

15th May 2026

Dear Parents/carers

Exam season is well underway and we have been really impressed with the focus of students during our exam briefings. Many of our students have had more than 5 exams this week and we know this can be a demanding time for students. Building resilience while also ensuring opportunities to rest and recharge is key to supporting student wellbeing and performance. Please do remind your children of the importance of pacing themselves, getting enough sleep, eating well, and taking short breaks from revision to stay refreshed and focused. Your support at home in reinforcing these habits can make a significant difference. Please do continue to encourage them to do their best, while also helping them maintain a healthy balance throughout the exam period.

Outside of school Nailsea students are also continuing to excel with a number of our students completing the 10 Tors challenge on Dartmoor last weekend. Eliza in year 13; Aaron, James and Sophie in year 12; Ben, Lu, Joe, Joel, Leo, Oscar Eddie, Jamie, Will and Rory in year 10; and Archie, Oscar, George and Noah in year 9 should all be really proud of themselves. The challenge is no small feat, requiring students to navigate independently across difficult terrain, carry all their equipment, and work collaboratively under pressure. In doing so, they have demonstrated outstanding perseverance, problem-solving skills, leadership, and the ability to support one another in challenging conditions. These are qualities that go far beyond the classroom and reflect the very best of what we aim to develop in our students. They should be extremely proud of what they have achieved, and we are equally proud of them.

This weekend, 35 Silver Duke of Edinburgh students are undertaking their practice expedition, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognise just how impressed we are with their commitment and preparation. Taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award requires significant dedication, both in school and beyond. We know the weekend will present both challenges and opportunities, and we are confident that our students will continue to support one another, persevere, and represent the school brilliantly. We wish them the very best of luck and look forward to hearing all about their experiences on their return.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

Unicorn House Charity Week – Wk Comm 18th 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 22nd, 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.

‘May Matters’ – Wk Comm 11th May – Friday 22nd May

We have come to the end of the first of our ‘May Matters’ belonging weeks and prizes have been issued every day. As well as the published schedule, with next week’s final events shown below, there will continue to be the flash prizes on a daily basis.

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

This week 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 9X and 8Y have received group sweet awards for simply being in on the day the reward was issued. In addition, 4 students have had Lunch money added to their accounts and 12 students have received individual edible rewards for being in their seat when I visited. The ‘Trolley of Treats’ was also unveiled and students randomly selected who were in school got their chance to pick a prize of their choice. The first choices included a Lego set, a pack of highlighters and a Rubik’s cube.

There are only 5 days left of term 5, next week and the rewards will keep coming. Students really do need to be “in it to win it!” Whether this is through group or individual rewards, every day in school gives students the opportunity to be part of this.

Toilet Use – Safeguarding expectations

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety, dignity and wellbeing of all pupils, we would like to remind families of an important expectation regarding toilet use in school.



Students are expected to use toilet facilities one person per cubicle at any time. This is in line with safeguarding guidance and helps staff to ensure that all pupils feel safe, respected and comfortable when using these spaces. It also supports appropriate privacy, hygiene, and supervision standards across the school. Staff regularly reinforce this expectation with pupils, and we ask for your support in discussing this at home. By working together, we can help maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

Nailsea Town Council Community Clean Up – 6th June

Nailsea Town Council, working in partnership with the Nailsea Climate Emergency Group, is inviting residents to come together for a special community clean-up as part of Great Big Green Week 2026.

- Date: Saturday 6 June 2026
- Time: From 1:00 PM (Meet at 12:45 PM)
- Meeting Point: Millennium Park near the Skate Park
- Equipment: Provided by Nailsea Town Council and Nailsea Climate Emergency Group. If you have your own gloves or litter-picking tools, feel free to bring them—along with your enthusiasm!

These events are a fantastic way to take positive action for our environment while connecting with others who care about Nailsea. Every piece of litter picked makes a difference, and together we can make our town look its very best for the summer ahead.

Reminder of expectations from next week and moving into Term 6

From next week, we will be reinforcing clear expectations across three key areas of school life. These are designed to promote a calm, safe, and purposeful environment where all students can succeed.

- **Social time expectations and eating:**
Students who are eating from a carton, lunchbox, or sandwich packet must do so while seated. Eating should not take place in corridors. Students should either be seated while eating or outside. Additionally, students should not be “lapping” the building. Those who are seen doing so will be directed to room 132 for the remainder of the break or lunchtime.
Why? These expectations are in place to ensure student safety, reduce congestion in corridors, and create a more pleasant environment for all.
- **Lateness to School and consequences**
Any student arriving late to school will be issued with a breaktime detention in room 132. Failure to attend this detention will result in a same-day detention after school in 139. Failure to attend the detention will lead to a placement in Internal Reflection (IR) for two periods and one social time.
Why? This structure is intended to support punctuality, which is vital for students to access learning from the very start of the day.
- **Homework**
Failure to complete homework will result in a same-day detention.



Failure to attend the detention will lead to a placement in IR for two periods and one social time.

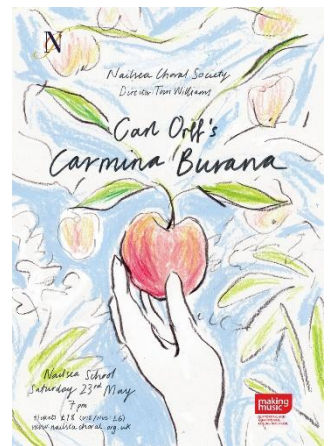
Why? Homework plays an essential role in reinforcing learning and developing independent study habits, which are crucial for long-term success. Although important at any time, this is particularly significant for students currently in year 10 as they approach the half way point in GCSE content.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations at home and helping your child to understand their importance. By working together, we can ensure all students are able to thrive in a structured and supportive environment.

Carmina Burana

Nailsea Choral Society is keen to encourage local groups and students and has decided to offer tickets for their next production of Carmina Burana to under 18s for £6 (the regular price is £18). <https://nailseachoral.org.uk/>

Finally... we know that many of our students achieve wonderful things outside of school, and we are always keen to celebrate these successes as part of our wider school community. If your child has taken part in, or achieved something outside of school—whether in sport, music, performing arts, volunteering, or any other area—please do let us know. We would love the opportunity to recognise and share these achievements, and to celebrate the many talents and successes of our students.



Have a lovely weekend

Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

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