



Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 16 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

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

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

This week started with our first disruption to the academic year due to COVID 19. Thank you for your positive feedback and support. We have been pleased with the positive engagement across the whole of Year 10 this week. Having listened to feedback from the lockdown period we have built our model around keeping students in a routine when Learning@Home and raising levels of engagement through 'live' lessons blended with useful video content. Thank you to the parents/carers of Year 10 for your support in engaging your son/daughter during this week and next. It was certainly strange visiting Year 10 classrooms in technology this week to see an empty classroom and teachers talking to the screen!

We continue to 'Tighten Up Together' and with an increasing number of cases per hundred thousand within our local area, there are some potential changes ahead for us as a community at St Katherine's.

- Face covering will become mandatory for staff and students when moving around the site, should our local area move into a higher risk category, as detailed in our risk assessment.

As we approach the winter months and continue with our ventilation of rooms and corridors, our school will not be as warm as we would typically expect. In light of this please support and encourage your child to wear an under vest along with their shirt, jumper, blazer and a winter coat.

We are changing arrangements around PE from after half term to support the delivery of our curriculum. Please see the letter for all parents.

Our celebration of Black History Month continued this week with a Year 11 football match supported by the whole year group. Our older students are embracing our Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) work and leading the school forward which is rewarding to observe.

This week some details are emerging around next summer's exams. Here is a brief summary and we will provide further details as they emerge nearer the time.

- Year 11 and Year 13 have exams this year and there was confirmation this week that exams for GCSE and A Levels will take place between 7 June and 2 July.
- There will be an important mock exam for GCSE English and Maths just before the May half term to give students affected by COVID 19 a better chance of sitting an exam in each of these subjects.
- Results days will be on Tuesday 24 August for A Levels/Vocational Level 3 and Friday 27 August for GCSE/Vocational Level 2 qualifications.



We are here to support all our young people with their learning at all times and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further support in any of the adjustments we are making. Please refer to the 'Who to contact at St Katherine's' table below. We are always keen to hear your feedback and please share this using this [form](#).

Kind regards

Mr Humphreys
Headteacher

WHO TO CONTACT AT ST KATHERINE'S

For queries about:	Name	Contact:
Safeguarding	Mrs K Crocker	crockerk@skdrive.org
Courses, assignments or resources		Subject Teachers
Access to online library resources	Ms Wyld	wyldl@skdrive.org
Technology related	Mr A Francis-Black	francisblacka@skdrive.org
SEND	Mrs F Slater	slaterf@skdrive.org
Curriculum	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Learning@Home resources	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Personal well being		Tutor or Head of House
General queries		school@skdrive.org
Free School Meals		kilgallond@skdrive.org
Reading logs	Immalee Wild	wildi@skdrive.org
Sixth Form	Geraint Davies	daviesg@skdrive.org

MESSAGES

Mrs Ball	All years	<p>What digital boundaries are right for your child?</p> <p>Children in secondary school are likely to have a growing interest in social media, through friends and role models. Many social media platforms such as Facebook Instagram and TikTok have a 13 plus age restriction, but this will not stop children being attracted towards them. Please show an active interest in discussing these platforms with your child to help and support, as there are potential risks such as extremist, violent or pornographic content.</p>
----------	-----------	--

		Vist vodaphone.co.uk/digital_parenting for more information.
Mrs Crocker	All years	<p>#HelloYellow raises £176.85 for Young Minds</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who supported #HelloYellow day last Friday by wearing yellow and donating to this important charity. Young Minds provides support for young people and schools who are dealing with mental health challenges and we are delighted to be able to make a contribution to their excellent work.</p>
SKAMPS (St Katherine's Parents Music Supporters)	All years	<p>SKAMPS is a registered charity which supports Music at St Katherine's. Over the years we have raised thousands of pounds for musical instruments, equipment and workshops. Our latest purchase was another new Yamaha piano which has been a great success with students who love having a new piano to play.</p> <p>We would love new parents to become involved in this invaluable support for Music at St Katherine's. Please contact Abi Adams, Head of Music, for more information.</p> <p>Our (Virtual) AGM is being held on Thursday 12 November at 7pm. The link for this virtual meeting will follow next week. We look forward to seeing you on the 12 November.</p>
Finance	All Years	<p>Please ensure that your child's lunch account remains in credit. Our canteen is run by an external company whose policy is not to allow a lend facility. To facilitate keeping an account in credit a Parentpay alert can be set up.</p> <p>Low Dinner Account Balance Alerts</p> <p>In order to set up alerts on your Parentpay account, select Communication, Alert Setting. This facility allows you to set a balance below which Parentpay will e-mail out a reminder to top up. Please be aware that e-mail reminders are free but text messages are charged at 6p per message. Alerts can also be set up for new payment items.</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 10 & 11	<p>Last week Year 10 and 11 students were given letters to take home regarding science revision guides. Only Year 11 students who did not buy a guide last year need to purchase a guide. The deadline for purchasing revision guides is 20/10/20 via parent pay. If you have any questions please contact me at iveyz@skdrive.org.</p>
School	Year 9	<p>We are currently finalising our arrangements and platforms for our parent/carer subject evenings this Year. We have taken the decision to review the timing of the Year 9 evening scheduled for Thursday 23 October to combine with our GCSE options process this year to promote effective dialogue in preparation for these important choices and conversations. The new timeline along with the arrangements of how these events will work will be shared at the beginning of Term 2.</p> <p>Should you have any questions about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact their teacher, tutor or Head of House. Thank you for your understanding.</p>



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

All years

Changes to uniform from Tuesday 3 November

UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

Friday, 23 October

End of Term 1

Monday, 2 November

Start of Term 2: **INSET Day - School closed to students**

Tuesday, 3 November

Students return to school