



8th November 2024

Dear Parents/carers

It has been great to welcome back the staff and students who have spent the majority of this week in Iceland. If you have been able to follow the trip updates on the Twitter account you will have seen the number of unforgettable experiences the group have had. Many thanks to Mr Anstey for organising this inaugural Iceland trip and to all the staff that accompanied the students. I am sure we will hear more about the itinerary in the next edition of the school newsletter at the end of this term.

Mock exams -Wk Comm 11th November

Students in year 11 and 13 will begin their mock exam period next week. There will be a mixture of assessments sat in the larger exam hall and in classrooms, given the demands on space with all year groups still on site. These are an important part of the process, preparing students for the demands of the official exam season in the summer. As parents I would ask that as part of the support offered, students should arrive with all the correct equipment for their exam and know their seat number. This enables exams to start promptly without fuss.

Students will receive their results altogether, replicating the experience in the summer, on 19th December.

In order to accommodate the extra time that students are entitled to as well as fitting in with the timings of the school day, afternoon exams will start at 1:20pm. This means that any student sitting an exam in the afternoon will need to have lunch at 12:20pm and so will not attend lesson 4 that day. As lessons will be continuing, Year 11 students will need to be restricted to the canteen area and the outside area at the front of the building, usually reserved for years 7 and 8. Thank you, in advance, for ensuring your child is aware of these changes and the importance requirement to allow the rest of the school to continue operating whilst they can have their lunchbreak.

Remembrance Day – 11th November

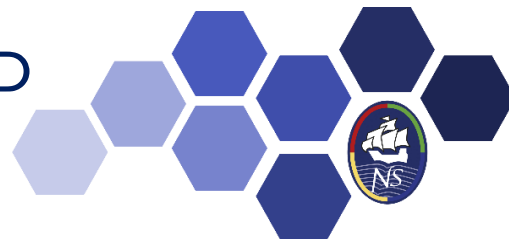
To commemorate this event lesson two on Monday 11th November will finish early so that classes can stand and observe a period of silence.

Students will be dismissed for break at the usual time.

Jewellery and Make Up

As parents are aware uniform expectations can be found on the school website here [Uniform – Nailsea School](#) I would particularly like to reiterate the expectations regarding jewellery, namely, hooped earrings are not permitted for health and safety reasons. It is also not expected that students wear bracelets and necklaces. If these are visible in school staff will ask for them to be removed. I would ask for parental support in ensuring that we do not reach this stage and that these items are not worn at all.

Given that we are approaching the winter months, I am also aware that the bags under my eyes will be worsening in the coming weeks and I am grateful for some concealer to help prevent them looking quite so bad. For lots of individuals the use of make up can provide confidence. However, the amount of make up that some students are choosing to come to school wearing has been noted as excessive.



As well as being noted by staff, this has also been reported by some parents who are concerned about the pressure this is placing on their child to attend school in the same way. As is the case with staff, the wearing of make up by students in the school building is expected to be 'light touch'. Thank you for discussing this matter with your child at home.

Year 10 Prep for Success – Tuesday 26th November

The rearranged date for this year 10 event has been confirmed for 26th November running from 6pm to 7pm. Mr Jones will be contacting year 10 parents with more details, but the aim of the event is to give parents an overview of the expectations of GCSE courses and the best way that support can be provided to children at home. This event has been deliberately scheduled a week before the Yr 10 Subject Evening (further details to follow in due course) where parents will be able to gain specific feedback from subject staff.

Staffing update

It was lovely to welcome Dr Pierpoint back into the Science faculty this week following her period of maternity leave.

It is also important to inform the school community that Mrs Brewster, a Resource Base teacher and Unicorn tutor, has begun cancer treatment. Given the demands of the treatment the impact on her physical appearance will change and she wanted families and students to be aware of this in advance. If this situation causes any anxiety or concern for your child, please contact their tutor in the first instance.

PTA vacancies

Our PTA committee do a wonderful job of raising additional funds for the school, but as many of their children have finished at Nailsea School, they are now desperately in need of a few new faces to join the team. If you are happy to volunteer at any of the PTA events or would be willing to fill one of the current vacant roles they would love you to message them at nailseapta@nailseaschool.com

Current vacant roles:

Chair	Easy Fundraising Co-ordinator	Marketing Co-ordinator
Secretary	School Lottery Co-ordinator	Event volunteers

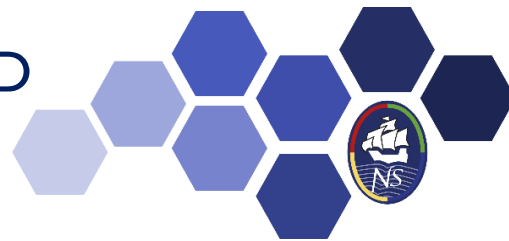
The next PTA meeting is the AGM on Wednesday 13th November at 7pm here at school, if you think you can help, or would like to learn more please email the PTA at nailseapta@nailseaschool.com and let them know; they would love to hear from you and see you next week.

Litter around school site

Two of our school values are 'pride' and 'community' and for the vast majority of the time our students respect the fantastic facilities we have here at school. With the weather changing and more people being inside during break and lunchtime there has been a slight increase in the amount of litter left around the school site. In addition to this, a local resident contacted me this week concerned about the amount of litter she can see gathering at the back field where it borders onto her property on Station Road.

In order to be respectful and mindful of all members of the Nailsea community, both within and outside the school walls, I would ask that the importance of tidying up after ourselves is discussed and reiterated at home. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

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Finally... Wednesday 13th November is 'World Kindness Day'. There are currently more than 28 nations involved in The World Kindness Movement who have the mission to create a kinder world by inspiring individuals and nations towards greater kindness. Kindness is one of our key school values and kindness doesn't just help other people, it can also have a positive impact on our own mental and physical health. Understanding the effect of kindness means that people can be empowered to take care of their own wellbeing. I hope next week we can be extra mindful of the importance of being kind. Have a lovely weekend

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light pink background, reading "Dee Elliott".

Dee Elliott, Head teacher

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