



28th November 2025

Dear Parents/carers

Although I seem to be saying this in every weekly letter lately, it has been another very busy week here. Year 11 students are now back in lessons following their mock period and attention is clearly turning to their next steps. We had a number of students attend the Careers Sector Fair on Tuesday afternoon and it was pleasing to hear about the very complimentary comments from the external visitors. They were particularly impressed with the levels of enthusiasm and engagement with which students approached conversations. One company has since contacted us to pass on the following:

*We met lots of your lovely students and you should be proud of them all. Very many stopped and engaged with us, asked great questions, we had fantastic conversations indeed! Thank you!*

In addition to that, it was fantastic to see so many students attend our Sixth Form Open Evening last night, both those already at Nailsea and those visiting from other centres. We had around 200 families through the door to speak to staff and see what year 12 has to offer for them as an option. As students are aware we have widened our subject offer this year and the new subjects, such as Food Science, Human Biology, Computing and Early Childhood Studies have really captured the imaginations of the future year 12 cohort. As a reminder further details of how to apply can be found here [Applying to Sixth Form – Nailsea School](#)

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## **Mizzymeade Road Parking and Drop Off**

We are now approaching the end of the first year of the front gate being closed for 10 minutes at the start and end of the school day. As long-standing parents will know, this decision was taken to reduce the risk of harm to both staff and students given the noticeable increase in traffic that was coming onto site at the same time as 1200 students were being dismissed. As a school we already have 8 North Somerset SUVs that drop off and pick up students as their transport is provided by the local authority. With these on site there is simply not the space and therefore there is too much risk in allowing more vehicles onto site at these times. We really appreciate parents/carers understanding and adhering to this arrangement.

One knock on effect of this has been that parents are choosing to drop off students on Mizzymeade Road. With staff manning the gate every morning it has been noted that the choice of drop off location has often caused problems for other drivers and there have been some near misses between cars colliding. Thanks in advance for considering the safety of all pedestrians and other road users at the start of the school day.



## Christmas Fair

Join us for a Christmas Fair in school on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 12 – 4pm. There will be a selection of Christmas craft & gift stalls, food stalls, a raffle, games, second hand goods and tabletop sales - it is free entry and opens from 12pm - 4pm.

## Exam Certificate collection – 4pm- 6pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Students who picked up their GCSE and Level 3 results in August have the opportunity to come and collect the official certificates sent by the exam board before the Christmas break.

Exam certificates are valuable as they are your only proof of your achievements and they are expensive to replace. Each certificate costs around £60.00 to replace and are only available from the Exam Boards, not from the School Exams Office. With this in mind, we ask you to collect your certificates and sign for them as proof that they have been received. As we require a signature, we cannot post them to you. In order to protect your certificates, it is advisable for you to photocopy them and keep them somewhere safe where they will not get lost. Please come to the school reception on the above date where you will then be asked to sign for them. If you would prefer a family member to collect your certificates on your behalf, please complete the form downloadable from the website [Microsoft Word - Certificate Collection 2023](#) Your nominated person must bring this signed form with them if they wish to collect.

## Wellspring Listening Service

Sometimes teenagers need someone to talk to outside of their friends and family group. Wellspring offer a Listening Mentor service for young people aged 11-15 to chat, and to feel heard and supported. This is not counselling, just an opportunity to talk through whatever is on their mind without pressure or judgement. The service is free, easy to access, virtually no waiting list and confidential. Contact [Reception@wellspringcounselling.org.uk](mailto:Reception@wellspringcounselling.org.uk) or 01275 810879 for more information and/or to arrange.

## Christmas Lunch

If you wish to book a Christmas lunch for your child this is available now through the Store on MCAS. Christmas Lunch will take place on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Last Day of Term 2

In order to provide as much notice as possible, term 2 will end on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12:20pm. Students will attend tutor time and lessons 1, 2 and 3 as usual. Students will be free to leave at the end of lesson 3 for the Christmas holiday. As a result of these timings there will be no lunch service provided. Snacks will still be available at breaktime. If those students in receipt of free school meals notify their tutor, a lunch will be provided for the students to take home.

For the students who are transported by North Somerset we have been made aware that these journeys can only take place at the usual time of 3pm. If the parents of the students concerned, on this one occasion, come to collect their children this will mean they will be able to leave for the Christmas break with their peers. If not, these students will be the only children on site for the remaining two and a half hours of the day. We would appreciate you notifying the school by contacting Annette Watts ([AWatts@nailseaschool.com](mailto:AWatts@nailseaschool.com)) to confirm your arrangements.



## PTA

The PTA have a few events to raise money for the school in the run up to 🎄 Christmas, please support what you can.

### 🎟️ Christmas Raffle 🎄

Tickets £1 and can be purchased via the 'My Child at School' app (closing 8th Dec)

OR

Via our SumUp shop (closing 13th Dec) <https://shop.nailseapta.org.uk>

We have some fabulous prizes again donated by local trades/ businesses and individuals, including:

🌟 Star prize £250 Love 2 shop gift card - kindly donated by Taylor Wimpey Nailsea

🌟 Star prize Long Ashton golf club four ball worth £340

West Country Water Park - £50 gift card

Bakers Dolphin - £50 gift card

Bristol City FC - 2 home league tickets

At The Gym - 1 month membership

Wookey Hole Caves - family ticket

Cotswold Farm Park - 1 adult and 1 child ticket

Oral B electric toothbrush from Tesco

Kitchen bin - Brabantia

Laundry basket - Brabantia

24 cans of Thatchers Gold

### 🎄 Christmas Tree sales 🎄

Order your premium Nordman Fir today and support Nailsea School PTA (and your children).

<https://shop.nailseapta.org.uk/product/christmas-tree>

150-200cm - £38

200cm-250cm - £48

Collection will be the morning of Sat 6th Dec from the school (exact times to be advised).

## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE - 6<sup>th</sup> December (Donations needed)

The PTA have a second hand uniform stand at the School Christmas Fair - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 12 - 4pm. Come and get your second hand uniform.

To successfully have a uniform sale we also rely on donations of uniform. If you have any uniform to donate, please can you drop off at the School reception in school hours, or at the Link office outside school hours, before 9pm. Please can you drop off by 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Many thanks for supporting the PTA through donations, attending events and volunteering your time. This year we have raised in excess of £10 000 for the school. Please keep supporting the PTA to enhance our children's education.

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**Finally...** I am giving in this weekend and putting up my Christmas decorations. I know that I get the odd look from colleagues and friends as I am aware it will still be November on Saturday – just. Yet, when it's cold and starts to get dark earlier and earlier, the twinkle of the lights do make me feel better. I have to admit it provides an ambience that really puts me in a festive, uplifting mood. Having researched this, according to tradition, Christmas trees and decorations should go up on the first day of Advent – the fourth Sunday before Christmas, which does fall on 30<sup>th</sup> November this year. As such, I am even more resolute that I will have the mulled wine on standby, the Michael Bublé album ready to play and some mini mince pies warming, as I deck out the house in my festive decorations over the weekend.

Enjoy your weekend – what ever you are going to do



Dee Elliott,  
Head teacher

