

## Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 16 July 2021

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

It has been a sad end to a very unusual year with so many students unable to attend from last week and naturally, this has impacted on this week across the school. This is not how any of us would wish to end the school year which we usually celebrate together in the Sports Hall in our much loved school assemblies, despite the hard sports hall floor! The coming together, the celebration, the inspiring messages are just not the same delivered by video - or at least I have not learnt the art of communicating inspiration on video.

However, our House Leaders have shared multiple weekly videos reflecting on the trials and tribulations of the weeks and terms, along with the school celebrating the House Championship on Wednesday morning this week - it was certainly a strange occasion for Mr Cook as he went through proceedings from his quiet PE office, hearing no reaction to the results! Well done to Turing House for taking the cup this year. Well deserved and Mr Thomas is left pondering the lost opportunities of some sports through this year - the year it got away!

We celebrated Malala Yousafzai's Birthday on Tuesday and I hope all students at home and at school got an opportunity to view the lovely video from Yousafzai House students, narrating [Malala's journey](#) and providing a point of reflection on how students value their education. We celebrated [Emmeline Pankhurst's birthday](#) yesterday with students learning about the origins of the suffragette movement and its legacy in the world - progress is ongoing. The successful tutor groups were reward with some truly stunning Pankhurst cupcakes, baked by our very own world class baker, Mrs Robinson.

Working with young people is a privileged position to be in and this year it has been tough witnessing some of the effects on young people. Our school counsellor, Mrs Fenton has shared some useful resources to help us continue to support our young people - [please take a look](#). We know with great support all our young people will continue to thrive and September is a great new beginning for us all at St Katherine's and we cannot wait to get underway.

We are excited to be running Trailblazers next year which is a great opportunity for your child to consider a musical instrument along with the joy and benefits this brings to young people. Full details below and there is a sign up form within the letter.

- A [letter](#) introducing the scheme
- A [video](#) from Mr Nicholls, Director of Music Specialism across the CST Trust
- Some [demo videos](#) from some of the instrumental teachers

Our plans for concerts and events next year are underway and we are really looking forward to putting these events back on the calendar.

We shared our plans for September this week which I trust provides clarity for the start of term. **Please note Year 12 students are not expected in school on Monday 6 September their first day of school is on Tuesday 7 September.** With such a disrupted end to the term with attendance being significantly impacted this week, please share the details with your child/ren.

**A few important reminders:**

#### **Lateral Flow Tests**

All students will be asked to complete two tests, 3-5 days apart upon their return. To ensure that we have up-to-date consent records, we are asking for your consent for these tests to be carried out. Please see Miss Richard's message below. Even if you provided consent in March, please indicate again whether you consent to these lateral flow tests being completed on school site in September. **If we do not hear from you by 31 August 2021 then we will assume the consent you gave in March is correct.**

#### **Results Days**

We look forward to celebrating results with students in August. Please can your child/ren take a lateral flow device test the night before to ensure you are not putting others at risk when collecting their results.

Looking forward to September with optimism and a new beginning for us all.

Wishing all our families a safe and restful summer break.

Mr Humphreys  
Headteacher

### **Year 11 and Year 13 Updates.**

Results will be available for collection at the following times:

- Year 13 - Tuesday 10 August from 9 am
- Year 11 - Thursday 12 August from 9 am

## WHO TO CONTACT AT ST KATHERINE'S

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

## MESSAGES

Mrs Crocker	All years	<p><b>Mental Health and Wellbeing support during the summer holidays.</b></p> <p>There are services available to students and their families during the summer holidays.</p> <p>Kooth offers free online counselling and support for young people. You can access their support <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>In addition Kooth has information for North Somerset parents that you can book a place on via this <a href="#">link</a>.</p> <p>Off the Record OTR is a mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11-25. They have a Bristol website which you can find <a href="#">here</a> and have a new service for North Somerset young people that you can find <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
Mr Francis Black	All years	<p>We are acutely aware of how the pandemic has disrupted our usual reporting structures through the year and we look forward to our regular and revised reporting from the start of the next academic year. We acknowledge families value this communication to ensure their child/ren are on track and apologise for any frustration this has caused.</p> <p>We have been carefully considering the accuracy of assessment during the disruption to ensure any reported data is fair and valid based on the student</p>

		<p>experience. We would not wish to report on data which we are not confident with which might raise further concerns and levels of anxieties with students and families.</p> <p>To remedy this we scheduled Term 6 mock exams for Years 10 and 12 and standardised assessments in the core subjects for all Key Stage 3 year groups. Frustratingly, this has again been disrupted and as a result we have been unable to collect the full range of evidence for all students. We intend to address this in September and will report to families on these key progress indicators within Term 1.</p> <p>We have learnt from the unusual process of Centre Assessed Grades this year for Year 11 and Year 13, and we will be using the benefits this process has delivered in our ongoing assessment structures from September.</p> <p>Our updated curriculum guides will clearly outline the assessment that each year group can expect in each subject. The structure of our reports will also change next year as we relate student progress to both their prior performance on standardised tests and the age expected standard.</p> <p>Reflecting on this year and the feedback from families, we will be introducing a mixed model for progress evenings with some families invited for face to face meetings whilst others make use of the successful online meetings that we trialled this year. Full information will follow in September.</p>
Ms Wyld	All years	<p><b>Reading is the single most powerful thing your child can do to support their learning over the summer holidays.</b> Our e-platform, with audio books and e-books, is available all summer. See our <a href="#">library links</a> for more info. Any questions, please email me <a href="mailto:wildi@skdrive.org">wildi@skdrive.org</a> or our incredible librarian Lucy Wyld <a href="mailto:wylidl@skdrive.org">wylidl@skdrive.org</a>. We also urge you to use your local public library.</p>
Miss Richards	All years	<p><b>Important: Covid-19 onsite testing in September</b></p> <p>We have been informed by the Department for Education that we are expected to implement on site Covid-19 testing once again. <b>Each student will be asked to complete two tests, 3-5 days apart upon their return.</b> Testing will be carried out by students and supervised by a trained adult. Due to this, we will begin the year with a staggered re-opening to ensure that we can test students on their return. <b>We will share details of the staggered start shortly.</b></p> <p><b>Consent</b></p> <p>To ensure that we have up-to-date consent records, we are asking for your consent for these tests to be carried out. <b>Even if you provided consent in March, please indicate <a href="#">here</a> again whether you consent to these lateral flow tests being completed on school site in September.</b> Please fill out one form per child.</p> <p><b>Parent Support</b></p> <p>Our successful testing programme in March was only made possible thanks to the fantastic support of parent volunteers. We are currently preparing to test students on Friday 3 September, Monday 13 September and during the week commencing Monday 6 September. <b>If you are willing and able to support with this testing, please let us know below.</b></p> <p>Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our whole community as safe as possible.</p>
Mr Maw	All years	<p>As you renew uniform and equipment for next year, please ensure that your child has a water bottle to bring with them to school. A reminder that school shoes</p>

		<p>should be black and polishable. Trainers, boots and daps are not acceptable footwear. For the avoidance of any doubt, Nike Air Force 1s are not acceptable footwear.</p> <p>For our new Year 7s, 8s and 9s - if you would like to come to school to try on the new skirts/trousers before September, we will be able to accommodate you on the 9, 10 or 11 August. Please email <a href="mailto:grocockn@skdrive.org">grocockn@skdrive.org</a> to book a time.</p>																											
Mrs Weatherson	All years Photography	<p><b>There are some fantastic competitions that you can be a part of whether you study the subject (yet) or not.</b> Please check out the RSPCA young photographer awards: <a href="https://young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/home">https://young.rspca.org.uk/ypa/home</a></p> <p>There will also be the opportunity to enter the Rotary Competition again next academic year - the theme will be: colours of nature. Please see our success this year: <a href="https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=827693&amp;ClubID=618">https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=827693&amp;ClubID=618</a></p>																											
School	All years	<p><b>Wednesday Week 2 amended dates in the <a href="#">Parent/Carer handbook</a></b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Term 1</th> <th>Term 2</th> <th>Term 3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>15 September</td> <td>3 November</td> <td>12 January</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29 September</td> <td>17 November</td> <td>26 January</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13 October</td> <td>1 December</td> <td>9 February</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>15 December</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th>Term 4</th> <th>Term 5</th> <th>Term 6</th> </tr> <tr> <td>2 March</td> <td>27 April</td> <td>15 June</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16 March</td> <td>11 May</td> <td>29 June</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30 March</td> <td>25 May</td> <td>13 July</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	15 September	3 November	12 January	29 September	17 November	26 January	13 October	1 December	9 February		15 December		Term 4	Term 5	Term 6	2 March	27 April	15 June	16 March	11 May	29 June	30 March	25 May	13 July
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Miss Richards	Years 7-10	<p><b>We have shared a summer learning pack with students, linking key learning from the year and looking ahead to topics that will be covered in September.</b> They also contain a range of screen free ideas and activities for the great outdoors. These packs are available in students' tutor google classroom and are linked here:</p> <p><a href="#">Year 7</a>  <a href="#">Year 8</a>  <a href="#">Year 9</a>  <a href="#">Year 10</a></p> <p>Whilst these packs are optional, it will be great for students to work through these packs to help consolidate their learning and prepare for September.</p>																											
Miss Gardiner	Year 9	<p><b>Work Experience for the Year 10's will be happening next year, 4-8 July 2022.</b> If you could spend the summer having a think about and researching employers and companies of where your child would like to go that would be great. Work Experience (WEX) will be officially launched to Year 10 in September. Placements will go fast and it is good to get a head start before the official launch. Any questions please email <a href="mailto:gardiniers@skdrive.org">gardiniers@skdrive.org</a></p>																											
Mrs Weatherson	GCSE photography	<p><b>Last week</b> for our virtual exhibition. If you have not visited our page and seen this incredible work yet, please make sure you do.</p> <p><a href="https://hwmedia.wixsite.com/stkatherinesmedia/gcse-photography-virtual-exhibition">https://hwmedia.wixsite.com/stkatherinesmedia/gcse-photography-virtual-exhibition</a></p>																											
Miss Adams	Current Year 7 students	<p>Thank you to all who have expressed an interest in learning a woodwind or brass instrument through our brand new <b>trailblazers</b> scheme for next year by</p>																											



*Learning together, succeeding together, inspiring excellence*



	and current Year 6 students	submitting their google form. We will be in touch at the start of next academic year with the details.
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### LETTERS - click [here](#) to see all letters from this academic year

All years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arrangements for September</li><li>• Parent/Carer Handbook</li><li>• Travel on the X4s</li></ul>
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### UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

Thursday 2 September Friday 3 September	INSET DAY (closed to all students) INSET DAY. Year 12 and Year 13 to attend on site testing from 1pm.
Monday 6 September	START OF TERM 1 -Staggered return Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13
Tuesday 7 September Wednesday 8 September Thursday 9 September	Year 7, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 Year 7, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 Year 8 and all other year groups