



3rd July 2026

Dear Parents/carers

It was a pleasure to have various staff celebrate with our Year 11 and Year 13 students at their proms, held at Cadbury House and Ashton Gate respectively. Both events were wonderful occasions and provided a fitting opportunity to mark the end of an important chapter in our students' lives.

Staff were unanimous in their praise for the young people in attendance. Students conducted themselves with maturity, respect and enthusiasm throughout the evenings, and many event staff commented on how impressed they were of the behaviour, character and sense of community on display. They were excellent ambassadors for the school and their families.

The proms also gave us an opportunity to reflect on the journeys our students have made during their time at Nailsea. For many of our Year 11 students, the evening marked the culmination of five years with us, while our Year 13 students were celebrating the end of seven years as part of the Nailsea School community. It was a chance to recognise not only their academic achievements, but also the friendships, experiences, personal growth and memories they have created along the way.

We thank all staff who helped organise and support these events and wish our Year 11 and Year 13 students every success and happiness as they take their next steps. They will always remain an important part of the Nailsea School family.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

Attendance Matters because your child's future Matters

Our attendance figures for Term 6 have shown an improvement compared with Term 5, which is encouraging. However, attendance remains slightly below the national average, and we are keen to finish the academic year as strongly as possible – let's make the most of the final days of the term.

With 9.5 school days remaining, there is still so much for students to be part of. The final weeks of term are packed with opportunities, celebrations and memorable experiences, including:

- Our Sporting Personality Event
- Sports Day
- The announcement of the House Championship winners
- End-of-year Rewards Events, including time on the inflatables for eligible students
- The Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
- Music Summer Concert
- A range of activities as part of our Belonging Weeks



These events are an important part of school life. They recognise achievement, build confidence, strengthen friendships and create lasting memories that students will take with them long after the academic year has ended. Just as importantly, the remaining days are still valuable learning time. They provide opportunities to deepen understanding, reflect on progress and enjoy spending time with friends and classmates before the long summer break.

Our final two weeks are dedicated to Belonging Weeks, celebrating everything that makes our school community special. We want every student to feel connected, involved and recognised. A simple message remains true: be in your seat to get your treat. Students can only take part in and benefit from these experiences if they are in school.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring students attend every day possible as we work together to make the end of the school year a positive, rewarding and memorable one for all.

National Survey: The Big Future

We are keen to ensure that the voices of our students are heard on a national level, and we are therefore supporting *The Big Future* survey led by the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza.

This important survey aims to gather the views, experiences and aspirations of children and young people from every school and community across the country. At a time of significant change, it is vital that student voices help shape future policy—and without participation, those perspectives risk being missing from the national picture.

We strongly encourage all students to take part by completing the survey here:

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture> A range of helpful resources, including an introductory video and FAQs, are also available on the Children's Commissioner's website.

There is even an opportunity for students to act as *student champions*, promoting the survey among their peers. Those who help generate high participation may receive formal recognition from the Children's Commissioner's office—something that can be included in personal statements, CVs, and future applications.

Schools with the highest response rates will also be invited to attend the final *Festival of Childhood*, celebrating the voices and contributions of young people from across England. We hope you will support your child in taking part in this valuable opportunity to have their voice heard.

Reminder about mobile phone policy

As part of our commitment to providing a calm, focused and positive learning environment, we would like to remind families that our mobile phone policy is "Off and Away for the Whole School Day."



This approach is fully aligned with the Government's expectations that schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default, with pupils not accessing phones at any point during the school day, including lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.

There are clear reasons for this approach. Government guidance highlights that restricting mobile phone use in schools helps to:

- Reduce distractions and improve concentration in lessons
- Support positive behaviour and high expectations across the school day.
- Protect pupils from issues linked to social media, cyberbullying and inappropriate online activity during school hours.
- Encourage face-to-face interaction, healthy relationships and pupil wellbeing.

To ensure consistency, any pupil seen using a mobile phone during the school day will have it confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Pupils who repeatedly fail to follow the policy will be required to hand their phone in at the start of each day, collecting it again at the end of the school day.

We appreciate the support of parents and carers in reinforcing this message. By working together, we can ensure that our school remains a place where pupils are fully engaged in learning and able to make the most of every opportunity.

Uniform Update

As we look ahead to September, we would like to remind families about our school uniform expectations. From the start of the new academic year, pupils will be expected to wear:

- A school polo shirt
- Black trousers
- A school sweatshirt

The following items remain optional:

- School shorts
- School fleece top

We recognise that changes to uniform can take time for families to manage and for this reason we have implemented a gradual transition to the new uniform over a six-month period. During this time, we will work with families to support the move to the new uniform expectations.

Please note that the new uniform will be the expectation for all year groups from the start of term, with the exception of students returning to Year 11, who may continue with their existing uniform for their final year.



Please note the School Togs Free Delivery option to school will be paused at 5pm on Wednesday 8th July, to enable orders to be delivered and collected before the summer break. Any orders placed after that date will only be able to opt for home delivery - until Wednesday 26th August when the options will be turned back on, ready for the new school year

Thank you for your support in ensuring that all pupils arrive at school smartly dressed and ready to learn. A consistent uniform helps promote a sense of belonging, pride and high expectations across our school community.

Behaviour System Relaunch – Ready, Respectful and Responsible

As mentioned last week, in the final 2 weeks of term we are launching our amendments to the school Behaviour Policy, which will come into effect from next week. The revised approach is built around our core expectations of Ready, Respectful and Responsible and is designed to provide greater clarity, consistency and support for all students. Students have already been introduced to the changes through a series of House Assemblies, ensuring they understand both the expectations and the support available to help them make positive choices. This will also be re-enforced in tutor times and will be reiterated when we return in September.

The final two weeks of term provide an excellent opportunity for students and staff to begin using the new language and approach before it is fully embedded in September. Our focus is on helping students make the right decisions through clear reminders, supportive conversations and consistent expectations, while also celebrating positive behaviour. Ultimately, these changes are about ensuring every student can learn in calm, disruption-free classrooms where teachers can teach and students can focus, achieve and thrive.

Music Summer Concert

Please come and join us for the Music Department's Outdoor Gig, Tuesday 14th July, 5pm, Tickets £5 on MCAS. Bring a rug or chairs to sit on and a picnic to enjoy whilst you watch.

End of term arrangements

The academic year concludes at 12:20pm on Friday 17th July. Students will attend tutor time and lessons 1-3 as normal. A reduced food offer will be available to purchase at breaktime. Students will be dismissed for the summer break at 12:20pm. Students that are transported to school by North Somerset should have already been contacted by their provider regarding arrangements.



Foodbank

During the six-week summer holiday period, parents/ carers of children who qualify for free school meals can collect lunch bag parcels from any of the four local foodbank centres. Details attached.

Finally... Many of us will be keeping a close eye on England as they prepare for their Last 16 tie against Mexico in the early hours of Monday morning. Whatever happens in the match itself, there is much we can already take from the team's journey through the competition.

The squad has demonstrated resilience when faced with challenges, patience when results have not immediately gone their way, and a willingness to work together towards a common goal. They have shown that success is rarely a straight line and that determination, teamwork and belief are often just as important as talent. These are qualities that we encourage in our students every day and which will serve them well far beyond the classroom or sports field.

While we are all hoping for a positive result, it is worth remembering that the most enduring lessons from sport are often not found on the scoreboard. Commitment, perseverance, handling pressure and representing others with pride are achievements that remain long after the final whistle.

Of course, there is one final challenge for supporters: the match kicks off at 1.00am on Monday morning. We are therefore hoping for a professional England performance, an early lead and absolutely no need for extra time or penalties! Whatever the outcome, let's hope everyone manages to get at least a little sleep before arriving in school ready for the final weeks of term. 🍌🏆😴

Have a lovely weekend



Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

