



# Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/carers

It has been fantastic to have all of the school community back this week, with Year 8 returning from isolation on Wednesday. It has been another busy week and I hope families find these messages useful.

## Year 8 Remote Learning Review

As mentioned, Year 8 students have returned very positively following their period of self-isolation. We are aware that this, unfortunately is the second period for this year group and we would be really grateful for any feedback parents can pass on.

The link to provide feedback can be found here

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC\\_kkVN2UUqgzosIzVoQVW73i\\_5A2HxB0DhUtN-POA1UQzJWUTJCVjZHWkhGU0IRU1dBVE5GUTRGNC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kkVN2UUqgzosIzVoQVW73i_5A2HxB0DhUtN-POA1UQzJWUTJCVjZHWkhGU0IRU1dBVE5GUTRGNC4u) and will close on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 8am.

Thank you, in advance, for this feedback which will inform future practice. We will produce a summary of the responses in the final letter of the term.

## Year 7 Remote Learning Review

The Year 7 Remote Learning feedback form closed yesterday. Many thanks to the parents that took the time to complete the form. A summary of the findings will be shared in this letter next week.

## Reminder about key actions when symptomatic/awaiting test results and attending school

As a reminder, students should NOT be sent into school

- If anyone in the household is displaying symptoms (high temperature, loss of taste/smell, cough)
- If anyone is displaying symptoms and is arranging/waiting for a test
- If anyone in the household is waiting for a test result

Families should contact the dedicated email address, [C19@nailseaschool.com](mailto:C19@nailseaschool.com), when

- any family member is taking a COVID-19 test and so the household is isolating
- the result of the test is known, EITHER positive OR negative, so that school can be clear on the return to school date of any students affected.

## Ongoing safety measures in school

Given the decision for our area to enter Tier 3 when national lockdown came to an end, I would like to inform parents that these measures will continue for the rest of this term and will be reviewed at the end of the first week of Term 3.

As a reminder these are:

- Students should be entering the school building, irrespective of their year group entrance, wearing a **face mask**. Students who arrive at school without a mask will be provided with a reusable one from a stock purchased by the school. Students will be charged £2.00 for this, with the money being deducted from funds currently on the student card.
- **Face coverings** need to be worn in corridors and communal areas, unless when eating/drinking. When not being worn masks should be stored in a zip lock bag.
- Students should **not be play fighting/hugging** given the importance of minimising physical contact, even between students in the same year group bubble.

Students arriving at school without a face mask/not adhering to the correct wearing of face masks will be challenged and this will be recorded on our behaviour system. Thank you in advance for supporting these school measures in keeping everyone safe.

### **6<sup>th</sup> form applications – OPEN**

Students in Year 11 who have not yet seen the fantastic courses on offer can find out more here [Apply to Sixth Form – Nailsea School](#)

The deadline for applications is the **14<sup>th</sup> December 2020**. It is after this date that decisions are made on which courses are running and which subjects are placed in which pools and so I would urge students to ensure they have submitted the application by this date.

### **Year 11 and 13 mock exam periods**

Mock exams have continued and although taking place in classrooms, for obvious reasons, other exam regulations are being adhered to in order for students to have the most realistic experience. Students will be receiving their results from their individual teachers as and when they are available (pending the exam schedule) and all students will receive a full statement of results in January 2021.

Earlier this week the Education Secretary, building on the 3 week delay to exams, confirmed that the students taking exams next summer would benefit from

- more generous grading than usual, in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students are not disadvantaged
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A levels to focus revision
- exam aids, for example formula sheets, provided in some exams giving students more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise
- additional exams to give students a second chance to sit a paper if the main exams or assessments are missed due to illness or self-isolation
- a new expert group to look at differential learning and monitor the variation in the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on students across the country

The government will set out further details on this process, and on adaptations to exams, in the new year. I will inform parents as soon as these details are known.

### **Collection of exam certificates for students completing courses in summer 2020**

For those students that completed GCSE or A Level courses in summer 2020, the certificates can be collected from outside Reception between 3.30pm & 5.30 pm on Thursday 17 December 2020 or on Monday 6 January 2021. If you cannot attend in person, you can ask a friend or relative to collect on your behalf. They must bring a signed copy of a declaration form with them, signed by the candidate. The form and further details regarding the safety measures in place for this process can be found in a letter that has been sent home via School Comms. If you cannot arrange collection on this date, please email the exams office to arrange an alternative date: [nbeattie@nailseaschool.com](mailto:nbeattie@nailseaschool.com)

### **End of term arrangements**

Term 2 finishes on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December with arrangements listed below:

- 8:40 – 10:40 am – Lesson 1
- 10:40 – 11:10 am – Break
- 11:10 – 12:10pm – Lesson 2
- 12:10 – 12:40 pm – Lunch
- 12:40 – 12:50pm – Tutor time
- 12:50pm – Students dismissed

The school has informed the coach/taxi companies about these timings for those students that use this form of transport to get to and from school.

A number of parents have contacted me about the possibility of ending term on 11<sup>th</sup> December in order to prevent any families needing to self-isolate IF we are notified of a positive case in the final week of term. The date of the end of term has been stipulated by the government as being 18<sup>th</sup> December and as such this cannot be changed. This is something that is beyond my control.

I would, therefore, urge all of #teamnailsea to be extra vigilant with both hand hygiene and social distancing for the next couple of weeks so that we can all enjoy the Christmas break, as best we can.

### **Message from the PTA – Winter Draw!**

The PTA Winter Draw will take place in just over a week's time. Tickets are on sale via ParentPay until **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec at noon** and it would be great for parents to support the PTA in this way. First prize is £100 Cash, second prize is a £75 One4all Gift Card and third is a £50 John Lewis Gift Card. You have to be in it to win it!

Finally, thank you so much to the many staff that contributed to our messages of thanks in last week's letter. The messages are being collated and displayed for staff this afternoon and will be a lovely surprise on Monday morning. Your support, as ever, means a huge amount.

Have a lovely weekend. Take care and be kind.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher