

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been an excellent showcase of the richness of school life here at St Katherine's – from the classroom to the sports field, from the great outdoors to the world stage. I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights.

Celebrating values and opportunities

In House assemblies last week, we focused on the importance of punctuality. Being on time is a simple but powerful habit that underpins success in school and beyond. Meanwhile, Year 10 students launched their journey into work experience – the search for placements is now underway, and it is exciting to see the ambition and curiosity with which they are approaching this important step.

We also marked World Afro Day, a celebration of the beauty and heritage of Afro-textured hair. The day gave us all the chance to reflect on identity, respect, and pride in who we are, while also deepening understanding of diversity within our community.

Visitors and voices

It was a privilege to welcome Sadiq Al Hassan MP into school to speak with students about local, national, and global issues. Their thoughtful questions showed just how engaged and outward-looking our young people are. Sadiq's detailed answers also gave a real insight into the complexities of decision-making in government.

Our Sixth Formers have had a particularly busy fortnight. Year 12 and 13 students benefited from a study skills day, exploring how best to revise and store knowledge effectively. This was followed by a well-attended Parent/Carer Information Evening – thank you to everyone who joined us in support of our Sixth Form.

We also hosted a guest talk from Jessie Leung, Chartered Surveyor, who shared her experiences of working in the construction industry, broadening horizons for our Year 12 and 13 students.

Sporting achievements and outdoor adventures

On Sports Awards Evening, we celebrated the breadth of talent within our school community. Congratulations to **Heidi Martineau** (Sportswoman of the Year) and **Oscar Warren** (Sportsman of the Year), as well as all those nominated. With some of our athletes reaching national and even European levels, it truly was an evening of pride – sport really is in our DNA at St Katherine's.

Year 9 families also joined us for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award information evening. We strongly encourage every student to take up this challenge – it's a life-shaping experience not to be missed. Year 7 have been busy outdoors too, with 7S climbing Sugar Loaf (596m) – new friendships were formed and a great sense of achievement shared at the summit.

This week, some Year 7 students also began the Successful Me programme, designed to build self-esteem and confidence. Year 8 took part in a Tidal Tales drama workshop, diving into improvisation, character work and script skills in a fun and creative way. Year 13 Biologists enjoyed a trip to We the Curious in Bristol with Mrs Holmes – a fantastic opportunity to bring science learning to life.

Showcasing St Katherine's

Our Open Evening was a real highlight. A huge thank you to all staff and students who represented the school so proudly. Special mention goes to our Year 7 speakers:

- **Callie Coleman (7S)**
- **Dylan Bushell (7T)**
- **Beatrice Noble (7P1)**
- **Freddie Brooks (7Y1)**

Their speeches were delivered with confidence and presence well beyond their years. Our musicians also shone brightly – **Bill Watson** (flute with piano accompaniment), **Freya Bowers**, and **Eve Ward** – who filled the evening with stunning performances.

I was equally proud of the many students who guided visitors, shared their experiences, and demonstrated what makes our school community so special. Together, they showcased the very best of St Katherine's – and

reminded us just how much we have to be proud of.

This week's assemblies were focused on safeguarding. Our message to students is clear: safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and if you are ever worried about something or someone, always tell a trusted adult.

As we move deeper into Term 1, there is a real sense of momentum. Thank you, as always, for your support at home – working together in partnership gives our young people the best chance to thrive.

Warm regards,

Mr Humphreys

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 26 September 2025

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



MESSAGES		
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.
School	Whole School	Safer Inside Drill Practice Monday 29 September 2025 During tutor time on Monday, tutors will lead their students through what we all must do if we hear the alarm that signals we must initiate lockdown procedures. Students will be led through the steps we would all take if the alarm sounds in a safe and supportive way. The alarm will sound from approximately 08:45 until 08:55. During this time the gates will be closed and no one will be able to be admitted to the site. We ask for your patience and understanding if you are visiting the site and are asked to wait to enter until this important procedure is completed.
School Office	Whole School	Reminder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paracetamol is only given at break and lunch times, with consent. • All students need to come to school with a water bottle. • All students need to come into school wearing full correct uniform, including blazers.
Finance	Whole School	Our IT department is investigating with Civica and Parentpay the issue with the transfer of data from the canteen tills to Parentpay. Please be assured the monetary amount transferred is correct but it is only the food description that is incorrect.
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.
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.
Library	Year 7	All students are being introduced to our Accelerated Reader scheme. For more information see link . Any questions please email wylidl@skdrive.org
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.
Science	Year 8	Year 8 will be completing biology, chemistry and physics assessments the w/c 13th October. Revision booklets will be handed out next week. A copy of

		the revision booklet can also be found here . Please note that after this assessment some set changes will be made.
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.
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 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>
Mrs Fey Work Experience (WEX)	Year 10	<p>Work Experience was launched to half of the year 10 cohort on Wednesday 17th September and will be launched to the second half on Wednesday 1st October.</p> <p>Students now have access to key WEX resources via the WEX Google Classroom and I would encourage you to please support your child in their search for work experience. Finding a placement early on is key as slots book up fast.</p> <p>Yr 10 WEX week is running 29th June - 3rd July 2026.</p> <p>The deadline to add WEX placements to Unifrog is Monday 23rd February 2026 (to ensure we have time to obtain all the information required from employers)</p> <p>If you/your child has any questions or concerns surrounding WEX please email me on skworkexperience@skdrive.org or your child can pop in and see me in the Future's office every Wednesday.</p>
English	Year 10	This week's GCSE wider reading is here , on industrialisation, linked to our study of George Eliot's poem In a London Drawing Room.
Health and Social Care Miss Wilsher	Year 10	R033 interviews- students have been sent home with resources to complete an interview that will form the basis of their coursework. Deadline for interview 7th October. Any problems please do email me for support wilsherr@skdrive.org
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 Ms Tallis	Year 11	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:

		<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>
Mrs Collins	Year 11	<p>Y11 GCSE drama students will need to spend 2 hours a week rehearsing for their devising examination taking place in term 2. Your child may spend the following times rehearsing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lunchtimes - Monday - Thurs - After school - Mon, Weds, Thurs <p>Please support your child to plan and attend these times for additional rehearsal as those who did last year had the most success with their drama GCSE results. May thanks</p>
English	Year 11	<p>Within our study of Romeo and Juliet, we have reached the moment the lovers first meet and kiss. So, this week's wider reading is a sideways look at kissing.</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





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

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