prejudice and discrimination. We learned about different types like racism, sexism, and homophobia and how the Equality Act protects people from unfair treatment. It really opened my eyes to how my words and actions could affect others who deal with prejudice. After this lesson, I'm going to be way more conscious about not discriminating against people because of their difference. We all deserve to be treated equally. (Ben, Year 9)



### ABSolute Assemblies

- For our tutor assembly this term, we (D2) did an assembly on the theme of 'Success'. We all pitched in and asked the rest of Dragon what their own definitions of success were. We even did a quiz about success. Overall, we think our Dragon assembly was a 'success'! (D2, Tutor Reps)



### ABSolute Spotlight: Online Safety

In today's digital world, online safety is a top priority for all families. The internet has opened up amazing opportunities but also potential risks that parents and students need to be aware of.

- Top Tips For Parents: Monitor children's social media use and model good digital use. Discuss the permanence of online activity and thinking before posting. Activate appropriate privacy settings and use parental controls as needed.
- Top Tips For Pupils: Think twice before you post - once you post something, you lose control of it, especially if someone else screenshots or shares it. Be smart about privacy settings. If you witness cyberbullying, report it immediately - be an upstander not a bystander.

We explore these vital online safety issues during ABSolute sessions, and we encourage continuing these conversations at home to empower our students to navigate their online world responsibly.

If parents/carers would like resources to help guide conversations around online safety, here are some useful links:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/>

Visit our Personal Development page on our website for further information: [Personal Development – Nailsea School](#)

Mr. Boyce

ABSolute Curriculum Coordinator



**Swim Gala 2024**

Earlier in the term, we saw students from Nailsea School take part in the annual swim gala at Hutton Moore. The team set up camp with the best view of the pool ready to support each other.

There were some amazing individual results; Izzy M achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 50m breaststroke and backcrawl. Oscar H achieved 1<sup>st</sup> in the 50m front crawl and Grace C won in the 50m front crawl.

Neve claimed 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 100m individual medley. Niah 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 50m breaststroke; Elosie 1<sup>st</sup> in the 50m Backcrawl, and Elsie came 2<sup>nd</sup> in her heat for the 100m individual medley.

The year 7 girls took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their 25m medley race. Overall, the Year 7/8 girl's team finish 3<sup>rd</sup>, the year 9/10 team finish 2<sup>nd</sup> and the year 7/8 boys team 9<sup>th</sup>.

It was a great event with a huge sense of pride and celebration through the whole team.



Miss J Wild  
Head of Faculty—Health

**'The FA's biggest Ever Football Session'**

To celebrate International Womens Day, Nailsea School took part in The FA's biggest ever football session, an initiative to support getting girls into football. During PE lessons all girls took part in a football tournament, which saw some outstanding performance and great goals. At lunch, girls from all years were invited to take part in a 5-a-side futsal tournament. Congratulations to the Year 10 team that came top of this tournament, and to all that took part!

**Girls Cup Action.**

Both our U13 and U15 girls football team have recently been involved in the ESFA Schools Cup. At the start of this term our U15s unfortunately went out in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round to a strong St Gregory's side after losing 3-2, however a very strong display of determination was shown from the team right until the final whistle. Our U13s went on to beat St Gregory's in an intense 5-4 win to see themselves into the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> the U13s took the trip up to Gloucester to play Ribston Hall and were able to come away with a 1-0 win. The game was very close but saw Olivia score a half-volley in the final minute of the game to secure the win. Well done to all involved!



Ms H Tanner  
Teacher of PE

**Hockey Success!**

Congratulations from the PE department on Rudi's achievement in Hockey this year inside and outside of school.

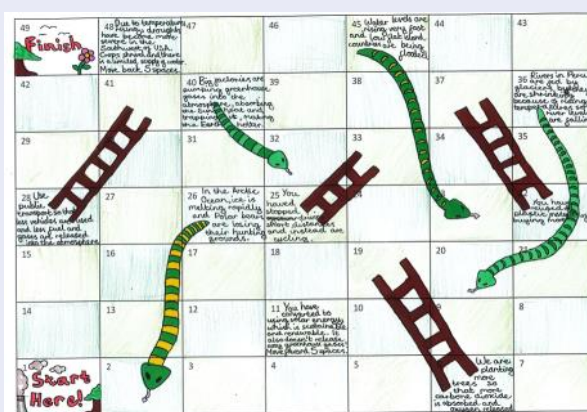
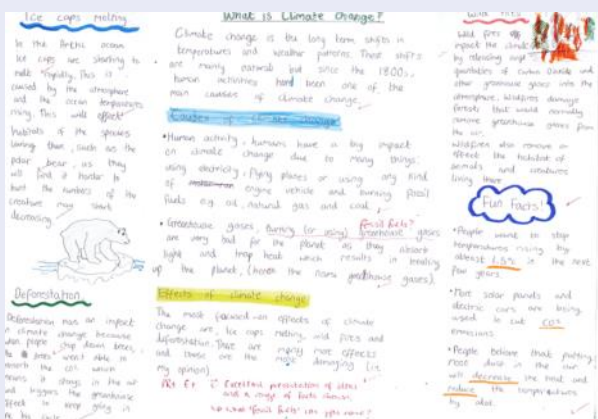
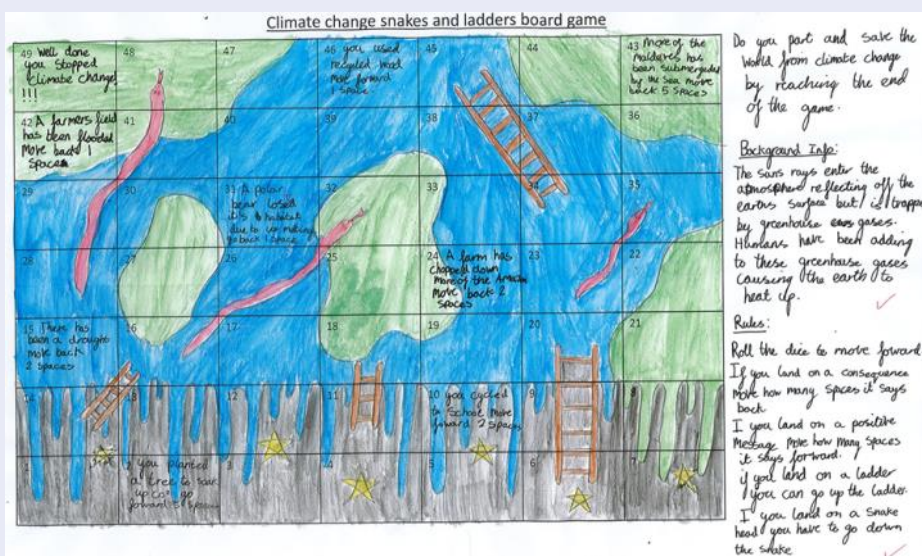
He has been voted 'Player of the Year' 2024 at Old Bristolian's U12 hockey club and as been a key player in the school hockey team.

We wish him every success in future trials at Avon County Junior Development Academy.

Miss J Wild  
Head of Faculty—Health



For more info on the reunion contact us at [classof64ngs@aol.com](mailto:classof64ngs@aol.com)



Some of their creations are shown above.

ASPIRE | BELIEVE | SUCCEED



## Update from Music

### Battle of the Bands

Term 4 started with a fantastic Battle of the Bands concert involving our Year 9 students. Before Christmas all students learned to play a song of their choice in a band (involving guitar, bass, drums, piano and voice) and performed it to their class. Each class then nominated one band to represent the class and play their song in front of the rest of the year. There were fantastic performances from all Year 9 classes who performed to a really appreciative audience (plenty of whooping and cheering throughout!) At the end of the concert, the winner was decided using the customary (slightly un-scientific) method of which band gets the biggest cheer. Special mention to our runners up in 9C and 9D, but the clear winners were the amazing 9E band with their fantastic version of "Counting Stars" by One Republic.



### Spring Concert

As I write this we are preparing for our spring concert which will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024. This will feature performances from our ensemble groups, including Jazz Band's 'Stormy Weather', choir's 'From Now On' (from the Greatest Showman), Orchestra's 'Winter' from the Four Seasons, as well as lots of great individual and small group performances. We look forward to another concert in the summer term—watch this space for more info!

### Curriculum

Since January our Year 7 students have begun to learn the ukulele and keyboard. They have been really enthusiastic, and we apologise for any new additions of instruments to birthday and Christmas lists! Year 8 students have been learning guitar, as well as the secrets of songwriting, working on an original song including lyrics, chords and melody. Year 9s have been making their own hip hop tracks using music technology and writing their own lyrics to rap along with them. Year 10s are getting stuck into classical composition inspired by the ground bass pieces of Henry Purcell, and Year 11 are finishing up their coursework with some fantastic ensemble performances

### Tour

Rehearsals are coming along nicely for our music tour - we are really looking forward to sharing our music with the people of Belgium in June! Rehearsals continue every Monday lunchtime, with an exciting range of music including some Harry Styles, Ray Charles, Lily Allen and Journey!

### Fishing Fun!

Seven super students tried their hand at fishing this term at Bullock Farm Fishing Lakes in Kingston Seymour.

Despite the weather (even the fish were hiding from the wind), the students had fun learning 'Whip Fishing!' (Yes, that's the actual term for the rods we used)!!

A fun time was had by all and some of us even braved touching the maggots!



Mrs S Lange

Teacher of English & Humanities

## Library News

World Book Day took place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March and students at Nailsea School celebrated with a series of events in the library.



### The Great Book Day Bake Off

25 students entered the Bake Off competition with the theme of 'Read Your Way', there were some very creative bakes from the Very Hungry Caterpillar cupcakes to sugarcraft cupcakes and a large cake. It was extremely difficult to choose winners as all students created original bakes of their favourite books. A big well done to our students.



### World Book Day Reading Lessons

During English Guided Reading and Guided Reading lessons, Key Stage 3 students had lessons dedicated to World Book Day where they heard from some of the authors and their top tips for reading and what they would like to read more of. Students then had the opportunity to take a free World Book Day book home and a book token. They also had the opportunity to take part in a book swap.



### Recommended Read...

#### *The School for Good and Evil by Soman Chainani*

A fairytale with a twist....every four years two girls are kidnapped from a village to be taken to the School for good and evil. Two characters we are introduced to here are firm friends but equally are very different from each other. They each know which school they would be going to if it were to happen but it doesn't always necessarily turn out that way.

This is now a Netflix film which has increased the book's popularity - prepare to be taken to another world!

Mrs A Conner  
Librarian







## A Level trip to CERN

Our A-Level Physics students recently enjoyed a visit to the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva. This trip was a remarkable journey into the world of particle physics, providing our students with unparalleled insight into the forefront of scientific exploration.

During their time at CERN, our students had the privilege of embarking on a tour of the facilities, including a visit to the Data Centre, where they witnessed first-hand the immense computational power required to analyse the vast amounts of data generated by experiments at CERN. This experience highlighted the crucial role of technology in modern scientific research and provided our students with a glimpse into the inner workings of cutting-edge data analysis.



In addition to the Data Centre, our students explored the history of particle accelerators during a visit to early versions of the linear accelerator. They learned about the evolution of accelerator technology and its pivotal role in advancing our understanding of the fundamental forces of nature.

Furthermore, our students engaged in workshops led by CERN scientists, where they conducted experiments involving deflecting electron beams using magnets. This hands-on experience allowed our students to apply theoretical principles to practical scenarios, fostering a deeper understanding of electromagnetism and particle behaviour.

To add a touch of everyday life at CERN, our students also enjoyed dining at the CERN canteen. This provided them with a glimpse into the diverse and dynamic community of scientists and researchers working together at CERN. They also learned first-hand that eating in Geneva can be quite expensive!

In addition to CERN our students visited the History of Science Museum, where they explored the evolution of scientific thought and the contributions of past luminaries in the field of physics. This visit provided context for their understanding of modern physics and highlighted the interconnectedness of scientific progress throughout history.



Beyond the scientific pursuits, this trip offered our students cultural enrichment as they explored the picturesque city of Geneva. Immersing themselves in its rich history and culture, they gained a broader perspective on the societal impact of scientific advancement.

Their experience at CERN has not only deepened their passion for physics but has also inspired them to pursue careers in STEM fields, and we are grateful to the staff and scientists at CERN for their hospitality and for providing our students with an unforgettable educational experience.

Mr T Smith

**Assistant Head of Science Department (Physics)**



## English Literature 6<sup>th</sup> Form Trip to London:

### 'The Duchess of Malfi' at the Sam Wanamaker Theatre

Year 12 and 13 English Literature students ended the 'Ofsted Week' with a visit to London to watch a performance of one of their set texts, John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*. The play, rarely performed, is one of the productions forming part of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the theatre opening on the RSC Globe Theatre site.



"The Duchess of Malfi" is set against the backdrop of a rigid and patriarchal society. At the heart of the story lies the Duchess—a woman of unwavering spirit and fierce determination. Recently widowed and free to follow her heart's desires, she defies societal norms by secretly marrying her steward, Antonio. However, her union with Antonio incites the fury of her brothers, Ferdinand and the Cardinal, who seek to maintain control over her life and legacy.

As the Duchess navigates the treacherous waters of forbidden love and familial conflict, she finds herself ensnared in a web of deceit and

*I am Duchess of Malfi still'*

manipulation. Despite the threats looming over her, she remains steadfast in her commitment to love and loyalty, challenging the oppressive forces that seek to dictate her fate. The play invites its audience to confront the complexities of human nature and the consequences of unchecked ambition.

The theatre is London's only indoor candlelit theatre and it lent itself well to Webster's Revenge Tragedy and its macabre content. During the Duchess' imprisonment for defying her brothers and marrying beneath her station, all the candles were extinguished, and the theatre was plunged into darkness representing the loss of hope for the Duchess' survival and redemption in the play.

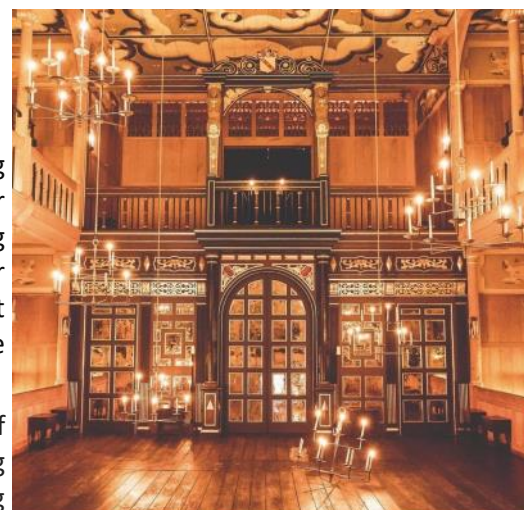
Whilst it mostly stayed true to the script, early on characters departed from the original text to speak lines suited to the present day mentioning dermal filler before returning to Webster's description of a woman whose beautifying technique turns her skin from "nutmeg-grater" to "abortive hedgehog". There were times where the performance played heavily for laughs, breaking the tension as the audience awaited the Duchess' secrets being exposed, and her violent death orchestrated by her corrupt brothers and the malcontent Bosola.

It was a great opportunity for both groups of English Literature students who are required to reference different performances of the play as part of the exam unit comparing the play to the poetry of Christina Rossetti. It also served as a great revision for Year 13 who will sit their first Literature exam on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Although the play was the main reason for the trip, before the play began students walked in the steps of Webster and Shakespeare around Embankment, The Tower of London and Bankside clocking up over 6 miles on foot— they didn't once complain about this! Honestly, not at all...

If you ever get the opportunity to see a performance at the theatre or watch 'The Duchess of Malfi' live, it is highly recommended.

*"I account this world a tedious theatre, For I do play a part in't 'gainst my will'."*



*'Whether we fall by ambition, blood or lust, like diamonds, we are cut with our own dust'*

Miss L Creswick

Assistant Head - Teaching & Learning



## Your Space for Parents and Carers



Left: Jo Arnold (OTR) Centre: Alison Moran (NS)  
Right: Lily Jones (NHS)

Your Space is an initiative launched to help parents and carers with any topics relevant to school life, from mental health to understanding the teenage brain. The idea is that parents and carers can meet each other in an informal environment and meet relevant experts who can point them in the right direction or offer advice.

Topics are chosen in response to what parents request. This term we had two events; a coffee morning and an evening session for parents and carers.

At each event we had two speakers in the sessions. Jo Arnold from Off the Record (OTR) who talked to us about the services, courses and support available on the OTR website.

There's a lot going on in school already for students with anxiety, but there is more on the OTR website to empower our young people with support, and techniques to manage day to day anxieties.

We also invited Lily Jones from the NHS Mental Health Support Team, who explained more about the 1:1 work she does with students in school.

Parents who attended said it was a great opportunity for them to put names to faces and to find out about some of the support that's available.

Those parents and carers that attended also fed back that they got a lot out of the event from talking to each other, hearing about how they guide certain situations at home, sometimes with very difficult challenges, like helping their young people to cope with anxiety associated with being in school with Autism or ADHD, or helping to manage the challenge of assessments, or how their child would manage with an unknown supply teacher at short notice.

Knowing how someone else has solved difficulties can make you feel less alone, and can give you ideas to try in your family.

Watch out for more Your Space dates next term.

All our events are informal and all of our parents and carers are welcome, it's a great opportunity to meet others. If you'd like more information you can email [yourspace@nailseaschool.com](mailto:yourspace@nailseaschool.com)

Mrs A Moran  
**Academic Mentor**

## 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](mailto:fdavies@nailseaschool.com)

### YEAR 7

- ★ Miss Wild in Health is awarding 'star status' to all the Year 7 swimmers, a great achievement at the district gala this year well done. You supported each other really well.
- ★ Mrs Bicknell in Humanities is really impressed with Ben B, for his amazing climate change poster showing great creative skills and knowledge.
- ★ Ms Hancock-Martin in Expressive Arts is nominating Grace C, for a wonderfully refined clay piece.
- ★ Mrs Sutherland in Maths is awarding 'star status' to Harry H, for overcoming challenges in what has been a tough term.
- ★ Mrs Lange in English / Drama gives a big shout out to Harry W, for his outstanding 'Bone Talk' assessment, you should feel really proud.
- ★ Mrs Wheeler in Enterprise is really impressed with Ollie S, for his perseverance with his Scratch game and contributions in class discussions.

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### YEAR 8

- ★ Mrs O'Reilly in MFL commends Zach E, for showing resilience by overcoming challenges in learning a new language.
- ★ Ms Hancock-Martin in Expressive Arts is giving star-status to 8A, for mixing and applying such a huge range of red hues in their recent paintings. Awesome, refined work!
- ★ Miss Wild in Health gives a big shout out to all the Year 8 swimmers, a great achievement at the district gala this year well done. You supported each other really well.
- ★ Miss McKinney in Enterprise/Textiles Gives a big shout-out to Annie J, for your amazing crochet skills!
- ★ Mrs Lange in Humanities is awarding 'star status' to Arlo, for consistently working to your potential in all humanities subjects.
- ★ Miss Partington in Maths is awarding 'star status' to Aurelia S, for always giving 100% and asking to do extra work during lunchtime.
- ★ Mrs Lange in English / Drama gives a big shout out to Jacob D, for your outstanding opinion article on 'Extreme Sports.'
- ★ Mr Bennetts in MFL wants to nominate Jude M, for his positive attitude, excellent progress and cracking one-liners!
- ★ Miss Herring in Science is really impressed with Lottie G, for always setting an excellent example and completing aim higher tasks.
- ★ Mrs Piper in Enterprise/IT is really impressed with Sam C, for his great work on programming his game in Python.

### YEAR 9

- ★ Miss Wild in Health is awarding 'star status' to all the Year 9 swimmers, a great team effort at the swimming gala this year with some amazing performances.
- ★ Miss Dee in Science is really impressed with Aaron D, for fantastic commitment to learning and great progress in class. Keep it up!
- ★ Mr Howard in Humanities gives a big shout out to Amelia J, for her amazing Term 4 homework on Paley's Watch analogy.
- ★ Mr Wade in MFL is really impressed with Erin R, for her positive attitude to learning, her teamwork with other classmates and her excellent progress in French.
- ★ Ms Hancock-Martin in Expressive Arts is nominating Hayden J, for the independent photoshop compositions created in photography aspire lessons.
- ★ Mrs Lange in English / Drama gives a big shout out to Henry D R, for your resilience and effort in your poetry comparison assessment. Well done.
- ★ Mrs Lange in Humanities is awarding 'star status' to Jack G-S, for undertaking an independent historical map project. You are an outstanding geographer.
- ★ Mrs Piper in Enterprise is awarding 'star status' to Leo H, for consistently working hard, and never giving up.
- ★ Mr Brewster in Maths is nominating Matthew L, for his positive attitude his maths and winning 2nd place in a show jumping competition.
- ★ Mr Howard in Humanities is awarding 'star status' to Tobias K, for starting a podcast as part of his RS Term 4 homework. Going the extra mile and demonstrating a love for the subject!
- ★ Miss Wild in Health is awarding 'star status' to Wing C, for the progress she has made in PE this year.

### YEAR 10

- ★ Miss Wild in Health is awarding 'star status' to all the Year 10 swimmers, a great team effort at the swimming gala this year with some amazing performances.
- ★ Miss Creswick in English / Drama is awarding 'star status' to Callan P, for their exceptional ideas and independence when analysing poems in the poetry anthology.



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**YEAR 10—CONTINUED**

- ★ Mrs Bicknell in Humanities is really impressed with Edie C, for ongoing effort in lessons and homework to consistently work above her target grade.
- ★ Mrs Elliott in Enterprise is giving star-status to Edie C and Olivia W, for ongoing focus in their Business NEA - what a pair of dream entrepreneurs!
- ★ Mrs Sutherland in Maths is awarding 'star status' to Emily H, for overcoming challenges in what has been a tough term.
- ★ Mrs Wheeler in Enterprise is giving star-status to Ethan M, for his focus and hard work on his controlled assessment this term.
- ★ Miss Herring in Science is really impressed with Frida C, for smashing it in Biology, keep it up Frida!
- ★ Mr Pate in Expressive Arts is really impressed with Lily, Chloe, Emily, Taylor and Dylan, for being really committed to extra curricular music clubs.
- ★ Miss Cahill in MFL commends Niamh A, for such a positive attitude to learning in French lately - proud of this shift!
- ★ Mrs Macleod and Mr Truan in Health are really impressed with all the Year 10 Health and Social Care students, for their exceptional levels of preparation, motivation and focus during their controlled assessment. Well done!

**YEAR 11**

- ★ Mrs O'Reilly in MFL commends Billy G, for being an outstanding linguist and speaking Spanish outside of the classroom.
- ★ Mrs Elliott in Humanities is really impressed with Daisy B, Emma W and Rosie D, for their ongoing commitment to History revision and practice - even when on the ski trip.
- ★ Mrs Lange in English / Drama gives a big shout out to George P, your continued brilliance in all that you do in English and for being an outstanding role model.
- ★ Miss Wild in Health gives a big shout out to her Year 11 GCSE PE group, for focus and attitude working towards their final exams. Well done.
- ★ Mrs Sutherland in Maths gives a big shout out to Kaique B, for his increased efforts and hard work.
- ★ Miss Evry in Science is giving star-status to Maisy H, for excellent revision focus in ETT which has paid off in the mocks. Well done!
- ★ Mr Pate in Expressive Arts gives a big shout out to Tom O, for volunteering to play bass on almost everyone in the class' ensemble performances (and doing an amazing job!).

**YEAR 12**

- ★ Ms Davies in Expressive Arts is giving star-status to Bobby B, for producing a constant stream of thoughtful and skilled paintings.
- ★ Mrs Groves in Maths gives a big shout out to Brittany P, for always giving 100% and aiming high!
- ★ Miss Cartwright in Humanities is really impressed with Emmeline C, for her excellent revision practice and motivation for her upcoming Criminology exam.
- ★ Mr Paillier in MFL gives a big shout out to Georgia L, for helping Year 11 Spanish students prepare for their GCSE speaking exams. ¡Muchas gracias!
- ★ Miss Zimmerman in English / Drama gives a big shout out to Isabel T, for your thoughtful and original contributions to class discussion and clear desire to challenge yourself.
- ★ Mrs Gardiner in Health is giving star-status to Ruby D, for excellent leading for her PE course.
- ★ Miss Wild in Health gives a big shout out to Sonny P, for the football leadership sessions delivered as part of his course.
- ★ Miss Evry in Science gives a big shout out to Year 12 Chemists, for running with the poster task and producing some outstanding work!

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### YEAR 13

- ★ Miss Herring in Science is really impressed with Amy B, for focus and attitude working towards high quality forensics coursework. Well done Amy!
- ★ Mr Howard in Humanities is awarding 'star status' to Elliott G, for excellent revision focus, involvement in wider school activities and generally being a credit to the school.
- ★ Miss Creswick in English / Drama thinks you're a star Emily M, for always using feedback on essays to develop and strengthen your practice. You ARE a literary critic!
- ★ Mr Jones in Humanities is really impressed with Harry D, for enthusiasm, positivity, contribution to class discussions, hard work and doing everything to maximise his final grade.
- ★ Ms Davies in Expressive Arts is really impressed with Jemima P, for focus and attitude as you near your final exams.
- ★ Mrs Sutherland in Maths is really impressed with Jess C, for her improved efforts throughout the year.
- ★ Miss Cahill in MFL commends Lily BJ, for her excellent revision practice for Paper 2, rewriting essays from the mock exam.

### Term 5 Key Dates

Here are the key dates for your diary, we try to keep to all published dates, but occasionally dates and timings do have to change. More details will be shared regarding these events nearer the time. Enjoy the Easter break!

#TeamNailsea

Day	Month	Focus	Who
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	April	Return to School	Whole School
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	April	Student Council Meeting	Student Council
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	April	Year 12 Subject Evening	Families & Students
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	May	Your Space Event (9.15 am)	Parent / Carers
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - Silver	Students (pre-registered)
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - Silver	Students (pre-registered)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	May	Your Space Event (5.15 pm)	Parent / Carers
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	May	Sixth form Leaver's Day	Year 13
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze	Students (pre-registered)
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze	Students (pre-registered)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	May	Battlefields Trip Info Evening	Parent / Carers
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - practice	Year 9 (pre-registered)
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	May	Duke of Edinburgh - practice	Year 9 (pre-registered)
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	May	Unicorn Charity Day	Whole School
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	May	Non-School Uniform	Whole School
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	May	Last day of Term 5	Whole School