

7<sup>th</sup> February 2025












Dear Parents/carers

We welcomed Nigel Clemens, our School Improvement Partner, for his second visit of the year yesterday. Nigel is an experienced Head teacher and Ofsted inspector and comes into the school three times a year to assess the ongoing progress the school is making. Yesterday he visited lessons with years 9, 10 and 11 and held a student panel where he learned more about the everyday experiences of students at Nailsea School. Although we have not received the formal report as yet I am pleased to report that he was extremely complimentary about the behaviour, engagement and teaching and learning that he saw when he visited lessons. As always there was also fruitful discussion on some areas that came through and we will endeavour to address these in the coming weeks. I will, of course, keep you updated.

Other messages for the week can be found below:

## Dragon Fund Raising Week

Between Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, Dragon House are fundraising for two charities; British Heart Foundation and Goals Beyond Grass. There are a number of events being run each day by Dragon tutor groups. Please see the timetable below of activities to choose from (with prices). Students are encouraged to bring in **cash** to pay for these events.

 <b>Dragon Fundraising Week – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b> 				
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Dragon 3 – Penalty Shootout</b>  Sports hall @ 1:30pm £50p -£5	<b>Dragon 6 – Student Teacher Race</b>  Sports hall @ 1:30pm £1-3	<b>Dragon 1 – Cinema Event</b>  Auditorium @ 1:25 pm £1 for both days (popcorn 50p)	<b>Dragon 1 – Cinema Event</b>  Auditorium @ 1:25 pm £1 for both days (popcorn 50p)	<b>Dragon House Fundraising</b> ➤ Non-school uniform day £1 ➤ Pop-darts Challenge £50p -£1 ➤ Ping pong challenge £50p -£1 ➤ Valentine's bake sale £50p -£1 All events Friday Lunchtime in the Atrium
<b>Dragon 4 – Guess the Teacher</b>  Atrium @ 1:30pm £50p -£1	<b>Dragon 5 – Pin the Hair on Mr Miles</b>  Atrium @ 1:30pm £50p -£1	<b>Dragon 7 – Karaoke and Market Stall</b>  Atrium @ 1:20pm £1 karaoke 50p-£1 cakes £4-5 crafts	<b>Dragon 2 – Kahoot Quiz</b>  Computer rooms @ 1:35pm £1 <b>Dragon 8 – Sponge the Teacher</b>  Year 7/8 area @ 1:30pm £1	

Non-school uniform day also takes place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February . Donations of £1 minimum can be donated on Parent Pay. If anyone wishes to donate cakes to the Valentine's bake sale on Friday 14th, you will receive 5 house points. Dragon House can't wait to see your support!



## Trust Council

Mr Graffagnino has been working with representatives from the student body at Nailsea and other students from Wessex Learning Trust schools again this week. The aim is for students to pass on any concerns they have regarding their time at school and work as a group to provide and suggest solutions.

The focus of recent discussions have been the use of toilets across the schools. I thought it may be useful to pass on some points of clarity from the meetings to date.

- Parents may not be aware, as were some students, but there is a discrete sticker placed on the doors of half of each of the banks of cubicles around school indicating that this cubicle contains a sanitary bin.
- Secondly, the issue of congregating and eating in toilet cubicles was also raised. Students will be challenged if more than one student is seen entering or exiting a cubicle. In addition, there are a small but persistent number of times when the cleaning team have found food either in the toilets themselves or in the bins provided. I am sure we can agree that this is not acceptable or hygienic and the feelings of the council were clear that this should not continue.
- Following feedback from the students the school has also undertaken an audit on the types of lock each cubicle has and are underway with a phased replacement system to ensure that students are secure in the knowledge that doors cannot be opened when in use.

If you or your child have any further comments or topics they would like the Trust council to discuss please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

## Staffing update

Mrs Charlotte Morgan will be joining the Enterprise Faculty as a DT teacher at the start of Term 4. Mrs Morgan will be picking up the groups that were previously taught by Mrs Price. I am sure students, staff and parents will provide Mrs Morgan with a warm welcome.

## National Apprenticeship Week – Wk Comm 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

National Apprenticeship Week is the biggest week in the apprenticeships and skills calendar and will take place next week. The week brings together all those that are passionate about apprenticeships and skills to celebrate the value, benefit and opportunity that they bring.

The theme for this year's event is 'Skills for Life'. If you would like more information, including accessing a toolkit for parents, please visit the website <https://naw.appawards.co.uk/toolkit>



**Finally...** I am sure everyone will join me in wishing the staff and students who depart for the ski trip on Saturday well. The trip will be a great experience for those that are attending. I look forward to hearing all about it when the group returns to school in term 4.

Next week is the last of term 3, with school finishing for staff and students on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February (a non-uniform day) at 3pm. Students will return to Term 4 on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February which will be a week 2. Enjoy your weekend.

Take care and be kind



Dee Elliott,

Head teacher

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