



Nailsea School

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4th March 2022

Dear Parents/carers

I think it's fair to say that although we have started the Spring term there has been very little springtime weather to welcome us back this week.

Irrespective of this, students have returned to school positively this week. I had the pleasure of taking a Yr 11 English tutor session this week and was really impressed with the attitude of the group to the additional support that has been given to them with these activities planned by the English team. Year 11 students and families will have received their first weekly bulletin outlining some key ways that revision can be supported in the coming weeks. As well as content related to revision techniques there are tips on wellbeing and some strategies that parents can use at home. We hope year 11 parents find this useful.

As ever, if you would like any further advice or support irrespective of the year your child is currently in, please don't hesitate to contact us at the school.

1st March is always Secondary School offer day and this is a real watershed moment for many families. I am thrilled to report that not only is our year 7 intake for September 2022 completely full, but we have also been asked by the local authority to provide additional spaces for students beyond our planned admission number. **As such #TeamNailsea will be welcoming 220 students in September 2022.** This is the first time in 8 years that the school has had an intake of this size and I am really proud that parental preference has been shown in this way, reflecting the hard work of all the staff here at the school. We are already finalising our package of transition plans and families will be contacted in due course. Exciting times!

Ambition

6th form interviews for both internal and external candidates were completed this week. This will mean that official offer letters should be arriving home within the next week.

If any student has not had an interview or not received a letter please do contact Mr Reddiford, Head of 6th form on JReddiford@nailseaschool.com.

It is looking as if the September 2022 year 12 group will be largest we have had in the 6th form for a number of years. It will be an absolute pleasure to welcome back so many of our existing students, as well as welcoming new ones, supporting them in the next stage of their education.

#AimHigh

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Respect

It has been positive to see students enjoying the new House spaces during social times. Equally uplifting to see how they have respected these new areas keeping them litter free and making suggestions on how they can personalise the zones to emphasise their House identity. On the whole students are really good at recognising the privilege of the buildings and surroundings we have and visitors often comment on how well presented the school is. I would encourage students to take this level of respect out into the community, especially in terms of responsibility around litter and how they conduct themselves in public, and enjoy the opportunity to make a positive impression.

#BePositive



Kindness

Given the term finished earlier than expected given the arrival of Storm Eunice, we have rearranged our final day of the **Dragon and Griffin Charity Week** today. I will be able to update you on the amounts raised in a subsequent letter.

Given the situation happening in Ukraine, as a school many students have asked about how our community can support there. As well as students being able to make additional donations through the non-uniform day today that will be specifically added to the crises appeal, 6th form students are working on plans for their charity week supporting the fundraising later on in March. Nailsea residents have also been in touch with the school to see how we can coordinate supplies to be sent to those that need them. We will be in touch in due course when these details have been finalised. Thanks, in advance, for your support with these initiatives.

#BeKind



Pride

I am sure Mrs Ruddy will join me in passing on the congratulations to the many students in year 10 who have managed to secure their **work experience placement** already, particularly in such a challenging year. Year 10 students will be on work experience during the wk comm 4th July. As part of the process Health and Safety checks do need to be undertaken to ensure they are appropriate for our students and so notifying us of the placement as soon as possible will enable these to happen. The experience is a great opportunity and we are expecting all students to have a placement. If any student in year 10 is struggling please contact Mrs Ruddy on SRuddy@nailseaschool.com

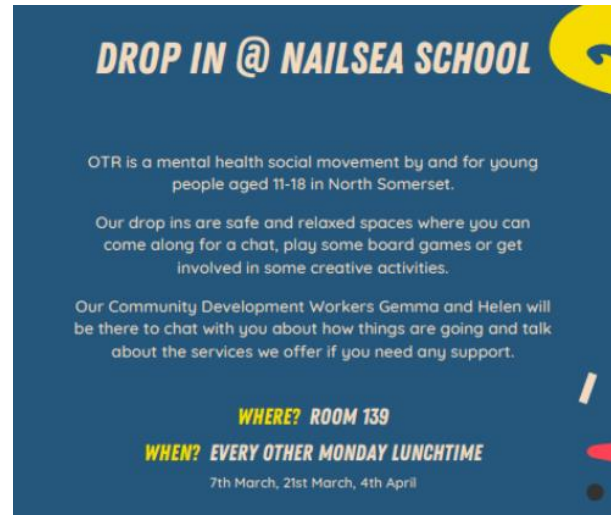
#BeProud



Community

Mr Boyce is continuing to develop some excellent **opportunities for students during our ABSolute sessions**. What is particularly aligned to our school values is the fact that as a school we are working with other organisations in our local community. This week we would want to draw your attention to the following:

- OTR (Off the Record) drop ins start next week. Parents and students should have received info on this through ClassCharts but a screenshot of the poster placed around school is shown to the right.
- Y8 First Aid workshops: start on Tue 8th March. One workshop is still available to book for Y8 students Tues 15th March. <https://forms.office.com/r/npBfSPeE7B>



#TeamNailsea

Finally...

like many of you, I have also found watching and listening to the news over recent days incredibly upsetting. The last two years have been challenging for us all and just when we were all thinking things may be looking brighter, the pictures on the television and the posts on media feeds have brought us back to a harsh reality. Over the weekend I will continue to think of those experiencing such distress and hardship and certainly take the time to spend time with my loved ones. I hope you all have the opportunity to do the same.

Take care and be kind
Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher