



17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/carers

January is often seen as a time for new starts and this has certainly been the case at school. It has been a real privilege to be in House assemblies this week listening to the pastoral teams talk about the culmination of the student voice work that took place before Christmas in relaunching the ethos of every House. The details are in the process of being updated on the website where it will be possible for parents and families to see how and why all the students feel their house is unique.

<https://www.nailseaschool.com/house-championships>

As part of a Trust wide initiative the school has also undergone a subtle change of rebranding with our school logo as you can see on the bottom right of this headed paper. Our new uniform suppliers are now going to be using the shield shape in their production of school jumpers moving forward. However, there is no requirement for existing jumpers to be replaced. As well as this, any preloved uniform items purchased from the PTA can still be worn in school. The aim is that there will be a move to the new shield logo on jumpers, naturally over time. Long standing parents at the school will be aware, that in response to student voice, we introduced a fleece top as an alternative/addition to the school jumper four years ago. In a similar way I will be exploring over the next couple of months the option of having tailored shorts as part of a summer uniform. Students will be a key part of the decision making and I will, of course, update you in due course.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## **Wellspring Fashion Show – 28<sup>th</sup> February**

A number of students have benefited from the support offered by Wellspring Counselling. The service means that students can access professional counselling with little or no cost incurred. However, this also means that the organisation does have a monthly shortfall of about £19,000.

The team at Wellspring are putting on a fashion show at Nailsea School on 28<sup>th</sup> February and it would be fantastic if this could be well attended. In addition, if anyone would like to volunteer their services as a model for the event the team would love to hear from you.

## **Extreme Weather**

We seem to have escaped the extreme weather of last week. However, as a reminder, if a decision is made to close the school (either due to weather on site making it dangerous or due to the inability of staff being able to travel safely to school) the following will happen:

- A decision will be taken by 7:30am, although given any long term forecast/existing conditions this could be a decision taken the night before
- Families will be notified via Classcharts announcements and through social media
- There is a Trust expectation that some form of remote learning is set as and when school is closed due to weather.



## Your Space

The first 'Maths for parents & carers ' session took place after school on Tuesday 14th January in the Maths department. The pioneering parents who came along were able to problem-solve their questions about helping their child with Maths homework.

One useful Help Reminder that came out of the meeting was:

Use the free Corbett Maths website to help your student with accessible videos to demonstrate how to problem-solve most Maths topics. Homework is often set using Corbett Maths so will be familiar to your child.

The next Maths parent carer session is open to all and takes place on Tuesday 21st 3-4pm. No Maths ability needed - everyone is welcome! Meet at Reception.

If you want to find out more or have any questions about the Maths for parents sessions please email: [AMoran@nailseaschool.com](mailto:AMoran@nailseaschool.com)

## Help shape transport hub and travel options for Nailsea

Residents and businesses in Nailsea are invited to attend an engagement event this month to help shape the future of a transport hub and have their say on walking, wheeling and cycling routes in the town.

The public event will take place on:

**Date:** Saturday 25 January

**Time:** 11am – 3pm

**Location:** Outside Waitrose on the High Street in Nailsea town centre.

Council officers will be available to discuss potential plans and schemes.

- Walking, Cycling and Wheeling

Following previous engagement with local schools and key stakeholders to understand local concerns and aspirations, Nailsea residents will be invited to review initial plans at this drop-in session in the town.

- Transport Hub

Officers will also be available to discuss the proposed transport hub for Nailsea, giving the chance for communities to influence the initial concept designs for these important transport facilities.

For communities, transport hubs are intended to offer useful facilities that make it easier and more appealing to travel on foot, by wheel and by bus – providing a connection point between these different forms of transport. They also offer an attractive focal point for communities, helping to boost town and village centres.

Plans for walking, wheeling and cycling, which support the council's commitment to improve sustainable travel routes, include a range of short, medium and long-term projects (that would require future funding).

The transport hub initiative is UK Government-funded through the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), with funding awarded specifically for this purpose. Visit [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/bsip](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/bsip)



**Finally...**next week starts with, what has become known as **Blue Monday**. Although it is often referred to as ‘the most depressing day of the year’ the day can also be used to inspire positive change and motivation. Originating from a concept created by a travel company, Sky Travel, in 2005, Blue Monday is characterised by a combination of post-holiday blues and cold dark nights. Whilst not scientifically proven, Blue Monday has also become a symbolic time to promote mental health awareness and self-care. Think about turning Blue Monday on its’ head by focusing on positive and inspiring stories, finding some time for your favourite hobby, taking some exercise or planning something to look forward to in the year ahead. Whatever you do, have a lovely weekend.

Take care and be kind



Dee Elliott

Head teacher

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Headteacher: Mrs D Elliott [info@nailseaschool.com](mailto:info@nailseaschool.com) | [www.nailseaschool.com](http://www.nailseaschool.com)  
Nailsea School | Mizzymeard Road | Nailsea | BS48 2HN | 01275 852251



Wessex Learning Trust. Head Office: Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AQ.  
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