

Weekly communication to Parents/Carers

Friday 16 October 2026



St Katherine's Website



Term dates



Termly newsletters



PE calendar

Whole School messages

School	Whole School	End of term 1 A reminder to all parents/carers that term 1 ends on Wednesday 21 October at 1505.
School	Whole School	Celebrating our students Well done to Matthew Thomas 9S2. Matthew secured the UK Junior Series Championship at Oulton Park, finishing second and first in challenging mixed conditions. He became the series' inaugural champion and received the first ever Dave Rogers Trophy! <div data-bbox="852 831 1128 1196" data-label="Image">  </div>
School	Whole School	<div data-bbox="721 1236 1297 1431" data-label="Image">  </div> <p>Tell us what you think - Family voice survey (Transitions)</p> <p>We would like to work collaboratively with you to ensure the best possible experience for your children at school.</p> <p>To help us improve how we communicate, work together and support transitions (moving into a new year group or school), we would like to invite you to complete our Family Voice survey. Your views will help us understand what is working well and where we can make positive changes.</p> <p>Survey link: Family Voice Survey</p> <p>Closing date: Monday 19 October at 4pm.</p> <p>The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts, we will give feedback on the results through our school communications. Your feedback really does make a difference.</p>

		<p>Important guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have more than one child at your school, you can complete a separate survey for each child. The first question may seem unclear without this context • The survey will be automatically translated into the language of the device being used • If there are any technical difficulties or further support is needed, please contact school@skdrive.org
Amplify	Whole School	Please see parent/carers newsletter here for your information.
School	Whole School	<p>Studybugs</p> <p>We're pleased to announce that St Katherine's School has introduced a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>From September, this is the way we ask you to report your child's absence from school.</p> <p>Get the app or register now (https://studybugs.com/about/parents)</p> <p>Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It's integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for. 2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted. 3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children's health. (https://studybugs.com/about/schools)
School	Whole School	<p>SEND Coffee Morning - 0900-1000 on 9 November 2026</p> <p>Providing an informal opportunity for parents/carers to meet, ask questions and discuss SEND provision and educational needs. A forum for general discussion and information sharing rather than individual case discussions. If you would like to attend please email school@skdrive.org.</p>
School	Whole School	<p>Food and Nutrition practical lesson reminders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Food and Nutrition kitchen is a nut free zone. Please do not send your child in with nuts or nut products e.g. Nutella, pesto, peanut butter. • Please ensure a named container is brought to every practical lesson to take the cooking home. • Cooking needs to be collected within 24 hours of the lesson or it will be disposed of. • If we provide your child with ingredients and the cooking is not collected this may result in not being provided ingredients for future practicals due to the cost and food waste.
School	Whole School	<p>Our school choir has again been invited to perform at the LEAP concerts alongside professional musicians from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and students from other schools within Amplify Education. The concerts will take place at Trinity Academy on Wednesday 11th November. If your son/daughter is a regular member of the choir you will receive a letter with all the details. Please note that students will be returning to school between 4pm-4.15pm and therefore will need to organise alternative transport home if they normally travel by school bus.</p>
Mrs Collins	Whole School	<p>Matilda Jr the musical!</p> <p>Rehearsals are well underway and students are working exceptionally to bring to life this hilarious piece of theatre! Reminder for named roles and ensemble that we have an</p>

		<p>additional rehearsal Thursday 22 October. The letter was sent back in September and I have attached it here for you. Any concerns please do get in touch collinsl@skdrive.org</p> <p>Chorus are not needed for this rehearsal. Thank you.</p> <p> Letter to Parents/Carers Whole school musical 2026 Matilda</p>
HAF	Families in receipt of Targeted Free School Meals	<p>The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme runs during the Easter, Summer and Winter school holidays. To be eligible for HAF, children and young people must be in receipt of Targeted Free School Meals. Eligibility checks will only be possible during term time, as school staff will not be available during school holidays to confirm eligibility. Unfortunately, any HAF bookings received during a school holiday or school closure period that require an eligibility check may need to be declined if we are unable to obtain confirmation from the school. We want to ensure that parents and carers are given sufficient notice of this process so that there is no unexpected disappointment when booking activities.</p> <p><u>Holiday, activities and food (HAF) programme North Somerset Council (n-somerset.gov.uk)</u></p>
Aspens	Whole School	Please see here new menus for next term, these will also be on our website from Wednesday 21 October.
Mr Sugden	Whole School	
School	Whole School	

Family advice

Whole school

FACE

November Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Introduction to OCD	2 Nov 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	2 Nov 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	3 Nov 10am
Decreasing Depression	3 Nov 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	9 Nov 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 Nov 7pm
What is ACT?	10 Nov 10am
Improving Family Communication	10 Nov 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	16 Nov 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 Nov 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	17 Nov 10am
Understanding Anger	17 Nov 7pm
FREE - Responding to Stress & Anxiety	19 Nov 7-8pm
Anxiety Explained	23 Nov 10am
Facing Defiance	23 Nov 7pm
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	24 Nov 10am
School Anxiety	24 Nov 7pm

School	Whole school	Families Bulletin - October 2026 Please see here from Bristol City Council
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Year 7

Trailblazers	Year 7	Instrument insurance. Please complete the short google form to confirm the instrument is covered on your house insurance. Students will then be able to take their instruments home to practice.
Meet the Tutor	Year 7	Y7 Virtual Meet the Tutor event will take place on the 4 November 2026 - 4pm-7pm. Please find full details here .

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.
Food Preparation and Nutrition Mrs Jenkins	Year 10	Practical lessons Below are the practical lessons taking place this week. Wednesday 21st October - 10A own choice
Textiles Miss Everard	Year 10	Students will need to spend a minimum of one hour on homework/coursework each week. Homework is set on Classcharts, and is also on Google Classroom. In order to help with completion of coursework, they can attend catch-up sessions in Room 13 at the following times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After school on Thursdays 1505 - 1615 - 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	Wider reading for this week is here .
Year 11		
Mr Sugden	Year 11	<p>Thank you to all Parents/Carers who attended the Class of 2027, Parents/Carers Information Evening. I hope it was an informative evening. The sense of community was touching.</p> <p>If you were not able to attend, slides and resources are being prepared to be sent via email and the Class of 2027 Google Classroom by next week.</p> <p>Please could all parents/carers, even if you did not attend, complete the attached feedback form to help us improve the evening for future year groups.</p>
Mr Sugden	Year 11	Please see the additional academic support available to Year 11s this term. Please encourage them to strongly consider attendance to as many sessions as possible.
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	<p>Year 11 students have just 6 lessons left (6 hours) before their mock exam on November 11th. They must be completing coursework independently at home - minimum 1 hour each week.</p> <p>Students may also attend catch-up sessions in Room 13 at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After school on Thursdays 15:05 - 16:15 - Thursday lunchtime each week <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. Thank you for your support.</p>
Sixth Form	Year 11	Applications are now open to apply to St Katherine's Sixth Form for next September. The application form is here and on the school website.
Food Preparation and Nutrition Mrs Jenkins	Year 11	<p>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.</p> <p>The investigations are taking place on the 19th and 20th October.</p> <p>On a Wednesday lunchtime, there will be support available to students in room 11.</p>
Music	Year 11	GCSE performance exams take place on Friday 6 November (solos) and Friday 22 January (ensembles) . These two performances are worth 30% of their final grade. Students have been given lots of guidance about selecting appropriate repertoire and also have access to a difficulties levels booklet on their google classroom. You can support by asking your child which pieces they are performing and listening to them at home. Any questions please contact me: adamsa@skdrive.org
English	Year 11	Please find the wider reading for this week here .

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

20 October	Y7 Flu vaccination clinic
21 October	End of Term 1 at 1505
22-24 October	Gold DofE Practice Expedition
28 October	Surfing Westward Ho! (15 students)

UPCOMING EVENTS - TERM 2

2 November	Start of Term 2
3 November	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Tom Mitchell ex student talk
4 November	1405-1505 Y13 CV and cover letter workshop with Andrew Banfield
4 November	1600-1900 Y7 Meet the Tutor, virtual
w/c 9 November	Y9 Assessment week
9 November	0900-1000 Parent/Career Inclusion forum, conference room
9 November	0900-1100 Y8 Equinox STEM Workshop (30 students)
9 November	0835-0900 Y11 Bristol Robbins Assembly
10 November	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Royal Holloway University Talk
11 November	Remembrance
11 November	LEAP Ensemble, from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
w/c 16 November	Y11 mocks
16 November	Anti Bullying week
17 November	0835-1505 Y9 UWE Future Mindset (25 students)
17 November	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Chris Dunkin from DWP talking about LMI

18 November	0835-0900 Y12 BFI film talk, (40 students)
18 November	1000-1100 Y8 Successful Me (25 students)
18 November	1405-1505 Y12 & Y13 UWE How to build your skills for the future
19 November	0835-1505 Y8 Future Brunels WECA activity day
w/c 23 November	Y11 mocks
24 November	0835-1505 Y9 UWE Future Mindset (25 students)
24 November	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 'Why Sheffield' university talk
25 November	1000-1100 Y8 Successful Me (25 students)
30 November	0835-0900 Y11 Access Creative College Assembly
1 December	0835-0900 Y12 & Y13 Boomsatsuma Assembly
1 December	0900-1000 Parent/Carer Coffee with the HT, JJH office
2 December	1000-1100 Y8 Successful Me (25 students)
2 December	1405-1505 Y12 & Y13 DWP apprenticeship workshop with Chris Dunkin
2 December	1600-1900 Y8 Virtual Progress Evening
3 December	0835-1505 Y9 Future Brunels WECA activity day
w/c 7 December	Winter House Sport
7 December	0835-0900 Y11 City of Bristol College Assembly
8 December	0835-1505 Y10 Future Brunels WECA activity day
8 December	0835-1505 Y11 Sixth Former For the Day
9 December	1800-1900 Christmas Carols, LT
10 December	0835-0900 What is an Apprenticeship assembly with Junior Saunders
15 December	0835-1505 Students in Matilda off timetable - tech run
15 December	0900-1100 Y1 Post 16 Providers Event
16 December	1900 Matilda Jr the musical!
16 December	1405-1505 Y10 RAF talk with Adam Smith
16 December	1405-1505 Y12 & Y13 Career session on AI, Aberystwyth Uni
17 December	1900 Matilda Jr the musical!
17 December	1220-1305 Christmas lunch
18 December	0835-0900 Y11 Mock certificate day
18 December	School closes at 1230
18 December	1400 Matilda Jr the musical!