

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 6 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

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

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

So our challenge is to 'stay together for the next six weeks' as shared with all members of our community this week. We all need to be extra vigilant to help protect us all and thank you to those families who have acted on their vigilance this week.

Reminder: to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell, if you are showing symptoms of coronavirus or have someone in your household who is, you should not be in a childcare setting, school or college. You should be at home, in line with the [guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

Reminder:

For Term 2 we are considering a number of adjustments at St Katherine's as part of our 'tightening up together' approach

- Extra curricular activities beyond the school day are being reviewed as part of our P0 and P6 provision - see response below
- All meetings with families will be virtual where possible
- Sixth Form students can leave after their last lesson each day. Students using the school bus can use both quiet study areas within the sixth form
- Class by class release at break and lunch to support spacing between students
- PE lessons to use outside space (weather permitting) to reduce risk with tightly controlled arrangements in place for the changing rooms
- From Thursday 5 November, all staff and students are required to wear a face covering in all corridor spaces including our canteen, sixth form area and PE changing rooms.

Thank you for your support with these changes this week. Students and staff have all adjusted well as we settle back into the rhythm of the term and remind each other of the new routines.

We recognise the introduction of the masks was rapid this week and in the interests of sustainability, we encourage everyone to wear a reusable mask as opposed to the disposable ones. We will have standard masks for sale from next week at SSO.

The suspension of extra curricular activities is deeply frustrating when we all know and recognise how important physical exercise and activity is for all young people. Despite exploring this in depth and from many different angles, the school and PE department are bitterly disappointed by the four week break to our activities. Rest assured we have invested significant time this week exploring this in detail and here is our adjusted offer within the restricted period: [Update on after school provision](#).

We are here to support all our young people with their learning at all times and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need further support in any of the adjustments we are making. Please refer to the 'Who to contact at St Katherine's' table below. We are always keen to hear your feedback and please share this using this [form](#).

Wishing you all a restful weekend - six to go!

Kind regards

Mr Humphreys
Headteacher

WHO TO CONTACT AT ST KATHERINE'S

For queries about:	Name	Contact:
Safeguarding	Mrs K Crocker	crockerk@skdrive.org
Courses, assignments or resources		Subject Teachers
Access to online library resources	Ms Wylld	wylld@skdrive.org
Technology related	Mr A Francis-Black	francisblacka@skdrive.org
SEND	Mrs F Slater	slaterf@skdrive.org
Curriculum	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Learning@Home resources	Miss K Richards	richardsk@skdrive.org
Personal well being		Tutor or Head of House
General queries		school@skdrive.org
Free School Meals		kilgallond@skdrive.org
Reading logs	Immalee Wild	wildi@skdrive.org
Sixth Form	Geraint Davies	daviesg@skdrive.org

MESSAGES

School	All years	Important reminder - students need to arrive in school on Monday with their own reusable face masks.
Mr Maw	All years	In line with our Risk Assessment, we are keeping classrooms well-ventilated to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19. As the weather grows colder, students are permitted to wear coats indoors as necessary. Please ensure your child has a suitable school coat (not a hoodie) to wear should they need to. If you need any support in obtaining an appropriate coat, please contact your child's Head of House.
Mrs Crocker	All years	We have been contacted by Avon Fire & Rescue service. They have shared important information aimed to ensure our community's safety. Please find attached Avon Fire & Rescue Service's Bonfire Night flyer detailing how to stay safe during the festivities.

Mrs Ball	All years	<p>St Katherine's School is able to refer families to local Foodbank referring agencies and we wanted to reassure our families that the Foodbank and Homebank will remain open throughout lockdown at the following times:</p> <p>Mondays St Andrew's Avonmouth 10-12</p> <p>Wednesdays Hope Chapel, Hotwells 10-12</p> <p>Thursdays Lawrence Weston Baptist Church aka Hope Church 10-12</p> <p>Fridays Emmanuel Chapel Henbury 10-12</p> <p>Please email ballj@skdrive.org if we can help your family in these challenging times.</p>
Miss Gardiner	All years	<p>Hot off the press! Issue 2 of the St Katherine's Careers Bulletin. This month there are some fantastic opportunities for students across all school years to get involved in, especially in the 'Exciting Opportunities' section. There is a chance to listen to a live talk from NASA and the general manager at TikTok. Any questions regarding careers please email Miss Gardiner: gardiners@skdrive.org</p>
Finance	All years	<p>Low Dinner Account Balance Alerts In order to set up alerts on your Parentpay account, select Communication, Alert Setting. This facility allows you to set a balance below which Parentpay will e-mail out a reminder to top up. Please be aware that e-mail reminders are free but text messages are charged at 6p per message. Alerts can also be set up for new payment items.</p> <p>Bank Transfer Facility on Parentpay It can take up to 8 days for a bank to accept a new Parentpay mandate. Please do not make any payments using the bank transfer facility until the mandate has been authorised as this will lead to failed transactions. Dinner accounts can go overdrawn as a result of failed transactions. Payments should be made using debit/credit card as these payments are authorised before they come down to the school.</p>
William Harding Chair of Governors	All years	<p>Parent Governor Vacancy You will be aware that we have a vacancy for a parent governor following a resignation on the local governing body. Over that last week, it has become apparent that a number of parents/carers missed the closing date for nominations due to circumstances in their families etc. Having reflected upon this in the challenging and uncertain times in which we are all operating, we have decided to extend the closing date to Friday 13 November. Nominations received so far will be held over to this date</p> <p>If you are interested in putting your name forward, my letter and fact sheet gives further details.</p>
SKAMPS	All years	<p>Our (Virtual) AGM is being held on Thursday 12 November at 7.00pm. Please click link to join the meeting. We look forward to seeing you.</p>

		<p>Meeting ID: 774 2565 0589 Passcode 4aWkaA</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 11	<p>The Year 11 science mocks start on 19/11/20. To support students we have given all students a list of what to revise and revision links to help them. We are also offering revision after school from 3:30-4:30. Next week we are offering physics revision on Monday, biology revision on Tuesday and chemistry revision on Thursday. A copy of the key information given to students can be found here.</p>
Miss Gardiner	Future Quest Years 10 & 11	<p>Welcome back to Future Quest for Year 10 and Year 11 is happening next week. Year 11 welcome back is on Tuesday 10 November and Year 10 on the 11 November at 8.30am in CR1. All students have been sent a letter inviting them to a breakfast meeting where Future Quest will tell them virtually what the plans for the coming year are. Any questions regarding Future Quest please email gardiniers@skdrive.org</p>
Mr Hodgson	Year 9	<p>The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an award scheme set up to give an opportunity for young people to have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem and build confidence. They gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs and uni and job applications. Top employers recognise the work-ready skills Award holders bring to their business.</p> <p>The award involves committing time outside of school to improving themselves and helping communities, as well as the opportunity to participate in an expedition.</p> <p>If your child is interested in starting their Duke of Edinburgh award, there will be an online Zoom meeting held on Thursday 12 November between 19.00 and 20.00. This will have more information on what the award involves, as well as information about proposed dates for training and expeditions.</p> <p>Zoom Meeting Link</p> <p>Meeting ID: 720 7514 3880 Passcode: 8uQjgg</p> <p>More information will be made available on the google classroom that your child can join using the code: f2es2ux</p> <p>Please let me know if you have any questions or would like more information.</p>
Miss Sutton	Food technology classes	<p>Miss Sutton is starting practical lessons with her classes this term. The following practicals will be taking place next week:</p> <p>Monday 9th November - 8I Frittata Tuesday 10th November - 9r Spring rolls Thursday 12th November - 11c Chicken kebabs Friday 13th November - 10c Quiche</p> <p>Ingredients have been posted on ClassCharts and emails have been sent to parents/carers of the classes.</p>



St. Katherine's School

Learning together, succeeding together, inspiring excellence



		Aprons are compulsory for the lessons. If you have ordered one on parentpay, they will be given out to pupils in the lesson.
--	--	--

LETTERS - click [here](#) to see all letters from this academic year

All years

- Covid 19 Update
- Mask Update

Year 9

- Assessment Arrangements for Year 9
- Duke of Edinburgh Award - Information Evening

Year 11

- Year 11 PSHE
- Structure of GCSE & Vocational Courses

UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

Thursday 12 November

19:00-20:00 SKAMPS AGM

Wednesday 18 November

19:00-20:00 Year 9 DofE Virtual Parent/Carer Information Evening

18:00-19:00 Sixth Form Open Evening (Virtual)