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Term 2 - December 2025

Message from Mr Humphreys, Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, we are incredibly proud of how our students have approached school life with respect, responsibility, and resilience. Despite some early term disruptions, students have remained focused, supportive of one another, and committed to making the most of every opportunity. Their positive attitudes, combined with the dedication of our staff and the continued support of families, have made this term truly successful and full of memorable experiences.

This term has been rich with learning, enrichment, and community engagement. Students engaged thoughtfully with Anti-Bullying Week, reflecting on how they can make a positive difference, and observed Remembrance with maturity and respect. Year 10 explored effective revision strategies, preparing themselves for the exam challenges ahead, while Year 11 approached mock examinations and Futures Day with determination, engaging with career pathways, apprenticeship opportunities, and motivational workshops. Our students enjoyed author visits, theatre trips to see Jack and the Beanstalk, and gallery visits to the Royal West of England Academy, alongside the launch of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which offers exciting opportunities to develop new skills, confidence, and teamwork for our older students.

Students also demonstrated responsibility and leadership during the Sixth Form Open Evening, welcoming prospective families with enthusiasm and professionalism, and contributed to the Pill Food

Hub Christmas Appeal, showing compassion and generosity. Year 7 students built confidence, resilience, and teamwork through outdoor education activities such as climbing Sugar Loaf, while Winter House Sport, assemblies, and tutor activities promoted wellbeing, engagement, and collaboration across all year groups. Assemblies this term have reinforced our shared values, focusing on punctuality, positive behaviour, and the importance of being present and fully engaged in school life.

As we approach the end of term, we wish everyone a joyful, restful, and safe Christmas break and look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready to embrace the opportunities of the new term.

Best wishes for the festive season

Justin Humphreys, Headteacher



In November our A Level Art students had a fantastic trip to Tate Modern and the National Portrait Gallery in London, exploring world-class artworks with real excitement.

Their enthusiasm was brilliant as they sketched, photographed and absorbed creative ideas throughout the galleries. Students returned inspired, armed with fresh visual research to feed directly into their coursework.

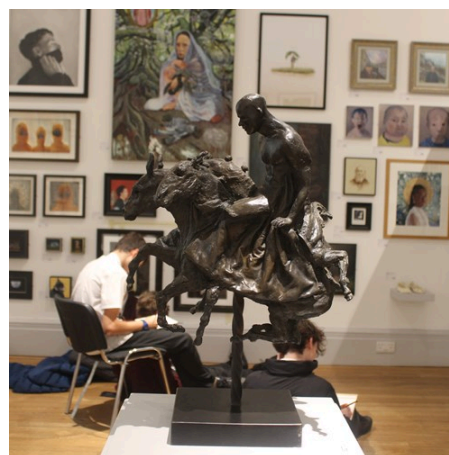
Ms Tallis, Head of Art

We had a fabulous art trip with exam groups to the RWA and Bristol Museum on Wednesday 10th December - there was so much creativity on display whilst students worked with focus and energy drawing in the galleries.

Year 12 and Year 10 students displayed outstanding behaviour, were curious and fully engaged all day. They gathered a huge amount of inspiration for their GCSE and A Level coursework.

One student told us that they had said to their parent that they would never go to an art gallery or museum but they had changed their mind now! Many of the students shared with us that they plan to visit galleries regularly now.

Ms Tallis, Head of Art





On 16th December the Year 11 House Leaders met with representatives from Aspen's catering company to discuss feedback from Student Voice regarding the school canteen. The discussion focused on ways to improve food choices for the entire school community, including increasing variety, ensuring value for money, and expanding the range of healthy options available. We are excited to see what the future holds!

Mrs Humphries, Assistant Headteacher

Year 7 students had a wonderful experience attending the infamous pantomime at the Bristol Hippodrome this December. We sang, we laughed we were in awe at the very spectacle! Students embraced the audience participation and were fully invested in the story, music and drama. Year 7 were an absolute credit to St Katherine's school and I am so proud of how they conducted themselves. What a privilege to enable experiences like these!

Mrs Collins, Head of Performing Arts



Year 7 conquer Sugar Loaf mountain

Year 7 recently took on the challenge of climbing Y Fal, also known as Sugar Loaf Mountain, with each tutor group spending the day exploring the outdoors and discovering what they were capable of. The trip was a powerful opportunity for students to show resilience, determination, and courage in real time.

The conditions on the mountain tested everyone differently. Some groups were met with harsh winds, driving rain, and slippery paths, yet students pushed on with impressive perseverance.

Even when the weather made the climb tougher, they kept going, encouraging one another and refusing to give up. Reaching the summit under those conditions gave many a genuine sense of achievement and pride. Others faced their own personal challenges, from managing tired legs to overcoming nerves during sections that required scrambling.

At the same time, the mountain offered moments of reward: bursts of sunshine, beautiful autumnal colours, and sweeping views that appeared through gaps in the clouds.

Students supported friends who were finding the climb tough, shared encouragement, and learned how to rely on one another. By the end of the trip, they had not only completed a physical challenge but also strengthened their confidence, their relationships, and their ability to persevere when things get hard.

Unfortunately, due to some severe weather conditions, 7P1's trip will be rescheduled for the spring time.

The experience will stay with them, giving Year 7 a memorable example of how resilience, teamwork, and a positive mindset can help them overcome challenges both on and off the mountain.

Mr Hodgson, Outdoor Education Lead

It's been another fantastic year of growing moustaches in support of the Men's Health Charity Movember. The St Katherine's team raised an incredible £1218! Thank you to Head Student Theeban Mahesan for organising the team and to everyone who participated and donated.





Pill Food Hub Christmas Appeal - Everyone Deserves Christmas

This year we once again supported the Pill Food Bank's efforts to make sure everyone gets a gift this Christmas. Each tutor group selected a star gift tag and then worked together to fundraise for a gift for the person described on the card. The presents went under our Christmas tree in main reception before being delivered to the Food Hub. As always, we are grateful for the support of the Pill Food Hub and all they do to support families in our community that are facing financial difficulties.

On Tuesday 11th November, students from Years 11, 12 and 13, along with staff, continued to mark an important anchor in our school calendar. Sixth Form students led our act of Remembrance reading Wilfred Owen's poem *Dulce Et Decorum Est*, the Last Post was played and two minutes of silence observed.



Christmas Card Competition

Ms Tallis organised our annual Christmas Card competition and once again we were bowled over by the high quality of entries - difficult to choose the winners! House points were awarded to entries, the overall winner was [Emily Brosa](#) (10Y).

Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to:

Pankhurst: 1st [Lily Hutchison Rosario](#) (9P1), [2nd Polina Plaksina](#) (7P1) and 3rd [Hollie-May Gregory](#) (7P1)

Stephenson: 1st [Emily Ralph](#) (9S), 2nd [Charlie Stokes](#) (8S1) and 3rd [Livie Richardson](#) (9S)

Turing: 1st [Tom Hillitt](#) (10T1), 2nd [Thishi Thiruchenthuran](#) (8T1) and 3rd [Lili Solymosi and Amelia Taylor](#) (10T1)

Yousafzai: 1st [Emily Brosa](#) (10Y), 2nd [Hollie Millet](#) (10Y) and 3rd [Mya Chambers](#) (9Y2)

Overall house winner: 1st: Yousafzai 2nd: Stephenson 3rd: Turing 4th: Pankhurst

Miss Nattress organised a house competition to design a decoration to hang on the school Christmas tree. We had fantastic entries from both students and staff, congratulations to:

Overall winner: [Alfie Elwell](#)

Best house theme: [Isla Speed](#)

Most creative: [Oscar Watteau](#)

Highly commended: [Charlie Stokes](#)

Most entries: Yousafzai



Once again St Katherine's students have been getting both creative and competitive, working in tutor group teams to decorate a blank wooden Christmas tree. House points were awarded for meeting a number of criteria: creativity, uniqueness, reusable, eye catching and bonus points for being house themed! Well done to everyone for participating enthusiastically in the competition and to the winners in the following categories:

Overall winner: [7Y2](#)

Most creative: [10T2](#)

Most eco-friendly: [7Y1](#)

Headteacher's choice: [7S](#)

House rankings: 1st Stephenson, 2nd Yousafzai, 3rd Turing and 4th Pankhurst

During the penultimate week of term, we gathered as a school community to sing carols together; this included staff, students and parents. The school brass group accompanied the carols. We had a performance from the school choir and Freya Smith sang a solo of the first verse of Once in Royal David's City which was stunning. We heard readings of the Christmas story telling us how Jesus was born and how the angels, shepherds and wise men came to worship him.

We enjoyed hot chocolate and brownies and raised £60 for the Pill Food Bank. Thank you to all those came and supported the event. From the Christian Union, have a very Merry Christmas!

Mrs Holmes, Teacher of Science



St Katherine's School put on their very first Christmas Cabaret this December! With a variety of singing, dancing, acting and story telling with spoken word, students across years 7 to 13 really sparkled. The talent was exceptional and the professionalism matched. Drama and music have a wonderful and spectacular way of bringing the whole school community together and with the support of family and friends it truly was a night to remember. I am so proud of every individual who brought something special to our amazing performance. I wanted to take a moment to thank Miss Adams and Mr Francis-Black for supporting and curating this event alongside me, it really was a huge team effort. Giving students experiences and opportunities in the arts is invaluable and something I feel so passionate about - memories to last a lifetime!

Mrs Collins, Head of Performing Arts

Huge thanks to Mrs Sharp and the fantastic team catering team for serving nearly 600 Christmas dinners on Thursday!



Success in the Ovid in the West Country Competition

We're delighted to celebrate the achievements of Orson Edwards and Carys Weidner, who both represented our school brilliantly in this year's Ovid in the West Country competition, accompanied and supported by Ms Campbell.

Orson impressed judges with a beautifully crafted short story told from the Minotaur's perspective - a thoughtful and imaginative re-telling of a classic myth that showcased real narrative skill and emotional depth.

Carys submitted a striking and expressive artistic collage depicting the fall of Icarus. Her piece combined bold visual storytelling with a sensitive interpretation of the myth's themes.

A huge well done to both students for their creativity, hard work, and dedication to the



Singers shine at the LEAP concert

On Wednesday 19th November St Katherine's School choir performed alongside musicians from The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire as part of the LEAP concerts at Trinity Academy. Rehearsal time on the day was minimal and our students rose to the challenge brilliantly through listening to staff and focussing on the music. We performed a diverse range of songs including opera (Toreador), Queen (Bohemian Rhapsody) and even some EDM (Dua Lipa's Don't Start Now). I had so many positive comments from CST staff and musicians from the conservatoire about how well our young singers performed. I was so proud of you all and you were a pleasure to spend the day with.

Miss Adams, Head of Music

arts. We are incredibly proud!

Ms Campbell, Teacher of English

On 16th December we enjoyed a really engaging talk from Tom Mitchell, a former St Kath's student. Tom worked for FIFA for five years and is now working on his PhD. Tom was highly inspirational for our students. He shared his clear 10-year career plan, which he had mapped out from Year 11, and explained how his career developed over time. The students asked many thoughtful and engaging questions and were inspired by his commitment and dedication.



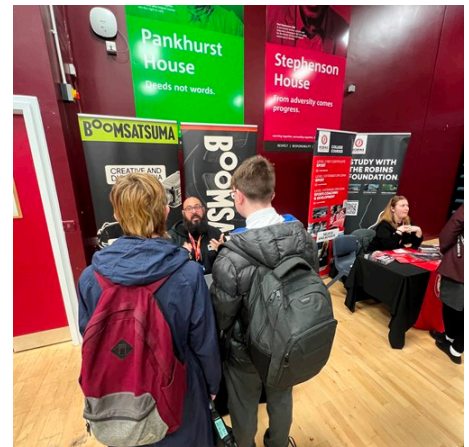
In November we welcomed Christian, a former policeman turned university lecturer, to deliver a session on criminology and the psychology of lying during Year 12 enrichment.

He explained to students about what it takes to study criminology - breaking down the key concepts and skills needed to understand criminal behavior. Christian also tested our students on their own ability to lie and taught them the fascinating science behind spotting deception in real-life situations, like how to identify a liar during police interrogations.

Huge thanks to Christian for this incredible learning opportunity!

Year 11 students attended a Post-16 Careers Event held in the Theatre. The event gave students the opportunity to meet a wide range of providers offering placements for September 2026. Representatives attended from City of Bristol College, Weston College, Boomsatsuma, Norland Nannies, Onsite Apprenticeships, Reflections Hair, Bristol School of Acting, Bristol Robins and many others.

The event was highly successful, allowing students to engage with multiple providers in one place. Students were able to ask questions, explore their options, and were given the opportunity to make applications to their chosen destinations following the event.





In November the Project Trust gave a virtual assembly to Year 12. Students heard all about the volunteering opportunities around the world that are open to them Post 18. Ellie, who did the presentation, told us about her experiences in Myanmar and what she gained from her year in teaching.

For further information about the Project Trust charity and their global opportunities see their website:

<https://bit.ly/4rlk7cS>



Sixth Form Update

I write to you on December 15th, 72 hours away from the biggest event in the calendar. The only thing that matters. That's right. The St Katherine's Sixth Form Tutor Room Christmas Decoration Competition™ is very nearly upon us.

Will 6GAB continue to reign supreme following last year's incredible Elf On A Shelf-themed effort? Will 6TH return to the throne? Will 6GF manage to top last year's actual (yes, actual) brass band performance? Or will the newbies, 6LH, gatecrash the medals in their first year? I actually can't sleep with anticipation. You'll find out the winners in Term 3.

Other than this, we've actually been quite busy this term. Once again, it's been packed with enrichment opportunities and outside speakers hoping to develop our Sixth Formers' understanding of a range of pathways and careers. We've had Sixth Form alumnus Fergus Creton deliver an engaging talk about his apprenticeship journey, Royal Holloway talk to students about studying in London, and TV producer Ruth Harris share her incredible experiences travelling the world via her work on the CBBC nature documentary series Deadly 60. We were also lucky enough to have Weston Uni lead a session on lie detectors whilst speaking about careers in public service and criminology.

Year 13 have been extremely busy balancing the impending UCAS deadline (14th January) with the impending internal and external exams (12th January), and we have done all we can to support them to do 'the hard yards' early on these, ensuring there is plenty of time to spend with friends and family over the Christmas break in amongst the revision.

We would also like to take a moment to congratulate our new Year 12 Deputy Head Students: Felix Huertas, Liam Davies, Beth Niemczyk and Bella Perales-Morris. We look forward to seeing your impact on the Sixth Form and the wider school community over the coming weeks and months.

Right, we need to go and wrap some cutlery for Christmas dinner. Have a restful break, and see you next year.

Mr Davies, Head of Sixth Form

Headteacher commendations

Key Stage 3

Year 7: Chloe Wade

Year 8: Wren Hutchins-Davies, Isabella Kealy, Henry Menadue, Nadia Ahmed, Charlotte Dickens, Amelia Johnson, Oskar Thomson and Hollie Ferguson

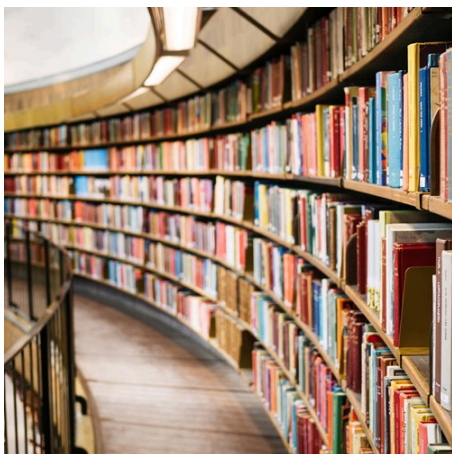
Year 9: Fenton Burbridge, Daisy Hendy James and Ella Bolton

Year 10: Eve Ward, Sebastian Montacute and Lola Dewing

Year 11: Olek Bonicki and Harry Challenger

Sixth Form: Chloe Elliott

News from the Library Resource Centre



Accelerated Reader

10 students reached a million words read this term - well done to

Chloe, 7Y2
Wren, 8P
Amelia, 8P
Isabella, 8P
Maya, 8S1
Henry, 8S1
Oskar, 8S1
Nadia, 8S2
Charlotte, 8S2
Hollie, 8T2

Everyone is now enjoying their canteen queue-skip wristbands and planning what to spend their book token on!

Sixth Form Reading Mentor scheme

Every year we offer our Sixth Formers the opportunity to support in Library lessons through reading with younger students. They really value the chance to be heard 1:1 and it can make a real difference to a young person. We have recruited and trained our new cohort who will be starting to come in to Library lessons very soon.

Surprise author event for Year

We were offered the opportunity to host author Alex Chisholm, and decided to run the event for all our Year 8 students. We gathered in the lecture theatre, and Alex did a brilliant session for us, showing us some inventions from the past and working out which whacky ones were actually real! His very different approach really fired up the audience and we loved hosting Alex! All his books are available to borrow from the Library, and are well-worth a try.



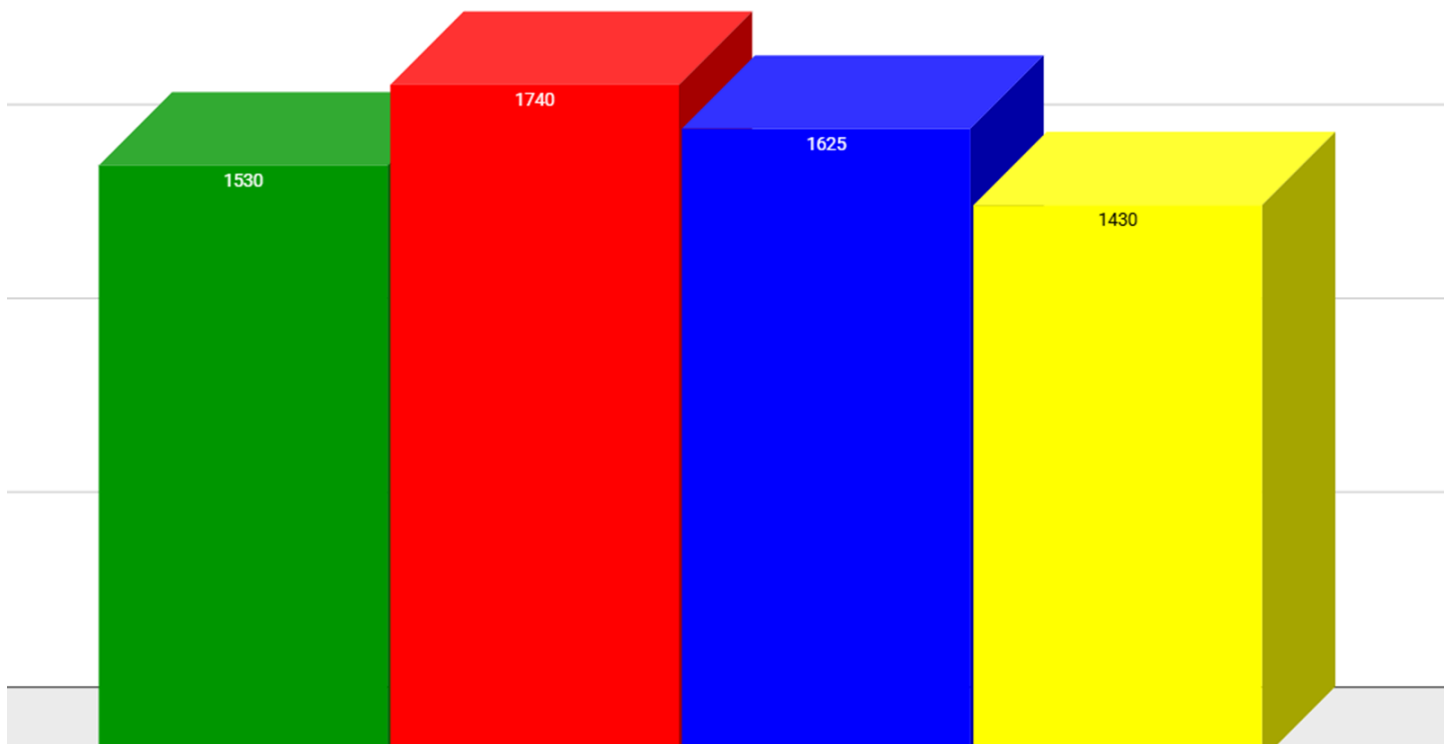
Book Buzz 2025



This brilliant project gives every Year 7 student the chance to choose a book to keep from a wide-ranging list. There's everything from great mysteries, adventure, funny and even graphic novels and non-fiction. Once everyone has chosen, we then have to wait patiently for our order to arrive, and this term saw students collecting their chosen title to enjoy a great read! Do ask your Year 7 child which one they chose.

Coming in 2026!

Did you know that 2026 has been designated as the Year of Reading by the government? We're already planning a range of events and activities, so keep a look out for how you can get involved!



House Championship Term 2

Term 2 has been an incredibly positive and energetic chapter in our House Championship at St Katherine's School, and it has been fantastic to see such a strong fighting and competitive spirit across the whole school. Hundreds of students have got involved this term, earning valuable points for their houses and truly embodying the sense of community and healthy competition that the House system promotes.

This term's ethos competition focused on **Punctuality**, while the values competition centred on **Resilience Points**. Both competitions saw impressive commitment from all houses, with Turing House taking the win in both categories. Congratulations to Turing on this achievement, and well done to all other houses who finished very close behind, highlighting just how competitive the championship remains.

Creativity has also been on full display this term. Stephenson and Yousafzai enjoyed success in the Christmas Tree Decoration competitions, bringing festive spirit and imagination into school. A special shoutout must go to 7Y2, who won the overall Christmas Tree competition with an outstanding and eye-catching entry - an excellent achievement.

On the sporting front, Pankhurst House have demonstrated real strength and determination, enjoying success across a number of sporting competitions this term and adding important points to their total.

As we look at the standings, Stephenson House are currently in the lead at the end of Term 2, but with the other houses so close behind, everything is still very much to play for.

I am extremely proud of all students who have got involved across every element of school life this term. Your enthusiasm, resilience, creativity, and teamwork are what make the House Championship such a success. I look forward to seeing this fantastic level of participation continue into the new year.

Mrs Humphries, Assistant Headteacher



Pankhurst House Update

Term 2 has been a busy and varied one for Pankhurst House, with students taking part in a wide range of academic, sporting, creative and community-focused competitions across the school. As ever, our

students have embodied the House values of Passion, Perseverance and Pride, consistently demonstrating our motto: "Deeds Not Words."

There was strong engagement in interhouse academic and creative events, including the Year 7 English Guidebooks project, the Tutor Christmas Tree competition, Christmas card and decoration challenges, and a number of fast-paced FFF activities such as Rock, Paper, Scissors, Speed Walking and Christmas Wrapping. These events showcased enthusiasm, teamwork and good-humoured competitiveness across year groups.

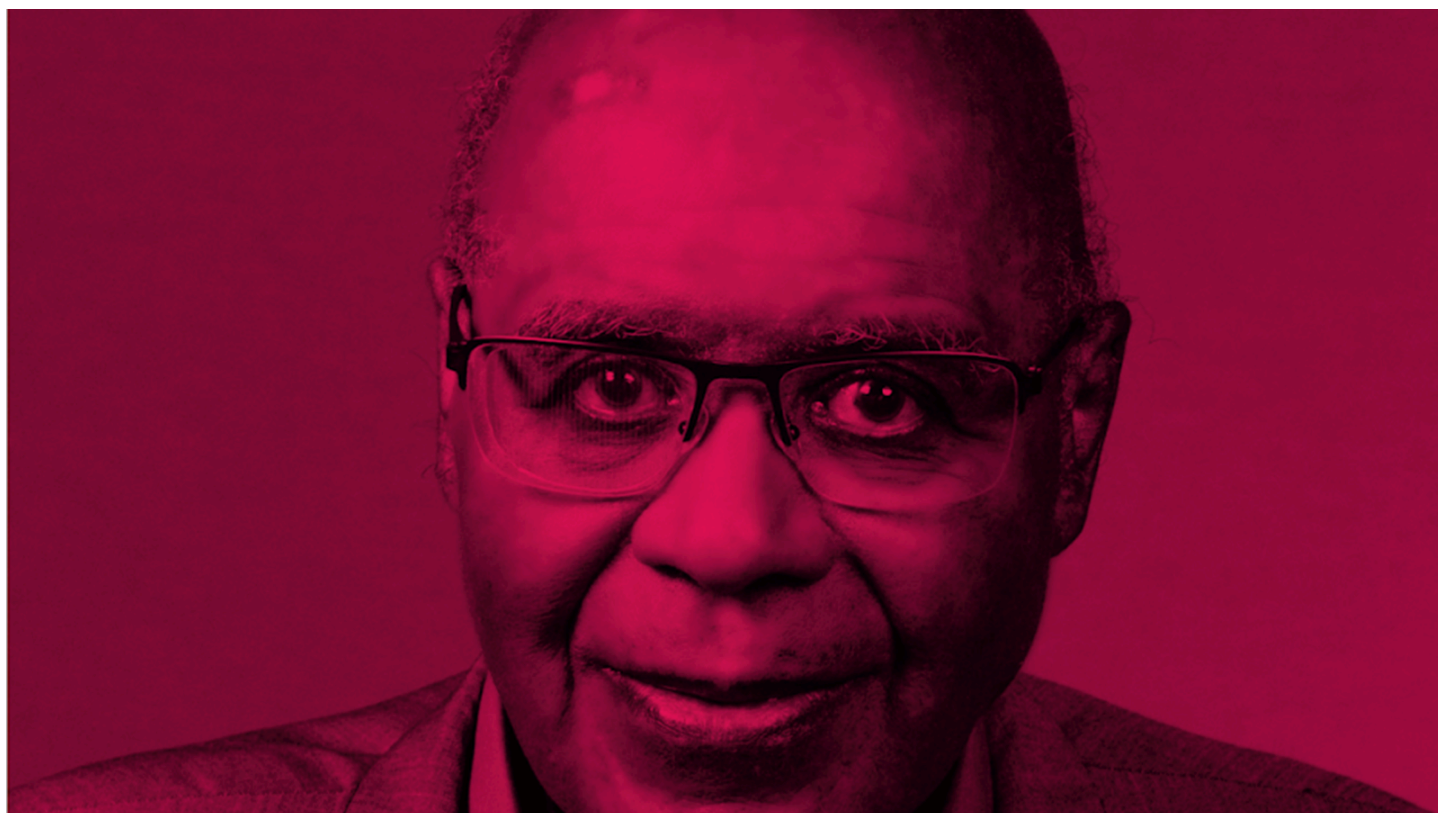
Pankhurst students also made a significant contribution to sporting competitions this term. Cross Country events across Years 7–11 saw determined performances throughout, with a particularly strong result in Year 11 Cross Country, where Pankhurst finished first. Netball and football fixtures were keenly contested across multiple year groups, with Pankhurst achieving a joint first place in Year 8 netball and football, reflecting both skill and teamwork.

Reading and learning beyond the classroom continued to be a focus this term. While the Reading Log competitions were competitive across houses, Pankhurst students showed steady commitment to independent reading, alongside participation in the Bucket List and Accelerated Reader challenges.

In our Ethos and Values competitions, Pankhurst students once again demonstrated that character matters. High levels of engagement in the Punctuality and Resilience challenges reflected our ongoing commitment to responsibility, consistency and personal growth - qualities that underpin success both in and out of the classroom.

Overall, Term 2 has been a strong and well-rounded one for Pankhurst House. Thank you to all students who took part - every entry, fixture and point earned contributes to our shared success. We look forward to building on this momentum in Term 3

Mr Murdoch, Head of Pankhurst House



Stephenson House Update

As we reach the end of term two and the evenings grow darker, I would like to reflect on the many achievements Stephenson House has celebrated. Across a wide range of activities - including sport, the arts, quizzes, and creative writing - our students have embraced every opportunity and consistently embodied our RED house values of resilience, equality and determination.

Early in term two, students in 11S faced their most demanding challenge to date with their mock examinations. I am delighted to report that they approached this period with maturity and professionalism, making significant progress in their preparation for the summer exams. Their efforts reinforce the important lesson that growth often comes through challenge. I would like to thank Ms Campbell for her unwavering support for her tutor group through this period.

I am also pleased to share that Stephenson House has regained our place at the top of the house championship standings as we approach Christmas, though competition from the other houses remains strong.

The term began on a high note with success in the Christmas card design competition - congratulations to Liv Richardson, Charlie Stokes and Emily Ralph. Building on this momentum, Stephenson House secured victory in the tutor tree competition thanks to amazing contributions from 7S, 9S and 10S2. Furthermore, we dominated the Christmas tree decoration competition with incredible efforts from Alfie Elwell, Charlotte Dickens, Caleb Sinton-Hewitt, Charlie Stokes and Vincent Hennessey-Price.

As an English teacher, I am particularly proud of the strong culture of reading that continues to grow within Stephenson House.

Finally, I would like to give a special mention to Maddison and Amelia Lovett. The Lovett sisters have done so well in their extra-curricular cheerleading endeavours that they have been invited to compete in Florida at the international championships in 2027.

With best wishes for the festive season,

Mr Court, Head of Stephenson House



Turing House Update

The students of Turing House continually impress me with their individual and collective achievements. They exemplify unity and teamwork in all they do, and I feel privileged to serve as the Head of this close-knit and supportive house. I'm deeply grateful to our exceptional Tutor Team, alongside our dedicated House Leaders, Faria Azium and Ohemaa Gymiah-Sarpong who have been leading the house council meetings.

This term is always packed with assessments, subject evenings and house competitions. Typically, Turing students stepped up to the challenge of Term 1 which saw Turing House finish in fourth place. But the House Championship isn't meant to be easy and we like a challenge! From finishing in third place in the Ethos Attendance competition in Term 1 to first place in the Ethos punctuality competition this term to taking first place in four of the five year group Resilience challenges. This, along with some fantastic individual contributions to the house Christmas competitions, we are growing from strength to strength.

A special thank you must go to the following students for the unwavering dedication to these competitions:

Milly Matthews (10T2) and Reece Thompson (9T) for their contributions to the Tutor Groups' Christmas Trees

Isla Speed (8T1) for her inspirational Turing Christmas house themed decoration

Tom Hillitt (10T1), Thishi Thiruchenthuran (8T1), Lili Solymosi and Amelia Taylor (10T1) for their beautiful Christmas card designs

The above individuals' contributions have played a pivotal role in helping Turing House move closer to first place in the overall House Championship 2025/26. As have all the Turing students who stepped up to the FunFixFriday competitions that have taken place this term. Although the aim of these competitions

are to bring some light hearted cheer at the end of the week and unite each house, for each Turing student who has stepped up 'thank you' from all of Turing House! You too, are making a difference.

Again, Turing have continued their commitment to the house by having the highest number of representatives across Years 7-10 in the Inter-house Winter rugby and netball competitions. We definitely had a mixture of results. Thank you to all the sportsmen and women for their athletic endeavours. A special mention to the following Turing teams their sporting prowess;

Turing's year 7 girls - netball champions

Turing's year 10 girls - netball champions

Turing's year 8 boys - second place in the rugby competitions.

Next term there will be further sport competitions for Turing students to get involved in. These include house Bocca (Y7-9), mixed badminton (Y11-13), mixed basketball (Y11-13). My challenge to any Turing students who have been involved in a house competition is to put themselves forward and get involved! Taking part is what being in Turing House is all about!

The last house competition I want to talk about are the termly reading competitions. At St Katherine's we value the importance of reading and expect all students to read a minimum of twenty minutes a day. So why not add it as a competition?! This is an area where those that love reading have an opportunity to shine. In the past, some Turing students have not engaged in these competitions as much as I would like, despite the main winner being the reader (student) in the long run! Turing students in Years 7-9, let's make it a priority to read every day, log our reading and ultimately make a commitment to better our academic opportunities!

And it wouldn't be Turing's end of term newsletter without mentioning the outstanding students who have been awarded the Triumphant Termly Turing by their tutor. Often these students consistently embodied Turing's core values - Unity, Acceptance, and Determination - throughout the entire term. Their resilience and leadership serve as an inspiration not just within Turing House, but across the whole school. A huge well done to:

7T: Cara Harrison - Truly embodies what it means to be a Turing student. She has enthusiastically taken part in a wide range of house competitions while remaining fully committed to her learning, and consistently demonstrating compassion and determination.

8T1: Thishi Thiruchenthuran - Fabulous in every sense of the word, every single day. Following expectations without being asked, showing incredible enthusiasm and determination in all your lessons, especially in maths! You are going above and beyond, well done!

8T2: Jacob Griffiths - Jacob is one of the most respectful, kind, thoughtful, polite, caring of his education students I have ever met! He receives lots of praise points and is an example student day in, day out. He shows heaps of resilience each week.

9T: Sofia Mueller - Constantly putting your best foot forward, working hard in lessons and maximising what the school has to offer. Also an all-round lovely person!

10T1: Erin Whitfield - Constantly putting yourself forward for house events, being our tutor rep and working so hard in lessons. Your kindness, thoughtfulness and high energy is wonderful to have in the class! Thank you for being you!

10T2: Marisa Llewellyn - You've worked consistently hard in your lessons since the beginning of Year 10, really engaging in your GCSE subjects and making the most of your time in school. You should feel really proud of yourself!

11T: Emily James - for outstanding resilience during your mock exams, for working hard at the end of term 2 of Year 11 and for bringing Christmas to 11T!

Currently, Turing House is in second place overall behind Stephenson House - same positions as this time last year. Let's use this as motivation to push forward in the first term of 2026. Key areas to focus on include:

- Winning the house ethos competition, of course.
- Fielding full teams in all house sport competitions
- Y7-9 students quizzing and logging their reading
- Participating in house events
- Striving to be the best version of ourselves

As we come to the end of term, I would like to wish you and your families a peaceful, joyful and well-earned Christmas break. I hope the holidays provide time to rest, recharge and celebrate together. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday, 6 January 2026.

Mrs Price, Head of Turing House



Yousafzai House Update

Term 2 has been a highly competitive and exciting one for Yousafzai House, proving that this year's House Championship is very much all to play for. With margins tight across almost every competition, our students have shown resilience, determination and a real hunger to push Yousafzai up the leaderboard.

One of the standout successes of the term came in our Fun Fix Friday competitions including Rock, Paper, Scissors, where Yousafzai House dominated the field, scoring an impressive 40 points and

securing a clear overall victory. This competition perfectly showcased the enthusiasm, teamwork and positivity that define Yousafzai House, setting the tone for a strong term ahead.

We were also thrilled to see Yousafzai House claim first place in the Year 7 netball and football competition, once again finishing on 40 points. This was a fantastic achievement for our youngest students and a clear sign that the future of Yousafzai House is incredibly bright. Their commitment, teamwork and competitive spirit were evident throughout, and they should be extremely proud of their success.

Across the rest of Term 2, Yousafzai House consistently remained competitive, often finishing close to the top even when we didn't quite secure first place. Strong performances in events such as speed walking, Christmas wrapping, cross country across multiple year groups, and netball and football in Years 8–10 ensured we continued to collect valuable points and stay firmly in the hunt. In many of these events, the difference between first and fourth was just a handful of points - a clear reminder that every effort truly counts.

What has been most encouraging this term is the breadth of contribution across year groups. From Year 7 right through to Year 11, students have represented Yousafzai House with pride, ensuring we remain competitive in every category. While other houses may have edged certain events, Yousafzai's determination and depth have kept us firmly in contention.

As we move forward, the message is clear: it's all to play for. With the leaderboard still within reach and points available in every upcoming competition, attendance, punctuality, behaviour and participation will make the difference. Every student has a role to play, and every competition offers another opportunity to close the gap and push Yousafzai House forward.

I am incredibly proud of how our students have represented the house throughout Term 2. Their resilience, teamwork and aspiration continue to define Yousafzai House, and I have no doubt that with this momentum, we can finish the year stronger than ever. Let's keep pushing, keep competing and keep believing - the race is far from over.

As we now reach the end of Term 2, I would like to wish all Yousafzai students and their families a restful and enjoyable festive break. This is a well-deserved opportunity to recharge, spend time with loved ones and reflect on the many successes of the term. I very much look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, refreshed, focused and ready to give their best as we continue our push up the House leaderboard. Enjoy the break - and let's come back ready to make Term 3 our strongest yet.

Miss Robinson, Head of Yousafzai House



PE and Sport News

Term 2 has been a busy one, especially for house sport with nearly 550 students representing their houses for either dodgeball, benchball, rugby or netball competitions. This year the competition is close with all four houses closely contesting competitions. Congratulations to Turing house who will sit on top of the house sport standings over the Christmas period.

We kicked this term off with cup football and hockey fixtures. Our U16 girls fought valiantly out at Castle School in their cup tie whilst a range of students represented their year groups on the football pitch. Special mentions to our Year 10 boys who made it to the fifth round of the National Cup and to the Year 8 Boys who will contest Somerset Cup football after Christmas.

December has seen all eight of our sportshall athletics teams in action. Sportshall fever took hold in our sportshall as we welcomed schools from across North Somerset. SK teams medalled in all eight of the competitions picking up six gold medals and two silver medals. Congratulations to all of our teams and the brilliant athletes in them. We look forward to individuals and teams enjoying more sportshall athletics success in early 2026.

Earlier this term we also played host to various North Somerset Primary Schools who attended a key stage 1 multi skills festival. Our leaders took responsibility for managing teams and activities and did a superb job of ensuring that all of our primary visitors enjoyed a memorable morning of sporting activity. Our leaders led with huge enthusiasm, energy and character and it was a real privilege to witness their high quality work in the sportshall.

As well as all of the above, we've enjoyed lots of clubs, practices, friendly fixtures and events that have involved a huge number of students. As always, to read about all of the sporting action that has taken place at SK in the last term, please subscribe to our termly PE newsletter by [completing the form at this link](#)

Mr Cook, Head of PE

Term 2 dates for your diary

- 05 January: INSET day
- 06 January: Students in school for Term 3
- 14 January: Y10 Virtual Progress Evening, 1600-1900
- 20 January: Y9 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day
- 21 January: Y7 Successful me UWE trip
- 24 January: Y10 Silver DofE Practice Walk
- 28 January: Y12 HE+ Cambridge Residential
- 28 January: Y11 Virtual Progress Evening, 1600-1900
- 03-06 February: Year 12 Geography trip to Slapton Ley
- 09 February: Y10 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day
- 11 February: Y9 Options Evening, 1700-1900
- 13 February: End of Term 3
- 13-20 February: Ski trip
- 23 February: Students in school for Term 4

Keep in touch

There isn't enough space here to showcase the huge variety of student experiences and achievements this term. Keep up to date by visiting the 'News and Events' section on the school website or check the school [Facebook](#) page.

Please email ----- if you would like to opt out of these communications.