

## Welcome back to Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new school year – though I’m not sure where all this rain has suddenly come from! Despite the soggy start, there’s a real buzz around school and a sense of excitement for the year ahead.

In our first school assembly, we celebrated the fantastic successes of our A Level and GCSE students this summer and reflected on the *ingredients of success*: excellent attendance, consistent homework, reading for at least 20 minutes every day, being ready to learn in every lesson, setting ambitious goals, and building strong habits and routines. We also spoke about the importance of resilience – one of our school’s core values. Sometimes success requires us to hear feedback we may not like (what we call “tough love”), bounce back from disappointments, lean on each other for support, and keep moving forward.

I challenged all our students to identify their *1% change* this year – a small but powerful improvement in their daily habits that, over time, will make a huge difference. As James Clear reminds us in *Atomic Habits*, those small gains add up to extraordinary results. Our next step as a school community is to explore how we can make these new habits *stick*!

It was brilliant to see all year groups back together last Friday, and Year 7s in particular have settled in very well this week. All lessons feel purposeful, and it’s lovely to see new students navigating their way confidently around school, arriving well-prepared, and taking real pride in their books and equipment. Bookwork and pride has been a focus in House assemblies this week led by Mr Ovink.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Y7–11 Parent/Carer Information Evening on Wednesday. We hope you found it useful. The slides are available [here](#) if you’d like to revisit them and thank you to those who completed the short survey. If you were unable to attend but have particular topics you would like more information on, please email complete the survey [here](#) or email [school@skdrive.org](mailto:school@skdrive.org). The following two sessions are scheduled this term:

Maximising the impact of homework - 1 October from 1800-1900

Understanding Assessment - 20 October from 1800-1900

Hopefully you can join us - look out for further details nearer the time.

Today, 7Y1 went on a short hike to the summit of Sugar Loaf (596m) – a brilliant introduction to our school’s commitment to the outdoors and the opportunities it provides for challenge, resilience, and friendship. Please see below events coming up this term.

As always, our work is strongest when we embrace the “golden triangle” of *home, school, and students*. Together, we can help every young person not only to achieve academically but also to flourish as confident, resilient, and well-rounded individuals.

I’m really looking forward to the year ahead and to all that we will achieve together.

Mr Humphreys

## Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 12 September 2025

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information.

| MESSAGES             |                           |  |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Miss Bonora          | School                    | <b>Thursday 13 November</b> Sirona Immunisation team will come into school to administer <b>Flu vaccination</b> to students Y7 to Y11 whose parents consented for their child to have the vaccine. Please complete the <a href="#">online consent form</a> if you would like your child to receive the vaccine.  |
| Bristol City Council | School                    | Please find a <a href="#">letter</a> from Bristol City Council with regards to measles.  |
| Finance              | Free School Meal Families | <b>£100 of Household Support Fund vouchers for children on free school meals this month.</b><br>Vouchers will be issued (via EVouchers - previously Wonde) during the week commencing Monday 22nd September. Families will only receive the vouchers if they are on the North Somerset Council FSM list as at Sunday 21st September.<br>Applications should be made via <a href="http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals">www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals</a> . Please email <a href="mailto:fsm@n-somerset.gov.uk">fsm@n-somerset.gov.uk</a> if you have any queries.<br>Students previously at a Bristol primary school will need to apply via North Somerset Council. If they are rejected, then please use the email above, as there is transitional protection until the end of 25/26.   |
| School               | Aspens                    | We are aware that, following the transition from Innovate to Aspens, some pricing structures have not been correctly updated on the tills in the Dining Hall. Please be assured that this is in hand, and our team has been working throughout the week to rectify the issue. Please find <a href="#">newsletter</a> , <a href="#">tariffs</a> and <a href="#">streateries</a> from Aspens for your information.   |
| School               | Whole school              | Codingbug - Inspiring the next generation of coders, please click <a href="#">here</a> for further information on workshops and clubs.   |
| School               | Co-curricular activities  | Please find a summary of <a href="#">clubs and activities</a> that will be taking place during lunch and after school this term.   |
| School               | All students              | We were all shocked to see the news that US conservative influence Charlie Kirk was assassinated. We know that there are graphic videos and images of his murder available to view on Tik Tok and some of our children have shared with us that they have seen the footage and were disturbed by it.<br><br>We wanted to make parents aware that children with social media access to platforms such as Tik Tok may see this footage. Sometimes children have viewed it unintentionally. As always, we ask that parents regularly check their children's phones to ensure that the installed Apps and their settings are age appropriate and that parents have open and honest conversations with children about the content they are viewing. The UK Safer Internet have superb resources for parents which can be found <a href="#">here</a> . |
|                      |                           |  |
| Mrs Crompton         | Year 7                    | School photos are now available to view and order online at: <a href="http://www.clickfoto.co.uk">www.clickfoto.co.uk</a> Each student was handed a unique and individual access code on photo day. You may order with free delivery to school   |

|  |                   | before the deadline as shown online. At any time orders may be placed for delivery direct to home by post. If you have any questions or need help please call the helpline on: 02920 448210 or email us at <a href="mailto:orders@clickfoto.co.uk">orders@clickfoto.co.uk</a>  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
|--|-------------------|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Mrs Slater                                 | Year 7            | <p>Here are the dates for the food practicals. The recipes are on Class Charts and in the Google Classrooms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We provide food for pupils in receipt of free school meals.</li> <li>Please could your child bring some coins to school (50p) if they need to borrow any ingredients for the following recipes.</li> </ul> <p>Practical lessons 2025-2026<br/>First rotation</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>7L Week 2 Room 14</th><th>7R Week 1 Room 14</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Carnival Fruit salad</td><td>12/09/25 P2</td><td>18/09/25 P1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pizza toast</td><td>10/10/25 P2</td><td>2/10/25 P1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tomato ragu</td><td>14/11/25 P2</td><td>16/10/25 P1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fruit Muffins</td><td>28/11/25 P2</td><td>6/11/25 P1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bread rolls</td><td>12/12/25 P2</td><td>20/11/25 P1</td></tr> </tbody> </table> |  | 7L Week 2 Room 14 | 7R Week 1 Room 14 | Carnival Fruit salad | 12/09/25 P2 | 18/09/25 P1 | Pizza toast | 10/10/25 P2 | 2/10/25 P1 | Tomato ragu | 14/11/25 P2 | 16/10/25 P1 | Fruit Muffins | 28/11/25 P2 | 6/11/25 P1 | Bread rolls | 12/12/25 P2 | 20/11/25 P1 |
|  | 7L Week 2 Room 14 | 7R Week 1 Room 14  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Carnival Fruit salad                       | 12/09/25 P2       | 18/09/25 P1  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Pizza toast                                | 10/10/25 P2       | 2/10/25 P1   |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Tomato ragu                                | 14/11/25 P2       | 16/10/25 P1  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Fruit Muffins                              | 28/11/25 P2       | 6/11/25 P1   |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Bread rolls                                | 12/12/25 P2       | 20/11/25 P1  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Mr Francis-Black                           | Year 7            | Please take time to read the following <a href="#">letter</a> regarding baseline assessments for all year 7 students.  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Food Technology<br>Ms Slater               | Year 7            | Please look through the following <a href="#">document</a> to see your child's upcoming practical lessons for this rotation. Students will be expected to come prepared to these lessons with the ingredients outlined in the document and following the expectations listed.  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Trailblazers                               | Year 7            | Information will be coming out to families next week for those who have signed up to the trailblazers scheme. Any questions please contact <a href="mailto:musicadmin@skdrive.org">musicadmin@skdrive.org</a>  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Ms Wild                                    | Year 7            | By Tuesday this week, all year 7 students will have had their first library lesson, borrowed a book and started logging their reading on either their paper log or their online log. Any questions, please email: <a href="mailto:wildi@skdrive.org">wildi@skdrive.org</a>   |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
|  |                   |  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Food Technology<br>Ms Smith /<br>Ms Slater | Year 8            | Please look through the following <a href="#">document</a> to see your child's upcoming practical lessons for this rotation. Students will be expected to come prepared to these lessons with the ingredients outlined in the document and following the expectations listed.  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |
| Trailblazers plus                          | Year 8            | If your child is continuing on the trailblazers plus scheme you will receive direct email communication from your child's teacher about lesson dates/times etc. Any questions please contact <a href="mailto:musicadmin@skdrive.org">musicadmin@skdrive.org</a>  |  |                   |                   |                      |             |             |             |             |            |             |             |             |               |             |            |             |             |             |

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| SJL  | Year 9  | Payment for the Folly Farm trip needs to be made by today 12th September. Please email <a href="mailto:lewiss@skdrive.org">lewiss@skdrive.org</a> if you have any concerns.   |
| Food Technology<br>Ms Slater /<br>Mr Dawes | Year 9  | Please look through the following <a href="#">document</a> to see your child's upcoming practical lessons for this rotation. Students will be expected to come prepared to these lessons with the ingredients outlined in the document and following the expectations listed.   |
| Trailblazers plus                          | Year 9  | If your child is continuing on the trailblazers plus scheme you will receive direct email communication from your child's teacher about lesson dates/times etc. Any questions please contact <a href="mailto:musicadmin@skdrive.org">musicadmin@skdrive.org</a>   |
|  |         |   |
| 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 (everyday) and lunchtime (everyday depending on classroom availability). We will also release some afterschool sessions in due course.  |
| Art<br>Ms Tallis                           | Year 10 | Y10 GCSE art students will need to spend one hour on homework every week. Your child may work in the Art Dept at the following times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Every Tues after school</li> <li>- Mon/Tues/Wed lunchtimes</li> </ul> Please support your child to attend one of these sessions regularly; those who did this last year had the most success with their art GCSE results. Many thanks.   |
| Food Technology<br>Ms Smith                | Year 10 | Y10B Practical lesson 15/09/25 P3 - Knife skills and Vegetable soup<br>Please bring an apron and a suitable airtight container to take your soup home.  |
| English                                    | Year 10 | Please find the wider reading for this week <a href="#">here</a> . This one introduces Shelley, one of the poets in the Worlds and Lives anthology each student will receive their copy of this week.   |
| Duke of Edinburgh Award - Silver           | Year 10 | <p>There will be an online parents' information evening on Tuesday 23rd September, at 19.00. This will contain information about how to get started on your Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. This will be online and recorded if you are unable to make it.</p> <p>Topic: Silver DofE 2025/26 on <b>Sep 23</b>, 2025 19:00 PM</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting<br/> <a href="#">Link to Meeting</a><br/> Meeting ID: 827 7474 8105<br/> Passcode: 53WpeR<br/> Please join the google classroom: 2c2ma2ft</p> <p>The meeting will be recorded and the recording shared on the google classroom if you are unable to attend.</p> |
|  |         |   |
| 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 (everyday) and  |



|                             |         |   |
|-----------------------------|---------|---|
|                             |         | lunchtime (everyday depending on classroom availability). We will also release some afterschool sessions in due course.   |
| Photography<br>Ms Tallis    | Year 11 | <p>Y11 GCSE photography students will need to spend one hour on homework every week. Your child may work in the Art Dept at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Every Tues after school, R10</li> <li>- Mon/Tues/Wed lunchtimes.</li> </ul> <p>Please support your child to attend one of these sessions regularly; those who did this last year had the most success with their photography GCSE results. Many thanks.</p> |
| Food Technology<br>Ms Smith | Year 11 | <p><b>Y11A Practical lesson 17/09/25 P1</b><br/> <b>Cup cakes and preparation techniques</b></p> <p>Please bring an apron and a suitable airtight container to take your soup home.</p>   |
| English                     | Year 11 | Please find the wider reading for this week <a href="#">here</a> . This article explores the text from the English language paper we completed last week.   |

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| Mrs Crompton          | Y12        | School photos are now available to view and order online at: <a href="http://www.clickfoto.co.uk">www.clickfoto.co.uk</a> Each student was handed a unique and individual access code on photo day. You may order with free delivery to school before the deadline as shown online. At any time orders may be placed for delivery direct to home by post. If you have any questions or need help please call the helpline on: 02920 448210 or email us at <a href="mailto:orders@clickfoto.co.uk">orders@clickfoto.co.uk</a> |
| Y12 Media<br>Ms Lomax | Year 12&13 | Two excellent study guides are now available on ParentPay (for a limited time - please order by the end of September):<br>OCR A Level Media Studies - My Revision Guide £17.62<br>OCR A Level Media Studies - Student Guide £14.85   |
| Mr Davies             | Year 12&13 | Wednesday 17th will be our Parent Carer Information Evening. Apologise for the error on the original invitation. It will take place in person from 6-6.30pm. Email <a href="mailto:garrettr@skdrive.org">garrettr@skdrive.org</a> to book a place.   |
| Mr Davies             | Year 12&13 | Wednesday is also our Study Skills Day. Sixth Formers will have a full day of sessions from internal and external providers, helping to empower them with the skills and strategies to be successful KS5 learners.   |
| Mr Davies             | Year 12&13 | We are currently promoting two excellent opportunities with our Sixth Formers: a trip to the MOD to hear about their apprenticeship schemes, and a mentoring programme with Law firm Michelmores. Students should contact Mr Davies for information.   |
| Mr Davies             | Year 12&13 | The UCAS Early Application deadline (For Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary applicants) is on October 15th, but with Mr Davies's paternity leave approaching, we are encouraging students to get their personal statements and applications finished as soon as possible. The first internal deadline for personal statements has already passed.  |

**LETTERS - click [here](#) to see all letters**

**PE & SPORT - sign up for Spond (our communication platform) and click [here](#) to see the PE calendar**

# 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

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 15 September | 0835-0900 Y11 Futures Launch   |
| 17 September | 1400-1500 Y10 WEX Launch   |
| 17 September | Y12 Study Skills day   |
| 17 September | 1800-1830 Y12 and Y13 Parent/Carer information evening, in person                        |
| 18 September | Sports Award evening, Canteen  |
| 18 September | Y8 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day   |
| 19 September | 0835-0900 7S trip to Sugar Loaf  |
| 23 September | 0835-0900 Y12 Employer Talk, surveyor and construction                                   |
| 23 September | Y13 We the curious trip  |
| 23 September | 1900-2000 Y10 Duke of Edinburgh Award - Silver online parents/carers information evening |
| 25 September | Whole school opening evening, school closes at 1230                                      |
| 26 September | Inset Day  |
| 30 September | 0900-1030 Open Morning   |
| 30 September | 0835-1505 Y9 Folly Farm trip   |
| 30 September | 0835-0900 City of Bristol talk   |
| 30 September | 1400-1500 Y12 Thatchers talk   |
| 1 October    | 0835-1505 Y9 Folly Farm trip   |
| 1 October    | 1400-1500 Y12&Y13 Student Finance talk   |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 1 October  | 1800-1900 Maximising the impact of homework forum, further details to follow |
| 2 October  | 1400-1500 Y10 WEX search and find session                                    |
| 6 October  | 0900-1000 Coffee with the Headteacher  |
| 7 October  | 0835-0900 Y11 & Y12 Boomsatsuma Talk   |
| 7 October  | 0835-1505 Y11 Bristol Harbourside - Human field work                         |
| 8 October  | 1400-1500 Y10 WEX search and find session                                    |
| 9 October  | Y10 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day  |
| 9 October  | 1900-2000 Y11, Y12 & Y13 Gold DofE Launch, online                            |
| 10 October | 1400-1500 Y13 Unifrog - Discovery MOOCS                                      |
| 14 October | 0835-0900 Y12 Wex search and find session                                    |
| 15 October | 1400-1500 Y12 Lewis Silkin Careers - Virtual session - Introduction to Law   |
| 15 October | 1400-1500 Y13 Unifrog discovery MOOCS  |
| 15 October | 1600-1900 Y7 Pastoral Check in   |
| 15 October | 1600-1900 Y11 Parent/carers information evening                              |
| 20 October | 1800-1900 Understanding Assessment forum, further details to follow          |
| 22 October | END OF TERM 1  |