

# Weekly communication to Parents/Carers

Friday 4 March 2026



St Katherine's Website



Term dates



Termly newsletters



PE calendar

## Message from Mr Humphreys

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to see our school community return with energy and purpose in Term 4.

For National Careers Week, our Year 9 students took part in a careers-focused assembly designed to encourage them to start thinking about the many different pathways open to them in the future. These early conversations are an important part of helping young people connect their learning with the opportunities that lie ahead. By hearing about different professions and reflecting on their own interests and strengths, students begin to see how education can open doors and shape their aspirations.

Last Thursday we celebrated our 10th Community Iftar, part of our Ramadan Sharing Festival. This has become a much-loved tradition within our school community and a number of students delivered speeches of reflection. Students, families and staff shared food, conversation and reflection, creating an atmosphere of warmth and generosity. The Iftar highlighted how our community continues to grow stronger through shared experiences.

We were delighted to welcome back Sadik Al-Hassan, who joined our Year 12 and Year 13 students at the North Somerset Debate hosted at St Katherine's. His return provided students with an inspiring opportunity to engage in thoughtful discussion and sharpen their skills in argument, reasoning and respectful dialogue. Events such as this encourage our sixth form students to think critically about the issues shaping the world around them while building the confidence to express their views clearly and thoughtfully. The motion being debated was for the government to regulate the use of AI.

This week our Year 11 students started their mock examinations. These assessments are an important opportunity for students to practise exam routines, build resilience and identify areas where further focus to support them as they approach the summer examinations. We have been deeply impressed with the maturity and focus students have shown throughout the week.

There was lots of excitement this week and World Book Day brought smiles throughout the corridors and classrooms as staff embraced the spirit of the day by dressing as their favourite literary characters. More importantly, it provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate reading, storytelling and the imagination that books inspire. Seeing students discussing stories and sharing favourite books throughout the day reminded us how powerful reading can be in shaping curiosity and creativity.

For our older students, we held a virtual progress evening for Years 12 and 13, providing an important opportunity for families and teachers to discuss progress, next steps and aspirations beyond sixth form. These conversations are vital in ensuring students feel supported as they prepare for university, apprenticeships or employment.

Finally, some of our Year 8 students enjoyed an unforgettable caving experience, stepping well outside their comfort zones as they explored narrow and very tight underground environments together. Activities like this build resilience, teamwork and confidence, students returned with a real sense of achievement after challenging themselves in new ways.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school and the many opportunities we provide for our students. It is through this shared commitment between school and home that our community continues to thrive.

Best wishes,  
Mr Humphreys



## Whole School messages

Miss Adams	Whole School	The Cathedral Schools Trust joint concert is at Bristol Beacon on Wednesday 29th April 2026 at 6.30pm. It will involve all students who regularly attend choir and/or orchestra. Letters will be coming out with full details (including how to purchase tickets) in due course but for now please <a href="#">save the date</a> in your diaries for what promises to be an amazing evening filled with wonderful music making!
Ms Wyld	Whole school	The annual Waterstone's Bookfair takes place on Tuesday 10 & Wednesday 11 March. Their young people's book experts will be bringing a wide range of brilliant books for students to browse & purchase. We'll also have the World Book Day vouchers that all students can either use to take £1 off the price of a book, or swap for one of the specially produced WBD titles! #GoAllIN (NB this is a cash only event)
Mrs Humphries	Whole School	<p>Following valuable feedback from both parents/carers and students, we recognised the need to provide additional indoor space for use during unpredictable weather. We understand how important it is for students to have a comfortable, safe area where they can relax and socialise when outdoor spaces are not accessible. We are therefore pleased to share that we will now be opening the large room above the library (formerly the old sixth form area) as our new Wet Weather Room.</p> <p>During wet breaks and lunchtimes, students are welcome to gather with friends, eat their lunch and snacks, socialise in a dry environment and play with a selection of games and activities which are provided in the space.</p> <p>To ensure this space can be enjoyed by everyone, students will be asked to respect the room and the equipment provided, keep the area clean and tidy and demonstrate appropriate indoor behaviour at all times</p> <p>We are confident this additional space will make lunchtimes more enjoyable for all, and we look forward to seeing students making positive use of their new "wet lunch" area should the weather take a turn.</p>

## Year 7

School	Year 7	Please see <a href="#">letter</a> in regard to <b>Bikeability</b> . If you would like your child to take part in this fantastic opportunity please complete the consent by <b>Wednesday 11 March</b> . The event will take place w/c 23 March 2026.
Mrs Jenkins	Year 7	<b>Food and Nutrition</b> Here are the practicals taking place this week: Friday 13th March - 7! Pizza toast

## Year 8

Mrs Cave	Year 8	<b>Y8 Assessment week 20 March - 27 March</b> You should have received a letter with regard to your child's assessment timetable, please email the school if you have not received it. Here you can find the <a href="#">revision resources</a> to support your child/ren's preparation.  Additional support will be also put in place prior to the assessment with an assessment assembly on Monday 09 March and revision strategies in tutor time.
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## Year 9


Sirona	Year 9	<b>Thursday 30 April 2026</b> Sirona Immunisation team will come into school to administer <b>Meningococcal ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations to students</b> whose parents consented to have the vaccine. Please complete the <a href="#">online consent form</a> if you would like your child to receive the vaccine.
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## Year 10

<p><b>Futures</b> → Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Year 10 work experience week - <b>29th June - 3rd July 2026.</b></p> <p>The deadline to add a placement to Unifrog has been extended to <b>Friday 27th March 2026.</b> By this date students should have secured a placement and added it to Unifrog.</p> <p><a href="#">This guide</a> on how to add a placement to Unifrog can be found on the WEX Google Classroom, along with other key resources such as the Employer database, WEX opportunities and template email to the employer.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns please check the <a href="#">WEX FAQ</a> document, visit the school <a href="#">WEX webpage</a> or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - <a href="mailto:afey@skdrive.org">afey@skdrive.org</a></p> <p>We are always looking for work experience opportunities for our students. If you are a business owner/decision maker (or know somebody who is) and are able to offer a work experience placement please do get in touch.</p>
<p>Mrs Collins Mrs Lomax</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>GCSE drama students have started their component one devising examination this week. Homework has been set for students to continue research into the 4 choice stimuli options from the exam board.</p> <p>Students need to consider and plan when they will be rehearsing. Availability is Monday - Friday lunchtimes Monday, Wednesday, Thursday after school.</p> <p>Please encourage students to plan and organise this as students who utilise extra time effectively in previous years, were even more successful than those who did not.</p>
<p>Textiles Miss Everard</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Y10 GCSE Textiles students will need to spend one hour on homework every week. Your child may work in R13 at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Week One: Tues/Thurs Lunchtimes.</li> <li>- <b>After school on Thursdays 15:05 - 16:05 Room 13</b></li> </ul> <p>Unfortunately R13 is unavailable during their lunch on week two, however they may also be able to join sessions in R10. Please encourage your child to attend, it is so helpful for them having access to equipment and materials. Thanks very much.</p>
<p>Ms Tallis</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Y10 GCSE art students need to spend a minimum of one hour on homework every week.</p> <p>Your child may work in the Art Dept at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Every Tue after school</li> <li>- Every Thu after school</li> <li>- Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu lunchtimes</li> </ul> <p>Please support your child to attend one of these sessions regularly; those who did this last year had the most success with their art GCSE results.</p> <p><b>Deadline for the final piece for Natural Forms Project = Thurs 2 April</b></p> <p>Some students will complete the Natural Forms Project ahead of the deadline &amp; in order to keep up this outstanding pace, &amp; give students the best chance of outstanding success in their art GCSE, I will be launching the new <b>Personal Project wb: 9 March</b> for those students that are ready. As ever, all project resources &amp; slides will be posted on the Classroom for all to access.</p>
<p>English</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Please find the wider reading for this week in class <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><b>Year 11</b></p>		
<p>Mrs Collins Mrs Lomax</p>	<p>Year 11</p>	<p><b>Thursday 19 March 2026 09:00am</b> - External assessment</p> <p>Students are busy preparing for their component 3 scripted assessment taking place this term with a visiting examiner. Please encourage and support your child with rehearsals at home to help with line learning. Extra rehearsal time is available every lunchtime and afterschool sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.</p>

		<p>Top tips!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehearsing in front of a mirror - facial expressions gesture movement</li> <li>• Voice recording - listen back to tone pitch emphasis</li> <li>• No prompting encourage thought</li> </ul>
Textiles Miss Everard	Year 11	<p>Your child should be spending a minimum of <b>two hours on their Textiles exam homework every week</b> now until the final 10 hr exam on 30th April/1st May, that will mark the end of the course. Your child may work in R13 at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Week One: Mon/Wed/ Lunchtimes.</li> <li>- Week Two: Mon/Tues/Weds/Thurs Lunchtimes</li> <li>- <b>After school on Thursdays 15:05 - 16:05 Room 13</b></li> </ul> <p>They may also be able to work in R10 after school on Tuesdays, providing the room is staffed for that session.</p> <p>For their homework, due this week, students have been tasked with producing a plan for their final outcome; the piece they intend to create for the 10 hour Exam. Lesson time is now refining ideas and gearing sample making towards their final aim. Please encourage your child to attend supported sessions, it is so helpful for them having access to equipment and materials; those who did this last year had the most success with their Textiles GCSE results. Thanks very much.</p>
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Year 11	<p><b>Final food practical exam - 23rd and 24th March</b></p> <p>Thank you for your support during the recipe trails over the last couple of weeks. The students have excelled during the lessons which will put them in a really beneficial position going into the final exam. The date your child will be sitting the GCSE exam is set on Classcharts. During the next 2 weeks students will have decided on the three dishes and accompaniments to cook. Please can you ensure they have all the ingredients prepared before the exam. Any questions/problems, please let me know.</p>
Art Ms Tallis	Year 11	<p>Your child should be spending a minimum of <b>two hours on art homework every week</b> now until the final 10 hr exam on 5 &amp; 6 May. Your child may work in the Art Dept at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Every Tues &amp; Thurs after school</li> <li>- Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs lunchtimes.</li> </ul> <p>Please support your child to attend one of these sessions regularly; those who did this last year had the most success with their art GCSE results.</p> <p>As per the slides on the art Classroom, we are now working on the second stage of the exam project:</p> <p>✓ <b>ARTIST RESEARCH PAGES (6 A3 pages)</b> <b>Due: NEXT WED 11 March</b></p>

## Year 12

 <p>Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey</p>	Year 12	<p>Year 12 work experience week - <b>15th - 19th June 2026</b></p> <p>The deadline to add a placement to Unifrog has been extended to <b>Friday 27th March 2026</b>. By this date students should have secured a placement and added it to Unifrog.</p> <p><a href="#">This guide</a> on how to add a placement to Unifrog can be found on the WEX Google Classroom, along with other key resources such as the Employer database, WEX opportunities and template email to the employer.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns please check the <a href="#">WEX FAQ</a> document, visit the school <a href="#">WEX webpage</a> or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - <a href="mailto:afey@skdrive.org">afey@skdrive.org</a></p> <p>We are always looking for work experience opportunities for our students. If you are a business owner/decision maker (or know somebody who is) and are able to offer a work experience placement please do get in touch.</p>
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Mrs Garrett	Year 12	All of Y12 are visiting Ashton Gate on Friday 13th for the university and apprenticeship fair, they will be taken to and from the event by coach from school. They have been sent a link to register and will need to download a QR code to enter the event.
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### PE & SPORT - sign up for Spond (our communication platform)

# Spond



## We're using Spond to communicate with students & parents

If you are looking for information about extra-curricular activities, school sports teams, fixtures, events, competitions, clubs and practices then you need to be on Spond!

### Students

[bit.ly/skpe\\_spondstudent](https://bit.ly/skpe_spondstudent)



### Parents

[bit.ly/skpe\\_spondguardian](https://bit.ly/skpe_spondguardian)



*We are using a new platform called Spond to manage selection for and communication around extra-curricular PE fixtures and events. We hope that using Spond will improve our communication with students & parents.*

*Spond is available as a freely downloadable app and as a web app which allows organisations like clubs & schools to set up groups, publish details about events and collect responses for availability. Students and parents can sign up for Spond accounts using the links above. Parents will be linked to their child's account as a guardian.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS - TERM 4

9 March	0835-0900 Y9 Green Jobs - Tutor Room based careers activity
10 March	0835-1505 Waterstones Book Fair
10 March	0900-1100 Y8 Equinox Free STEM Workshop
10 March	1000-1100 Y10 Future Fundamentals
10 March	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Mott Macdonald assembly talk
10 March	0835-1505 Y13 Studland Bay
11 March	0835-1505 Waterstones Book Fair
11 March	0835-1505 Y12 UWE Campus trip
12 March	0835-1505 Y7 Future Brunel, Selection Process - round 1
13 March	0835-1505 Y11 GCSE - Aerospace
13 March	0835-1505 Y12 UK University and apprenticeship search event - Ashton Gate Trip
17 March	0835-1505 Y8 Airbus Trip
17 March	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 STEM - AtkinsRealis Assembly
17 March	0835-1505 Y12 UWE guidance interviews
18 March	0900 -1500 Y7 Future Brunel, Selection Workshop 1
21 March	1100 Portishead Swimathon

w/c 23 March	Spring House sport (M-F)
w/c 23 March	Bikeability (M-F)
24 March	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Avon and Somerset Police talk with Aisha Mitchell
24 March	1000-1100 Y10 Future Fundamentals
27 March	0930-1030 Coffee with the Headteacher
28 March	Silver DofE Practice Walk
w/c 30 March	Sixth Form RAG week
31 March	1000-1100 Y10 Future Fundamentals
31 March	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Trevor Latham - Easy Jet Pilot Talk
31-1 April	Y12 HE+ Cambridge Residential (M-Tu)
1 April	1400-1505 Y12 & Y13 Michelmoores - Effective Interview Techniques