

Friday 28 January 2022

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.

MESSAGES		
School	All Years	<p>Thank you to all families for continuing to be vigilant around symptoms and disciplined with twice weekly testing. Please continue with this. Please ensure your child/ren come to school each day with at least two clean masks.</p> <p>With cases remaining static since last week we will remain with masks until next week when we will review the number of cases in our community. We will update parents/carers and students regarding any changes. Thank you for your cooperation.</p>
Mrs Crocker	All years	<p>Vaping</p> <p>We have noticed a recent increase in the number of students that are vaping. Many of these concerns have been shared with us by parents who have become aware that their child is vaping and we are grateful to those parents that have shared this concern as it helps us be additionally vigilant.</p> <p>We know too that there has been a recent rise in reports across the UK of school children using vaping products. These products are commonly referred to as 'disposable vapes, 'nicotine puffs', or 'Geek Bars'. This latter name is an actual trade name but is sometimes used for all brands. The law is clear - no nicotine vaping product should be sold to anyone under the age of 18. Some of the products have been found to contain an excessive amount of nicotine which is harmful in continual consumption. Some are unregistered, which means the necessary safety data has not been provided before placing them on the market. Some of the vapes look similar to a highlighter pen. The price, design, and flavours of these vapes, combined with widespread publicity on social media, make them particularly attractive to young people.</p> <p>The Trading Standards Service has contacted schools to ask for their support to further understand the availability and if they have been identified within our school. They are particularly keen to understand where these products are coming from and who may be selling them.</p> <p>We treat vaping in the same way as we do smoking and any student that we think is vaping or in possession of any smoking related items would be searched, parents informed and a school sanction issued. Any smoking related items that we find are disposed of and not returned to the student or their parent.</p> <p>If you have any concerns about vaping in young people, please don't hesitate to contact your child's tutor.</p>
School	All years	<p>School Coaches</p> <p>As of next week, 31st January, please contact Francesca Bonora on bonoraf@skdrive.org who will be assisting with all queries in relation to the school coaches.</p>

School	All years	<p>Road Safety Reminder to all parents/carers to collect children from the car park or overflow. Please not collection children from the entrance or crossing in the school</p>
School	Year 7	<p>Very well done Heidi Crowned Avon Schools cross country champion in the minor girls race category. Fantastic performance!</p>
School	All years	<p>Parent/Carer Association Meeting - 3 February 17:00-18:00, The Leaf Open to all parents and carers where we discuss parent/carers topics. Previous meeting agenda and notes are on our website. The agenda for next week will be a reflection on the recent Ofsted report and our plans moving forward. We look forward to seeing you.</p>
School	Years 7-11	<p>COVID-19 School Immunisation Programme The School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) has scheduled second dose vaccinations at St Katherine's for the 10 and 11 February. Students will only be vaccinated if consent has been obtained from parents/carers. Further details are here. This contains a link to the COVID-19 consent form. Please complete by midnight on 7th February in order to receive the vaccination at school.</p>
School	Years 7-9	<p>Year 7-9 Bikeability Level 3 Cycling Safety Training Please see letter from Mrs. Ball. If you would like your son/daughter to take us this fantastic opportunity please return consent forms by 11th February.</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 11	<p>There will be Year 11 science revision next week after school as follows: Wednesday 2nd Feb biology revision with Mrs Ivey in lab 6 Thursday 3rd Feb chemistry revision with Mr Hake in Lab 3</p>
Finance	All years	<p>Lunch accounts Recently a number of lunch accounts have gone overdrawn. To avoid this, Parentpay allows you to set a reminder to top up when the balance falls below a certain amount. To set an alert go to 'Communication', 'Alert Settings', 'Balance Alerts'. Set a threshold amount (say £5) and tick email box. You will then be emailed a low balance alert when your child's lunch account falls below £5. You can also set alerts for new items added to child's ParentPay account.</p>
Mrs Jenkins	Food and Nutrition students	<p>Practical lessons for next week: Monday 31st January - 7R Rock cakes Tuesday 1st February - 9L Afternoon tea practical Tuesday 1st February - 8L Fajitas Thursday 3rd February - 8R Fajitas Friday 4th February - 7L Rock cakes Friday 4th February - 9R Afternoon tea practical</p> <p>Please ensure all students bring in an apron from home. All practicals have been set as homework on ClassCharts.</p>
Miss Adams	Y11 GCSE Music students	<p>The GCSE Music performance exam takes place on Monday 14th February. This performance is crucial as it is worth 30% of the final GCSE grade. Please support your son/daughter by making sure they are practicing regularly and asking them to perform their piece/s to you. Please ensure they know their examination time (timetable for the day is on their google classroom) and come prepared on the day with their instrument and music.</p>

Miss Bennetts	Orchestra Every Thursday Tutor Time 8:30	<p>Orchestra and Choir recruitment</p> <p>We are keen to recruit more members into Orchestra this term. We are open to any instruments but are particularly looking for students who play violin, cello, flute, clarinet, recorder, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone and have been having lessons for 6 months or more. There will be a <i>separate</i> group activity for Trailblazers students. Students just need to bring their instrument and come straight to room 26 on a Thursday, where they will be registered.</p> <p>A reminder that we also have Choir on a Monday morning and we are now working towards a performance later in the year.</p>
Mr Hodgson	Adventure Training Club Yr 9-13	<p>We are planning some more trips this Year. Please check the google classroom, or join here, for more information about upcoming trips.</p>
Ms Wylld	All	<p>World Book Day will be celebrated this year on Thursday 3rd March. We have a range of events and competitions planned, including a really exciting author event (more details to follow!) Please note, that we will not be inviting students to dress up this year, but will be celebrating in lots of other ways.</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 9-13	<p>We would like to draw parents' attention to a free online science magazine for 14-19 year olds called Catalyst. The magazine can be accessed here. The magazine also runs online talks for students. The next talk on insects as vectors of disease takes place at 3:45 on Wednesday 23rd February, students and parents can sign up here.</p>
Mrs Ivey	Year 8-13	<p>The Royal Veterinary College has a number of free opportunities for students interested in careers in the veterinary and medical sciences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The animal academy for students interested in a career with animals. -Teen vet club newsletter containing animal stories and animal careers advice. -Year 10 Easter school and year 11 & 12 summer schools which give students a taste of what life as a veterinary student might be like. -Year 10-13 chemistry champions a series of five live online lessons to support students with GCSE and A-level chemistry and allow students to enrich their chemistry knowledge. These lessons are aimed at students wishing to study in medical, veterinary or bio-sciences courses in future.
Mr Dawes + Mr Thomas	Year 9 PE	<p>A reminder that Year 9 groups taught by Mr Dawes/Mr Cook and Mr Thomas will be changing activities next week (week commencing 31st January). If you are taught by Mr Thomas you will need studded boots and shin pads. Mr Dawes's group will be inside on Fitness Activities until half term.</p>
Mr Dawes + Mr Thomas	Year 7 PE	<p>A reminder that Year 7 groups taught by Mr Dawes/Mr Cook and Mr Thomas will be changing PE activities next week (week commencing 31st January). If you are taught by Mr Dawes you will need studded boots and shin pads. Mr Thomas's group will be inside (trainers/barefoot) on Gymnastics until half term.</p>
Mr Cook and Mr Dawes	Year 8 PE	<p>A reminder that Year 8 groups taught by Mr Dawes and Mr Cook will be changing PE activities next week (week commencing 31st January). If you are taught by Mr Dawes you will need studded boots and shin pads. Mr Cook's group will be inside (trainers) on Games until half term.</p>
Mr Dawes	Year 9 Boys Football	<p>A reminder that Year 9 Boys Football Practice is on Thursdays after school. All abilities and experience welcome, students wishing to represent the school in fixtures need to show a commitment to practice.</p>

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

27th January	Ofsted
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UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

wc 31 January	Y13 Mock exams
1st February	0930-1100 - Coffee with the Headteacher
3rd February	1700-1800 - Parent/Carer Association