

20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/carers

As parents are aware initial strike action is scheduled for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, with subsequent days being identified in March. Strikes are being held nationally and the action being taken is not related to issues specific to Nailsea School. I am currently working with staff in school to ascertain the implications this will have on the possibility of restricting student attendance on the day or if the school will need to close. Please be assured I am taking all reasonable steps to keep the school open for as many students as possible, but this will be determined by the number of staff that will be on site and not on strike on 1<sup>st</sup> February. I intend to share confirmed plans with all families next week. Thank you for understanding that this is a decision that does involve a large degree of planning and for your patience whilst such plans are put in place.

Other messages for the week can be read below:

## **Wellbeing Group**

Please see the attached flyer advertising a local group that is starting in Nailsea at the end of January with the aim of supporting adults with their wellbeing.

## **Yr 11 Photo**

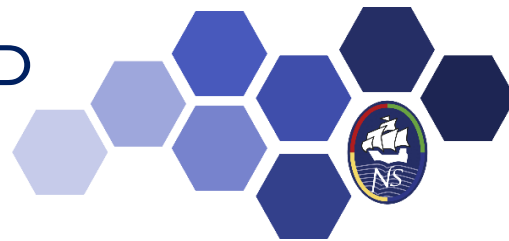
The year group photograph will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January during period 1. Students will need to wear their Leavers' Hoodie for the photo. There will be some spare hoodies available for students to wear temporarily for the photo for those that did not choose to purchase one.

## **NSPCWT – Coffee morning**

North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together are holding a Coffee Catch up at Nailsea School on 24<sup>th</sup> January from 11am until 12:30pm. This is for parents/carers of children with additional needs, irrespective of whether any official diagnosis has been made. No sign up or booking is required. Further details can be found here <https://www.nspcwt.org/events-1>

## **Parent Volunteers**

During the first two weeks of term 4 (Tues 21st Feb - Thursday 23rd Feb and Tuesday 28th Feb - Thurs 2nd March) year 11 Food and Nutrition students will be completing their final examined practical exams. Unfortunately, due to a planned operation the Enterprise Faculty will be without their Food Technician, Mrs Goodwin, during these times. Mrs Goodwin plays a key role in supporting the team and the students at this time. If there are any parents who would be willing to volunteer to help on these days, during these sessions, I know the team would be very grateful. Further details and any questions can be answered by contacting Mr Kirwan, Head of Enterprise Faculty, on [jkirwan@nailseaschool.com](mailto:jkirwan@nailseaschool.com)



## Lost property

There are a large number of items in lost property currently. Lost property is stored outside the Heads of House office. If your child has misplaced any item of clothing or equipment I would ask them to come and check the current items. These items will be donated to local charity shops at the end of this term.

## First Aid

We are seeing a rising number of students coming to First Aid. Can I remind you that First Aid is for emergency situations e.g fainting, head injury, bleeding and not for ongoing issues e.g 'my eye hurts', 'I have a cough'. The staff in First Aid cannot provide medical assessment or ongoing treatment for these issues. On these occasions students should remain in class or, if they are too unwell to stay in school report to reception to be sent home. They can not be 'treated' in First Aid.

You may also be aware that the First Aid Lead position in school is currently vacant. We will be advertising for this shortly so if this interests you please do keep an eye on the website and social media for a link to the advert and application process.

**Finally....** it was a surprise this week when New Zealand's prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, announced she was resigning. Ardern was quoted as saying she 'no longer had enough in the tank' to do the job. She had been the world's youngest female head of government when she was elected prime minister in 2017 at the age of 37 and has been in post during the Covid 19 pandemic, a terrorist attack and a volcanic eruption. Asked how she would like New Zealander to remember her leadership, Ardern said 'as someone who always tried to be kind'. I have another one of her quotations in my office:

*'One of the criticisms I've faced over the years is that I'm not aggressive enough or assertive enough, or maybe somehow, because I'm empathetic, it means I'm weak. I totally rebel against that. I refuse to believe that you cannot be both compassionate and strong'*

If I ever got the chance to meet her, I think Jacinda and I would get on. Have a lovely weekend.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott

Head teacher