



# Nailsea School

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27<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents/carers

This week's letter starts with some sobering news I have been asked to pass on to parents by the local neighbourhood policing team. The PCSOs have been made aware of a sexually explicit video being distributed among school pupils in North Somerset. They would like you to be aware that the child you have responsibility for may have this or other indecent images on their electronic devices which they may have been sent. They also add:

*As a reminder, it is an offence to make, possess or distribute such images and these are very serious criminal offences with serious consequences that can result in life-long repercussions, even if it is an indecent image that the child has taken themselves.*

*None of us wants to see young people being criminalised so we are appealing to you to check the mobile phone / tablet / computer of the child you have responsibility for and ensure that any such images that are on the device are permanently deleted. In an age of cloud storage and device syncing such content is not something that anyone wants to reappear at a later date as the offence would still be committed at that point in time.*

*We would also urge you to frequently and robustly inspect these devices as part of your caring responsibilities. If any content is discovered you have the authority to intervene and remove content / confiscate the device for a period / cancel the contract as you see fit. Our personal opinion is that we would prefer to keep a grumbling teenager safe than be criticised for not protecting them when it has all gone wrong.*

With the half term break upon us and with more time for students to be on their devices this is a timely reminder about the importance of checking the content being accessed.

## **Ambition**



As well as following the successes of the student body, it is also great to see members of staff succeeding in their various pursuits. Mr Taylor, PE teacher and Dragon House tutor, will be part of the Somerset Rugby team playing in the division two final on 4<sup>th</sup> June. The match, against Staffordshire, will take place at Twickenham and I am sure you will join me in wishing the team well.

#AimHigh



### **Respect**

Running an external exam series in school is no mean feat. A massive amount of preparation goes on behind the scenes: booking rooms, finding spaces for multiple exams taking place at the same time; meeting the needs of those students who require special arrangements; the secure receipt, checking and storage of exam papers to then correctly bring out within agreed timescales; the organisation of the actual exam areas, seating plans, signage, invigilators, etc, checking and complying with exam board regulations. Alongside all of this the school needs to run as normally as possible and staff and students need to work around changes to the site, being silent in exam areas and for those staff supporting the exams they need to manage this in addition to their existing roles. A successful exam series is a massive team effort. This week the JCQ Exam Inspector arrived unannounced to assess the quality of the exam provision and to ensure we are compliant. With the power to shut down the school as an exam centre, I am pleased to say the Inspector reported the school is adhering to all regulations and running a smooth, robust and efficient exam process. We received full marks! I am grateful to all the staff and students who have respected the exam process and gone out of their way to support the Y11 and Y13 and the Exam Team throughout these 5 weeks.

#BePositive



### **Kindness**

Another successful charity week last week, with Phoenix and Unicorn students raising money for their chosen charities. So far this year the school has raised over £4,200 for a variety of local and national causes.

#BeKind



### **Pride**

I speak for large numbers of staff who have been incredibly proud of the way students have conducted themselves prior to and within exams as we complete the second timetabled week. Things are taken up another gear when we return in term 6 and with the continued preparation and focus that will take place over the break, students will rightly achieve the grades they deserve.

#BeProud



### **Community**

I am very proud of the reputation that Nailsea has as a caring and welcoming school. This week and in the first weeks of next term we will be welcoming a number of Ukrainian young people to our school and families to our community. I am sure many of you will have been moved by the news coverage and the recent experiences these families may have lived through. As ever I am sure we will all do our very best in supporting the new families joining us.

#TeamNailsea

**Finally...**

term 5 is the shortest of the year but there has been an awful lot packed into it. Staff and students have continued to remain focused on doing the very best, every day. There is no doubt that challenges have cropped up, as they will continue to do, but it is the way we respond to these that makes us the people that we are. On a personal level, I am finishing the term on my birthday – although not the next milestone one, quite yet! To finish I thought I would share with you a picture of a gift I have received which sums up my thoughts and intentions exactly. It is very much at home on the wall in my office and is the first thing I will see every morning on coming into work.

Wishing you all a restful break

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully



Mrs Dee Elliott  
Head teacher

