

Weekly communication to Parents/Carers

Friday 25 September 2026



St Katherine's Website



Term dates



Termly newsletters



PE calendar

Message from Mr Humphreys

I wanted to share a glimpse of the atmosphere we experienced during our Open Evening last night.

We were pleased to welcome more than 800 prospective students and their parents and carers to St Katherine's. There was a real buzz around the school as visitors explored our classrooms, met staff and students, and found out more about what life at St Katherine's has to offer.

Through guided tours, visitors were able to see the breadth of opportunities available to our students - from academic pathways and enrichment to leadership, music, sport and outdoor education.

The highlight of the evening for me was seeing our students representing the school so confidently. Bea and Felix, our Head Students, and our Year 7 students (three weeks into their St Katherine's journey) Felix, Naomi, Ava and Regan all spoke brilliantly about their first 14 days! Eve and Audrey also gave fantastic musical performances.

Alongside them, many other students gave up their evening to lead tours, welcome visitors and answer questions. Our students really are incredible ambassadors for St Katherine's, representing the school with such confidence and pride.

It was also a great opportunity to step back and reflect on just how much we offer our students each week at St Katherine's. There are so many opportunities to learn, discover new interests, develop confidence and try something different, and we really encourage all of our students to get fully involved in school life and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

A huge thank you to all of the students and staff who supported the evening and gave their time to make it such a success.

We are St Katherine's.

Whole School messages

School	Whole School	Coffee with the Headteacher - Friday 2 October 2026 from 0900-1000 In order for us to provide catering, please email school@skdrive.org if you would like to attend. The meeting is an opportunity to meet informally with Mr Humphreys and Mr Harding, Chair of Governors to discuss key themes and feedback around the quality of education.
School	Whole School	Keeping Children Safe: The dangers of entering derelict and unused buildings We have recently become aware of an increase in reports of children and young people accessing derelict, abandoned and unused buildings. In particular, locations around Broadmead, houses in Pill and further afield Weston have attracted attention and may be viewed by some as places to explore or visit. We understand that social media platforms, including TikTok have popularised "urban exploring" or "urbex". Whilst these videos can make such locations appear exciting or harmless, the reality is that abandoned buildings present significant dangers and can place children and young people at serious risk of injury.

		The Risks and Dangers Derelict and disused buildings can contain a wide range of hazards, including: • Unstable floors, staircases, walls and roofs that may collapse without warning. • Broken glass, exposed metal and sharp debris that can cause serious injuries. • Open lift shafts, basements, holes and concealed drops. • Unsafe structures that have deteriorated over time and have not been maintained. • Hazardous materials such as asbestos, chemicals, mould, contaminated water or other substances that can cause long-term health issues. • Fire risks, electrical hazards and unsafe machinery or equipment. • Areas that may have limited mobile phone signal or restricted access, making it difficult to call for help in an emergency. Many of these dangers are not immediately visible, meaning that buildings that appear safe from the outside can be extremely unsafe once entered. Legal Considerations Children and young people should also be aware that entering private property without permission may constitute trespassing and, where entry is gained by forcing access or causing damage, may involve criminal offences such as criminal damage or breaking and entering. Such incidents may result in police involvement and can place young people at further risk. What Parents and Carers Can Do We encourage parents and carers to: • Talk openly with their children about the dangers. • Discuss the influence of social media challenges and trends, and remind young people that videos posted online often do not show the real risks involved. • Encourage children to meet friends and spend time in safe, supervised environments. • Report concerns to school and the police. • Remind children that if they see others entering unsafe premises, they should not follow them and should leave the area immediately. As always, please share any concerns you have with safeguarding@skdrive.org so that we are able to make parents aware, provide education for the children involved and help keep everyone safe.
School	Whole School	Reminder • Paracetamol is only given at break and lunch times, with consent. • Please ensure students with hayfever, take medicines before attending school. • All students need to come to school with a water bottle. • Nose piercings to be covered at all times.

Year 7

Library Ms Wyld	Year 7	It's an exciting term to be in Yr7 with 2 bookish events to look forward to! The annual Roald Dahl Day lunchtime quiz will take place on 14th October. Madness & fun for all, as well as house points and prizes. Sign up your team in the Library. I am also starting to introduce BookBuzz to students, which invites every Yr7 student to choose a free book from a fantastic range of 16 titles. Once our order arrives in a few weeks time it really does create a lovely buzz around school & do talk with your child about their chosen book.
Library Ms Wyld	Year 7	I'm also starting to introduce Yr7 students to Accelerated Reader, which structures our Library lessons. Please check out the short guide for parents here. If you have any questions please contact wyldl@skdrive.org
Trailblazers Miss Adams	Year 7	Trailblazers teachers have been in direct communication with all families to inform you of lesson days and times. Please liaise with them directly going forward. For any questions regarding the scheme in general please contact musicadmin@skdrive.org or Miss Adams on adamsa@skdrive.org

		Forms regarding instrument insurance will be coming to you shortly (via email) so please keep a look out for this. Once we have confirmation of insurance students will be allowed to take their instruments home to practice and show you what they have been doing in their lessons.
Food and Nutrition Miss Layton	Year 7	ONLY FOR THOSE STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THE FOOD ROTATION Practical lessons Below are the practical lessons taking place this week. Monday 28th September -7r Pizza toast Here is a copy of the breakdown of the lessons for the whole rotation.

Year 8

Library Ms Wyld	Year 8	Our Yr8 students continue to use Accelerated Reader to structure Library lessons. Please check out the short guide for parents here . If you have any questions please contact wyldl@skdrive.org
Food and Nutrition Mrs Jenkins	Year 8	ONLY FOR THOSE STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THE FOOD ROTATION Practical lessons Below are the practical lessons taking place this week. Wednesday 30th September -8r Stir fry Here is a copy of the breakdown of the lessons for the whole rotation.
Science	Year 8	All students have had Sparx science revision lists and codes issued on the google classroom. These are designed to help student prepare for their assessments in the w/c 12th October. Copies can also be viewed using these links: biology , chemistry and physics

Year 9

Food and Nutrition Mrs Jenkins	Year 9	ONLY FOR THOSE STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THE FOOD ROTATION Practical lessons Below are the practical lessons taking place this week. Tuesday 6th October - 9r Fajitas Friday 9th October - 9l Fajitas Here is a copy of the breakdown of the lessons for the whole rotation.
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Year 10

Engineering	Year 10	Students are expected to work on their coursework at home or in their own time for at least one hour per week. In order to help with this we offer before school (everyday from 8:00-8:30), breaktime/lunchtime (everyday) and afterschool (varies weekly, your child's teacher will confirm) sessions for them to stay up to date.
Work Experience Mrs A Fey	Year 10	 Year 10 WEX week - 5th - 9th July 2027 Deadline to secure placement and add to Unifrog - Tuesday 23rd February 2027 Students have been encouraged to start reaching out to employers as soon as possible. Placements book up fast so it's key to start early. All students have been invited to join the WEX Google Classroom which contains key resources, information and WEX opportunities. I will be posting WEX opportunities weekly and would encourage students to check the classroom regularly. Please encourage your child to join the WEX Google Classroom - an invite has been sent out on Class Charts to both students and parents. The code for students to join is a2fuaxhx WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK:

		Burges Salmon Law Firm - please click here for more information If you have any questions or concerns about WEX please check the WEX FAQ document, visit the school WEX webpage (in the process of being updated) or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org
Textiles Miss. Everard	Year 10	Year 10 have made a great start to their Textiles GCSE. The focus at the moment is on improving sewing machine skills and gaining confidence and autonomy. Students are using their sewing machine techniques to create fabric samples, and they are looking at the work of textile artists to inspire their responses. Students will need to spend a minimum of one hour on homework every week. Homework is set on Classcharts, and is also on Google Classroom. Your child may work in R13 at the following times: - After school on Thursdays 1500 - 1600 Room 13 - Thursday lunchtime each week. Please encourage your child to attend supported sessions, it is so helpful for them having access to equipment and materials. Thank you for your support.
English	Year 10	Please find the wider reading for this week here .
Silver DofE	Year 10	The sign up for Silver Duke of Edinburgh has begun Join the classroom by clicking on this link where you can watch the information video recorded during the meeting and complete the form. Or you can complete the form here and pay the deposit on Parent Pay.
Year 11		
Engineering	Year 11	Students are expected to work on their coursework at home or in their own time for at least one hour per week. In order to help with this we offer before school (everyday from 8:00-8:30), breaktime/lunchtime (everyday) and afterschool (varies weekly, your child's teacher will confirm) sessions for them to stay up to date.
Textiles Miss. Everard	Year 11	Another productive week for Y11 Textiles! Many of your young people are showing great initiative and sense of purpose with their Personal Projects. It is very important that students are making the most of every lesson and completing homework, as there are now just 5 school weeks until their Mock Exam on November 11th. Students have been issued with an A4 size paper timetable, setting out exactly what is happening each week - what they need to focus on, and also detailing the upcoming homeworks, enabling them to plan ahead if they wish. Students will need to spend a minimum of one hour on homework every week. They can find their HW instructions on classcharts. Your child may work in R13 at the following times: - After school on Thursdays 15:05 - 16:05 Room 13 - Thursday lunchtime each week - 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. Thank you for your support.
Music Miss Adams	Year 11	Students have been asked to bring in their music for the pieces they are planning to perform for their solo and ensemble performances on Monday 28th September. Solo performance will take place in November and ensemble performance will take place in January (exact dates tbc). Any questions about this please contact me: adamsa@skdrive.org
English	Year 11	Please find the wider reading for this week here .

Food Preparation and Nutrition	Year 11	We have now started the first piece of coursework - NEA 1. Please can you encourage and support your child to meet the deadlines outlined in the email sent. On a Wednesday lunchtime, there will be support available to students in room 11.
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Sixth Form

School	Year 12	Year 12 WEX week - 14th - 18th June 2027 Deadline to secure placement and add to Unifrog - Tuesday 23rd February 2027 Students have been encouraged to start reaching out to employers as soon as possible. Placements book up fast so it's key to start early. All students have been invited to join the WEX Google Classroom which contains key resources, information and WEX opportunities. I will be posting WEX opportunities weekly and would encourage students to check the classroom regularly. Please prompt your child to join the WEX Google Classroom - The code for students to join is 3biamwyc WEX OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK: Burges Salmon Law Firm - please click here for more information (Please note this runs outside of the official WEX week. If your child secures a place they will need to speak with 6th form regarding authorisation to attend) If you have any questions or concerns about WEX please check the WEX FAQ document, visit the school WEX webpage (in the process of being updated) or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org
Silver DofE	Year 12	The sign up for Silver Duke of Edinburgh has begun Join the classroom by clicking on this link where you can watch the information video recorded during the meeting and complete the form. Or you can complete the form here and pay the deposit on Parent Pay.

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



Parents

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 1

29 September	0835-1505 7S2 Trip to Sugar Loaf
29 September	0835-1505 Y8 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)

29 September	0900-1100 Open Morning
30 September	0835-1505 Y9 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)
30 September	0900-1100 Open Morning
1 October	0900-1100 Open Morning
2 October	0835-1505 7T1 Trip to Sugar Loaf
2 October	0900-1000 Coffee with the Headteacher
2 October	0930-1600 Y13 Trip to We the Curious
6 October	0835-1505 7T2 Trip to Sugar Loaf
6 October	09.00-14.45 Y9 Trip to Folly Farm (9P, 9S2, 9T2)
6 October	0900-1100 Open Morning
7 October	09.00-14.45 Y9 Trip to Folly Farm (9S1, 9Y 9T1)
7 October	0900-1100 Open Morning
7 October	Sixth Form Open Evening
7 October	0835-1505 Y10 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)
8 October	11.00-14.55 Y11 Bristol Harbourside - Geography GCSE Human Field Work
8 October	Y7 Flu vaccination clinic
9 October	0835-1505 7Y Trip to Sugar Loaf
12 October	Bouldering Competition
12 October	0835-1505 Y11 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (2 students)
13 October	0835-1505 7P Trip to Sugar Loaf
14 October	1700-1830 Y11 Information evening (in person)
15 October	0900-1450 Y10 & Y11 GCSE Textiles Trip to RWA Open Exhibition and Bristol Museum
21 October	End of Term 1 at 1505
22-24 October	Gold DoF Practice Expedition