

20th September 2024

Dear Parents/carers

The focus for next week very much turns to the annual Open Evening where prospective students come to look around the school and meet existing students and teachers. It has been great to see so many current students wanting to volunteer to take on the role of tour guides and to work within specific subject areas on the evening. Doors open next Thursday, 26th September at 4:30pm and there are presentations for parents at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm. All of the tickets for the presentation have sold out, but anyone who has a child currently in year 6 can still come along to the event – they will just be unable to attend the presentation.

In order to support staff and students in preparing (and recovering!) for the day the following changes will apply to the school day, as listed below:

- **Thursday 26th September** – school will finish at 1:20pm with students leaving at the end of lesson. School bus services have been informed of the change of time. Any student entitled to free school meals can collect a lunch from the canteen at breaktime. The canteen will not be open to students to purchase food on that day.
- **Friday 27th September** – the school day will start an hour later. Students should arrive at 9:30am and head to tutor time. Lessons will begin period 2

Other key messages and reminders can be found below:

Year 7, 9 and 11 School Photographs

These took place on Thursday. Students have been issued with the documentation containing individual codes that will enable photographs to be ordered by parents/carers.

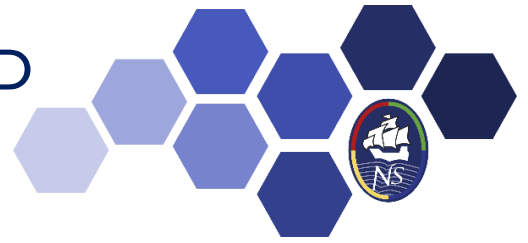
PTA Musical Bingo

Musical Bingo is back. Please do support our PTA by joining us for this popular event on Friday 4th October. All are welcome – parents, families, 6th Formers, under 16s (with an adult). Tickets available from <https://nailsepta.sumupstore.com/> or by scanning the bar code.



Social Time behaviour

Myself and Mr Graffagnino spent some time this week speaking with students in years 7 and 8 following a very small number of them being involved in some anti-social behaviour at lunchtime. As parents are aware, the two youngest year groups in the school do have access to their own area, off the student entrance from Mizzymead Road. Although we firmly believe the incidents were not intending to be malicious, some 'rough play' has led to some students feeling uncomfortable in that area. I would ask that you reinforce the message with your child at home, if they are in years 7 and 8, that there are certain expectations of behaviour during social times. Thanks for your support.



Driving/cycling/walking to school

Some of you may have heard me interviewed on Greatest Hits Radio last week talking about the importance of road safety for students walking to and from school. Given an incident that occurred this week at the end of the school day I would like to reiterate the following points:

- Only parents/carers with a parking permit can bring their cars onto school site for drop off and pick ups
- There is a clear speed limit asked of any car that is driving on site
- Students should not be looking at their phones as they are walking along pavements/crossing roads
- Students cycling to school should be wearing helmets and with the days getting darker ensure they also have working lights and reflective clothing
- Students should not cycle on pavements or other no cycling zones
- Parents collecting students on the roads outside school should be mindful of driving responsibly and being vigilant at pick off and drop off times, having an awareness of both pedestrians and cyclists

Your Space Parents and Carers events on 1st October

All are welcome to the next Your Space networking event. The guest speaker will be from NSPCWT: North Somerset Parents and Carers Working Together, who will be talking about their work with parents of children with Autism and ADHD.

This will be a chance to meet other parents informally and find out more from this organisation who support parents with young people who are struggling with SEND issues in school and at home.

Timings - 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 YourSpace@nailseaschool.com

Finally... next week marks the 3rd full week students have been in school with the new start time of 8:30am introduced this year. The first week of term was a grace period where leniency was given to students getting used to the new routines. Students will now receive a lunchtime detention if they arrive late, without extenuating circumstances being provided. Being punctual is an important life skill to have – as Alan Shearer has said before ‘Being on time is actually being late’. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring students arrive on time and start the day positively.

Have a lovely weekend

Head teacher