

Weekly communication to Parents/Carers

Friday 4 September 2026



St Katherine's Website



Term dates



Termly newsletters



PE calendar

Message from Mr Humphreys

A wonderful first day for Year 7

It has been wonderful to welcome our new Year 7 students to St Katherine's today. They have looked incredibly smart, and it has been a real pleasure to see them settling in, finding their way around and beginning to get to know their new teachers and classmates. Our staff team have been on hand throughout the day to reassure, support and encourage them, making sure everyone has had the very best possible first day. I suspect there will be some very tired students tonight – and plenty of stories to tell as they offload all the details of their first day at secondary school.

We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday.

Whole School messages

School	Whole school	Please find attached the letter shared with all parents/carers regarding the arrangements for returning to school. A reminder for next week Virtual Parents/Carers Information Evening - 9 September 1800-1830 We would like to invite you to our virtual Parents/Carers Information Evening that will take place on Wednesday 9 September between 1800-1830 via GoogleMeet. The evening will provide the opportunity to better understand our school and offer you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. We will be covering the following: • Safeguarding • Attendance • Curriculum • Systems • Transport The event can be accessed here: video call link: https://meet.google.com/wbi-bphx-qxp If you are unable to attend, a recording of the evening will be attached to our weekly communication to parents/carers on Friday 11 September.
School	Whole school	Studybugs – report absence securely and help improve children's health We're pleased to announce that St Katherine's is introducing a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs. If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school. Get the app or register now (https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

School	Whole school	Free School Meals is changing From September Free School Meals are being expanded to all families on Universal Credit. If you would like to apply for Free School Meals for September, please check your eligibility at https://fsm.lgfl.net/. This service will automatically inform the school of your eligibility. Even if you were previously eligible for FSM, you must check eligibility using the link above to ensure that your child continues to receive this provision. If you have any queries or require any help please contact the school on school@skdrive.org.
School	Year 7 to Y11	Flu Vaccination Years 7–11 The Sirona Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Tuesday 15 September to administer the flu vaccination to students in Years 8–11. A second vaccination clinic will take place on 10 October for Year 7 students. If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccination, please complete the vaccination consent form. If you have any questions about the vaccination, please contact the School Immunisation Team on 0300 124 5515 or by email sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net.
School	Whole school	This years Christmas <u>whole school musical</u> is MATILDA with three shows Wednesday 16th December 7pm Thursday 17th December 7pm Friday 18th December 2pm A letter will be sent home with all the appropriate information - see the summary below. The performing arts department is so excited to get this show underway. We cast the lead roles back in term 6 and now we want to remind and encourage any students who would like to be involved to join the chorus. Rehearsals will take place weekly from September until December on a Monday and Wednesday 15:15-17:15pm. <u>CHORUS will just be required on Mondays only for term one.</u> ALL STUDENTS are welcome to join the chorus but please have conversations to ensure the dates can be met for attending rehearsals and the week commencing 14/12/26 - show week. If your child is keen to join, please can they join the Google classroom 'Matilda' using the code v2hm25xq. Here we will post all information for both students and parents/carers. They must also add their name to the spreadsheet which will be shared in tutor time on Monday. The deadline to join the show is Friday 11th September with rehearsals starting Monday 14th September 15:15 - 17:15.
Science	Year 7-11	All homework in science for year 7 to 11 will be set on Sparx science. Sparx science has produced a parents guide here. To access Sparx science students should log into their school google account and then go to https://sparxscience.com/ and select 'login with google'. Homework will be set every Wednesday and due the following Wednesday. For year 8-11 homework will start 9th September. For year 7 homework will start 16th September.

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

9 September	Y7-Y11 Parent/Carer Information evening 1800-1830 (Virtual)
15 September	Y8 to Y11 Flu vaccination clinic
15 September	Y12 Gold DofE information evening (Virtual)
16 September	Y10 Silver DofE Information evening (Virtual)
16 September	Y11 Future Brunels WECA Activity Day
16 September	Y12 Study Skills Day
16 September	Y12-Y13 Parent/Carer Information evening 1800-1830 (Virtual)
17 September	Sports Award evening 1900-2130 (Canteen)
23 September	Y8 Future Brunels WECA Activity Day
24 September	Whole school opening evening, school closes at 1230
25 September	Inset Day
29/30 September and 1 October	Open Mornings 0900-1030
2 October	Y13 Trip to We the curious
6/7 October	Y9 Trip to Folly Farm
6/7 October	Open Mornings 0900-1030
7 October	Y10 Future Brunels WECA Activity Day
8 October	Y7 Flu vaccination clinic
14 October	Y11 Information evening 1700-1830 (in person)
23 October	Y11 trip to Magistrate Court 0930-1300
21 October	End of Term 1 at 1505