

23rd June 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Today saw the final exam of the 2023 summer season and I would like to take the time to congratulate all students, staff (and parents/carers!) for their effort and focus in completing these exams. As a reminder A Level Results day is on 17th August and GCSE results will be published on 24th August.

Strike Action – 4th and 7th July

Following on from previous communication earlier this year, the National Teachers Union (NEU) continues to be in dispute with the Secretary of State and have again called upon its' members to take further strike action on Wednesday 5th July 2023 and Friday 7th July 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not because of any issues specific to our school.

Regrettably, I write to inform you that Nailsea School will be closed on 5th July 2023 and 7th July 2023 to the vast majority of students. Only students who are classed as vulnerable or who have an Education Health Care Plan will be able to come into school. Places should be booked using the following form <https://forms.office.com/e/asgYBCsyET> This form will close at 9am on Monday 3rd July. This decision has not been taken lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and we would be unable to provide this with the staff that will be available on this date.

All staff who had signed up to support with Silver D of E expedition on 7th July have agreed to support despite this coinciding with the planned industrial action so we will go ahead as planned. Year 12 Pathways Week is going ahead as planned, despite school closure. Students will be on work experience during these two days and contact can still be made with the 6th form leadership team.

We would like to extend our apologies that alternative arrangements for the care of your child will need to be made for the 5th and 7th July, and for the disruption to your child's education. I understand that the situation will be frustrating for many of you and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. We will continue to work closely with the staff union representatives, and I will inform you as soon as possible of the situation for any further proposed dates.

Summer Concert

The music department is putting on a summer concert on the evening of Thursday July 13th. It will be a really enjoyable evening celebrating the fantastic musical talent of Nailsea school students! The concert will contain performances from our ensemble groups, including Choir, Jazz Band, Wind Band, String Ensemble, Orchestra and Guitar Ensemble. If you have attended these clubs before, make sure you come regularly to rehearsals to prepare for this concert.

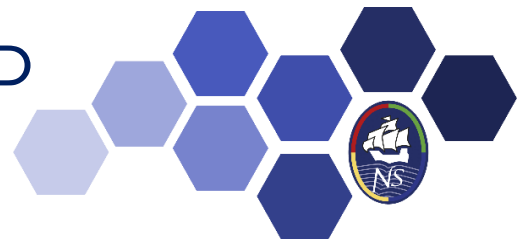
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The music department are also looking for small groups or individuals who would like to play a piece in the concert. Perhaps your child has been learning an instrument, like singing, or enjoy playing music with friends? If they would like to perform in the concert, please ask them to speak to either Mr Pate or Mrs Case in the music department before the 30th of June for more information. All are welcome, even if they haven't been playing for long!

Finally... there will not be a weekly letter next Friday as I have the privilege of accompanying some year 9 students on the battlefields trip to Belgium and France. Although I am very excited about my first school trip in a number of years, this does mean I will not be in school for the year 11 Leavers' assembly and cannot attend the Prom at Cadbury House – the first time I will have missed this in my time as Head teacher. As such I would like to finish this week's letter with some words for year 11 students as shown as an additional document to this week's letter which I would ask you share with your year 11 child.

Take care and Be Kind

Mrs Dee Elliott

Head teacher