

Dear Parents/Carers

As we reach the end of what has been a busy and productive first term, it's been wonderful to see our students embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm, maturity, and pride.

Our Year 8 students spent last week undertaking their assessments, and we could not be prouder of the way they have approached them. They have demonstrated our core value of resilience—showing focus, preparation, and a real commitment to doing their best. We continue to remind them that success, not stress, is the goal, and that their best is always good enough. This week has set a strong foundation for the years ahead. Thank you, as always, to families for the support you give at home—it truly makes a difference as our students continue their learning journey.

Year 7 enjoyed their first in-person Meet the Tutor Evening, a special milestone for both students and families. The evening began with a presentation from our Year 7 Coordinator Mr Bradshaw, before parents and carers visited their child's tutor base. It was wonderful to see the pride in students' books and the progress already made in their first term. Mr Bradshaw shared warm words about how proud he is of the year group — and we echo that sentiment wholeheartedly. It has been a fantastic start for Year 7, and we look forward to many more great moments to come.

Year 11 families joined us for an informative Parent/Carer Information Evening led by our Year 11 Coordinator Mr Sugden, supported by the core subject Heads of Faculty. It was a full house in the Lecture Theatre as we shared practical revision strategies and explored how we can work together to support students through their final year. Mr Sugden's "POMs" and revision tips were a real highlight, and we are excited to build on this work as we continue to empower students to succeed.

Across the school, there has been a wonderful range of career opportunities this term — from Avon and Somerset Police hosting a lunchtime pop-up event to Year 10 students engaging in "search and find" sessions for work experience placements. These experiences are invaluable in helping our students explore future pathways and develop confidence in their aspirations.

Looking ahead, **Year 9** students will soon begin their preparation for Assessment Week. During their assembly this week, they listened carefully to advice on effective revision techniques. We encourage parents and carers to ask their child to share some of these strategies at home — a great way to reinforce those skills and habits.

As Term 1 draws to a close, we reflect with pride on the progress made across all year groups. Thank you to our students for their effort, to our staff for their dedication, and to our parents and carers for their ongoing support. We wish everyone a restful break and look forward to another successful term ahead.

Warm regards,

Mr Humphreys

Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Wednesday 22 October 2025

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

MESSAGES		
School office	Whole School	Cathedral Schools Trust will be sharing a letter to update parents and carers regarding the proposed strike action. Following this, we will write to parents and carers at the start of the new term with further information.
School office	Whole School	Poppy Appeal - Our poppies have arrived into school, which can be found in the Library and SSO. If your child(ren) would like to donate, please bring cash into school.
School office	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.
Mr Hodgson	Whole School	Please find attached our Outdoor Ed newsletter with details of next term's activities.  Outdoor Ed Newsletter - Term 1.pdf
Mrs Gardner	Whole School	Please find attached our Careers newsletter with details of next term's activities.  Careers Newsletter Term 1.pdf
School Office	Whole School	Reminder • 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.
Mrs Humphries	Whole School	Praise Bookmarks In Term 2 we are excited to announce that Praise Postcards will be replaced by 'Praise Bookmarks'. Your young person will receive a Bookmark in place of a Postcard from now on if a teacher feels they have shown exceptional Respect, Resilience, Responsibility or Excellence. We encourage pupils to share these Bookmarks with you and then use them during DEAR time as a useful bookmark!
School	Year 7	Y7 Meet the Tutor Evening We would like to gather feedback from parents/carers who were able and unable to attend our Y7 meet the Tutor evening on Wednesday. Please complete this short google form .
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 follow the expectations listed.
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 follow the expectations listed.

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 follow the expectations listed.
Drama	Year 9	We have an amazing opportunity to take 15 students to the Bristol Old Vic for an industry open morning speaking to professionals in the theatre world. If you are interested in anything within theatre - acting, stage management, lighting, sound, set design, PR, production then this is for you! There are 7 places remaining. If you are interested please email me by Thursday 6 November on Collinsl@skdrive.org with your child's name and tutor group. Monday 10 November 09:45 - 12:30pm We will take the minibus there and back. Students will have lunch and then complete the rest of their school day.
School	Year 9	Year 9 Assessment week 1 takes place from 10 November to 14 November. A letter with details of each assessment can be seen here .
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.
 Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey	Year 10	Half term is the perfect opportunity for your child to research and reach out to employers to ask for work experience for 29th June - 3rd July 2026. The sooner they secure a placement the more likely they are to find one within their interests. If you have any questions or concerns please check the information available on the website here, or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org
Food Technology	Year 10	This term, we will look at bread making and raising agents. The first practical lesson on Tuesday 4th November will be Soda Bread, recipe can be found on Classchart . Please bring a suitable container to take your bread home.
Art Ms Tallis	Year 10	Students are keen to continue working on their current project, Natural Forms, over the break. Students have borrowed media & many have their own art packs now, purchased from school. Your child should continue to work on observational studies - looking carefully at an object/image - using any of the media we have worked with in the Term 1 workshops. All work completed will be submitted as coursework & this makes up 60% of the GCSE grade.
Sports Studies (Mr	Year 10	Students have started their first piece (1 out of 3) of coursework for Unit 1 of the course. In Unit 1, there are 40 marks available out of 200 on the

Dawes & Mr Jones)		course, this first piece is worth 12 marks. This counts towards their final GCSE grade. It has been set as a homework task on ClassCharts and students are encouraged to complete 1hr per week.
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	Students are keen to continue working on their current ELP, (Extended Learning Project) over the break. Students have borrowed cameras from school & can also use their phones to take successful photographs. Your child should continue to work on their current personal targets that can be found on their ELP slides. All work completed will be submitted as coursework & this makes up 60% of the GCSE grade.
	Year 11	Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on November 12th from 6pm-7.30pm. Please note the change of date from the previous announcement. We apologise for this change. To register your interest, please sign up here .
 Work Experience (WEX) Mrs Fey	Year 12	Half term is the perfect opportunity for your child to research and reach out to employers to ask for work experience for 15th - 19th June 2026 . The sooner they secure a placement the more likely they are to find one within their interests. If you have any questions or concerns please check the information available on the website here , or do feel free to drop me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - afey@skdrive.org

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 2

3 November	INSET DAY
5 November	0835-1535 Y9 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day
5 November	1400-1500 Y10 WEX search and find session
7 November	0835-1535 7T Sugar Loaf trip
10 November	Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 Bristol Old Vic Industry Day
10 November	1800-1900 Y7, Y8 Porto 2027 Information Evening, online
11 November	Remembrance 11:11
12 November	0835-1535 Whole school Flu immunisation
12 November	1700-1800 Supporting reading, online forum
12 November	1000-1130 Y8 Alistair Chisholm Author event, Lecture Theatre
12 November	0835-1535 Y11 Futures day
12 November	1800-1930 Sixth form open evening
14 November	1220-1400 All year groups - Avon & Somerset Police lunchtime pop up
14 November	0835-1535 7P1 Sugar Loaf trip
17 November	0835-1535 Y12&Y13 MOD Outreach event
17 November	0835-1535 Y8 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day
18 November	0835-0900 Y12&Y13 How to Choose the Right Course - Royal Holloway University
19 November	1400-1500 Y10 WEX search and find session
19 November	1400-1500 Y12&Y13 Weston Uni - Criminology and Public Services lie detection session

21 November	0835-1535 7Y2 Sugar Loaf trip
25 November	0835-0900 Y12&Y13 Gap Year Project Trust - Virtual Assembly
28 November	0835-1535 7P2 Sugar Loaf trip
3 December	1600-1900 Y8 Virtual Progress Evening
3 December	1400-1500 Y12&Y13 Apprenticeship workshop with Apprenticeship West
4 December	0835-0900 Y12&Y13 Understanding role within Law - Michelmoores
5 December	0835-1535 Y10 Future Brunel WECA Activity Day
w/c 8 Dec	Winter House Sport
8 December	1000-1100 Y10&Y11 Avon and Somerset Police Careers Realising Talent
9 December	0835-0900 Y12&Y13 Ruth Harries TV talk - Deadly 60
10 December	1800-1900 Christmas Carols, Canteen
10 December	1000-1220 Y9&Y11 Providers Event
11 December	1220-1400 Avon & Somerset Police lunchtime pop up
16 December	1830-1930 Christmas Cabaret, LT
16 December	0835-0900 Y12&Y13 Tom Mitchell talk - Fifa
17 December	1600-1900 Y9 Virtual Progress Evening
17 December	Y11 Mock certificate day
17 December	1400-1500 Y12 Jobs of the Future - Delivered by UWE
18 December	1220-1400 Christmas lunch, Canteen
19 December	School closes at 1230 - END OF TERM 2