



21st November 2025

Dear Parents/carers

Although I am a big fan of frosty mornings and clear blue skies, temperatures have certainly dropped this week - it was decidedly chillier when I was manning the main gate at the start of the day. The effects of changes in weather can often be seen in school and when temperatures drop everyone can find it a little harder to get going in the morning. However with that bit of extra effort students and staff have continued to respond and engage well with the activities of the week.

This included year 9 students attending sessions led by 'Blunt Truth' discussing the issue of knife crime on Wednesday and Thursday. These workshops use immersive and interactive methods to teach about the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife, dispel myths, and promote safer choices. Sessions involved police officers, fire officers, NHS professionals and Army medics. The course leaders specifically mentioned how well behaved and engaged our students were handling such a difficult but important topic.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

Careers Sector Fair Tuesday November 25th 12.20 - 4pm

Our first careers fair takes place in the coming weeks. We have plenty of representatives from companies such as Taylor Wimpy, Reflections Hairdressers, Airbus and Tyntesfield Medical group. The whole of year 11 will be off timetable during period 4 on that day – taking part in an employability workshop and having an opportunity to talk to the providers present to help inform their post 16 choices.

All students were invited to visit during period 5 through a link that was sent via MCAS by Miss Humphreys on 6th November. Students must have completed the link to attend.

In addition to the events happening periods 4 and 5, all students are welcome at lunchtime and afterschool.

Year 11 Performing Arts Concert November 26th 7.00 – 8.00

The music department are showcasing Year 11 talent next week. Please do come along and support our GCSE students. The concert is free with donations to charity accepted on the door.

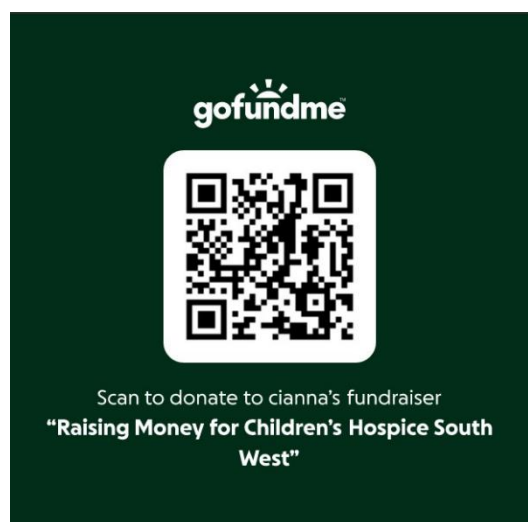
Duke of Edinburgh deposit reminder

A friendly reminder that if you are wishing to enrol your child on one of the Duke of Edinburgh awards the deposit payment deadlines are approaching. For Bronze (Students in Year 9) and Gold (Students in Year 12) this deadline is Friday 28th November. For the Silver award (Students in Year 10) this deadline is Friday 12th December. Should you have any questions please contact Mrs Wells (nwells@nailseaschool.com).



Sixth Form Fundraiser

The year 13 Health and Social Care class recently visited the Children's hospice at Charlton Farm. Although this could have been a sad experience, instead, the students left with a feeling of hope, joy and love. As a result of the visit the group have launched a fundraiser to give back to a place that gives so much, every single day. The hospice relies on donations to continue their vital work, offering specialist care, comfort, and unforgettable experiences to children and families when they need it. Without the work of fundraisers throughout the year this essential charity would not be able to run and provide the services and support that it does. If you can donate, no matter the amount, please support this very worthy cause through the link here <https://www.gofundme.com/f/thswa-raising-money-for-childrens-hospice-south-west> or use the QR code on the right.



For more information about the Children's Hospice South West please see their website www.chsw.org.uk

Sixth form Open Evening – 27th November 5pm – 7pm

Information regarding our 2026-28 sixth form offer is now available on our website. You can find the prospectus and information on how and when to apply here: <https://www.nailseaschool.com/sixth-form/apply-to-sixth-form/>. There are new courses being launched this year, and after last year's 'outstanding' review by Ofsted, it is an exciting time for our Post 16 offer. Follow this link to see our latest course offer here www.nailseaschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/6th-Form-Prospectus-2026-FINAL-DIGITAL.pdf

We welcome all students from Year 11 to attend our Sixth form Open Evening on the 27th November, where you will be able to meet the team and find out why Nailsea Sixth Form is the right place for you!

Finally... the last week has been really challenging for a range of reasons but I was reassured when a friend I met up with on Wednesday talked about the third week in November, regularly being one where people find things difficult in schools. It does make sense if you think about the darkness, the temperatures dropping, coughs and colds starting to spread and that this 7 week term follows the 8 weeks of term one. The same friend, however, didn't then help my mood when he soundly beat me in our padel game - an interest we have both recently started together. I could sense myself getting grumpier and grumpier as the score mounted up against me and, quite rightly, I was 'called out' on my behaviour and attitude when we had finished. On reflection, I was behaving in exactly the opposite way I ask our students to react and respond to challenge. True strength and resilience is not



in never failing or finding things difficult, but in getting back up every time you do. Even after the greatest challenges we should all choose joy, courage and kindness. After apologising for my attitude, we have booked our next game – all I need to do now is to get some additional practice in!

Enjoy your weekend



Dee Elliott,
Head teacher

