



1st May 2026

Dear Parents/carers

This week is one where I have been especially proud of our students and I'm continued to be blown away by their attitudes, empathy and kindness. There are a few incidents that I would like to make special mention of below.

Firstly, we are incredibly proud to congratulate our Year 8 team on their fantastic 2–1 victory in the Somerset Cup Final. After going 1–0 down, the team showed great determination, resilience, and belief to fight back and secure a well-deserved win. This was a true team effort, with every player contributing and supporting one another throughout the match. The team also represented the school superbly with their excellent sportsmanship on and off the pitch. Well done to all involved – a brilliant achievement and a performance to be proud of.

I am absolutely delighted to hear of the fantastic achievements of our students at AliCaT Children and Theatre. Over the past year, this group has worked incredibly hard both on stage and behind the scenes. They have demonstrated exceptional teamwork, supporting each other while building confidence and technical skills. They have made a wonderful impression on everyone involved. Families can show their support by attending their upcoming production, *The Keymaster*. This creative journey through time encourages us all to reflect on the choices we make today which is very apt. The performance takes place on Friday 19th June at Princes Hall, Clevedon Community Centre. Tickets available here [AliCaT](#)

We were also delighted to see our Sixth Form debating team representing Nailsea in the North Somerset Debating Final, held here last night. The team demonstrated impressive debating skills, confidence, and thoughtful argument throughout the competition, reflecting their hard work and commitment. We were also proud to host teams from across North Somerset, welcoming them to our school and showcasing our strong sense of community. Well done to all involved for representing Nailsea so positively.

Finally, we are hoping to identify some of our 'hidden heroes' who demonstrated outstanding kindness and care in the precinct this week. Several members of the public have contacted us to praise a group of young people who stopped to help a man who had fallen and was clearly shocked and injured. They approached him calmly, offered support, and ensured he was cared for with compassion and maturity. Their actions reflect the very best of our school values and they were excellent ambassadors for Nailsea. If you believe your child may have been involved, or you have any information that could help us acknowledge these students personally, we would be very grateful to hear from you. We would love the opportunity to thank them properly.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

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Reminder regarding Upcoming Vaccinations – Year 9

Parents/carers are required to give their consent for the upcoming Meningococcal ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations. These are happening on 14th May and the consent link is here: <https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/dtp/2025/consent?v=2>

Attendance Matters Because Your Child's Future Matters

It was a pleasure to be able to visit every tutor group this week acknowledging the attendance levels and improvements from term 5. I hope students have been proud of their achievements. As mentioned last week, regular attendance plays a vital role in your child's learning, wellbeing, and sense of belonging at school. Each day builds on the one before, and when children miss school, they can quickly fall behind academically and socially. Being in school consistently helps children develop routines, confidence, and strong relationships with their peers and teachers. We understand that absences are sometimes unavoidable, but we kindly ask that appointments and holidays are planned outside school hours wherever possible. By working together to promote good attendance, we can give every child the best opportunity to thrive and succeed.

Today also sees the first awarding of the tutor group with the most improved attendance over a fortnightly period. Congratulations to **D7** who have improved their attendance this fortnight by **7.4%** Overall 19 of the 32 tutor groups improved their attendance in this first two weeks of term 5, compared to the last two weeks of attendance in term 4. As a reward a tray of cookies will be available for members of D7 to collect at breaktime today from their House area. The next award will be issued on Friday 15th May - tutees have to be in their seat, to earn their treat!

In addition to this individual termly recognition through certificates and letters, and the group improvement recognition to tutor groups on a fortnightly basis, we are also excited to launch '**Full House Fridays**', a new initiative to celebrate and encourage excellent attendance across the school. Each time a student attends school for a *full week*, they will receive a raffle ticket for their house. At the end of each term, we will be drawing prizes — one winner per house. The more full weeks a student attends, the more raffle tickets they'll earn, giving them more chances to win. Remember: you need to be in to win! We're looking forward to rewarding commitment, consistency, and great attendance at the end of this term.

Rewards and Recognition Fund

Thank you to parents that have already contributed to the rewards and recognition fund, where donations can be added via the MCAS app.

This voluntary rewards fund will be used exclusively to enhance how we recognise and celebrate students and contributions to this fund will allow us to introduce a wider range of rewards that could be issued on a more regular basis.



Any contribution, no matter how small, would make a meaningful difference. We would like to reassure families that contributions are entirely voluntary, and all students will continue to be recognised and supported regardless of whether parents are able to contribute.

Thank you for your continued support and for working in partnership with us to ensure every student feels valued, recognised and proud of their achievements.

Mental Health support

Parents/young people and carers now have the option to self refer directly to MHST for low intensity CBT to help with anxiety, low mood and wellbeing. The MHST is a partnership between Off the Record (OTR) and CAMHS and work with schools across the region. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Finally... as we look ahead to the upcoming Bank Holiday weekend, we hope families are able to enjoy the extra day as a chance to rest, recharge, and spend some quality time together. A pause in routine can be hugely valuable for everyone. For our students in exam year groups, this weekend also offers a helpful opportunity to balance relaxation with some focused revision as external exams begin. The commitment and effort shown so far this year have been excellent, and a little steady preparation now can make a real difference. As the saying goes, *“Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out.”* Keep building on the strong foundations you’ve already laid — you’re nearly there!

We wish all our families a restful and positive weekend.



Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

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