

Head's Bulletin



Friday 6th September 2019

Wk 2: Wk Commencing 9th September

Term Dates 2019/20

Term 1

Tues 3rd Sept—Fri
25th Oct

Term 2

Mon 4th Nov—Fri
20th Dec

**INSET day 2: 22nd
Nov**

Term 3

Mon 6th Jan—Fri
14th Feb

INSET day 3: 14th Feb

Term 4

Mon 24th Feb—Fri
3rd April

Term 5

Tues 21st April —Fri
22nd May

Term 6

Mon 1st June —Fri
17th July

The first bulletin of academic year, 2019/20



These first few weeks of the year are some of my favourite – it is lovely to have the students back. May I extend a particular welcome to the nearly 200 new year 7s and their families who joined us this week—this is our largest year group now in the school and reflects the fact that Nailsea is becoming an increasingly popular choice for local parents. I hope that all of your children have started well and that your time with us continues to be happy and successful.

The summer saw the publication of our A level and GCSE results which demonstrated great success for both year 11 and 13 students. Our Year 13s left with some impressive outcomes, particularly in maintaining results around the same record breaking benchmark of last year. There were countless individual success stories, far too numerous to mention here. With the nature of results day reporting these individual stories can be overlooked with the focus being on the very highest attainers. Although these stories are rightly celebrated, as I said in my press release, there were some students in both year 13 and 11 who showed immense levels of resilience and achieved results whilst facing real personal challenges. Their focus and determination was just as impressive as their final results and will equally stand them in good stead for the future. I was very proud to be here on both days to share these memories with students and parents alike.

The year 11 cohort is now making the transition into the 6th Form and, like their Year 7 counterparts, appear to have made a very positive start. Inevitably, having achieved so much at GCSE level our expectations and hopes are high for the next two years. I wish these students all the very best of luck. On a personal level it was a delight meeting my year 12 Sociology group this week and I am sure the year 13 group I am due to teach next week will also not disappoint.

As a reminder to parents and for those new to the school, as well as these weekly bulletins and termly newsletters the school does have a number of social media accounts that you can follow for up to date news and messages. The school Twitter account is @nailseaschool and my account (I could always do with some more followers!) is @DElliottNailsea. From there, you can find the details of a the House and many department accounts. I am also pleased to announce the new term has also seen the launch of our new website www.nailseaschool.com—please do take a look. Whatever you are planning do, have a great weekend.

Mrs Elliott, Head teacher

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Nailsea School Mizzymead Road Nailsea BS48 2HN

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Key Dates Term 1

Thurs 12th Sept

Presentation Evening,
7pm

Thurs 19th Sept

Yr 10 Info Evening,
6pm—7pm

Tues 24th Sept

DofE Awards Evening,
6:30—7:30pm

Thurs 26th Sept

Open Evening, 6pm

Please note school
starts at 9:40 am on Fri
27th Sept

Presentation Evening, 12th September 2019

We are very much looking forward to welcoming back last year's year 11 and 13 students and their parents to our Presentation Evening on 12th September.

This will be an opportunity for staff and students to catch up on how the last few months have been and to discuss plans for some very exciting futures. The formal part of the evening begins at 7pm in the auditorium with arrival from 6:30pm.

It is always a fantastic evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

Can you support the school by joining the PTA?

Nailsea School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) continues to work incredibly hard supporting the school. New year 7 parents would, for example, have seen members of the PTA manning the BBQ in the summer term transition afternoon.

The fundraising from the group has been instrumental in purchasing equipment and supporting many initiatives which have then been launched in the school, such as the MyConcern Safeguarding software.

The PTA are always happy to welcome new members and the first meeting of the year will take place on **Wednesday 11th Sept at 7pm in the Conference room**. Attendees should enter the building through the Community Entrance.

If you would like some further information please find out more by following @nailsea_pta on Twitter or by looking at the 'Nailsea School PTA' page on Facebook.

Open Door Clinics

Open Door Parent Clinics are held most Wednesday afternoons during term time for parents to speak directly with Mrs Elliott regarding any concerns or suggestions they may have.

These are held from 3:30pm until 5:30pm and can be booked through contacting reception on 01275 852251 or at Nailsea.school@nailseaschool.com



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Staffing update

Room 161, our cover suite, is the way Nailsea School responds to the issues of any member of staff being absent. As parents who have visited the school will have seen, 161 has enough computers for 90 students and the room is supervised by two members of staff. This year those members of staff are both new to the school; Ms Martinez and Mrs Gregory. Staff set cover work via Show My Homework and students complete the work electronically, submitting to the teacher as requested.

In an ideal situation all classes would be taught by their subject teacher in a classroom every lesson but, for a variety of reasons, this may not always be possible. I do want to reassure parents that the incidents of classes being placed in 161 are regularly monitored by the school to ensure that any impact on progress is minimised.

Unfortunately, there have been a couple of staff that have been unable to return fully to their teaching commitments after the summer holiday for health reasons. We are aware that this can cause an unsettled start for students and we are working hard to ensure that the implications of this are not felt by the teaching groups affected. If your son/daughter is in one of these teaching groups they may have been taught by a supply teacher this week—and where possible this is a subject specialist. Alternatively, other members of current school staff will be taking the lessons to ensure that the schemes of work are followed and these groups will not be disadvantaged compared to their peers. We are continuing to monitor the situation and will keep all parents updated on the situation.

If you do have any concerns about any situation in any subject area now or in the future, please contact the curriculum leader in the first instance. Contact details can be found via the contact details page on the school website <http://www.nailseaschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Staff-Contact-List-updated-17.07.19.pdf>

Thank you for your understanding.

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