



Nailsea School

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23rd October 2020

Dear Parents/carers

What a roller coaster Term 1 has been. It's been great to have students back and seeing them in the building made all the work involved in preparing the site over the summer worth it. As mentioned in an email from staff this week 'students have been fantastic' - although I am sure many are very ready for a break after an eight week term, as are many staff. As we head into the week away from school I wanted to highlight some key reminders/changes for all, as usual, set out under some key headings for reference.

School Day – Term 2

As families are aware, as part of our risk assessment the decision was taken to move to double lessons in the morning (periods 1 and 2 + periods 3 and 4) since September.

Having reviewed how this has been during this term, from the start of term 2 both breaktime and lunchtime will last for 30 mins each.

This will provide additional time for students to have a movement break between four hours of morning lessons and ensure that staff have slightly more time to move between bubbles and set up for their classes. This term has shown that, with the separate lunch outlets in each year bubble, there will not be an issue with students being unable to purchase/eat lunch in the 30 min break.

The school day will therefore run as follows: (with the difference on Wednesdays as previously explained to parents given the extended tutor time)

- 8:40 – 9:40 am Period 1
- 9:40 – 10:40 am Period 2
- 10:40 – 11:10am Break
- 11:10 – 12:10pm Period 3
- 12:10 – 1:10pm Period 4
- 1:10 – 1:40 pm Lunch
- 1:40 – 2:00pm Tutor Time
- 2:00 – 3:00pm Period 5

This is a temporary arrangement that will be reviewed again during term 2 for term 3 in January 2021.

Donations of textbooks/revision guides

Many thanks to all the parents and families who have brought in pre loved GCSE/A level textbooks and revision guides that we can then share with existing students. Departments and students are incredibly grateful.

If you have any books that you would like to pass on to the school please bring them to reception, where they will be quarantined for a set period before being passed on to the relevant staff.

Symptoms and testing over the break

I would ask for families to continue to update the school if personal circumstances require anyone in the household to have to isolate over the break. This will help with any advance planning required prior to returning in term 2. Please remember the notification email c19@nailseaschool.com should be used for this.

In the South West rates of infection are much lower than other places nationally. However, this does not mean that we should be complacent and I would urge families and students to continue to adhere to the guidance, despite annual events such as Halloween being a possible temptation. We want to be able to open to all students on our return for as long as possible and working together and within the guidelines will make this more likely.

Staffing update

We wish Mrs Ginnis well as she begins her maternity leave this week. Mrs Ginnis' classes will be covered by Mr Ward in her absence.

Many parents and students have also contacted me to wish Mr Morris well as he begins his retirement today, leaving Nailsea School after 13.5 years' service. Mr Morris has worked tirelessly in the best interests of the students, the school and the community in his time at the school. I know that he has had a personal impact on a number of our families, past and present. I am sure you will all join me in thanking him for all he has done and wishing him all the best in his retirement.

Thanks, as ever, for your support this term and do enjoy a restful break
Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dee Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'D' at the beginning.

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher