

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 6th June 2025

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Welcome back and I hope everyone has had a good half term break.

It doesn't seem possible that we are now in the final term of the academic year with just a few weeks left in school. As always this is one of the busiest terms of the year with all year groups involved in so many activities and trips as well as important exams and thoughts about the future. We ended last term welcoming the return of Year 8 from a residential trip which I have been told was great fun and enjoyed by all. Year 7 had their super Wheelie Challenge activity as part of their careers' education. This term other year groups will have the opportunity to go on trips and take part in activities which have been long awaited. Next week our Modern Foreign Language staff and colleagues will be taking Year 10 students on a week-long trip to France and Germany to practise and immerse themselves in the language and culture of these two countries. All students at Key Stage 4 study a Modern Foreign Language so this trip is of great importance in their studies. It is also an opportunity for the students to be away from home staying with their friends or host families and having to adapt to a different routine in different surroundings, which is also a good experience and extension of their life skills. There are other trips and activities planned throughout the term which I will mention in due course, and I am grateful to the willingness and commitment of Kendrick staff who volunteer to take these trips, which require their own time, sometimes away from home and their families, taking care and responsibility for the students. I am sure students and parents also appreciate and acknowledge these experiences their children can have at Kendrick School.

The KPS Raffle Draw took place on Saturday 24th May and this year I was delighted that two of our Year 12 students, Tvishi and Kitty, members of the Kendrick Student Leadership Team, helped in the draw calling out the ticket numbers and prizes. We were all delighted that the raffle raised over £7k and with matched funding that a few parents have told they can get from their employers, we should reach, if not exceed, our target of £8k. That is wonderful and will enable us to buy the lighting and sound equipment for the Music and Drama Departments. Thank you to KPS for their relentless efforts to encourage our school community to engage in the raffle and many thanks to all the parents who bought tickets and or donated. The KPS newsletter will provide more information on the stats around the raffle, but what I do know is that 8SF, Mr Fatani's form, sold the most raffle tickets, so very well done to them. They get a prize for doing that which includes a pizza lunch and a day when they can wear their own clothes to school! The next big KPS event is the Summer Fair which will take place on Saturday 12th July. More information on this and KPS will follow in due course.

As the raffle this year raised money for the Music and Drama Departments, it seems appropriate that I feature some of the developments and plans in Music and Drama this term. Firstly, this article on the [Lower School Chamber Concert](#) last term. Some super photos of the students singing and playing their musical instruments which was such a joyous event. Looking ahead to later in the term, our now annual Music Performer Series will this year feature Harp and Percussion and we welcome musicians Eluned Pierce and Keith Price. Over recent years Harp playing and percussion have become such popular forms of music for our students, and I am so looking forward to this event which is on Thursday 3rd July from 4.00pm. It will begin with a masterclass, followed by separate harp and percussion ensembles culminating in a short concert performed by our guest musicians and our students. Such a treat to look forward to. Details of the event and how students can get involved is [here](#). Of course parents and friends are invited to the event. Please peruse the other pages on music that this link takes you to. In addition to all the music activities being planned for this term, we are preparing for Sports Day in the final week of term, Work Experience for Year 12 and 10 and of course June is Pride month and a whole month of activities have been planned for students to take part in which you will hear more about in due course.

We are about halfway through the public exam season and some students have taken many papers, others have quite a few to go. As I have said before, this period of exams for our young people can be very stressful and tiring. My thanks to the students for their resilience and strength in the way they have conducted themselves so far, planning, preparing, and managing this period. And of course, all the staff including the Exams Team, invigilators, teachers, and staff who ensure that everyone is where they need to be every morning and afternoon, showing care

and sensitivity to the students. I am sure the same support and encouragement is happening at home, so thank you to parents too. Internal exams for Year 10 finished before half term and today a week of Year 12 exams finish. Well done to those students for their work and efforts at this stage in their courses.

It is not a coincidence that together with Mr Kassianos, one of our Library Coordinators, we have chosen for this week's word of the week, the word *Journey* – definition: *A journey is the act of travelling from one place to another, often implying a process of growth, change or development along the way.* I think it is fair to say that all of us at school are embarking on a journey, literally and metaphorically, this term as we begin the start of the end of our academic year with all the places it will take us at school and beyond.

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend and productive term ahead.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Kendrick School has several social media platforms and sites. Please follow us to get the latest news and information about the school. The links are in the logos below.



SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School, please email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or telephone 0118 9015859 and ask to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Simmonds, or a Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

If you're worried about any child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 4pm and at weekends and holidays), you can contact the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free - call us on **0800 800 5000** or **contact NSPCC online**. Children can contact **Childline** any time to get support themselves. **In an emergency please call 999 or for a non-emergency call 101.**

We have created a library of resources for parents, carers and students including support avenues which you can find on our website via this [link](#). We add to these on a regular basis.

[CAMHS Resources](#) - This site was created for young people, carers and professionals to pool together lots of helpful resources from across the internet that are available to help support your mental health and well-being.

For well-being support in school please visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

SAFEGUARDING

FREE SOUTH-EAST POLICE CYBERCRIME UNIT ONLINE SAFETY WEBINARS

The South-East Police Cyber Crime team is running free webinars throughout the year on online safety.

This collection has 22 events in total which includes Cyber Security for Businesses, Online Safety for Women and Girls as well as General On-Line Safety for all ages and parents and carers webinar on online safety for children.

[Visit the Eventbrite page](#) for the calendar of sessions through June to October.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

HELP YOUR CHILD BEAT EXAM STRESS source: NHS Tests and exams can be a challenging part of school life for children and young people and their parents or carers. But there are ways to ease the stress.

Watch for signs of stress Children and young people who are stressed may:

- worry a lot
- feel tense
- have headaches and stomach pains
- not sleep well
- be irritable
- lose interest in food or eat more than normal
- not enjoy activities they previously enjoyed
- be negative and have a low mood
- feel hopeless about the future

Having someone to talk to about their work can help. Support from a parent, tutor or study buddy can help young people share their worries and keep things in perspective.

Encourage your child to talk to a member of school staff who they feel is supportive. If you think your child is not coping, it may also be helpful for you to talk to their teachers.

Try to involve your child as much as possible.

Make sure your child eats well A balanced diet is vital for your child's health, and can help them feel well during exam periods.

Some parents find high-fat, high-sugar and high-caffeine foods and drinks, such as energy drinks, cola, sweets, chocolate, burgers and chips, make their children hyperactive, irritable and moody.

Where possible, involve your child in shopping for food and encourage them to choose some healthy snacks.

Read more about [eating a balanced diet](#).

Help your child get enough sleep Good sleep improves thinking and concentration. Most teenagers need 8 to 10 hours' sleep a night.

Allow half an hour or so for your child to wind down between studying, watching TV or using a computer and going to bed, to help them get a good night's sleep.

Cramming all night before an exam is usually a bad idea. Sleep will benefit your child far more than a few hours of panicky last-minute study.

Be flexible during exams Be flexible around exam time. When your child is revising all day, do not worry about household jobs left undone or untidy bedrooms.

Staying calm yourself can help. Remember, exams do not last forever.

[The Family Lives website has more information about coping with exam stress](#)

[Health for Teens also has information and advice about how to prepare for exams and deal with exam stress](#)

Help them study Make sure your child has somewhere comfortable to study. Ask them how you can support them with their revision.

Help them come up with practical ideas that will help them revise, such as drawing up a revision schedule or getting hold of past papers for practice.

To motivate your child, encourage them to think about their goals in life and see how their revision and exams are related to them.

Talk about exam nerves Remind your child that it's normal to feel anxious. Nervousness is a natural reaction to exams. The key is to put these nerves to positive use.

If anxiety is getting in the way rather than helping, encourage your child to practise the activities they'll be doing on the day of the exam. This will help it feel less scary.

For example, this may involve doing practice papers under exam conditions or seeing the exam hall beforehand. School staff should be able to help with this.

Help your child face their fears and see these activities through, rather than avoiding them.

Encourage them to think about what they know and the time they've already put into studying to help them feel more confident.

Encourage exercise during exams Exercise can help boost energy levels, clear the mind and relieve stress. It does not matter what it is – walking, cycling, swimming, football and dancing are all effective.

Activities that involve other people can be particularly helpful.

Read more about the [physical activity guidelines for children and young people](#).

Do not add to the pressure Support group Childline says many children who contact them feel that most pressure at exam time comes from their family.

Listen to your child, give them support and avoid criticism.

Before they go in for a test or exam, be reassuring and positive. Let them know that failing is not the end of the world. If things do not go well they may be able to take the exam again.

After each exam, encourage your child to talk it through with you. Discuss the parts that went well rather than focusing on the questions they found difficult. Then move on and focus on the next test, rather than dwelling on things that cannot be changed.

[See Childline's advice on exam stress and pressure](#)

Make time for treats With your child, think about rewards for doing revision and getting through each exam.

Rewards do not need to be big or expensive. They can include simple things like making their favourite meal or watching TV.

When the exams are over, help your child celebrate by organising an end-of-exams treat.

When to get help Some young people feel much better when exams are over, but that's not the case for all young people.

Get help if your child's anxiety or low mood is severe, persists and interferes with their everyday life. Seeing a GP is a good place to start.

Read more about [anxiety in children](#).

Kendrick School has gathered a few useful guides on our website for students with tips for keeping calm, some ideas for self-care and also guidance for parents on how to support their child.

Please remember that school is here to help you, talk to your teachers or contact the Student Welfare Team, studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk, for support.

[WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR THE EXAM SEASON](#)

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING

For all our wellbeing information please click [here](#).

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2024-25

Monday 9th June	Year 10 MFL Trip departs
Thursday 12th June	Trustees L&T Committee, 4.30pm
Tuesday 17th June	Biology Trip to Sutton Courtenay
Thursday 19th June	Trustees Resources Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 20th June	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip
Monday 23rd June	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip
	Year 13 Farewell Tea Party
Wednesday 25th June	New Year 7 Induction Day
Thursday 26th June	Sixth Form Induction Day
	New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
Monday 30th June	Creative Arts Week
Tuesday 1st July	Summer Concert, 6.30pm
Thursday 3rd July	Performer Series, 4pm to 6pm
	Creative Arts Festival Showcase
	Full Trustees Meeting, 4.30pm
Friday 4th July	INSET Day
Monday 7th July	Futures Week
Tuesday 8th July	Year 12 Insights Day
Wednesday 9th July	Profiling Day
Thursday 10th July	UCAS Parents' Information Evening
	Years 7-10 Moving Up Day
Friday 11th July	Black Heritage Showcase – lunchtime
Wednesday 16th July	Year 7 Hindu Temple trip
Thursday 17th July	End of Term 6, 3.15pm
Friday 18th July	Staff Day
Thursday 24th July	New Year 7 Summer School
Friday 24th July	New Year 7 Summer School
	Widening Horizons (am)

Term dates for 2024/25 and 2025/26 can be found [here](#). Please check these carefully before booking holidays and trips.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEND) NEWS

SPRING SEND LOCAL OFFER NEWSLETTER The [spring edition of the new look SEND Local Offer Newsletter 2025](#) is now available. It's packed with lots of information including:

- Blog – Lara Patel, Executive Director Children's Services
- Blog – Carly Price, Strategic Lead for SEND Brighter Futures for Children
- News items, what's on/events available throughout the Easter holidays

- Early years – updates from the sector
- What's on, events and workshops
- Preparing for adulthood – updates for 16–25-year-olds
- Short breaks, support services and much more...

Remember, this newsletter is just a snapshot of the wealth of information found on the www.readingsendlocaloffer.org.

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS



Reading loves reading

Saturday 24 May - Saturday 13 September

Get reading for free this summer

Last year 1,247 children took part in The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge at Reading Libraries.

This year the whole family can join in! Children can challenge parents, carers and even their teachers to read alongside them.

Each challenge is free to join and we no longer charge overdue fines.

To complete a challenge, you need to read 6 books over 3 visits (Book Bingo, 3 books, over 3 visits).

At each branch, all finishers of each challenge will be entered into a branch prize draw for the chance to win one of our main prizes.

Which challenge will you take?

The Reading Agency's Mini Challenge – Under 5s
7 x Duplo sets to be won

The Reading Agency's 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden - primary school children
7 x Lego sets to be won
Certificate and small prize for all finishers

Book Bingo - teens and adults
7 x Amazon Vouchers to be won

Children's Crafts May Half Term and Summer Holidays

Each library will be running lots of free and low cost activities throughout May half term and the summer school holidays.

Join us for our Launch Day on Saturday 24 May at all libraries. We will be making Scarecrow Mascots and running a Scarecrow Art Competition on the day to win a family ticket to Reading Rep's Christmas show!

For more information on all our events and services visit www.reading.gov.uk/libraries







READING LOVES READING Last year 1,247 children took part in The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge at Reading Libraries. This year the whole family can join in! Children can challenge parents, carers and even their teachers to read alongside them. Each challenge is free to join and there are no longer charges for overdue fines. To complete a challenge, you need to read 6 books over 3 visits (Book Bingo, 3 books, over 3 visits). At each branch, all finishers of each challenge will be entered into a branch prize draw for the chance to win one of the main prizes.

REACHOUT LGBTQ+ YOUTH CLUB [ReachOUT Youth Club](http://ReachOUTYouthClub.org) holds sessions every other week for 13-18 year olds in Reading who identify as LGBTQ+. The group currently meets in one of RBC's community centres every other Wednesday from 6.30-8.30pm, providing a safe space to chat with other young people and access advice and support. To find out more or to book onto the next session, email reachout@brighterfuturesforchildren.org or call 0118 937 6130.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK 'On a day when the wind is perfect, the sail just needs to open and the world is full of beauty. Today is such a day.' - Rumi

WORD OF THE WEEK: Journey (Noun)

Definition: A journey is the act of travelling from one place to another, often implying a process of growth, change, or development along the way.

Example: 'As students return for Term 6, they prepare to embark on the next chapter of the school year with new opportunities and exciting challenges ahead.'

Etymology: The word 'journey' originates from the Old French term 'jornee', which means 'a day's travel'. This, in turn, comes from the Latin 'diurnus', meaning 'daily'. Over time, the term has evolved to encompass not just the physical act of travelling, but also the metaphorical journeys we undertake in life, reflecting personal growth and transformation.



ReachOUT YOUTH CLUB

We meet every other week on a Wednesday, from 6.30-8.30pm.

The group is for all Reading LGBTQ+ young people aged 13-18.

For more information and venue details, please contact our senior youth worker on:

07568 130439 or you can email: reachout@brighterfuturesforchildren.org



 @readingyoungpeople

www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org/young-peoples-zone



CAREERS GUIDANCE AND EVENTS

Please note that whilst we are happy to share these opportunities with you, we are unable to endorse or recommend them.

*SIXTH FORM: If you are successful in gaining a place to an opportunity and it is in school time, you **must** request absence from Mrs Hearn. If granted you should then ensure you notify attendance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk, your form tutors and the teachers of the lessons you are missing.*

VACANCIES

We have no vacancies at the current time.

Kendrick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure check by the Disclosure & Barring Service. Kendrick School is an Equal Opportunity employer.

PARENTPAY AND EVOLVE REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details. Thank you for your continued support.

PARENTPAY

School fund Donation

Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations

Year 10 and 11 GCSE English set text contributions

Year 12 and 13 A level English set text contributions

Year 10 2025 MFL trip to France or Germany instalments

Sponsored run and sponsored swim fundraiser

EVOLVEPAY

Payment can be made via trip payment emails or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up.

Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day – April 2025

The Crucible – The Globe Theatre – April 2025

GCSE Drama trip to The Globe – May 2025

Year 7 Wheelie Fun Challenge – May 2025

A – Level Biology – Sutton Courtenay – June 2025

Year 10 Geography Amersham visit – June 2025

Year 12 Work Experience - June 2025

EVOLVESHOP

Purchase can be made via payment links or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up

GCSE Drama set text (The Crucible, Arthur Miller)

Year 8 Careers Event – January 2025

Year 9 and Year 10 French and German plays

German set text



FANCY A TASTE OF LIFE AT COOPER PARRY?

WHO ARE WE?
They call us the Rebels of Accountancy. Why? Because we do things differently. We're bold. We're disruptive. And we're all about making life count.

WHO ARE YOU?

- A student in Years 10 to 13?
- Interested in a career in finance but not sure where you fit?
- Able to get to one of our offices on the dates we advertise?
- Curious, enthusiastic and up for a challenge?

WHAT'S ON OFFER?
We're offering up to one week of work experience at one of our 5 Superhubs: Midlands (E&W), London, Manchester or Thames Valley.

SUMMER INSIGHT WEEK
Not sure whether you're an Audit ace, a Tax whizz or a future Financial Planner? No worries. Our Summer Insight Week is your chance to try it all. You'll get a taster of different teams (depending on your location), plus a full day of application skills training with our Early Careers team to set you up for whatever's next.
When? Between June and August

BUSINESS INSIGHT WEEK
Got a clearer idea of which team you want to join? This one's for you. You'll spend 3 to 5 days shadowing one of our teams – getting stuck into real client work, sitting in on team meetings and seeing what life's really like for a CP trainee.
When? During school holidays in October, February, Easter and May.

READY TO GO?
CLICK HERE or scan the QR code to register your interest. We'll be in touch to confirm your spot!

COOPER PARRY

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Pre-loved uniform store is open this Saturday 7th Jun 2025, 9am - 11am in the Conservatory, conveniently located in the Conservatory next to the school library.

Parking is usually available in the Cedars car park along London Road, just past the dentist near the traffic light.

Parents and carers are welcome to utilise the opportunity.

If you have uniform, PE kit or lab coats to donate, your donation can be left either at Reception or the students can leave it in a collection box by the Servery.



KPS SPRING RAFFLE



A big thank you to Everyone! Delighted to have raised over £7,107 via raffle tickets and donations (-minus expenses). There's potential for even more once matched funding and gift aid comes through, potentially taking the grand total to £ 8100+

Spring Raffle Draw took place on 24th May 2025 and congratulations to all the winners, and currently prizes are being distributed. Class 8SF also won Pizza Lunch and Own Clothes day with highest money contributed/raised. **Thanks to all parents, carers, students, prize sponsors, staff, volunteers and KPS members** in driving and supporting this important fund raising event to enhance music facilities. If you have any query or feedback, please reach out to - kpsraffle@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or kpschair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS

KPS Events and Refreshments Volunteers

As you are aware, we run many events and support school activities like music or drama performances during the year. We need volunteers to help these events even if for few hours. To join our team of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers, please join the WhatsApp group using this link: [KPS Events and Refreshment Volunteers](#)

Pre-loved Uniform Shop Volunteers

Are you available on Saturday mornings? We're looking for volunteers to help run our pre-loved uniform shop. This initiative not only helps raise funds for the school but also supports environmental sustainability by reusing uniforms. It's a fantastic way to provide great value to parents while ensuring students have access to quality uniforms at reduced prices. Join our team by clicking on this WhatsApp group link: [Kendrick Uniform Shop Volunteers Group](#)

JOIN KPS Since KPS operates as a registered charity, we invite you to become a part of our community by joining us. Connecting with your daughter's school through KPS is a simple process. Please take a moment to complete our [online membership form](#) making your involvement seamless and effortless. Your participation is highly valued, and we look forward to welcoming you to the KPS family.

KPS FACEBOOK CLOSED GROUP KPS runs a closed Facebook group where we provide details of upcoming events and other important information. To join this group, search for the "Kendrick Parents' Society" group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>) and ask to join – **once we have confirmed that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request.**

KPS Team