

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 22 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information.

MESSAGES		
School	Whole school	Our open evening is next Thursday 28 September , please note that the school will be closing early on this day, coaches/taxis will depart at 1230.
School	Whole school	Coffee with the Headteacher Our next coffee with Mr Humphreys will be on Friday 6 October from 0830-1000, please email school@skdrive.org if you'd like to join us. We will be staggering dates and times across the year for those that can't make it this time.
Sirona	Whole school	Uniform policy now allows parents/carers to purchase trousers from a range of suppliers providing they are of the same colour and style as the Monkhouse school trouser. Trousers are still available from Monkhouse if you wish to use them. Trousers must be tailored and not skinny fit or jean material.
School	Whole school	Rotary Club There are lots of youth opportunities open to our Students. I am hopeful that this information might be of interest, if yes please ask your child(ren) to chat with the subject teacher.
School	Whole school	We have our first house competition on Tuesday 26th September . To celebrate European day of languages we are running a themed bake off. Themed cakes to be brought to DHoH the morning of 26/9/23 to be photographed and judged and then sold at break to raise money for Macmillan coffee morning.
School	Whole school	Macmillan Cake Sale Tuesday 26th September All students are invited to a cake sale at break to raise money for Macmillan as part of their Coffee Morning 2023 fundraising campaign. Cakes are 50p each and we are asking students to bring in money on the day please.
Sirona	Whole school	This autumn all children from Y7 to Year 11 are being offered a flu vaccine as part of the School Vaccination Programme. The flu vaccine is administered using a nasal spray. Sirona Immunisation team will be on site on the 5 December to administer this vaccine. Please complete the consent form , indicating whether you wish your child to have the vaccine, ensure you complete the consent form even if you do not want your child to receive the vaccination. If your child is not able to attend school on the day of the Immunisation session they can attend a catch-up clinic at a later date.
School	Whole school	Free School Meals If you think you are entitled to claim a free school meal benefit because of your income or circumstances it's essential you apply. For each eligible child, the school receives funding for the next six years, even if their parents go back to full-time paid work. You can apply to North Somerset here . If you have any queries or would like the school to support you with your application please contact reception.
School	Whole school	Free School Meals If your child is entitled to a free school meal they can receive breakfast in the canteen before 8.30. They will be able to choose from the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 pieces of toast with jam

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● fresh fruit with a juice drink ● porridge with honey/syrup with a juice drink ● cereal with milk ● 1 crumpet with jam.
School	Whole school	The homework timetable for all year groups can be seen here .
School	Whole school	Instrumental lessons (through the music service) are now up and running. Timetables are in the instrumental lessons google classroom and are also on display in the music department. Please ensure your child knows their lesson day and time. Any issues or questions please contact: adamsa@skdrive.org or musicadmin@skdrive.org
School	Whole school	School choir rehearsals take place on a Monday morning during tutor time. We had our first rehearsal this week and they sounded wonderful! Please encourage students to attend; we are looking forward to welcoming back old members and also new students (from all year groups but especially Year 7!) Any questions please contact: adamsa@skdrive.org
Finance	Whole school	<p>Lunch accounts</p> <p>We are experiencing a significant increase in the number of students having to visit the Finance Office as they do not have enough money on their lunch accounts. Parentpay allows you to set a reminder to top up when the balance falls below a certain amount.</p> <p>To set an alert go to 'Communication', 'Alert Settings', 'Balance Alerts'. Set a threshold amount (say £5) and tick the email box. You will then be emailed a low balance alert when your child's lunch account falls below £5.</p> <p>Daily Limit</p> <p>If you need to amend your child's daily limit please email finance@skdrive.org. The default is £5.</p>
Safeguarding and online safety	Whole School	<p>We regularly remind parents of the importance of checking their children are safe online and encourage parents to use the <u>Safer Internet Centre's</u> resources to make sure they are well informed.</p> <p>This week there was a programme on Radio 4 that took listeners through a day in the life of a teenager that uses SnapChat as their way of communicating with their friends. I would encourage all parents to listen to it. It can be found on BBC Sounds here. The NSPCC reported that Snapchat accounts for nearly half of recorded online grooming crimes against children.</p> <p>We know the internet and social media can be a positive place for children to connect and communicate however, it is important that everyone is aware of the dangers so that we can keep children safe.</p>
Ms Wild	All years	<p>If your child is neurodiverse, they might like to come along to our neurodiverse group.</p> <p>Tuesday week 1: Year 7, 8 & 11- first lunch (12:20 - 1.00) in Room 42. Wednesday week 1: Year 9, 10 - second lunch (1:20-2:00) Room 46</p> <p>They can bring your lunch, come and go when they please and everyone is welcome - you don't have to have a diagnosis or know what their neurodiversity is.</p>

Ms Maurier	Year 7-9	<p>Just a reminder that this is for next week and all recipes are on Classcharts as a homework 7 days in advance of the lesson.</p> <p>Year 7 Deli salad - 7L: 28/09 and 7R: 27/09 Year 8 Shortbread - 8L 26/09 and 8R : 26/09 Year 9 Veggie sushi - 9L: 28/09 and 9R : 26/09</p> <p>The following week will be: Year 7 pizza toast - 7L: 05/10 and 7R: 03/10 Year 8 cheese scones - 8L 03/10 and 8R : 10/10 Year 9 Chow Mein - 9L: 09/10 and 9R : 05/10</p>
Mrs Crompton	Year 7	<p>Year 7 photos are available to view and order online at www.clickfoto.co.uk Each child will have been handed a unique and individual access code on Photo Day. Families may order with FREE delivery to school before the deadline as shown online. At any time orders may be placed for delivery direct to home by post. If you or the parents have any questions or need help please call our helpline on: 02920 448210 or email us at orders@clickfoto.co.uk</p>
Ms Wild	Year 7	<p>If your child is still finding it tricky to log into their school account to update their reading log please let me know - wildi@skdrive.org We have begun introducing classes to Accelerated Reader. For more information, please find our guide here, and if you have any questions, please drop me an email.</p>
Miss Adams	Year 7	<p>Trailblazers scheme; you will soon receive notification of the instrument your child has been allocated along with the lesson day and time. Trailblazers orchestra is compulsory for all trailblazer students and will take place during the Wednesday afternoon enrichment session.</p>
Mr Maw	Year 8	<p>Please find link here for the Y8-Y11 Parent/carer information evening.</p>
Ms Wild	Year 8	<p>Audio books are a great option for lots of students. Over the next two weeks students will set a homework to join the public library to enable access to free audio books. Please see attached letter with more details, and email wildi@skdrive.org if you have any questions.</p>
Mr Maw	Year 9	<p>Please find link here for the Y8-Y11 Parent/carer information evening.</p>
Sirona	Year 9-11	<p>From 1 September 2023 HPV vaccine programme will change from two doses to one dose HPV vaccine. Therefore all the young people who have already received one dose of the vaccine will be considered fully vaccinated. If your child has still not received one dose of the HPV vaccine they will remain eligible to receive this in school, details will be shared in due course. If you have any questions, please contact the Immunisation Team at sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net or 03301245515.</p>
Ms Wild	Year 9	<p>Struggling to support your child to read every day for twenty minutes at home? Please get in touch: wildi@skdrive.org</p>
Mr Maw	Year 10	<p>Please find link here for the Y8-Y11 Parent/carer information evening.</p>

Ms Maurier	Year 10	Food preparation group will be preparing Upside down pineapple cake. The ingredients and the method are on Classcharts and Google Classroom. 27/09
Mrs Weatherson	Year 10 (GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY)	Camera cards are now available to purchase on parentpay for £10 for any students that wish to access our equipment rental system.
Ms Tallis	Year 10 Art GCSE	Y10 art students have been invited to attend a trip to Bristol galleries on 30 Nov. Letters have been sent via email. Please pay on ParentPay if your child would like to attend. Work completed on the day & subsequently, will form an important addition to students' coursework for art GCSE.
	Year 10/11 Art GCSE	The Art Dept is open to GCSE students to work at the following times: Mon late lunch Wed early lunch Tues & Thurs after school.
Mrs Duncan	Year 10 WEX	Congratulations to two of our Year 10 students who have already secured and uploaded their Work Experience placement using the new platform on Unifrog. Please remember the deadline to find a placement is 19th February 2024. Many places, especially within popular areas such as sport, education and engineering, fill their allocation by December. For more WEX information, please read through this letter sent home 2 weeks ago.
Mr Maw	Year 11	Please find link here for the Y8-Y11 Parent/carer information evening.
Mr Fey/Mr Simmons	Year 11	The DAT department is open to all Engineering students Monday-Friday during break/lunchtime and before/after school to support those in completing their coursework. Please ask your child to use this resource as every second counts when completing their units.
Mr Sugden	Year 11	The Science department are starting after school revision from next week, week beginning 25/09/2023. All parents are due to receive a letter with more details about the sessions today. Please read this letter with your child and encourage their attendance. Next week's revision session: GCSE Chemistry - 26/09/2023 (Tuesday) - Lab 2 - 3:10 pm - C13 - The Atmosphere
Mrs Collins	Year 11	GCSE Drama students are expected to complete 2 hours extra rehearsal a week to support them for their devising performance examination on Wednesday 1 November 2023. This can be across lunchtime periods or afterschool (which need to be booked in advance). A letter has been sent home with the details about the exam. If you have any questions please contact me on Collinsl@skdrive.org Thank you.
Ms Maurier	Year 11	Food preparation group will be preparing biscuits for their NEA1. The ingredients and the method are on Classcharts. 28/09
Mr Davies	Year 11	Sixth Form Open Evening will be on November 1st. Please add this date to your diary, and come and find out more about how our thriving Sixth Form can help support your child's future.

School	Year 12 & 13	Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school Next session: How You Can Help Your Child Manage Their Time - 3rd October 6:00pm Register today at: https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/schoolwebinar
School	Year 12 & 13	The slides from the Post-16 Information Evening last week can be found here .
Mrs Duncan	Year 12 WEX	This week, all students received information regarding St Katherine's Work Experience Programme, which will take place on 17th - 21st June. More information can be found here

LETTERS - click [here](#) to see all letters

SPORT - click [here](#) to see all updates via our Twitter page

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

26 Sep	MacMillan biggest coffee morning, cake sale at break
28 Sep	1600-2030 Whole school open evening, coaches at 1230
29 Sep	School Inset day
3 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
4 Oct	1600-1900 Y7 Parent/Carer virtual meet the Tutor evening
5 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
6 Oct	0830-1000 Coffee with the Headteacher
10 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
10 Oct	Hello Yellow - World Mental Health Day
11 Oct	Y7P1, Y7T and Y7Y1 Mendip Outdoor trip
12 Oct	Y7P2, Y7S and Y7Y2 Mendip Outdoor trip
12 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
17 Oct	Y11 futures day
18 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
19 Oct	0900-1100 Open Morning
20 Oct	End of Term 1