

3rd February 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Thank you for your understanding in navigating and managing a slightly different week this week. As you are aware there are further days of proposed strike action and I will inform families of our plans for each of these days nearer the time.

Other messages for the week can be read below:

Year 9 Guided Choices Evening

It was fantastic to see so many students and families at this event last night. I know that the face to face conversations with subject staff and existing GCSE students was thought to be very valuable. As a reminder, year 9 students have until Thursday 9th February at 3pm to return their completed form. These should be posted through the collection box that is located in the Heads of House office.

LGBTQ+ History Month

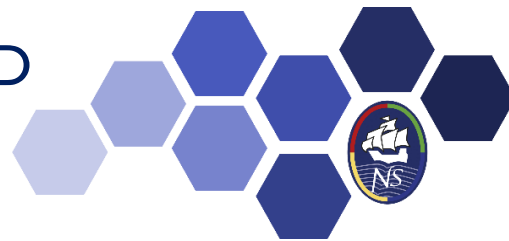
February sees the launch of LGBTQ+ History month and this year the theme is 'Behind the Lens'. The aim is to celebrate LGBTQ+ peoples' contributions to cinema and film from behind the lens. Directors, cinematographers, screen writers, producers, animators, costume designers, musicians, choreographers and beyond will be being celebrated. The link below highlights some of the contributions across these fields that you may wish to discuss at home: [Behind the Lens](#)

Congratulations to the Catering team

On Monday the catering team were visited in an unannounced inspection by North Somerset representatives conducting a Food Hygiene assessment. I am delighted to tell you that they were awarded a 5 star rating. The team work to an incredibly high standard and I am delighted their efforts have been acknowledged in this way.

Phoenix House Charity Day – Friday 10th February

Preparations are underway for next Friday's House Charity Day which is being led by Phoenix House. Students and staff are working hard to bring lots of activities to boost the fundraising effort. Along with the non school uniform there will be a cake sale, Live Friday event, guess the teacher baby photos so lots of different ways to contribute and support the cause. In addition Phoenix House will be selling £1 raffle tickets all week at break and lunch. Please do bring in any spare coins to be in with a chance to win one of the many wonderful prizes donated by the community including a family golf voucher, book voucher, Amazon voucher, Family ticket to the Roman Baths, David Attenborough book, admission tickets into WWT Slimbridge, Boxes of chocolates from Tesco, Prize from Touts in Cleve and more.



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 next week.

Finally.... term 3 ends on Friday 10th February. Students return on Monday 20th February which will be a week one. I hope everyone gets a chance to relax over the break. I am spending a couple of days in Birmingham and getting the chance to see a new theatre adaptation of 'The Mirror Crack'd'. Those who know me are well aware of my Agatha Christie obsession. With 12 school weeks until the start of external examinations, students in year 11 and 13 will, no doubt, be turning their attention to some key revision of identified areas. As Agatha, herself, once said:

'The secret of getting ahead is getting started'

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher