

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 19 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

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

MESSAGES		
School	Whole School	<p>Coffee with the Headteacher</p> <p>Our next coffee with Mr Humphreys will be on Monday 22 January 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.</p>
Mr Harding Chair of the Governors	Whole school	<p>Parent/Carer Governor Vacancy</p> <p>The local governing body is seeking expressions of interest from the St Katherine's Parent/Carer community in taking on the vital role of Parent/Carer governor. Through your children, you have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from a 'consumers' point of view. This enables parent governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of the school. More information about the Parent/Carer Governor role can be found here. If you wish to put your name forward, please complete the Parent/Carer Governor application.</p>
Ms Maurier	Year 7-9	<p>Just a reminder that this is for next week and all recipes are on Classcharts as homework 7 days in advance of the lesson. The recipes are linked to this document and students will collect a paper copy of the recipes this week too.</p> <p>Year 7 Bread rolls n.6 - 7L: 25/01 and 7R: 26/01 Year 8 Dutch apple cake n.6 - 8L 23/01 and 8R : 23/01 Year 9 Chicken fajitas n.6 - 9L: 25/01 and 9R : 26/01</p> <p>The following week will be: Year 7 Making their own Bread rolls n.7 - 7L: 29/01 and 7R: 30/01 Year 8 own ingredients for tea party dish - 8L 02/02 and 8R : 30/01 Year 9 own ingredients for street food dish - 9L: 02/02 and 9R : 01/02</p> <p>Students need to put their ingredients in the fridge before tutor time and bring a container and apron for each practical lesson. They need to collect their food at the end of the day unless they decide to eat it at break time. For some recipes, a small contribution is required for ingredients provided by the school.</p>
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. Text alerts can be set up but are chargeable.</p>

Finance	Whole school	<p>Parentpay One-Click Payments (Bank Transfer)</p> <p>Parentpay is encouraging parents to use this payment method rather than card payment. As a school we do not like this as potentially a transaction can fail several days later causing lunch accounts to go overdrawn. The direct debits take 3 working days to set up before a payment should be attempted. The transaction can then take another 4 days to show on your bank statement. We would recommend continuing with card payment as these transactions are pre-authorised. This can be done by selecting the 'Add To Basket' button and then 'Other Payment Method' button.</p>
William Harding - Chair of Governors	Whole school	<p>Who are our governors, what do they do?</p> <p>As chair of the governors, one of the questions I am frequently asked is 'who are our governors and what do they do?'. Over the coming weeks, we will try to answer this question.</p> <p>School governors are the largest volunteer group in the UK. More than 300,000 of us support schools across the country. We come from all kinds of backgrounds, bringing a range of skills, experience and perspectives. You don't have to work in education to be a governor. You do though, need to care about education and be able to commit some time to work with the school.</p> <p>The Local Governing Board (LGB) at St Katherine's is made up of 12 people. 4 are elected (2 by parents/carers and 2 by the staff who work at the school) and the headteacher is also a governor. The remainder (7) are appointed by the Board. All are appointed for 4 years (but can be re-appointed). The board elects a Chair annually (myself currently).</p> <p>We will tell you more about the governors and their particular interests in future Weekly Communications along with information about the board's responsibilities. If you would like more information now, you can find details on the Governance section of the school website. You can always contact the board either through the clerk to the governors clerk@skdrive.org or directly to myself hardingw@skdrive.org.</p>
Careers	Whole school	Please find attached a copy of this week's careers bulletin with lots of opportunities, work experience, post 16 and 18 options Careers Bulletin W/C 15th Jan 24
School	Whole school	Please ensure all children come to school with a water bottle.
School	Whole school	Reminder Paracetamol will only be given at break time and lunchtime
School	Whole School	<p>Free School Meals</p> <p>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.</p>
School	Whole School	<p>Free School Meals</p> <p>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;</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 pieces of toast with jam • fresh fruit with a juice drink • porridge with honey/syrup with a juice drink • cereal with milk • 1 crumpet with jam.
Design, Art & Technology Department	Year 10 & 11	<p>We are selling the following kits for students if you are interested</p> <p>Textiles/Art kit at £11 that includes the following and an example can be seen in the lessons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A3 project folder • Black Fineliner • Pack of 12 coloured pencils • 2B & 4B pencil • Pencil eraser • Pencil sharpener • Pritt stick • Scissors 6" • Watercolour tin of 12 • Synthetic brush size 12 <p>Engineering kit at £8 that includes the following and an example can be seen in the lessons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 project folder • Black Fineliner • Pack of 12 coloured pencils • 2H pencil • Pencil eraser • Pencil sharpener • 30cm Ruler • Ellipse/circle template <p>A4 USB lightbox @ £11.99 an example can be seen in the lessons.</p>
Design, Art & Technology Department	Whole school	<p>Design, Art & Technology Technician</p> <p>We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic individual to join our innovative and successful Design & Technology department to support the teaching of a wide range of Design, Art and Technology subjects. Key responsibilities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assisting in practical lessons • preparing equipment and teaching areas • maintaining equipment • ensuring a safe environment for students and staff <p>If you know someone that might be interested could you please share the following link with them.</p> <p>Design, Art & Technology technician job</p>
Ms Wild	Year 7	<p>We're delighted to promote our exclusive Reading Millionaire's club, which has a range of benefits including the much coveted wristbands which allow students to skip the queue in the canteen. To check their word count, ask your child to speak to their tutor or pop into the library.</p>

Miss Adams	Year 7 trailblazers	Advance notice: all Y7 trailblazers students will be participating in trailblazers bandcamp day on Wednesday 21st February . This will involve spending the day at Trinity Academy in a series of workshops and rehearsals with an evening performance to families. Further details to follow in a letter but please make a note of the date in your diaries.
Ms Wild	Year 8	We're delighted to promote our exclusive Reading Millionaire's club, which has a range of benefits including the much coveted wristbands which allow students to skip the queue in the canteen. To check their word count, ask your child to speak to their tutor or pop into the library.
Miss Adams	Year 9	Step Into GCSE Music event will take place on Friday 2nd February periods 3, 4 and 5 . This will be an opportunity for Y9 students to experience a taste of the GCSE Music course through some practical workshops, listening activities and a question and answer session. Some students will be receiving a letter inviting them to this event but if you would like to sign up your child to be considered for a place please do so using the following google form . Students also have the option to sign up themselves using this google form in their music google classroom.
Ms Wild	Year 9	Tutors are reporting that there is significant improvement in students' engagement with ambitious texts. Well done - and keep looking for your next read on our Bucket List .
Mr Hodgson	Year 9	Last Tuesday, there was a meeting about a planned expedition to Morocco in 2025. The recording of the meeting can be found here . A QR code was displayed, which can take you directly to sign up. This link may also take you to the portal, where you can register using the expedition ID STKATMOR2025.
Mr Fey & Mr Simmons	Year 10	Lunchtime catch up sessions for Engineering students will run on the following days: Week 1 Mon - Mr Simmons' room Thurs - Mr Fey's room Week 2 Mon - Mr Simmons' room Fri - Mr Fey's room
Ms Wyld	Year 10	If you purchased any of the English revision guides, please encourage students to come to the Library to collect them. All other subjects will be distributed by class teachers in lessons.
Mrs Weatherson	GCSE Photography Year 10	Have you fallen a little behind with classwork? Don't forget you can access support to work from home here :
Ms Tallis	Year 10 GCSE Art	Y10 catch up/homework sessions for art students will run on the following days:

		<p>Mon lunch (Ms Tallis's room) Tues after school (Mrs Cameron's room) Thurs after school (Ms Tallis's room)</p>
Mrs Duncan	Year 10 Work Experience	<p>Congratulations to the 36 Students that have secured a WEX placement! WEX takes place on 1st - 5th July. The deadline to find a placement is 19th February.</p> <p>Many places are already becoming full or the deadline to apply is fast approaching. Please encourage your child to start the search.</p> <p>All information including an employers database, past WOW's, template email and the Unifrog process is located in the Work Experience Google Classroom that all Year 10 students have been given access to.</p> <p>For more WEX information, please read through this letter sent home during Term 1 or head to the school website.</p> <p>Here is a WOW! from last term. The deadline is soon.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding work experience or require support please contact me on skworkexperience@skdrive.org</p>
Mr Hodsgon	Year 10	<p>Last Tuesday, there was a meeting about a planned expedition to Morocco in 2025. The recording of the meeting can be found here. A QR code was displayed, which can take you directly to sign up.</p> <p>This link may also take to you to the portal, where you can register using the expedition ID STKATMOR2025.</p>
Mr Fey & Mr Simmons	Year 11	<p>Lunchtime catch up sessions for Engineering students will run on the following days:</p> <p>Week 1 Tues - Mr Fey's room Fri - Mr Simmons' room</p> <p>Week 2 Wed - Mr Fey's room Fri - Mr Simmons' room</p>
Mrs Weatherson	Year 11 GCSE photo	<p>Support sessions Thurs 3pm-4pm in Rm 36 This could be for adding to your ELP or working on your ESA.</p>
Ms Jefferson	Year 11 ENGLISH	<p>A huge well done to all Year 11 students completing English language practice papers at home. Please contact jeffersonj@skdrive.org, if your child is struggling to complete this work at home.</p>
Miss Adams	Year 11 GCSE Music	<p>On Tuesday 30th January Y11 music students are attending a concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at Trinity Academy. The performance will include some of the set works that students study as part of the course so is an excellent opportunity to help consolidate this knowledge as well as watching professional musicians in action. Letter is being sent via parentpay and hard copies will be available for students from next week. Please complete the permission slip and payment as per the letter. Thank you.</p>

Miss Adams	Year 11 GCSE Music	During terms 3 and 4 I am running additional composition support sessions after school on selected Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3pm-4.30pm . The sign up sheet has been shared with students on their google classroom. Please ensure your child has signed up to attend at least 2 sessions. A reminder that composition coursework forms 30% of the final GCSE grade.
Mr Hodgson	Year 11	<p>St Katherine's School is exploring the opportunity to do an expedition to the Himalayas in Nepal in Summer 2025.</p> <p>The focus of the trip will be a community project which works with the Pahar trust charity partner, working with local communities renovating and repairing classrooms, libraries and development centres. There will also be an element of trekking in the Kathmandu Valley, specifically Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park. A sample itinerary can be found here.</p> <p>We would like to meet those who may be interested in taking part, or want to find out more information. There will be an information evening on January 23rd at 18.00pm. This will be online - click on this link to join the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting will be recorded if you are not able to make it.</p>
Mr Davies	Year 12	All year 12 students were given their progress checks last week. Please ensure these have been passed on to you. If you haven't received a paper copy, please email papworthh@skdrive.org and she can provide an electronic copy.
Mr Davies	Year 12 & 13	Thank you for your support in ensuring students were well-prepared and focused for their internal and external January exams. However, in a small number of cases, students were late to school and missed the start time of exams. If students miss the start times of formal exams this summer, they will not be able to enter the exam venue and will receive 0 for that paper. Please emphasise this.
Mrs Weatherson	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. How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking 23rd January 6:00pm To register: https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar
Mrs Duncan	Year 12 Work Experience	<p>Congratulations to the 12 Students that have secured a WEX placement!</p> <p>WEX takes place on 17th - 21st June Deadline to find a placement is 19th February 2024.</p> <p>Many places are already becoming full or the deadline to apply is fast approaching. Please encourage your child to start the search.</p> <p>All information including an employers database, past WOW's, template email and the Unifrog process is located in the Work Experience Google Classroom that all Year 12 students have been given access to.</p> <p>I still have a number of spaces for a fantastic opportunity to work within Lloyds Head Office on the Harbourside. You will be shown the following</p>

		<p>departments: <i>Cyber, technology Engineering, UC/CX Design, Finance, Legal & Marketing.</i></p> <p>If you are interested, please send me an email answering this question: 1. What made you decide to apply to Lloyds for work experience?</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding work experience, please contact me on skworkexperience@skdrive.org</p>
Mr Hodgson	Year 12	<p>St Katherine's School is exploring the opportunity to do an expedition to the Himalayas in Nepal in Summer 2025.</p> <p>The focus of the trip will be a community project which works with the Pahar trust charity partner, working with local communities renovating and repairing classrooms, libraries and development centres. There will also be an element of trekking in the Kathmandu Valley, specifically Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park. A sample itinerary can be found here.</p> <p>We would like to meet those who may be interested in taking part, or want to find out more information. There will be an information evening at January 23rd at 18.00pm. This will be online - click on this link to join the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting will be recorded if you are not able to make it.</p>

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

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

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

22 Jan	0830-1000 Coffee with the Headteacher
24 Jan	1600-1900 Y11 progress evening
30 Jan	1220-1320 Y10 AA Speaker for Society and Culture 1220-1320, LT
30 Jan	All day Y8 HPV vaccinations
30 Jan	1100-1445 Y11 Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Concert, Trinity Academy
2 Feb	Y9 T G Gray - Aircraft Challenge STEM Day, LT
5-8 Feb	Residential Y12 trip to Slapton Ley, Devon
7 Feb	0900-1000 10B Y10 business students - UWE Economics workshop, room 61 1120-1220 10A
7 Feb	1700-1900 Y9 Options Evening
9 Feb	End of term
9-17 Feb	Y7-10 Ski trip Folgaria, Italy (over 1/2 term)