

28th April 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Thank you for your understanding as the school managed another day of industrial action yesterday. The plans for Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> have been shared earlier in the week. Whilst many of us will be relaxing over this Bank Holiday weekend 19 Nailsea students are currently undertaking the Ten Tors challenge on Dartmoor. The weekend is the culmination of more than a dozen training sessions, including day and weekend training walks and camping. Here's hoping the weather is kind to them!

Other messages for the week can be read below:

### Site security

This week there has been reports of three intruders gaining access to another North Somerset school during the day. This was dealt with swiftly and the school are working with the police. I would like to reassure parents that our site remains extremely secure with gates opened and closed at the start and end of the school day. Access through reception is only possible with cards held by staff. 6<sup>th</sup> form students, using the community entrance with their own access cards, have also been spoken to, reminding them of the importance of their role in ensuring the site remains safe for all.

### Musical Instrument Donations

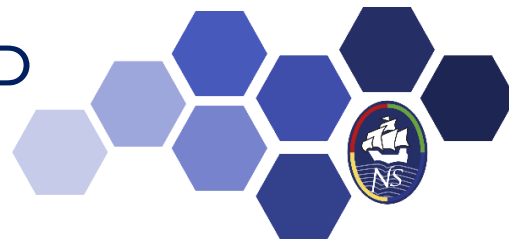
Mr Pate joined us as the new Head of Music this term and is very keen to build up the school's collection of instruments. Any donations of instruments that are not used anymore will be very welcome. If you think you can help or have any questions please contact Mr Pate on [dpate@nailseaschool.com](mailto:dpate@nailseaschool.com)

### SEND Parent survey

North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together, our local forum for parents and carers of children with SEND and additional needs, is undertaking their independent annual survey which seeks parents' experiences of using education, health and care services locally. The results of the survey will be shared with the local area SEND Improvement Board and support strategic leaders in understanding needs and planning services. The forum is encouraging all parents of children with additional needs and/or disability aged 0-25 to complete the survey, whether they have an Education Health & Care Plan, receive SEN Support, or are awaiting further support from services.

Parents and carers who complete the survey can enter a draw to win one of eight Amazon E-vouchers, with a top prize of £100.

The survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WFBHX3C>



## Coping with exam anxiety

Students are very much in the final build up to external exams and this can be a fraught time for them and their families. We have posted some key information that families may find useful which can be accessed here [Wellbeing Support – Nailsea School](#)

## Year 11s involvement in research study

Manchester University are, nationally, seeking the views of year 11 students regarding the way GCSEs are currently run and assessed. This is a great opportunity for students to submit their views on a system they have a limited say in. The survey can be accessed online and is open until the end of April. The survey will take no longer than 20 minutes to complete and the survey link is [www.mygcses.co.uk](http://www.mygcses.co.uk)

**Finally....** like many of us, I spent some time last Sunday morning watching the coverage of the London Marathon and yet it was what happened much later in the day that has stolen the limelight of this year's event. Tom Durnin has become a global sensation after his video of people cheering him on as the last person to cross the finish line has gone viral. He completed the 26.2 mile race in over eight hours. Tom spent a week in hospital before Christmas with a bleed on the brain and a broken arm following an accident. He said he had never run more than 7k before Sunday and did little preparation. He said "I was just digging as deep as I could so I could get to the end. It was 16 miles in pain. I got to mile 21 and I thought I just wasn't going to be able to do it."

I hope all of us can take note of this achievement – everyone's success is different. It's the determination, courage and belief we have that will always get us over the finish line of whatever goal we aspire to achieve.

Enjoy your long weekend

Take care and Be Kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott

Head teacher