



# Nailsea School

ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Although we are now entering week 3 of our third national lockdown, I have to say that this week has been a real joy.

My assembly, shared with students this week on Teams, took the theme of the famous phrase 'when life gives you lemons, make lemonade' and there are certainly some sweet things that have happened over the last week.

For example:

- at the time of writing (Thursday morning) there have been 363 'Shout Outs' submitted by staff for students from years 7 – 13 reflecting the work being completed and efforts being made at home working remotely.
- Equally, the students accessing the provision on site have been working hard on the same work set for their peers – it has been lovely to hear voices around the building.
- I have continued to teach my year 10 History group and, with a slightly reduced timetable, also have had the opportunity to 'drop in' on the other lessons being delivered by our staff. As I mentioned in my assembly our staff are continuing to 'up their game'. Increased familiarity with the technology is breeding confidence for them and therefore extending the experiences for our students.
- We are continuing to receive really positive feedback from students and parents, either through email or in response to the check in calls being made. Although we are working apart, we are still very much working together and I would urge that families contact us if they need any further help and support.
- AND....I guessed correctly that Martine McCutcheon was 'The Swan' in last week's Masked Singer!

## **Remote Learning – wk comm 18<sup>th</sup> Jan**

As in previous weeks the remote learning timetable for your child is an attachment to this letter.

I would strongly recommend all students working at home to make the morning check in a part of their daily routine. They take place every day at 8:30am with a different member of the senior or pastoral team. This is a great way for us to pass on daily reminders and those students mentioned in the Shout Outs will get a chance to hear them being read out first hand. Given they are 'Live Events' the recordings are also automatically available if any student does miss the time slot and can be accessed by clicking the link, posted in the year group channel.

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## **Lateral Flow Testing**

Most students that are accessing school site have now received their two lateral flow tests, as part of their regular return to school. In addition, teaching staff are also being tested weekly. As I mentioned last week although setting up such a testing process was a daunting prospect when this was announced just before the Christmas break, #teamnailsea have once again stepped up to the mark.

The remaining students will receive their first test prior to their return to school/on the first day of their return and then will be tested again between 3 and 5 days later. At the moment it is not clear when the full student body will return, but as soon as this information is known details about testing will be passed on to families.

To ensure the process is as smooth as possible when we are dealing with full year groups, we are asking for consent to be given in advance. Students over 16 years of age can provide their own consent but the form will still need to be completed in order to gather key information for the registration process.

If you have not already provided these details we would ask you to do so by using the link to this form below:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC\\_kKVN2UUqnzoslzVoQVW73i\\_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UM1JMVfJBvzNWMjY1TzFGMjgyOUkzMUxMC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnzoslzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UM1JMVfJBvzNWMjY1TzFGMjgyOUkzMUxMC4u)

## **Students wishing to access school site – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Jan inclusive**

Students who are children of critical workers and those vulnerable students can be supervised on school site for the period of wider school closure. These students will be following the live lesson provision offered to their year group when in school. As such, students should bring headphones. A set can be provided by the school but there will be a subsequent request of £1.50 to cover the costs of these.

The booking form for the next two week period can be found here:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC\\_kKVN2UUqnzoslzVoQVW73i\\_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UNUIyNkw2VzNOTUxZTEk0T0IJWjBFV0dBUC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wC_kKVN2UUqnzoslzVoQVW73i_5A2HxBoDhUtN-POA1UNUIyNkw2VzNOTUxZTEk0T0IJWjBFV0dBUC4u)

The form will open at 5pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January and will close at midday on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January. The later opening will enable working parents to be able to access the form. If the situation for families does change and places need to be booked in this provision after the form has closed, can I please ask that all enquiries are directed to [nailsch@nailseaschool.com](mailto:nailsch@nailseaschool.com) Spaces can only be allocated for this period if they are available. Going forward it may be that the school may need to prioritise which students are allocated places and/or limit the number of days per week students can access the provision.

I would like to remind parents that expectations regarding behaviour and attitudes remains the same for any student accessing the site during this period of time. For example, mobile

phones should continue to be 'off and away for the whole school day' unless being used to access work/upload work to SMH when in lesson.

## Offer of support from Nailsea Support Group

Please see the offer of support from a local community group that families may wish to take up:



The poster features a central graphic with the text "Free School Meal Grocery Collection" in large, bold, dark blue letters. To the right of this text is a circular logo for "Nailsea Community Group" showing four hands of different colors (blue, orange, red, green) reaching upwards towards three hearts. Below the main title, there are three paragraphs of text in a smaller, dark blue font. The first paragraph explains the offer: "If your children are off school due to the current lockdown and are eligible for Free School Meals we can provide you with a weekly bag of food per child that you can collect from No26 Somerset Square. If you are interested please fill in your details on the form and we will contact you." The second paragraph lists the types of groceries: "The groceries would be store-cupboard items like pasta, baked beans, cereal, tinned tuna, tinned sweetcorn, pasta sauce, tinned tomatoes..." The third paragraph describes the collection schedule: "You can choose whether you'd like to pick up your bag of groceries every week, once a fortnight or just once a month – it's up to you – just let us know on the form." Below this, it provides contact information: "If you have any questions on the scheme please email us at info@nailseasupportgroup.com." At the bottom, there is a link to the form: "Link to the form – http://bit.ly/3scJm2u" and the group's name and address: "Nailsea Community Group, No26 Somerset Square info@nailseasupportgroup.com". The entire poster is framed by a decorative border of small, repeating food-related words like "cereal", "pasta", "noodles", "porridge", "soup", "tomatoes", "rice", "beans", etc.

**Free School Meal  
Grocery  
Collection**

**Nailsea Community  
Group**

If your children are off school due to the current lockdown and are eligible for Free School Meals we can provide you with a weekly bag of food per child that you can collect from No26 Somerset Square. If you are interested please fill in your details on the form and we will contact you.

The groceries would be store-cupboard items like pasta, baked beans, cereal, tinned tuna, tinned sweetcorn, pasta sauce, tinned tomatoes...

You can choose whether you'd like to pick up your bag of groceries every week, once a fortnight or just once a month – it's up to you – just let us know on the form.

If you have any questions on the scheme please email us at [info@nailseasupportgroup.com](mailto:info@nailseasupportgroup.com).

Link to the form – <http://bit.ly/3scJm2u>

**Nailsea Community Group, No26 Somerset Square**  
[info@nailseasupportgroup.com](mailto:info@nailseasupportgroup.com)

## Year 9 Guided Choices

Parents of students will have received a separate letter this week outlining the timeline for this important process through SchoolComms. In order to help students decide on their KS4 subject choices the Year 9 Subject Evening will go ahead as calendared in early February. Letters will be sent in the next few days outlining how this virtual subject evening will take place. Students and parents will also be issued with a progress report so that conversations can be had related to suitability of courses at KS4 moving forward.

In addition the Year 9 Parents Evening will continue as planned on Thursday 4th February. This will be a virtual event using the video call function in the parent evening booking system. We received lots of positive feedback from the Year 10 Parents Evening which took place in the same format. Information about the Year 9 Parents Evening will be sent out next week.

### **Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews**

Sixth Form interviews will take place as planned this term. Interviews will need to take place virtually, given the situation. Students will receive a letter about the proposed format in the next week.

To reiterate an earlier message, although we are 'working apart' at the moment we are still, very much, 'working together'.

Please do, as ever, contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

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, stylized 'D' and a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher