



Weekly Communication to Parents/Carers | Friday 18 October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Here are the latest school messages and updates for your information plus details of any letters sent home during the last week.

MESSAGES		
School	All years	We are committed to working in partnership with parents and carers, and effective communication between home and school is key. We recognise however that it can often be difficult communicating with teachers because they have a very full timetable, are running clubs or working with students during lunchtime or after school; and we recognise that parents and carers have very busy lives. Please read the Communication Guidelines - School and Home . Communication with parents and carers is important to us, and we will continue to monitor these guidelines and our approach to improve the process further.
School	All years	Notice of Election of Parent Governors 2019. We are seeking nominations for two parent governors to join St Katherine’s School local governing body. Please click on the ‘letters this week’ link below for further details.
Mrs Collins	All years	Reminder for parents of children involved in Miss Saigon. Rehearsals for all cast end at 5:30pm every Thursday during Term 1 . A letter will be sent to students and in note form on google classroom regarding half term rehearsals.
School	All years	Following the 2019 Activities Week last July we sent out feedback questionnaires and, using your responses along with those of other stakeholders, we have conducted a review of the week. The feedback can be summarised as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils enjoyed the opportunity to work with staff and peers outside of the classroom setting and this is a valuable opportunity to develop and strengthen relationships. ● Whilst some activities provide new experiences for pupils, others have little educational value and could easily be undertaken by most pupils without assistance from the school. ● With all trips taking place in one week, the cost of activities can mount up and become a barrier for many families. ● There is a lack of equity in the experience of pupils with some taking part in many off-site activities whilst others remain in school for most of the week. ● The cost to the school has been significant. As a result of this feedback, we will be making some changes to the way in which co-curricular activities will be delivered at St Katherine’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activities Week will no longer exist as a week in July. ● Trips that offer little in the way of new experience to pupils will be reconsidered. ● Trips with clear educational value will be scheduled across the year rather than within one week of the summer term.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential trips to Paris and Barcelona will take place in separate weeks, allowing us to potentially take advantage of cheaper deals and increase participation. Work experience for Year 10 will continue to run in the same week.
Mr Hodgson	Year 12 and 13 surfers	The minibus will leave school at 08:30 on Sunday. The weather is going to be changeable so please make sure students have a towel, comfortable, warm clothing and shoes that can get wet. There will be an opportunity to buy food and snacks in Westward Ho! Students may also wish to bring some food of their own. We will return at around 18:00.
Mr Hodgson	Year 11 and 12	There will be a short meeting after school on Tuesday 22 October for anyone involved in the Borneo 2021 expedition. If you are not involved and are interested in finding out more, please speak to Mr Hodgson as soon as you can.
Mrs Collins	Year 11 drama	GCSE drama students have their first formal practical exam on Wednesday 23 October 2019. They will be off timetable all day to prepare and perform for internal assessment. Students do not need to wear uniform but must be in GCSE drama kit or neutral joggers/tops . Students need to ensure they are on time to school, with all props/costumes required for the performance. Please remind students to bring their logbooks to make notes after the performance in preparation for the evaluation element of their coursework.
Ms Tallis	Year 11 art	Year 11 art students are working towards the deadline of 22 November for their current course work project. They are completing final pieces in lessons and for homework at the moment. Lunchtime sessions continue every day in the Art Department so that GCSE students can work with teachers.
Mr Bates	Business	Catch up sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday 3:30-4:30pm. This is an opportunity for students to work on their coursework with teacher input. There will be no more time spent on this in class. This work has to be completed in full by the end of Term 2.
School	Year 10	Please note the Year 10 Progress Evening is now being held on <u>Thursday 12 December</u> and not Thursday 19 December as previously advertised.
School	Year 9 Key Stage 5 English and media students BAME Group	Vanessa Kisuule, Bristol City Poet 2018-2020, is a multi-award winning writer and performer based in Bristol. She has performed at an array of renowned poetry events and venues including The Royal Albert Hall, The British Library and the Bristol Old Vic as well as many festivals including Shambala, WOMAD and Glastonbury. Next Monday she is at St Katherine's! See Parent pay for opportunities to get involved.
Mr Britton	Year 8	<u>Year 8 Homework Clarification</u> Homework consists of two parts: 1. One task on HegartyMaths - watch the video, take notes, do quiz and show all workings in book. See help guide here



		<p>2. At least 30 games on TTRockstars - these are played in the 'Garage'. There is a tally of games remaining in the top corner of the Garage icon. Email brittonr@skdrive.org if you are unsure of login details.</p> <p>Homework is due every FRIDAY @ 8.30am</p>
Mr Britton	Year 7	<p><u>Year 7 Homework Clarification</u></p> <p>Homework consists of two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One task on HegartyMaths - watch the video, take notes, do quiz and show all workings in book. See help guide here. 2. At least 30 games on TTRockstars - these are played in the 'Garage'. There is a tally of games remaining in the top corner of the Garage icon. Email brittonr@skdrive.org if students are unsure of login details. <p>Homework is due every MONDAY @ 8.30am</p>
Miss Sutton	Food Technology	<p>Students who are currently doing food technology need to remember to bring the following ingredients:</p> <p>Monday 21st October - 9b Cookies 7r Scones</p> <p>Tuesday 22nd October -8r Cheese and onion pasties 8l Cheese and onion pasties</p> <p>Wednesday 23rd October - 7l scones</p> <p>Thursday 24th October - 7r cookies</p> <p>Friday 25th October - 10c Bolognese sauce</p> <p>All ingredients have been set on Class Charts. If you have any issues with providing these ingredients, please contact me on: suttone@skdrive.org with at least 48 hours notice if possible.</p>
Mr Hodgson	Adventure Training Club	<p>The minibus will leave school at 08:30 on Saturday. The weather is going to be changeable so please make sure students have full waterproof, warm clothes in a rucksack and walking boots/trekking shoes. They will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks for the walk. We will return at around 18:00, but may be earlier depending on the route.</p>
Miss Pearce	Year 7	<p>After half term students will be sitting their final KS2 transition test. I have attached some links to this document that will help your child to revise. If you have any questions please feel free to email me on pearces@skdrive.org</p>
Miss Pearce	Year 8	<p>Next week all Year 8 students will be having a test on everything they have learnt so far this year. Please encourage your child to revise using Seneca Learning or BBC bitesize. The topics covered are The Digestive System, Microorganisms/Health and The Periodic Table. If you have any questions please feel free to email me on pearces@skdrive.org</p>
Finance	All years	<p>Low Dinner Account Balance Alerts</p> <p>In order to set up alerts on your Parentpay account, select Communication, Alert Setting. This facility allows you to set a balance below which Parentpay will e-mail out a reminder to top up. Please be aware that e-mail reminders are free but text messages are charged at 6p per message. Some parents have experienced their</p>



		<p>alerts being disabled over the summer break and they have had to go in and set them up again this term. Alerts can also be set up for new payment items.</p> <p>Bank Transfer Facility on Parentpay</p> <p>It can take up to 8 days for a bank to accept a new Parentpay mandate. Please do not make any payments using the bank transfer facility until the mandate has been authorised as this will lead to failed transactions. Dinner accounts can go overdrawn as a result of failed transactions. Payments should be made using debit/credit card as these payments are authorised before they come down to the school.</p>
Miss Pearce	All years	<p>We are hosting a special event on 7 November 'Tea with a Scientist'. We would like to invite any student interested in this event for an informal chat with various scientists with a cup of tea and a biscuit! We have lots of different professionals coming in and is a great opportunity for anyone interested in STEM careers! Please click on the 'letters this week' link below for further details.</p>

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

Year 9	Year 9 Progress Evening
All	Notice of Election of Parent Governors 2019
All	Tea with a Scientist

UPCOMING EVENTS - click [here](#) to see all upcoming events

17 October	16:00-19:00 Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening
19 October	8-30 -18.00 Years 9/12 Adventure Training Club trip to Brecon Beacons
20 October	8.30-18.00 Years 12/13 surfing trip to Westward Ho!
23 October	11:00-13:30 Yr 10 Trip to Avon & Somerset Police Headquarters
24 October	09:00-15:20 Year 13 Science trip to We the Curious
	16:00-19:00 Year 9 Progress Evening
25 October	END OF TERM ONE
04 November	INSET DAY 4 - School closed to students. A Level Biology trip to Osmington Bay
05 November	START OF TERM TWO
	19:00-20:00 Year 11 Preparing to Perform Evening
07 November	15:30-16:30 Tea with a Scientist
09 November	12:00-22:30 Years 7-13 Girls PE trip to Wembley Stadium