

27th September 2024

Dear Parents/carers

I am typing this a little bleary eyed this morning, but I could not be more proud of the staff and students following our Open Evening for prospective parents that was held last night.

Well over a third of the student body volunteered to come back yesterday evening to work in subject areas or act as tour guides. The fact that over 80 students in year 7, who have been with us only a few weeks, felt confident to do so summarises just how well they have settled into life here at Nailsea. We welcomed over 1000 people onto site last night and, as ever, visitors were hugely complimentary about what they saw, who they met and the quality of conversations that were being had around the school. It was also lovely to receive a couple of emails overnight from people who had visited

*Tonight we attended the open evening at the school with our daughter. We wanted to pass on a heartfelt thank you to you, the staff and students for such a fantastic evening. In particular, we wanted to let you know how impressed we were by the young students who showed us around. They were fantastic ambassadors and an absolute credit to the school*

We begin our Open Morning tours for prospective parents next week. They will run daily at 9am and 11:30am until the end of term. Places can be booked by phoning reception.

## Payments using cards

Many thanks to parents/carers for their support in ensuring students are coming to school with their cards to be able to use the cashless catering system. I know a number of families were contacted this week about purchasing replacement cards. Cards are an expected part of the uniform and students should have them on them at all times. During 'chip day' service this week the more students having their cards was clearly noticeable – with all students being served and eating within 15 mins of lunchtime starting. As previously mentioned, time taken to verbally state name and year group and then looking for the student on the system has a significant impact on the speed of the queues.

Canteen staff will be stating that students without cards will not be able to purchase food from next week. If your family needs support in sourcing a new card please contact Mrs Ruty for assistance.

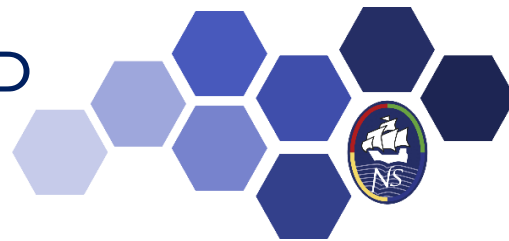
## Extra-Curricular booklet 2024/25

The clubs and societies have been finalised for this year. Copies of the booklet are found in tutor bases, also on the school website and families can access an electronic version here:

[www.nailseaschool.com/Extra-Curricular-Directory-2024-25.pdf](http://www.nailseaschool.com/Extra-Curricular-Directory-2024-25.pdf)

## Lost property

As a reminder for ease of returning any lost property to their owners clothing and equipment should be clearly named. If your child has mislaid anything, all items are stored in the racking at the main student entrance in the canteen.



## Your space

Reminder as mentioned last Friday the next parent event is 1<sup>st</sup> October - book your place now!

The same session runs twice in the day, book in for the one that suits you:

9-10.30am Coffee morning

5.15-6.45pm Evening session

Please confirm attendance with an email to [YourSpace@nailseachool.com](mailto:YourSpace@nailseachool.com)

There will be a speaker from NSPCWT especially for parents. We are excited to have someone join us from this support organisation working in North Somerset to talk about support for young people with a diagnosis. You may simply suspect your child has some form of neurodivergence, eg ADHD or ASD but this is a chance to find out what support is available for parents and young people in the community. Also hear tips to help manage some of the behaviours you are experiencing either in the home or at school and share your experience informally with other parents.

**Finally...** I had to share some very sad news at the start of the week, informing staff of the sudden death of one of our Cleaning team over the weekend. Mark was an incredibly nice human being – always stopping for a conversation, irrespective of how busy he was. He was kind and caring towards his immediate team, but also to the wider staff. It is on occasions like this that we turn to members of the school community for support and the last few days have shown that very much in action. This week was also designated as our 'Random Act of Kindness Week' amongst the staff and those that have signed up have been involved in spreading a little joy, all be it anonymously, to others in the building. Mark will be looking on with a smile at the sharing of such kindness, I am sure. Give your loved ones a hug this weekend.

Take care

Dee Elliott  
Head teacher