

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 14th September 2018



Message from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

We have almost completed our two week cycle of lessons and the school, staff and students, seem to have settled back into the routine of school life. A number of students have been to see me requesting permission to pursue some social enterprise initiatives for the coming year. The Head Girl Team is underway with their plans for Fringe Week next month and have also started planning an Outreach Week for next February when they hope to engage with schools and community groups in our local area. The three Houses, Cedars, Palmer and Sidmouth have had meetings this week and their activities are underway, starting with House Football. Our Holocaust Ambassadors have planned to invite a Holocaust Survivor to come to our school to speak to the students which we hope will take place in the next two months. The Mock UN group has started its preparations for the National Conference next February. A Year 13 student is planning and putting together a school magazine to be published in December and another Year 13 student is working with me to run a homework club for refugee children in Reading. As you can see so much is going on! A full list of our clubs and societies will be sent to you in due course.

I would like to mention to everyone our **Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS)**. KPS is a vital part of our school life, not least because of the dedication and commitment they have to supporting students at Kendrick. Their tireless fund raising enables the school to have items of equipment that we would not be able to purchase easily from our school budgets. Last year KPS raised in excess of £15k. £8k came from the raffle and enabled us to buy two interactive LED screens for the Geography and Economics Departments. They are donating the remainder of the money to be spent across all departments to assist in any additional items needed for the coming year. At our meeting on Monday, plans for the coming year were discussed and it was so encouraging to see so many new parents at the meeting wanting to become involved. I urge all of you to try to do what you can to support the work and or activities of KPS as everything they do benefits our students. You will hear more from KPS from the current chair, Vic Morgan and Vice Chair, Una Tietema, in due course.

We have been reminding you about school procedures and I know that messages have gone to you from Year Heads regarding specific procedures and protocols. At school we are also reminding ourselves about our procedures and practices. One area of communication I have been speaking to staff about is the use of emails. It is very easy to send emails to each other any time of the day and night. We are all trying to be more mindful of our workloads and I have asked staff to try not to email each other in the evening and night time and have suggested to them that if they need to write their email at night time that they then keep it in their draft folder and send it the next morning. May I suggest that if parents are sending individual emails to teachers that they write them when they can, but send them to us in the morning? Sometimes emails can be written in haste and after some reflection and sleep, one's messages might be framed differently. For everyone's well-being, please may I ask that emails are confined to day time hours from 7.00am- 6.00pm? Obviously if there is an emergency, please let us know at the earliest opportunity.

Finally, I introduced our new staff to you last week, this week I would like to inform you of some important roles that staff have taken on this year. Firstly, **Ms Stacey, Head of Sixth form, is also our SENDCo** and **Miss Swaine is now our Key Stage Three (KS3) Teaching and Learning Coordinator** leading the Year 8 and 9 Cohorts.

Tomorrow is our Testing Day for students hoping to join us in Year 7 in September 2019. It will be a very busy day with hundreds of prospective candidates coming here to be tested. A huge amount of planning and preparation has

already taken place for the day, and I would like to thank all our staff, the Head Girl Team and Year 11 students who will be coming into school tomorrow, giving up part of their weekend, to help run the day. Thank you.

Best wishes to everyone this weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

More news on our website next week.

Cover Assistant Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Cover Assistant for 32 hours a week to join us in October. Please see our website for more information on the role and how to apply. Please pass this information on to friends or family who may be interested.

<https://www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+Staff+Vacancies&pid=149>

Parent Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join the Governing Body this term. Information on how nominations can be made and the election process will be communicated during week commencing 17th September.

We are fortunate to have parents/carers with a wide range of skills and talents, who are able to contribute to the Governing Body. In these challenging financial times and in the current political climate, our governing body is having to make some significant strategic decisions, not just for the students that are with us at the moment, but for the cohorts of students that will come to Kendrick in the future. Recently appointed parent governors have said that they enjoy their role as a governor; it gives them an insight into the workings of the school and how the school is accountable to the governing body. In addition, it enables them to be involved in setting the strategic vision of the school by working closely with Ms Kattirtzi and the Senior Leadership Team. They are proud to be part of a school that is relentless in its pursuit of excellence.

If you have an interest in education and have skills that you feel could contribute to the work we do, please put your name forward to be considered for the role of Parent Governor at Kendrick. We are particularly interested in financial and legal experience and also property/estate management skills

Data Collection Sheets

You should have now received a data collection sheet for your daughter. Please check the information carefully, ensuring all the relevant details are up to date and accurate. The data collection sheet should be signed and returned to your daughter's tutor as soon as possible **even if you do not have any changes**.

Please remember that it is very important for safeguarding and emergency purposes that we always have accurate contact details for all parents/carers including contact numbers and home addresses. If you move home

during the year, or change your mobile phone number, please do let us know immediately by emailing admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk so we can amend our records.

School Reunion – Sunday 30th September 2018, 2pm to 4pm

This year our School Reunion for former students and staff will be on Sunday 30th September 2018 between 2pm and 4pm. There will be an opportunity to tour the school, have a look at archive material and chat with friends and staff over light refreshments.

It would be appreciated if you could complete the form on our website so that we have an idea of numbers. Unfortunately we cannot offer parking on the school site.

We look forward to seeing you!

<https://www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk/page/?title=Alumnae&pid=21>

Safeguarding

Please read the NSPCC guidelines on how to start the conversation with your child about staying safe online and what to do if you are worried about online safety.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online/>

ParentPay Reminders

- 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' – which took place on 18th July - £5.50
- GCSE PE kit (optional) – please pay by 21st September if you want to order kit
- Year 10 MFL trips to France or Germany – please continue to pay instalments
- Year 12 Book Deposits - £50 to be paid as soon as possible
- English texts – Years 10 – 13

Please remember to top up dinner money and printing accounts.

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 17th September 2018 (A Week)

House Football all week for Years 9 and 10

Monday 17th September Year 11 Geography Trip

Thursday 20th September Year 12 Welcome Evening

The full school calendar can be found via this [link](#)

NEWS AND EVENT BY YEAR GROUP

Years 7-9

Free Trial Music Session Available

At Kendrick School we offer a wide range of vocal and instrumental lessons, as well as theory lessons, through Berkshire Maestros and private peripatetic teachers. Some spaces have become available to learn the following instruments: piano, keyboard, flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp, guitar, cornet, trumpet, tenor horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and voice. If there is something that your daughter would like to learn but is not listed here, please ask and we can try to arrange for someone to come in and offer a free trial session.

Lessons take place on a weekly basis, both during school time and before/after school/at break times. These are usually on a rotating timetable so that minimal lesson time is missed. Lessons can be in small groups or individual based. Please see below information regarding fees.

FEE ASSISTANCE – BERKSHIRE MAESTROS

If you are concerned about the fees of lessons please contact Berkshire Maestros for details of funding available. Berkshire Maestros offer a 75% fee remission for families on any of the following benefits: Income Support; Job Seekers Allowance; Free School Meals/Pupil Premium (they will require confirmation from the Benefits Office or your school). Fee remission applies to group lessons and ensembles. If you are not entitled to any of the above please do contact the finance department on 0118 901 2370 as you may still be eligible for assistance from other funds. Berkshire Maestros will always try to find a way to help.

FEES

Berkshire Maestros (including piano)

Group Lessons: from £9.60

Individual Lessons: from £17.30

Please see website: www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk for full information regarding fees.

Private Music Teachers (Harp, piano, theory)

Individual Lessons: 30 minutes - £17.50

These spaces are being offered to students in Years 7-9. It is a great opportunity for all, whether they have just settled into school life, may be thinking of taking GCSE Music, or for those who would like to broaden their extra-curricular activities and make new friends.

We are offering to give all students who are interested in this opportunity a free trial session on one of the above instruments prior to signing up for lessons. I hope this will be of interest to many of you, if so, please reply to Mrs Cooper, Head of Music, by email at ccooper@kendrick.reading.sch.uk **by no later than Friday 28th September. In your email please clearly state your daughter's name and form group, together with details of the instrument(s) she is interested in.**

The trial sessions will take place in school time and the specific instrumental/vocal teachers will let you know the date and time via email once all forms have been received. Instruments will be provided for the trial session.

In addition to teaching lessons in school, Berkshire Maestros have a number of Music Centres around the County and offer a complete range of instrumental lessons. Please contact Berkshire Maestros if you would like further details of an instrument not currently offered at school.

Learning a musical instrument increases self-confidence, co-ordination and concentration, but above all is fun!

Year 8

Parents' Information Evening

Please may we remind you about the Year 8 Parents' Information Evening on Tuesday 25th September. There will be a meet and greet with tutors from 6.45pm-7.00pm and then the evening formally starts at 7.00pm.

We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Year 11

Admission Test Day – Saturday 15th September 2018

This is a reminder that the Year 11s are helping tomorrow at our Admission Test Day as follows (unless already agreed differently):

11P and 11R	AM Session	7.45am to 11.45pm
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11Q and 11S	PM Session	11.45am to 3.45pm
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If your daughter is unwell tomorrow please contact 0118 9015859 as soon as possible.

All students should wear their school uniform and comfortable shoes.