



9th December 2022

Dear Parents/carers

The Christmas spirit and football fever has gone up a notch this week, with a number of festive events in school and attention turning to the quarter finals over the weekend. Tutor groups have all been allocated a team in the sweepstake event and so Mrs Jones/Mr Jones' P7 will be hoping for an England victory, whereas Mr Burgess' P6 may have their loyalties torn having drawn France. As I type Dragon students are gearing up for the first House Charity day of the year raising money for Off The Record. It's great to see our students contributing to the local community in this way.

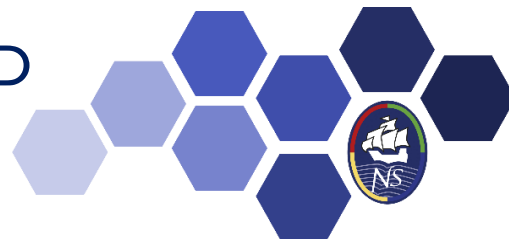
Please find some other messages for the week below:

End of term arrangements

As mentioned last week term 2 finishes on Friday 16th December. The day will have slightly altered timings as shown below:

Timings	Event	Venue
08:40 – 9:00	Tutor time	As timetable
9:00 - 9:50	Period 1	As timetable
9:50 - 10:40	Period 2	As timetable
10:40 - 11:00	Break	
11:00 - 11:50	Period 3	As timetable
11:50 – 12.30	Students go to lesson 4 to deposit coats and bags. Staff escort students to the Sports Hall for assembly.	As timetable
12.30 – 1:00pm	Lunch	
1:00pm	Students leave for the Christmas holiday	

All transport providers have been informed about the change to the timings.
 Tuesday 3rd January is an INSET day with staff only required on site.
 Students return to school on Wednesday 4th January and this will be a week 1.



Non Uniform Day – Friday 16th June

A group of year 9 students have been working with Envision building up their essential life skills as well as devising a social action programme to help the local community. As part of their project the students will be asking students to wear non uniform on the final day of term, Friday 16th December, in exchange for a £1 donation. Money raised will go towards Young Minds, a mental health charity, and to support the cause students are invited to wear something that is yellow or blue. There will be a prize for the student wearing the most yellow or blue! The students will be presenting their final project outcomes at the Wills Memorial Building, with the other schools involved, in January.

Collection of exam certificates

Exam certificates can now be collected for those students that received results in August 2022.

Regulations do not allow certificates to be put in the post due to the risk of loss or damage and a signature is required when collecting them.

Certificates can be collected from reception between 11am and 1pm on Thursday 15th December and Thursday 5th January. Certificates will only be issued to the person named on them unless we receive prior written authorisation from the certificate holder. Further details can be found on this process here <https://www.nailseaschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Exam-Certificate-Collection-2022.pdf>

North Somerset Parents Carers Working Together - Seeking parent views

This invaluable local community group would like to seek the views of the wider parent carer community. As they plan for 2023 they would like parents and carers to indicate their priorities for the group's work - essentially "what is important to them". This will help inform aims development and priorities in the new year. The very quick survey can be completed through this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JSBM96S>

Support during the festive period

Although many of us are looking forward to the winter break, it can also be a difficult and stressful time. Please find attached some useful information and ideas with links for support over the festive period.

Wellspring are also offering a free 8 week mental wellbeing course for older students starting on 11th January. This course will run weekly on evenings in school. For more information or to sign up contact reception@wellspringcounselling.org.uk

Wellspring Counselling

It's ok not to be ok

For Ages 14+

A FREE 8 WEEK MENTAL WELLBEING COURSE

STARTS WEDNESDAY 11TH JAN

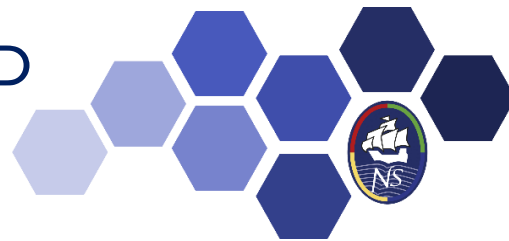
TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AND DEAL WITH IT BETTER

- Anxiety and depression
- Difficult emotions and exam stress
- Identity and gender

At the Link, Nailsea School 6.30 - 8 pm

reception@wellspringcounselling.org.uk 01275 810679

SIGN UP BY JAN 6TH



Changes to staffing

As parents may have seen in an earlier communication sent this week, there are some staff leaving us at the end of this term. I would like to formally acknowledge the service they have given to the school and wish them well in their new ventures.

- Dr Jessop – Head of Business and ICT
- Mrs Humphries – Head of Music
- Mrs Booker –Teacher of History
- Mrs Gordon – First Aider

We are excited to have specialist staff filling these positions and they will be introduced in my first letter of 2023.

Finally... I know that many of us will be watching the England/France match on Saturday evening with a huge sense of anticipation. Irrespective of the result (she types, trying to convince herself!) the more important takeaway is the togetherness of the England camp and this positivity clearly comes from the leadership of Gareth Southgate. Not a lot of people had much faith when Southgate was appointed. His quietness was mistaken for weakness and his thoughtfulness for a lack of direction. Yet, he has got the team playing well together without any hint of ego. In his time in the job he has been honest, authentic, brave with his decisions, has trusted his team and led by example.

Although myself and Gareth Southgate clearly have very different working days, I very much want to emulate his style of leadership. I can see that we both set the tone and our attitudes and ideas seep into every aspect of the day to day running of the organisation. The England team and #TeamNailsea can, hopefully, see how committed we both are to future success. Here's hoping that Saturday night is one of those!

Enjoy your weekend, with or without football.

Take care and be kind

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott
Head teacher