

13th December 2024

Dear Parents/carers

As regular readers of this letter will know, I have commented many times on the number of cars that are unnecessarily coming on to school site at drop off and pick up times. This week a member of staff was clipped by a car and, although they were not seriously injured, the incident clearly reflects the health and safety risk for everyone on site. This is in addition to the number of 'near misses' that have occurred where students could have been hit. Given that previous requests to not come onto site have been ignored and in order to safeguard staff and students, additional action will now be taken.

From Monday 16th December there will be no access for vehicles on school site between 8:15am and 8:45 in the morning and between 2:45pm and 3:15 in the afternoon. The school gates will be closed and this will ensure that vehicles are not on site at the busy end and start of the school day, clearly negating the risks that have been witnessed over the last few weeks. In addition to these measures, there will be a review of parents that currently have permits to drive onto school site. This will take place in January.

As with all primary schools and secondary schools in North Somerset, access into the car park will now be restricted at key times during the day. Staff will be on duty at the gates next week to ensure the new system is embedded ahead of the Christmas break. Parents are reminded that there are two carparks very close to the school in Nailsea where pick ups and drops off could happen. Parents should also be mindful of the other traffic on Mizzymeard Road and ensure that any alternative location for drop offs and pick-ups are safe ones for both themselves, other pedestrians and other road users.

For students that use the school bus to Long Ashton the drop off point in the morning will now be the bus stop outside the school on Mizzymeard Road. In the afternoon the coach will come onto site at 3:15pm, collect students and then depart. For those students that are brought to school in a taxi/minibus provided by North Somerset, the companies have been made aware and individual arrangements are being changed based on existing routes and timings. Those affected will be notified separately about these changes.

I appreciate that some people may feel that the need to change routines and drop off locations is an inconvenience. However, my priority has to be the safety of the staff and students within the school community. Thank you in advance, for understanding the need to take these measures.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together – Annual survey

North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together, our local forum for parents and carers of children with SEND and additional needs, is undertaking their independent annual survey which seeks parents' experiences of using education, health and care services locally. The results of the survey will be shared with the local area SEND Improvement Board and support strategic leaders in understanding needs and planning services. The forum is encouraging all parents of children with additional needs

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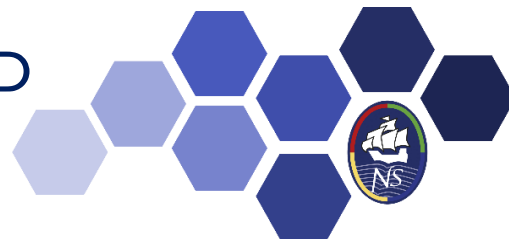


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and/or disability aged 0-25 to complete the survey, whether they have an Education Health & Care Plan, receive SEN Support, or are awaiting further support from services. Parents and carers who complete the survey can enter a draw to win one of eight Amazon E-vouchers, with a top prize of £100. The survey can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSPCWTsurvey2024>
The survey will close on **15th December 2024**.

SEND bulletin

Please find attached a copy of 'The Buzz' which is co produced by the North Somerset Council SEND Children and Young Person's council. It contains some great strategies and information for all children and parents.

Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 17th December

For those students who have opted to take part in Christmas lunch tickets will be issued next week through tutors. Lunch will be collected from the main dining area on Tuesday using the ticket. As a reminder we will have other items for students to purchase on the day, including drinks. For those who would not like to eat Christmas lunch the Juice Bar and the Media café will both be open and serving a limited alternative offering.

End of term arrangements

Term finishes for staff and students on Friday 20th December at 12:20pm. Students will attend tutor time and lessons 1-3 as normal. Students will be dismissed at the end of lesson 3 for the Christmas break. There will be an offering of snacks at breaktime but students will be offsite from 12:20pm. All coaches and taxis have been informed of this earlier finish time.

Safeguarding Online Safety

As we approach the holidays, we know that young people will be accessing online apps more and some may be given new devices as presents. Online apps are used for many reasons - chatting to friends from school, playing games or to keep up to date with the latest trends and music. Unfortunately, it also opens an online world of potential safeguarding risks including bullying and exploitation. Please find some resources below that parents/carers can access to help you understand the risks involved, the age restrictions that are in place and how to approach a conversation with your child if you are concerned.

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[What is social media? | NSPCC](#)

[Get advice](#)

Behaviour at social times

As reiterated in my earlier announcement this week, I would ask parents to enforce the importance of following appropriate behaviour during social times. The incident this week where an ambulance was called following some physical contact and poor choices by a group of students was an unnerving one. Staff are on duty during social times but the decisions made by students this week, ultimately, resulted in medical professionals having to be called.

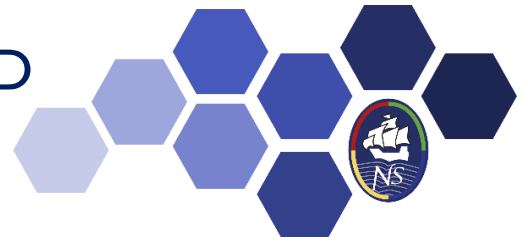
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Nailsea Christmas Crackers

Is there a member of staff that you feel has gone the extra mile this year? Have they gone above and beyond? Are they an unsung hero that we should all know about?

If you have someone in mind that you would like to nominate as one of our Christmas Crackers, please complete the form below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/sZK9HajX97> The form will close on Wednesday 18th December. Thanks, in advance for sharing some Christmas cheer!

Finally... many thanks to the parents that have been in touch following the press release regarding last summer's results. Staff here work tirelessly to ensure your children have the best possible experience and it is always nice to receive words of encouragement which everyone does really appreciate. I would like to end this week's letter with one of the comments we received this week:

I wanted to take a moment to express my congratulations on the exceptional 2024 Progress 8 score for Nailsea School. It's a tremendous achievement and a testament to the dedication and hard work of your incredible team of teachers. Every detail, from leadership to day-to-day interactions, reflects the strength of the school community. I can confidently say we are overjoyed to have chosen Nailsea for our boys. For so many reasons, it has proven to be the perfect fit for our family, and achievements like this reaffirm that choice. Thank you for everything you and your team do to make Nailsea School such a wonderful environment for our children.

Have a lovely weekend

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

Dee Elliott, Head teacher