

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 15 January 2021

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

Forgive me for the length of my piece this week with a number of updates.

Another busy week with Learning@Home alongside the start of our testing programme in school for staff and students who are on site. We are actively reviewing our provision and listening carefully to feedback. We are conscious of the need to keep us all active during the day and are making some tweaks to support this.

Thank you for your ongoing feedback regarding our Learning@Home programme. We are grateful that a significant proportion of our community are pleased with our efforts at delivering an effective and engaging Learning@Home programme. However, we are very conscious that there is a static nature to remote learning and with the structure of live lessons, students and staff have less opportunity to move away from their screen. We have therefore taken a series of steps to support students and staff in taking a break from the screen and keeping active.

We are promoting two simple practices of:

- 20-8-2 to interrupt your sitting - 20 minutes sitting, eight minutes standing, two minutes moving/stretching
- 20-20-20 to give your eyes a break - every 20 minutes, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds.

We recognise the challenges of this in reality for both adults and children, but with us all actively thinking and promoting this it will help us all look after ourselves.

Year 7 and 8 enrichment lessons on a Tuesday afternoon every other week will no longer take place at this time. Instead, Mr Cook, Head of PE will be posting video exercise ideas and opportunities for students which require a small space.

Year 11 will no longer be required to attend society and culture lessons. Students will be able to use this time to complete their own independent study in a subject of their choice away from the screen or exercise using the resources on the St Katherine's Community Page.

For Post 16, students will no longer attend enrichment lessons. Instead, students are to use this time to complete their own independent study in a subject of their choice or exercise using the resources on the St Katherine's Community Page. Those students completing their EPQ should continue completing their project.

To keep students active, Mr Cook and other staff will share daily activities for all students to complete at the end of their timetabled day. Please encourage your child to get involved with these short activities to help keep them mentally fit during this time which is more important given the lack of normal routines and exercise each day.



Learning together, succeeding together, inspiring excellence



Since the launch last week, The St Katherine's Lock Mileage Challenge has notched up no less than 11,000miles. We need to keep this going throughout this lockdown period. Students and staff have been logging many miles for their House and the competition will no doubt heat up as the leaderboard is shared this week with students and staff!

We are exploring a blended learning approach which will involve staff, at times, setting independent study lessons for students to support them in taking a break from the screen. Teachers will inform students via google classroom of when the task will be set and what is expected of students during the lesson. In these lessons, students will not be required to stay at the computer screen and respond to the teacher in a live environment. Teachers will set an independent lesson for students once a fortnight in Year 7 science, Year 8 maths and Year 9 English. Depending on your child's timetable, they may have an independent study lesson set in other subjects and teachers will inform them of this. We will continue to evaluate these tweaks and we welcome your feedback.

Sixth Form interviews have been taking place this term for September and Year 13 have been receiving their offers from universities. A great reminder of the need to focus on the great pathways ahead for our young people.

We continue to monitor the consultation process for Year 11 and Year 13 certification in the summer and will keep you informed of any updates.

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](#).

Best wishes

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

Anonymous way to report a concern about a student: [Tell Someone Form](#)

MESSAGES

School	All years	<p>Parent Association Meeting - Wednesday 27 January 18:30-19:30</p> <p>Open to all parents and carers where we discuss parent/carer topics. Previous meeting agenda and notes are on our website. This will be a virtual event - please click on the link to join the Zoom meeting.</p>
Mrs Slater	All years	<p>North Somerset Council want to hear your views and experiences of working with the Health Visiting and School Nursing Services in North Somerset. These services are available to all children and young people, and their families, from before birth until they are 19 years old.</p> <p>The survey link is for children, young people and families (service users) to complete.</p> <p>https://northsomerset.gov.researchfeedback.net/s.asp?k=160431060337</p> <p>If you have any questions about the survey, please contact North Somerset Council's Public Health Team: public.health@n-somerset.gov.uk</p>

Miss Gardiner	All years	Hot off the press! Issue 4 of the Careers Bulletin. This month there are some fantastic opportunities for students across all school years to get involved in. Any questions regarding careers please email Miss Gardiner: gardiners@skdrive.org
Mr Francis Black	Year 11	Progress Evening for Year 11 will take place on Thursday 4 February, 4 pm to 7 pm, and will be run as a virtual event. Full details of how to book and attend your appointments will be issued in a letter via ParentPay. To help this run smoothly all attendees should ensure ahead of time that they have a reliable camera, microphone and WiFi connection.
Ms Jefferson	Year 11	We strongly advise students who did not complete all of the Home Learning Tasks in Lockdown I to complete these assignments, particularly the English language tasks, in addition to the work they are completing in class. In addition, if your child is planning to study essay based subjects at KS5, we recommend that they speak to their teacher about completing extra essay practice so that they can be sure that they are ready for learning at A Level standard.
Ms Jefferson	Key Stage 3	The most powerful thing you can do to support your child right now is to ensure that they read for at least 20 minutes, at least 5 times a week. Do contact me if you need support with this and don't forget to check out the e-Library! We have a wide range of audiobooks available, all of which count towards daily reading targets and can be enjoyed by your child whilst exercising (or even helping out around the house!).
Mrs Ivey	Year 9	On 18 and 19 January Year 9 students will sit their end of KS3 assessment online in their science lessons. On 20 January students will start their GCSE Science course. To facilitate the move to GCSE Science students will move back into the higher / foundation class that they were in for revision before Christmas. Students will move into these new groups on 20 January, google classroom codes for the new classes will be given to students in their lesson on 19 January. Further information about the GCSE science courses can be found here .
Mr Francis Black	Year 9	Year 9 Options Evening will be held as a virtual event on Wednesday 10 February, from 7pm to 9pm. Further details including the options booklet and access arrangements for the event will be issued next week.
Ms Wyld	Years 7 & 8	To help students with queries about taking AR quizzes while working at home, I have created this step-by-step guide. If you need a reminder of your login details, just send me an email!
Mr Francis Black	Year 7	Year 7 Progress Evening had been scheduled for later this term but as we adapt our ways of working to the current situation we have made the decision that this event cannot go ahead as planned. Tutors will continue with their regular phonecalls to all families and should you have any concerns about your child's progress in any subject then please discuss this with the tutor. They will then pass on your concerns and initiate discussions with subject teachers.

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

All years	CST January Update
-----------	--------------------



Learning together, succeeding together, inspiring excellence



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

Wednesday 27 January	18:30-19:30 Parents Association meeting (Virtual)
Thursday 4 February	16:00 - 19:00 Year 11 Progress Evening (Virtual)
Wednesday 10 February	19:00-21:00 Year 9 Options Evening (Virtual)