



8th May 2026

Dear Parents/carers

A shorter week but still a busy one here at Nailsea. The week marks the conclusion of the Art, Photography and Textiles practical examinations at both GCSE and A Level, alongside the KS4 Health and Social Care exam. We are incredibly proud of the focus, creativity, and determination shown by all our students, and grateful for the dedication and support of the teachers and staff who have guided them through this demanding period. While there is more to come, the effort and resilience shown so far gives us every confidence that students in year 11 and 13 have totally 'got this'.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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

As mentioned last week, tutors have launched the first of our 'Full House Fridays', this morning - 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 that they will write their name and tutor group on and place in the collection point in the House areas. 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!

## 'May Matters' – Wk Comm 11<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

At the end of this term we are pleased to introduce the first of our 'Belonging Weeks', which will take place during the final fortnight of every term. This term the emphasis is that 'May Matters'. These weeks are designed to place an enhanced focus on recognising, celebrating, and acknowledging the efforts of our students, both in and beyond the classroom.

During Belonging Weeks, students will benefit from a range of positive initiatives aimed at strengthening their sense of connection to the school community. These include money being topped up on student accounts to fund lunches and break-time treats for students randomly selected on that given day, an increased value of House Points on designated days, and double the number of Golden Tickets being awarded per lesson on others.

The programme for each Belonging Week will be shared with students in advance, and a summary can be found in the table overleaf.



### 'May Matters': Belonging Week Schedule

Date	Reward
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double House Points when issued by staff</li> </ul>
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period 4 - Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Random Lunch Voucher awarded to one student per year present that day.</li> </ul>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period 2 – Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Breaktime Treat awarded to one student per year present that day</li> </ul>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Golden Tickets issued per lesson by staff</li> </ul>
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period 4 - Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Random Lunch Voucher awarded to one student per year present that day.</li> <li>• Fortnightly Tutor Improved Attendance Tray of Treats at breaktime in their House area</li> </ul>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period 1 – Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Breaktime Treat awarded to one student per year present that day</li> </ul>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Golden Tickets issued per lesson by staff</li> </ul>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Period 4 - Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Random Lunch Voucher awarded to one student per year present that day.</li> </ul>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Double House Points when issued by staff</li> </ul>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Raffle Ticket draw – one winner of £15 voucher per House from tickets handed in to House area</li> </ul>

In addition to the published schedule, there will also be a series of flash or surprise recognition moments taking place throughout the week for students in Years 7–10. We hope these weeks will provide regular opportunities to celebrate effort, reinforce positive behaviours, and ensure every student feels valued and appreciated as part of our school community.

Staff will also be able to issue raffle tickets to students any time they are seen representing the school values outside of lesson time. For example, I awarded one to a student on Monday that I witnessed picking up a piece of litter in the dining hall and it wasn't even his litter. As he said he 'just wanted to keep the school tidy'. As with 'Full House Friday' tickets these should be placed in the collection point



in each house area. In the first draw, one person from each House, will receive their £15 One4All voucher on the last day of term.

### **Unicorn House Charity Week – Wk Comm 18<sup>th</sup> May**

We are delighted to let you know that Unicorn House will be hosting a Charity Week to raise money for Cancer Research UK and St Peter's Hospice, in loving memory of Mrs Brewster, a much-valued former Unicorn tutor. This is a cause very close to our community, and we are proud to be supporting it together.

Throughout the week, students will be able to take part in a range of fundraising events, including a cake sale, football match, karaoke, and Live Friday. We hope these activities will bring our community together while raising vital funds for two incredible charities. To conclude the week, there will be a non-uniform day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, for which we kindly ask for a voluntary donation.

All donations can be made easily through MCAS, and further details about events and timings can be found on the accompanying poster. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of these meaningful causes.

### **Celebrating Rugby Success**

We would like to congratulate all the boys who took part in the Revel Somerset Tournament over the recent Bank Holiday weekend. The U12 (Year 7) Nailsea and Backwell Rugby team competed in this fantastic two-day event, camping with their families and teammates at Mendip Basecamp.

The boys delivered an outstanding performance, finishing the tournament unbeaten and securing victory on both Saturday and Sunday, bringing home two trophies—a truly remarkable achievement.

Beyond their success on the pitch, the team demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship throughout the weekend. They supported one another brilliantly, showed empathy and respect towards their opponents, and represented their schools with pride. Their attitude and conduct made both coaches and families extremely proud. This achievement reflects the boys' dedication and commitment over the year, and this fantastic result certainly deserves special recognition.

**Finally...** as Leavers' Week for our Year 13 students comes to a close, we have been given a wonderful opportunity to reflect fondly on their time here at Nailsea. It has been a week filled with shared memories, celebration, and a great deal of pride as we look back on the journey these young people have taken with us.

While there is undoubtedly sadness in saying goodbye, there is also real excitement for the futures that lie ahead of them. They leave us as confident, capable, and thoughtful individuals, ready to take their next steps beyond school. Their achievements and character are a true credit not only to themselves, but also to the dedication of our staff and the unwavering support of their families.



We wish our Year 13 leavers every success and happiness for the future and look forward to hearing about all they go on to achieve.

Have a lovely weekend



Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

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