

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 19 September 2025

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

MESSAGES		
School	Whole School	As per the dates at the bottom of the communication, school will close at 1230 on Thursday in preparation for Open Evening. Coaches and taxis are aware.
Mrs Crompton	Whole School	Coffee with the Headteacher Our next coffee with the Headteacher will be held on Monday 6 October 2025 from 0900-1000am in Mr Humphreys office. We will be ordering catering, so please do let us know if you intend on coming by emailing school@skdrive.org and we will add your name to the list.
Mrs Humphries	Whole School	Punctuality Please see here letter from Mrs Humphries.
School	Whole School	We are aware of issues linking ParentPay with our canteen tills, please be assured our IT department is looking into this.
School	Whole School	Bristol Parent/Carers forum are offering a range of useful courses and events. Please visit their website for full details.
Mr Harding-Chair of St Kath's LGB	Whole School	New Parent Governor I am pleased to inform you that, following our call for nominations last term, Chrissy Weidner is our new Parent Governor. Chrissy is the parent of a student in Y8. In accordance with the regulations, as the only nomination received by the closing date, she has been duly elected without a ballot and will now serve for the next four years on our local governing board. We wish her well in her new role. You can find information about our local governing board on the school website . If you are interested in being a school governor, as a parent/carers or indeed another capacity, please contact the Clerk to the Governors (clerk@skdrive.org).
MFL	Whole School	Over the coming weeks, all students will receive an email inviting them to join their classroom on Quizlet. This link will also be available on Class Charts, alongside an additional link for their homework task. If your child encounters any difficulties completing these tasks, please be assured that our Language teachers will provide support during lessons. Where needed, we will run dedicated computer sessions to ensure every student feels confident and knows exactly what to do.
School	Whole School	Thursday 13 November Sirona Immunisation team will come into school to administer Flu vaccination to students Y7 to Y11 whose parents consented for their child to have the vaccine. Please complete the online consent form if you would like your child to receive the vaccine.
Caroline Smallwood - St Kath's Governors	Whole school	Over the summer NS Council published the consultation on their proposed library closure. Pill library is one of the libraries that could close. In response to the proposal, a group of residents have set up a group (Friends of Pill Library) to support, promote and increase the use of the Library with the aim to prevent its closure. Further details can be found here . And the children's consultation here . The consultation ends on 24 October 2025.

School	Whole School	Lockers - Are paid via ParentPay (£10 per year) upon receipt of payment (sometimes there could be a delay to clear payment) we will then allocate a locker. Locker keys will be handed out in Tutor time. Locker location is in the MFL block unless otherwise stated.
WEMA instrumental lessons	Whole school	WEMA should have contacted you directly with your child's instrumental lesson day and time. Some instrumental lessons have already started with the rest beginning week commencing 22nd September. Any questions regarding WEMA lessons please direct to your child's instrumental teacher in the first instance. Otherwise please contact WEMA directly using the contact us form on their website or by phoning on 01454 863147.
Finance	Free School Meal Families	£100 of Household Support Fund vouchers for children on free school meals this month. 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. Applications should be made via www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals . Please email fsm@n-somerset.gov.uk if you have any queries. 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.
Finance	Whole School	Parentpay One-Click Payments (Bank Transfer) We are currently experiencing a lot of failed payments. Parentpay is encouraging parents/carers to use this payment method rather than card payment. As a school we do not like this as potentially a transaction can fail several days later causing lunch accounts to go overdrawn. The direct debits take 3 working days to set up before a payment should be attempted. The transaction can then take another 4 days to show on your bank statement. We would recommend continuing with card payment as these transactions are pre-authorised. This can be done by skipping the first page asking you to set up a One Click payment then selecting the 'Add To Basket' button and then 'Other Payment Method' button.
School	Whole School	Please see leaflet with training and awareness opportunities during Prevent Week of Action (w/c 6 October 2025).
Food Technology	Year 7	Please look through the following document 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.
English Miss Smart	Year 7	As part of our Year 7 House Competition , students have been set a creative challenge: to design an A4 page for a guidebook for their fictional town. Each student will create their own page at home, and their tutor group's pages will then be combined into a complete guidebook, which will be displayed in school. The project will be set as homework by your child's English teacher, with a submission deadline of Thursday 9th October . The finished guidebooks will be on display during the week commencing 13th October, allowing time for each tutor group to compile their work in tutor time. This activity encourages imagination, creative writing, and design skills, while also building teamwork within tutor groups. We look forward to seeing the students' fictional towns come to life!

		Thank you for your support.
Library lessons	Year 7	This week and next week we will be introducing Year 7s to the Accelerated Reader scheme, which all students take part in. If you would like to know more, have a look at our guide for parents . For any further questions, please contact wylidl@skdrive.org
Trailblazers Miss Adams	Year 7	<p>I have now met with all our new Y7 trailblazers and they know which instrument they are going to be learning. Please ask them if they have not already told you! You will soon be receiving an email from their instrumental teacher informing you of their lesson day and time. For reference trailblazers lessons are on:</p> <p>Tuesdays (clarinet, flute and saxophone) Wednesdays (bassoon) Fridays (oboe, trumpet, trombone, French horn)</p> <p>Most trailblazers lessons will start week beginning 22nd September.</p> <p>All Y7 trailblazers also attend Wednesday afternoon enrichment trailblazers orchestra where we learn to start performing as an ensemble! Any questions regarding trailblazers please direct to Music Admin</p>
Food Technology	Year 8	Please look through the following document 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.
Library lessons	Year 8	Reminder: All students take part in the Accelerated Reader scheme. If you would like to know more, have a look at our guide for parents . For any further questions, please contact wylidl@skdrive.org
Food Technology	Year 9	Please look through the following document 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.
Art Ms Tallis	Year 10	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Every Tues after school - Mon/Tues/Wed lunchtimes <p>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.</p>
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.
English	Year 10	Please see this week's wider reading for year 10. This week is a video with an in depth history of Romanticism, which is a key movement in literature, and directly relevant to our study of the poetry anthology.

Duke of Edinburgh	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 Sep 23, 2025 19:00 PM</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting Link to Meeting Meeting ID: 827 7474 8105 Passcode: 53WpeR 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>
Photography 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"> - Every Tues after school, R10 - Mon/Tues/Wed lunchtimes. <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>
Engineering	Year 11	<p>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.</p>
English	Year 11	<p>Here is this week's wider reading. This article explores the recent rise in the Gothic. This will be relevant for our next English language paper next Wednesday.</p>

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

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 Understanding Assessment 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 Maximising the impact of homework forum, further details to follow
22 October	END OF TERM 1