



Nailsea School

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7th May 2021

Dear Parents/carers

I hope you all enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend – despite only 4 days this week there has been a lot happening across the school site and some key updates to pass on.

Yr 11 and 13 update

Year 11 and 13 families have been contacted separately regarding an update on the final weeks before half term. In addition, Mr Reddiford and Mr Graffagnino have been in contact with year 11 students about 6th form induction arrangements.

ABSolute Curriculum – Diversity

This term extended tutor time activities (Wednesdays) are focusing on the topic of diversity. I am incredibly proud of the family feel that visitors often comment upon when visiting the school and an appreciation of all members of #teamnailsea is key to this. In the last few weeks staff have been incredibly heartened by the mature and thoughtful discussions that are taking place during these ABSolute tutor time sessions. A range of topics have been covered embracing the diversity of communities and the nation we call home.

I am sure we would all agree that students are entitled to find school a safe and welcoming place where they are able to achieve success and acceptance irrespective of their nationality, sexuality, gender identity, faith or ethnic background.

In line with our school behaviour policy, if there are occasions where actions/comments are made by students that contravene these principles appropriate action will be taken. This will also involve liaising with local Police Community Support Officers as has happened this week, with two visiting some tutor groups to reiterate the legal stance related to the consequences of hate crime.

Thank you for supporting this key principle of addressing issues of equality and diversity.

The Big Ask – survey for parents/carers and students

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ask](#) – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that children can be at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Children are encouraged to take part by [completing this survey](#).

Parents, carers and those working with children are also invited [to complete the adult survey](#) to share their views about the future for children and young people today, and what they think is holding young people back.

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Use of specialist areas and extra-curricular activities

As stated in the revised risk assessment classes have begun to access specialist areas within year groups. Superlab use has begun this week and I know that both the staff and the students have thoroughly enjoyed being able to see science in action through practical experiments.

In addition to the PE extra-curricular clubs the Music department are offering the following opportunities for students:

Live Music Workshops

Exciting news! Music clubs are starting

If you play a String, Percussion or Keyboard instrument this is for you

Beginner to expert welcome

Tuesday Rm 53 YR 9 May 11th 18th & 25th 3pm – 3.40 pm

Tuesday Rm 55 YR 10 May 13th 20th & 27th 3pm – 3.40 pm

Thursday Rm 53 Yr 7 May 11th 18th & 25th 3pm – 3.40 pm

Thursday Rm 55 Yr 8 May 13th 20th & 27th 3pm – 3.40 pm

YR 8 & 10 enter the music department via the fire exit as usual

Fidget Tools

The use of fidget tools can be helpful for students in classrooms. However, it is important for students to be aware that these are tools to help focus and not toys. Without a shared understanding of how these tools are used in lessons, there could be the tendency for them to be misused and become a distraction for both the individual student and others in the class.

If your son/daughter is currently using a fidget tool this should be logged with our SENCo, Ms Lloyd. This will enable a conversation to be had regarding the direction on how to use the fidget, setting expectations about the use of the tool. This contract will then be shared with the Head of Year which will also enable your child to agree on where, when and how the fidget can be used.

Wishing you all the best for a restful weekend

Take care and be kind



Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher