



Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | 24 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information plus details of any letters sent home during the last week.

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

I trust you and your families are safe and well and have enjoyed some reflection time during the Easter break. Times remain challenging for us all and below are some updates to support us all and provide some variety for our young people.

I am conscious the volume of information we are sharing at this time is significant and I hope you continue to find the Weekly Communication effective. As we conclude Week 3 of the school time lockdown, I am keen to take a temperature check with parents/carers to help us improve what we are doing during this period of remote learning. This week, we would like the parents/carers of Year 10 and Year 12 to complete the survey below. We will share a summary of the surveys with you. Further surveys for the other year groups will follow next week. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

[Year 10 Parent/Carer Survey](#)

[Year 12 Parent/Carer Survey](#)

Should you require further support please do not hesitate to get in touch - school@skdrive.org

Stay home, Stay safe, Stay Strong

Mr Humphreys

Launched this week.....

Launch of the Oak National Academy online classroom and resource hub

The sector-led Oak National Academy has today launched its online classroom and resource hub. The Academy offers 180 video lessons each week for schools to use, across a broad range of subjects. The lessons cover children in Reception through to Year 10 and are free to use by both teachers and young people.

The Oak National Academy can be accessed here:

- <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Launch of BBC Bitesize

The BBC has today launched an education package across TV and online, featuring celebrities and teachers, helping to keep children learning at home and supporting parents.

BBC Bitesize can be accessed here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

While staying at home due to coronavirus, parents and carers may be worried about their children's development and the impact of missing school or nursery.

No one expects parents to act as teachers, or to provide the activities and feedback that a school or nursery would. Parents and carers should do their best to help children and support their learning while dealing with competing demands. The government has launched some online advice on supporting children's education at home which can direct you to useful educational resources for each age group.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-your-childrens-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

Further guidance for secondary schools will be released in due course.

Justin Humphreys

Headteacher

MESSAGES

School	All Years	<p>Free School Meals. We have signed up to the government's national scheme to deliver vouchers to families of children eligible for free school meals. These will arrive by email and you should follow the guidance within to redeem your voucher. Please check your spam and junk folders carefully if you cannot see the email in your inbox. Please email Mrs Crocker at crockerk@skdrive.org with any problems.</p> <p>We understand that many families' circumstances have changed over the past few weeks. If your household income falls below a certain level and you are in receipt of financial support from the government you may now be eligible to register for free school meals. Please follow this link to apply: https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/schoolmeals/freeschoolmeals/</p> <p>Be aware of scam emails</p> <p>We have been informed that some parents have received an email stating the following: 'As schools will be closing, if you're entitled to free school meals, please send your bank details and we'll make sure you're supported'. We can confirm that this is a scam email and is not official. We urge parents that if you receive any emails like this, please do not respond, and delete it immediately.</p>
Mr Francis Black	Examination Year Groups	<p>We have now received clarity on how grades will be awarded for all qualifications including GCSE, A level and vocational awards. Teaching teams will meet to discuss the work of each student, taking into account all evidence inline with the guidance. Using their professional judgement teachers will arrive at a centre assessed grade for each student. These will be submitted to exam boards, following which, a national process of moderation could make adjustments to some grades. We will not be able to discuss grades with students</p>



		<p>or their families during the process. Final grades will arrive back in school during August and will be issued to Year 13 on Thursday 13 August and Thursday 20 August for Year 11. Full details of arrangements for these days will be issued in Term 6.</p>
School	All Years	<p>Monday 11 May 2020 will be an INSET day to allow staff to undertake important training. Communication on this day will be limited. Thank you for your understanding.</p>
School	All Years	<p>We are currently updating our pupil data records and will be asking parents/carers each week to complete a data capture sheet to enable us to do this. This week we would like Year 10 parents/carers to complete the online Pupil Data Capture Form.</p>
School	All Years	<p>Further updates to our guidance for learning from home can be found here. This will be updated regularly with new items highlighted in yellow and shared every week via this communication.</p>
School	All Years	<p>Families in Focus is a support service for young people and their families and an organisation we work with lots in school. They have published a bulletin for parents to support families during the current lockdown. These documents can be accessed here and contain a range of information and resources to help parents manage the competing demands of home schooling and working from home. There are lots of ideas for activities to do with children to support their learning and promote their wellbeing. They have also shared support services to help children struggling with mental health challenges along with support services for families facing financial hardship.</p>
Mr Bates	All Years	<p>During this time young people are spending more of their time online and communicating through a wide variety of social media platforms. This can be a useful and encouraging way of maintaining social interaction and friendships but also can be a period when children might be more at risk of unwelcome communication and exploitation. Below are some of the actions you can take to help maintain your child's online safety and security.</p> <p>Talk about the following with your child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Different identities: some people may pretend to be someone else online. It's easy to lie about age, gender, interests etc. ● Personal Data: The risks of giving your personal data to anyone online (address, photos, phone number, school, bank details, etc) ● Meeting People: The dangers of meeting people in the real world that they have met online. ● Stay Curious: Have the same curiosity about your online friends as you would your offline friends. ● Listen to your child: Let them know they can talk to you about anything they're worried about or experiencing. Listen to them, don't dismiss their experiences or get angry if they tell you something concerning. <p>To find out more you might find the following website useful:</p>

		https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/tackling-criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines/online-exploitation-resources
Mrs Maringo	All Years	<p>Ramadan started yesterday and will end on Saturday 23 May. I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage and support our Muslim students by sharing a few fasting tips.</p> <p>Sleep: It's important to get enough sleep and take naps where you can. This will preserve energy and prevent you from feeling too hungry</p> <p>Stay connected: Your friends and family are in the same boat as you, and you will be able to support each other. There is nothing like a quick chat to keep you motivated.</p> <p>No pressure: Remember to go easy on yourself. It is perfectly ok to take time out and focus on your own needs.</p> <p>Hobbies: Find something you enjoy doing that will take your mind off fasting.</p> <p>Stay hydrated: When you are not fasting, drink up!</p> <p>Routine: Create some routine in your day and make lists of things to do from gardening to reading.</p> <p>You are about to celebrate the revelation of the Koran for a month therefore I want to send you lots of positive thoughts and encouragements. You can do this!</p>
English	All Years	To help make this term go as smoothly as possible for learners and carers, we have produced an English Home Learning Guide . Please take a look.
Mr Cook	All Years	If they haven't already, please encourage your child to sign up to the PE Classroom (rades2c). There are loads of ideas for activities and challenges to keep children and families active. None of the assignments have any deadlines so feel free to encourage as much activity as you like. We have been inundated with photos, videos, emails, posts and loads of other examples of students staying active and we love seeing / hearing about it! Please feel free to continue to send media in to cookd@skdrive.org or ask students to share it via the Google Drive if the attachments are too big.
Mrs Collins	All Years	If you haven't already, please encourage your child to sign up to the Drama classroom for long term theatre projects. Also, follow St Katherine's performing arts department on twitter for updates and information. @PA_StKaths Free live theatre streaming. Andrew Lloyd Webber and the National theatre are showing performances of much loved west end musicals and theatre every week free of charge for your enjoyment! Access to this is via their YouTube channels. Highly recommended.

		<p>https://m.youtube.com/user/ntdiscovertheatre https://m.youtube.com/theshowsmustgoon?uid=dmPjhKMaXNNeCr1FjuMvag</p>
Mr Colebourne	Year 12	<p>Mr Hodgson is launching our Pathways 2021 programme this week with Year 12 students. The weekly programme is designed to support students as they begin to think about their aspirations for study and work beyond the sixth form. Some sessions will be live streamed - but accessible afterwards for any students who miss the broadcast.</p> <p>Please check your child has joined the Pathways 2021 Google Classroom, and discuss with them their future plans regularly over the coming weeks.</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 11	<p>We have sent invitations via email to students who we think may be interested in A-level sciences, to join A-level science google classrooms. These A-level science google classrooms will introduce students to A-level work to prepare them for starting A-level in September. Please ask your son / daughter to check their email for an invitation. If your child has not received an invitation but does want to join the classrooms, please email me.</p>
Mrs Aubret	Year 10 French and Spanish	<p>Well done to our Year 10 students for their fantastic work on their topic questions! This is a reminder that it is an extremely important piece of work that will be necessary to revise for their Speaking exam in Year 11.</p> <p>Please remind your child to complete their topic questions following the guidance given on Classcharts and Google classroom.</p> <p>We are always ready to help, so do not hesitate to encourage your child to contact their teacher if they have any queries, or if they need a bit of motivation from us! Take care all.</p>
Mr Simmons & Mr Fey	Year 10 Engineering students	<p>This is a reminder that the Year 10 Engineering students are still needing to complete their coursework from home via the google classroom which is 75% of their final grade and they will find individual comments on their work to support them in completing this.</p> <p>For any additional help please email the classroom teacher.</p>
Mr Francis Black	Year 9	<p>The option blocks for those starting KS4 courses in September 2020 have now been finalised. As discussed at the options evening it is not possible to give every student their top four choices of subject. I will therefore be making contact with families over the coming term to discuss options and I expect to be able to confirm final option choices within the first few weeks of term 6.</p>
Mrs Maringo	MFL students Years 7, 8 & 9	<p>MFL updates:</p> <p>Year 7</p> <p>Our culinary wizards in Year 7 have been working on a project that is close to all of our hearts: food. From fantastic reviews of traditional Spanish dishes to wonderfully detailed recipes and delicious looking photos, we are already receiving some fantastic responses and look forward to receiving even more of your exciting menu ideas! Please do not hesitate to contact your child's MFL teacher should you require some support or have any questions.</p>



		<p>Year 8</p> <p>All Year 8 pupils have been given a fascinating French/Spanish cultural project to complete on French/Spanish cities (please find all the information on the Google Classroom or Classcharts). This is a great way to learn about France and Spain! We are very excited to see what your child has been able to find out on the city they have chosen to research!</p> <p>Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s MFL teacher if you require some support or have any questions.</p> <p>Year 9</p> <p>All Year 9 pupils have received a “step into GCSE booklet” with key grammar points to practise. We have been very pleased with the engagement of our students. The booklets are available on Class Charts and google classroom. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s MFL teacher if you require some support or have any questions.</p>
Miss Sutton	Food Technology students	<p>Being able to prepare and cook food is a life skill. It would be great if students could still cook at home, whether it’s baking a cake or cooking the family meal, any practice is beneficial. I understand that this could be difficult with sourcing ingredients given the circumstances.</p> <p>This website is full of easy to follow recipes that are suitable for all ages - https://www.foodafactoflife.org.uk/recipes/</p> <p>For GCSE students, BBC Good Food has some good recipes. I have also created a list that would be beneficial for their practical exams (which I have shared on the Google Classroom). I will update this throughout the time we are away.</p> <p>If your child does cook/bake anything at home, please share with myself suttone@skdrive.org and they might make an appearance on the school website or tweet them to @DAT_StKaths.</p>
Miss Adams	Students who have instrumental lessons in school	<p>North Somerset Music Service have launched their new online learning service.</p> <p>Please visit; www.nsmusic4you.org.uk</p> <p>They are now offering one to one instrumental lessons via microsoft teams for any student who was previously having lessons in school. Please note they are only able to offer individual tuition and not group lessons. However, there are various different options available and lessons have been subsidised to help families at this challenging time.</p>

LETTERS THIS WEEK- click [here](#) to see all letters from this academic year

All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lockdown Project #1 Gospel Choir ‘Something inside so strong’ ● Lockdown Project #2 CST Virtual Concert
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