

Weekly communication to Parents/Carers

Thursday 2 April 2026



St Katherine's Website



Term dates



Termly newsletters



PE calendar

Messages from Mr Humphreys

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the last two weeks, students have engaged in a rich programme of learning and experiences that have encouraged them to think critically about the world around them, their place within it, and the values we share as a school community.

In Citizenship, students explored systems of power by delving into politics and how democracy works in the United Kingdom. Through this work, they considered how decisions are made at different levels. These conversations encouraged students not only to understand how power is structured and exercised, but also to recognise that their voices, choices and actions matter. Developing this awareness is a vital part of preparing young people to become informed, thoughtful and active participants in a democratic society.

Year 8 students approached their second assessment week with focus and determination. It has been particularly pleasing to see students demonstrating not only their developing knowledge and skills, but also how they have adjusted their approach to preparing for assessment week 2. Feedback and time for reflection will be next term.

Ofsted visited on Tuesday and Wednesday this week - a busy two days. Thank you to families who responded to the survey. As expected, feedback was very positive and all students were proud ambassadors of St Katherine's. The visit represented an important opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the work that takes place across our community every day. Thank you to students, staff, families and governors for all the support and challenge that keeps the school moving forward. It is in these moments of scrutiny that the true strength of our culture and shared values is most visible.

Running alongside this has been our RAG WEEK (Raise And Give), where our collective aim has been to raise as much money as possible for the Teenage Cancer Trust, in memory of Arthur Cleaver. This has been a powerful example of community in action. Students have embraced the opportunity not only to contribute financially, but also to understand the purpose behind the cause, showing compassion, generosity and a willingness to make a difference to others beyond our immediate school environment.

As part of our ongoing attendance drive, we held an Every Day Counts live draw during a virtual assembly in tutor time today. Students with improved attendance in Term 4 were entered into a prize draw. This initiative has helped reinforce an important message: that consistency matters, and that every day in school contributes to both academic success and a sense of belonging within the community.

There has been a strong sense of energy and participation through our Spring House Sport competitions. Students have taken part in a wide range of activities including rowing, football, hockey, Ninja Warrior and boccia – a precision target sport that tests both muscle control and accuracy. It has been fantastic to see students of all abilities contributing to their houses, supporting one another and demonstrating teamwork. Events like these remind us that success at St Katherine's is not only measured in outcomes, but in effort, participation and collective spirit.

Fifty eight Year 7 and Year 8 bikeability has also been a highlight, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to take part, developing confidence on the roads in a supportive environment. As an avid cyclist, it is wonderful to see so many young people take advantage of this opportunity.

As we approach the end of term our Year 12 students have taken part in the HE+ Cambridge residential, offering a valuable insight into higher education and raising aspirations for the future. Meanwhile, caving trips with Year 12 provided a very different kind of challenge, encouraging students to step outside their comfort zones and work together in unfamiliar environments.

We were delighted to welcome Trevor Latham, who spoke to our Year 12 and Year 13 students about his career as an EasyJET pilot. His insights offered a compelling perspective on the pathways to the cockpit available to young people, and the determination and commitment required to pursue such ambitions. Encounters like this play an important role in helping students to see the breadth of opportunities open to them and to begin shaping their own futures with confidence.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Across these two weeks, what stands out most is not simply the range of activities, but the way in which students have engaged with them, with thoughtfulness, enthusiasm and a growing sense of responsibility to themselves and to others.

Wishing you a restful Easter break

Best wishes
Justin Humphreys

Whole School messages

School office	Whole School	<p>Coffee with the Headteacher Please find attached slides prepared here for your information. Our next coffee is on Monday 18 May from 0900-1000 as per the upcoming events at the end of this communication.</p>
School Office	Whole School	<p>We are delighted to invite our school community to come together for St Katherine's School's Culture and Community Day, Thursday 7 May 2pm. Please see attached letter here.</p>
School Office	Whole School	<p>Teaching and Learning Forum</p> <p>Date: Monday 27 April 2026 Time: 6:00-6:30pm Location: St Katherine's School, Dining Hall</p> <p>Please see the letter here with a sign up form.</p> <p>The session is addressed to parents/carers and students in all year groups, it will cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How teaching has changed over the last ten years • What a typical lesson is like for your child at St Kat's, and why we do what we do in the classroom • The principles behind homework at St Kat's and how we want to see this develop <p>Listen to this audio clip for a taster of the session</p>
School Office	Whole School	<p>Please see the school Trip calendar 2025/26 for Term 5. This is a working document and will be updated as new trips are arranged. An updated version will be shared with parents and carers each term to provide an overview of activities.</p>
School Office	Whole school	<p>PE Kit / Leggings As a general rule we would expect students to wear school PE kit, if you have any concerns about this, please contact school@skdrive.org and we will be happy to send your email to the PE team.</p>
School office	Whole School	<p>Reminder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.


Year 7

Mrs Jenkins	Year 7	<p>Food and Nutrition Here are the practicals taking place this week: Thursday 24th April - 7! Breakfast muffins</p>
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Year 9

Sirona	Year 9	<p>Thursday 30 April 2026 Sirona Immunisation team will come into school to administer Meningococcal ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations to students whose parents consented to have the vaccine. Please complete the online consent form if you would like your child to receive the vaccine.</p>
Mrs Cave	Year 9	<p>Year 9 Assessment week - 27 April - 1st May 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 revision resources to support your child/ren's preparation.</p>

Year 10


<p>Textiles Miss Everard</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Y10 GCSE Textiles students will be able to take home their Architecture project sketchbook and their work in progress garment over the Easter Break. They can work on either if they have the time and space available. ALL work must be brought back into school following the holidays, sketchbook and garment.</p> <p>Year 10 Mock date is Monday June 8th. We will be aiming to complete our Architecture project in the first week back after Easter, so that we can move on to our next topic, 'Organics', and this will lead us up to the mock exam.</p> <p>As usual students should be spending at least an hour on homework each week, and they can attend catch-up sessions in room 13 at lunchtimes, and after school on Thursdays. Please encourage your child to make the most of supported sessions as it really does give them a boost and outcomes can greatly improve when they have access to the classroom equipment.</p>
<p>School</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>This has been shared with your child on the art Classroom:</p> <p>Y10 art students, well done for another amazing term of hard work - I love teaching you all!</p> <p>Remember that the homework is due on the first day of Term 5 so please invest the time - I suggest around four hours - to either complete your final piece or work on your chosen theme for the Personal Project. Many of you are working towards aspirational personal high GCSE target grades - that you can definitely achieve - but you must invest the time during the break. Some of you have said that you are going to get together for an 'art day' - this is an excellent idea!</p> <p>Make time for a good rest too & I can't wait to see your work next term.</p>
<p> Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey</p>	<p>Year 10</p>	<p>Year 10 work experience week - 29th June - 3rd July 2026.</p> <p>The deadline to add a placement to Unifrog has now passed however I am still happy to accept new work experience placements. Please encourage your child to keep looking. If they are struggling to find a placement please reach out to family, family friends, neighbours etc to find out if they can host a placement, or whether they know someone who can.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns please check the WEX FAQ document, visit the school WEX webpage or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org</p> <p>Work experience placements are becoming increasingly hard to find. 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>

Year 11



<p>Languages</p>	<p>Year 11</p>	<p>Modern Foreign Languages Speaking GCSE will take place on the first week back after the Easter Break. If your child is doing a GCSE in French, Spanish or another language that they speak at home, you can find the date and the time for their exam here.</p>
<p>Textiles Miss Everard</p>	<p>Year 11</p>	<p>Year 11 Textiles students are now in the final couple of school weeks before their exam, and after Easter Break they have just five classroom lessons for final preparation and planning for their exam days. In lessons this week, they will have made an Exam Plan and they will be gathering materials and equipment that they need for their exam days.</p> <p>They should use any time they have available for textiles homework over Easter, to ensure that they have a really CLEAR plan for what they intend to do across the two exam days, and that they have everything they will need ready, the week prior to the exam. If there is any equipment that they need, or materials that the department is</p>

		<p>providing, please let us know with as much notice as possible. Students can email me their list.</p> <p>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>
Art Ms Tallis	Year 11	<p>This has been shared with your child on the art Classroom:</p> <p>Y11 art students, well done for another amazing term of hard work - I love teaching you all! This is now the FINAL PUSH before the 10 hour exam next term. We only have five lessons left next term before the exam & the end of the course!!</p> <p>Remember that the exam is on 5 & 6 May, in the third week of Term 5 so please invest the time for your final piece planning during the break - I suggest around six hours, or more. Many of you are working towards aspirational personal high GCSE target grades - that you can definitely achieve - but you must invest the time during the break.</p> <p>Some of you have coursework to finish off too in the Easter break too & this is an essential element of the art GCSE - it counts for 60%. You all know what to do.</p> <p>Some of you have said that you are going to get together for an 'art day' - this is an excellent idea!</p> <p>Make time for a good rest too & I can't wait to see your work next term.</p>

Year 12 and 13

 <p>Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey</p>	Year 12	<p>Year 12 work experience week - 15th - 19th June 2026</p> <p>The deadline to add a placement to Unifrog has now passed however, due to the small number of students now without a placement, I am still happy to accept new work experience placements. Please encourage your child to keep looking. If they are struggling to find a placement please reach out to family, family friends, neighbours etc to find out if they can host a placement, or whether they know someone who can.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns please check the WEX FAQ document, visit the school WEX webpage or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org</p> <p>Work experience placements are becoming increasingly hard to find. 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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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 5

20 April	START OF TERM 5
20 April	0835-0900 Y12 and Y13 Bristol Airport Talent Acquisition and Careers (whole year group)
23 April	Y9 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)
24-25 April	Y9 Bronze DofE Overnight Camp (Fri-Sat)
27 April	0835-0900 Y7 Green Jobs Assembly from UWE, LT (whole year group)
27 April	1000-1100 Y8 Successful Me workshop (20 students)
27 April	1800-1830 Teaching and Learning Forum with Mr Ovink, Dining Hall
29 April	1830-2045 Trust Concert, All together now, Bristol Beacon
29 April	0835-1505 Y7 Future Brunel, Selection Process - round 2 (3 students)
29 April	1400-1505 Y10 Army Careers Talk (whole year group)
30 April	0835-1505 Y8 & Y10 Ham Green Outdoor Centre (12 students)
30 April	0835-1505 Y9 MenACWY/DtP immunisations (for students with consent)
4 May	BANK HOLIDAY
7 May	1400-1505 Culture Day (whole school)
7 May	0835-1505 Y8 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)
5 & 6 May	0835-1505 Y7 Chepstow Castle (whole year group over the two days)
9 May	Y9 Bronze DofE Practice Walk
11 May	Mental Health Awareness week
12 May	0835-1505 Y10 Future Fundamentals Trip to UWE (21 students)
12 May	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Rolls Royce Assembly (whole year group)
13 May	1600-1900 Y7 Virtual Progress Evening (W) ★
13 May	0900-1505 Y7 Race The Line, DAT block P1-P4, Bottom Courts P5 (whole year group)
13 May	1320-1505 Y12 ICE South West - STEM Outreach Roadshow (whole year group)
16 & 17 May	Silver DofE Practice Quantocks (Sat/Sun) (50 students)
18 May	0900-1000 Coffee with the Headteacher
18 May	0835-0900 Y7 Careers Assembly - Careers in the space industry with Equinox LT (whole year group)
18 May	1000-1100 Y7 Successful Me workshop (20 students)
19 May	0835-0900 Y12 STEM food tech talk (50 students)
20 May	0835-1505 Y10 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day (3 students)
20 May	0835-1505 Y12 & Y13 Oxford - Exeter College (? students)
21 May	0900-1505 Y12 UWE guidance interviews (whole year group)

22 May	1200-2000 Hay Festival - Malala Yousafzai talks to Anna Foster (32 students)
22 May	1505 END OF TERM 5