

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | 7 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information plus details of any letters sent home during the last week.

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Events across the world have been disrupted through the coronavirus outbreak and no doubt we are all waiting to hear when some events will return, at least online or on our TV sets. For the foreseeable future, we know things are going to be slightly different. We await the latest guidance from the government later today and on Sunday from the Prime Minister.

VE celebrations tomorrow, marking the 75th Anniversary will not be as planned with hundreds of community celebrations cancelled across the country. It will instead be marked appropriately with an online and TV schedule. Worth taking a moment to reflect on this over the long weekend. We draw inspiration from Captain Tom Moore who celebrated his 100th birthday last week - 'tomorrow will be a good day'.

We are currently in the middle of Ramadan and a significant event for our Muslim friends in the important Eid festival to mark the breaking of the fast on the 23/24 May. Typically marked with families and communities coming together, Eid is again likely to look different in 2020. We are delighted to be taking part in the Virtual Iftar next week and some of us are taking the opportunity to fast this year. The sponsored fast will raise money for Trussel Trust Food Banks in different areas of Bristol. A great opportunity for our community to learn more about Ramadan and the differences this year compared to previous years. We are grateful to Ismaeel Akram for his work in coordinating this great project. See below for full details.



RAMADAN MUBARAK

CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS TRUST AND
COMMUNITY IFTAR PROJECT PRESENTS

VIRTUAL IFTAR

THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2020
STARTING AT 8PM

FREE IFTAR MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED
More details to follow

Share the iftar experience online.
Learn about Ramadan in lock down.
Questions and Answers session
about Islam.
Live Call to Prayer (Adhan)

COMMUNITY IFTAR PROJECT CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS TRUST

Thank you to the parents/carers for completing the surveys last week. The summary is again very positive and naturally we have been drawn to your ideas and suggestions as to how we can further improve our educational provision during this time. For reassurance, the barriers parents/carers are facing are common across all year groups and no doubt all those involved in homeschooling at this time. We will respond with further guidance to help tackle some of the barriers next week. In summary students in Years 7-9 are able to access our online platforms with the level of work being provided 'just right' for the vast majority of parents/carers who responded across all three years groups. Yr7 92%, Yr8 83%, Yr9 93% of respondents reported their child is engaging with teachers, with Yr7 84%, Yr8 82%, Yr9 89% successfully completing work. Where children are not successfully engaging, we have developed an academic mentor programme to support these children with the completion of work, which started this week. Yr7 94%, Yr8 96% , Yr9 95% of respondents judged the communication to be between 3-5 with 5 being effective. Fewer students than expected have been accessing our St Katherine's Online Community website which Mrs Robinson kindly setup during our first week of lockdown. Our data on access shows over 650 students accessing this site. You might not be aware that your child is accessing this page and I commend it to you - a wealth of resources, some fun engagement activities from staff, a few competitions and useful wellbeing resources - <https://sites.google.com/skdrive.org/st-kaths-school-community/home?authuser=0>. The site is also accessible to parents/carers.



Our final round of surveys are this week. We would like the parents/carers of Year 11 and Year 13 to complete the survey below. We will share a summary of the surveys with you next week. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Please complete by Tuesday 12 May 2020.

[Year 11 Parent/Carer Survey](#)

[Year 13 Parent/Carer Survey](#)

Should you require any support during the period of lockdown please do not hesitate to get in touch - school@skdrive.org

Stay home, Stay safe, Stay Strong

Justin Humphreys
Headteacher

MESSAGES

School	All Years	Monday 11 May 2020 will be an INSET day to allow staff to undertake important training. Communication on this day will be limited. Thank you for your understanding.
School	All Years	Further updates to our guidance for learning from home can be found here. This will be updated regularly with new items highlighted in yellow and shared every week via this communication.
School	All Years	At St Katherine's School we are really fortunate to be well supported by our School Nurse who holds a clinic for children each week. The School Nurse team has been in touch to remind us that they are still available to support children and their families during these uncertain times. They can offer support and guidance with a range of physical and mental health issues and the details of how to contact them can be found on the poster they have asked us to share with you. School Nurse Poster
Mrs Crocker	All Years	Our safeguarding colleagues at Avon and Somerset Police have shared with us this presentation for families to work through at home together. At St Katherine's we teach children about the dangers of extremism and encourage them to think critically about the messages that they receive from a variety of sources. I am sharing these resources now as they also address some of the emerging negative attitudes towards the Chinese community around the Corona virus. These resources can support a family discussion about extremism and allow children to explore their understanding and thoughts. If you are worried about anything relating to extremism or any other safeguarding concerns, please email me and I will call you to discuss your concerns. Mrs Crocker crockerk@skdrive.org Please be mindful that when accessing the newspaper articles will bring with it live advertising that cannot be controlled or the content checked for suitability.
Mrs S Robinson	All Years	Student email and website Students receive a weekly email on Mondays at 10am with a message from Mr Humphreys, details of house competitions and useful resources from the website.

		<p><u>Please encourage students to read this email.</u> Parents are able to access the website also. Please encourage your child to bookmark the student website in their browser so they can access it easily. It is a really valuable resource for them.</p>
Miss Adams	All Years	<p>Virtual music projects; one thing that is becoming clear during the lockdown is the value of music in helping to keep spirits high and people feeling connected. If your son/daughter has been involved in any virtual music projects we would love to know about it. Please feel free to email me with any links; adamsa@skdrive.org</p>
Miss Adams	All Years	<p>Following the above there is a chance for musicians to get involved in a virtual cross Trust concert; Lockdown project #2; Virtual Concert (open to ANY student) Click the link above for further details. Performances can be on any instrument and in any style. Why not get together with family members for a joint performance? Videos are still being accepted despite the deadline of 1st May. It would be fabulous to have some St Katherine's students featured in the concert!</p>
Miss Adams	Students who have instrumental lessons in school	<p>North Somerset Music Service have launched their new online learning service. Please visit; www.nsmusic4you.org.uk</p> <p>They are now offering one to one instrumental lessons via microsoft teams for any student who was previously having lessons in school. Please note they are only able to offer individual tuition and not group lessons. However, there are various different options available and lessons have been subsidised to help families at this challenging time.</p>
Mrs Collins	All years	<p>BBC Arts 'Get creative' are hosting a lockdown orchestra! Anyone who loves to sing or plays a musical instrument can get involved. See links on St Katherine's school community webpage via performing arts, twitter and below! Let us know if you get involved! https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/lpcpKcs0Gij7w7hKkJv0Kv/join-the-bbc-lockdown-orchestra-for-you-got-the-love</p>
Ms Tallis	Art students of all ages	<p>I hope that you've been enjoying the phenomenal art work, as well as some brilliant cooked creations, that is posted on a daily basis on the Wall of Fame and is part of St Katherine's School Community Website. Please keep encouraging your children to share images of art work completed, whether the work is a personal creative project or art that they have completed for a school assignment. Well done to all those students whose work has featured on the Wall of Fame! You can take a look here: https://sites.google.com/skdrive.org/st-kaths-school-community/wall-of-fame?authuser=0</p>
Mrs Slater	All Years Dyslexia	<p>This is a great resource aimed at parents supporting a dyslexic child's learning at home with lots of practical advice. https://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/BS-Home-Help-pack-FINAL.pdf</p>



Ms Wild	All Years	If your son/daughter is finding learning spellings tricky, try these strategies: https://docs.google.com/document/d/150lp4U-h87Sep1B7jvU1OdeTvi2D44iR0nsv3K4aAuE/edit
Mr Hodgson	DofE	Thanks to all those who are still working on their sections - some amazing ideas which capture the spirit of DofE with a difference, from cooking skills to making PPE! There is lots of information and ideas to be found on the DofE website for completing your sections in these uncertain times. Please let me know if you have any questions . Info can be found here!
Miss Wilsher	Year 11	Potentially considering studying Health and social care next year? There is now a Year 11 transition google classroom for those of you considering Health and social care at Level 2 or 3 either at St Katherine's or further afield. The class code is: mcalx4q
Mrs Maringo	Year 11	What a brilliant week! Your tutors and I have once again enjoyed talking to you and your parents this week. We have learnt a lot about your new routine in particular! Remember the top tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Try your best to stay active (walk your dog, do some squats/press-ups, follow an online workout,etc) - Avoid late nights. It is not the best for your physical and mental health so try and go to bed before 10pm - Have a balanced diet (do not skip breakfast and avoid junk food) - Talk to a friend at least once a day - Use your brain everyday. For example read a book, do some work in preparation for Year 12 If you would like to purchase a hoodie and a yearbook they are both available on Parent Pay (deadline 1 June) so make sure you get yours! Have a wonderful weekend. Mrs Maringo
Ms Wyld	Years 7 & 8	Keep up with that AR quizzing! Here is the link to get into the Accelerated Reader site - remember students need their login details, but please just ask if a reminder is needed! If you're running out of books to quiz, fear not! Log in to AR and take a look at that other orange button 'Accelerated Reader Articles'. You'll see a massive range of topics to choose from - read the article and take the quiz!
Ms Wyld	Reading and resources	Keeping up with your reading is one of the most powerful things we can be doing at home at the moment. As well as developing a vital life-skill reading has also been shown to have huge wellbeing benefits for us all. Here is a link to an updated and expanded list of free reading and other home learning resources for you to dip in and out of at home!
Mrs Maringo	Years 7 - 10	MFL updates: You have worked really hard this week. Thank you for sharing your projects with us. We are enjoying reading and marking your work.



		<p>A reminder that Year 7 pupils need to choose their preferred language for Year 8 so please do not hesitate to email Mrs Maringo (maringog@skdrive.org) if you have not decided/shared this yet.</p> <p>You will be practising French/Spanish keywords next week and the work has been shared in the classrooms as always.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns, please email your MFL teachers directly.</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend.</p>
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LETTERS THIS WEEK- click [here](#) to see all letters from this academic year

No letters this week	
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