Kendrick School Weekly Update

Friday 4th October 2019

Weekly Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

We have had a brilliant **Eco week** so far and today students may wear green to emphasise the purpose of Eco Week and the work we still have to do to become a more Eco friendly school and environment. Led by Ms Fallows, Mia and Anna-Mae in Year 13 and many other students across the school, numerous activities and discussions have taken place and engaged everyone across the school. The determination to make a difference is palpable and our attempts to reduce waste, in particular, single use plastics is seriously being considered by everyone. We will hear more from the Eco Group about the week and their plans for the future in due course. Our work so far has meant we have achieved the status of Silver Award Eco School and we will be working on the next level which is to a achieve the Green Flag Award. I am sure there will be another Eco week later in the year where we can again highlight and progress this vital work.

October is known as **Black History month** when there is a focus on the achievements of Black people in History. Again this initiative has been embraced by students and on our Inspire Board in the Library the Black writer, <u>Toni Morrison</u>, who died this summer is featured. As part of Black History month the Head Girl Team has invited an inspirational speaker to the school, **Dr Shola Mos-Shogbamimu**, who will deliver a talk entitled "**A Girl with a Dream is Fire**" on **Friday 11th October, at 3:25pm - 4:30pm**. An invitation to this talk was sent to students and parents yesterday and I encourage everyone to come along; you will not be disappointed by Dr Shola's energy and enthusiasm!

As you will have seen from one of the Parentmails this week we are seeking three new parent governors to join the Governing Body. We are very fortunate at Kendrick to have a very strong and supportive governing body whose role is to lead the strategic direction of the school. We meet regularly in committees and as a governing body discuss themes about how the school is performing, sustainability and resource issues and what strategic developments the school should pursue. Our most recent strategic development has been the expansion of the school which as everyone knows will result in an additional form of entry to the school next September and a new building. One of the very important committees in the governing body is the Learning and Teaching Committee. Last night was the first meeting of this committee where the focus was on the recent GCSE and GCE results. For this meeting, Mr Simmonds, Deputy Headteacher, prepares a hugely detailed report based on the examination data and reports received from Heads of Department who since the start of term have been analysing and reviewing their subject results. At Kendrick this meeting is always a time when we can celebrate our success and the hard work of the students and staff. However, the role of the governors is also to ask questions and challenge where they feel clarity or more information is needed. At last night's meeting, the governors were once again impressed with our results this summer and recorded their thanks and appreciation for the hard work of the staff and students. Next week is a meeting of the Resources Committee at which we will review the finances and budget for the coming year and how we utilise our resources to get best value for money, as well as provide the best education for our students. I hope parents with an interest in education and or a background in Finance, Law, HR and Technology will consider putting themselves forward for election.

Looking forward to next week, we have <u>Biology Week</u> coming up when every day there will interesting activities going on in school focusing on Biology and related themes. Also next **Thursday 10**th **October** is **Mental Health Awareness Day**, where once again we will be raising awareness of this most important issue for everyone. I am always pleased to see so many students appreciate the importance of mental health and the real desire to look after each other to maintain good mental health. Finally the **KPS Diwali** event on **Friday 18**th **October** is not far off and I urge everyone to put this date and buy tickets for what I know will be a great evening. There will be articles and news items on all these activities on the website in the coming weeks.

Best wishes and have a good weekend

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

Student Safety

Last night a student was approached on their way to the station by someone requesting money. A member of the public intervened and the student is safe but shaken. Students have been reminded to walk away from anyone approaching them for money and remember to avoid walking on their own to the station especially if they have left after the main rush and there are fewer other students around. We believe that this is not a common occurrence, but students should be careful and vigilant when walking to and from school. Please could you reinforce this message to your child. Thank you.

CALENDAR

Week Commencing Monday 7th October 2019 (B Week)

Biology Week

Monday 7th October Year 11 GCSE Drama

Tuesday 8th October Year 8 Careers Day with Visa

Senior Mathematics Olympiad (some Year 11,12,13)

Wednesday 9th October Year 8 Welcome Evening, 6.45pm

Ski Trip Meeting, 7pm

Thursday 10th October Mental Health Awareness Day

Governor Resources Committee, 4.30pm

Friday 11th October Black History Month – Speaker

Geography Trip to Slapton departs

Sunday 13th October Year 10 MFL Trip depart

The full school calendar can be found via this link

Key Events in Term 1

Monday 14th October KPS Meeting, 6pm Friday 18th October KPS Diwali Evening Monday 21st October KPS AGM, 6pm

Thursday 24th October Upper School and Sixth Form Chamber Concert, 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Friday 25th October End of Term 1, 3.15pm

KPS NEWS

Diwali Event -Friday 18th October 2019

This is an evening with entertainment provided by Kendrick students with performances including various forms of Indian classical and Bollywood dance, music, and a grand fashion show followed by a variety of Indian food. There will be stalls selling home decor, Indian ethnic clothes, accessories, Henna and much more. The event will start at 5.30pm and you will have an opportunity to buy Indian snacks and other refreshments. The dinner stall will open immediately after the performances at 7.15pm.

The event is very soon, so please do not forget to book your tickets https://www.trybooking.co.uk/MWE. Booking tickets in advance will help us arrange the right quantity of food and prevent food wastage.

We are calling for students and their siblings or even parents to showcase our cultural diversity. The performance could be solo/group singing, dance or instrument playing. Interests for **performances** and **fashion show** to be registered by next Wednesday.

Contact: Mridhula Sridevi Prabhakar from Year 12NW or Gayatri Hariharan at 07879448003

KPS AGM - Monday 21st October 2019

The KPS AGM is on **Monday 21st October** at **6pm** in the school library. All parents who are registered with KPS can please join us for the meeting. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in any of the officer roles (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, KPS Class Rep Coordinator, KPS Representative to the Kendrick Trust) please notify the current secretary **Raghavendra** at least 2 days before the AGM by emailing him on **secretary.kps.uk@gmail.com**.

A brief description for each role is available on request.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- A Level Chemistry revision guides and Chemistry Review
- A Level Physics Physics Review and Physics Lab Books (Year 12)
- A Level Geography Geography Review

Please continue to pay instalments for any residential trips especially those that are taking place shortly (ie A Level Geography Slapton Ley, MFL trips to France or Germany). As usual please do not hesitate to contact the trip leaders or finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk if you have any queries regarding these payments.

VACANCIES

Kendrick School has the following vacancies. Please click on the links for each role for more information.

English Teacher to cover a maternity leave (November 2019-July 2020)

Casual Leisure Attendant (to start as soon as possible)

Examination Invigilators

MUSIC@KENDRICK

Music Leader Nominations 2020

2020 Music Leader nominations for all of our ensembles and choirs are now available in student registers and from the Music and Drama Office in Cedars. Simply fill out the form, have someone from the ensemble/choir second you to be a Music Leader and give the form back to Mrs Cooper via the Music and Drama Office or her shelf. These are the qualities we are looking for in our Music Leaders:

Someone who:

- are able to lead by example
- are committed to attending their ensemble/choir
- are friendly and welcoming to new members of the ensemble/choir
- will assist in choosing repertoire for the ensemble to play/choir to sing
- listen to and represent the views of the ensemble/choir members
- will assist with the setting up and packing away of rehearsals
- lead sectionals as appropriate
- encourage others to attend rehearsals and concerts

ABRSM Examinations

Those of you wishing to take an ABRSM practical music examination in January may now collect a letter from Mrs Cooper/the top tray near the instrumental noticeboard in Cedars. These exams will take place w/c 27th January 2020 and the closing date for entries is Friday 22nd November 2019. Candidates may be from Kendrick School but also may be external (from other schools) as well.

Mrs Cooper and Ms Rohweder

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

Visit from Former Students

Parent Governor Vacancies

We have vacancies for three Parent Governors to join the Governing Body this term. Information on how nominations can be made and the election process was emailed to you this week.

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.

Upper School and Sixth Form Chamber Concert – Thursday 24th October, 6.30pm, Hall

This year sees our GCSE Music students organising their very own chamber concert for the second time. They will be leading all aspects of the organisation, programming, sound and lighting, as well as hosting this FREE event and would like as many people to get involved in Years 10 and above. This can be done by signing up outside the Music and Drama Office by Friday 4th October. They would also like as many friends, family and staff to attend to make this an exciting and successful evening for everyone. Please come along and support them. Donations will be greatly received and will go towards instruments, music, textbooks and accessories that the students and Music Department feel are most needed for all.

NEWS AND EVENTS – STUDENTS

Biology week: Monday 7th- Friday 11th October

Join in with some (or all!) of the events on offer over the next week to celebrate National Biology Week! The Biology Department have organised a jam-packed week of activities, including a lambs head dissection, forensic challenge, #biobakes, moth capture and identification, physiology and anatomy origami and of course... some David Attenborough on the big screen! See the Biology Week Notice board outside Sc1 for more information, or ask your Biology teacher. The full timetable of events is attached. Please be aware that some events are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please use the signup sheets outside Sc1.

For other events happening locally and UK wide: https://www.rsb.org.uk/get-involved/biologyweek

GCSE Drama Performance – Monday 7th October, 3.45pm, Hall

Our Year 11 GCSE Drama students are performing for their final Devising assessment and welcome everyone to come and see them in action. The performances start promptly at 3.45pm and will finish by 4.30pm. The event itself is free and all students, staff and friends are encouraged to attend to support them.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Bishop

Extracurricular Clubs, Societies and Activities

A list of wide ranging clubs, societies and activities available at Kendrick can be found on our website via this link.

NEWS AND EVENTS - BY YEAR GROUP

Sixth Form

Russell Group Informed Choices

This new website has been developed to help students, and their supporters, discover the right university degree for them. Students can use the website to learn which subjects are usually required for particular degree programmes, and to receive suggestions for potential degrees if they are uncertain about what to study at university.

Russell Group Informed Choices

Reading Scholars 2020 – Applications Now Open

The Reading Scholars is the University of Reading's flagship widening participation programme for Year 12 students, where participants will attend four events at the university between January and July 2020, in addition to receiving mentoring (face-to-face and online) from one of their current students. Developments for the 2020 programme include the addition of three new subject strands bringing the total number of strands to 13 (see below for a full list), a greater focus on developing individual study skills through a bigger project element linking the subject strand to real world issues, and, based on participant feedback, a longer four day residential (up from three day in 2019).

All costs for participating students are covered by the University of Reading - this includes transport to the university, all food and refreshments, and accommodation for the residential. Once they complete the programme, they are also able to take advantage of a guaranteed conditional offer or invite to interview should they apply to Reading, a two grade drop on their offer from Reading for most courses, and they can apply for a £1000 bursary if they go on and enrol with them.

A full list of the subject strands are as follows:

- Architecture (new for 2020)
- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry, Food Science & Pharmacy

- Education (new for 2020)
- English Literature
- Film, Theatre and Television (new for 2020)
- History, Archaeology and Classics
- Languages (French, Spanish or German)
- Mathematics
- Psychology
- Physical Geography and Environmental Science

Please click <u>here</u> for the **eligibility crite**ria and <u>here</u> for the **programme brochure**. To **apply** click <u>here</u>.

Applications are made directly by the student using the online application form – students should discuss their application with the school and get support for their participation prior to them making an application. The deadline for applications is **Friday 8th November 2019**.

Sixth Form Deposit and Bursary

Further to the information provided in the Sixth Form Handbook issued on Registration Day we write to advise that the Sixth Form Deposit is now live to pay on ParentPay and kindly request that it is paid by Friday 25th October. Although some departments may ask students to purchase books, we ask for a Sixth Form deposit of £50 from all students to set against loss or damage of books issued through the Library or additional resources produced by departments, and against the cost of replacing lost and unreturned locker keys and/or school entry fobs and lanyards.

This sum is returned on request at the end of their Sixth Form career provided all resources and items have been returned to the school and once departments and the Library have had the chance to try to reclaim money for lost books and resources, usually in October. Alternatively, the Sixth Form Deposit may be donated to the School Fund account where it will be used to improve facilities in the school. If the Sixth Form Deposit is not reclaimed a year after leaving school, the sum will be transferred to the School Fund account as a donation.

As a reminder, we wish to draw your attention to the availability of the 16-19 Bursary Fund, which provides eligible students with some funds to help with the cost of transport, food and educational resources. Further details and the eligibility criteria can be found on our website under the Sixth Form information. The deadline to submit Bursary applications is Monday 7th October 2019. Students may contact Mrs Harrison, Welfare and Attendance Officer (email: tharrison@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or contact me (email: bursar@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) if you have any queries.

Year 10

Work Experience Placement

We are delighted to be offering a Work Experience Placement (WEX) opportunity to all our Year 10 students. This provision is in line with government guidance for the delivery of a good Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance Programme (CEAIG).

Purpose: WEX placements at this stage is predominantly about providing an opportunity to test and develop their 'transferable skills' in an unfamiliar, yet professional situation. By these skills we mean: communication, problem-solving, showing initiative, teamwork, organisation etc.

Process: Kendrick School is working with 'Learning to Work', who will support the delivery of this programme. They will have a conversation with each of our students to enable the best fit of placements possible. They will source placements for students who have not been able to source their 'own placement'. All placements are vetted for Health and Safety for insurance purposes.

Payment: The price for this service is £60 per student and we value and appreciate you financial support for this initiative. Parentpay is now set up.

Time line:

- Launch concept to parents: October 2019 (Year 10 Information evening)
- Parentpay: On our system from 2nd October 2019
- Launch WEX programme to Year 10s: January 2020 (Assembly)
- One-to-one conversations with 'Learning to Work', from early February 2020
- Application process: All General (BLUE) forms to be returned 14th February 2020
- Application process: All Own Placement forms (PINK) to be returned by 28th February 2020
- Work Experience Week: 29th June 3rd July 2020

Request for further support: Kendrick School enjoys the supportive relationship of parents/carers. We know many of you have prestigious careers and contacts that could help us in our role of delivering great CEIAG. If you think you could help us by providing a WEX placement for one or more of our students or if you can support us in any other way, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Design Your Future is our prestigious careers event on Thursday 7th **November 6-9pm.** We look forward to welcoming exhibitors from a wide range of careers, companies and universities. Certainly an event not to be missed!

Contacts:

Mrs Elisabeth Rock: Teacher and Work Related learning Co-ordinator erock@kendrick.reading.sch.uk School Office Admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Our contact at Learning to Work is: Debbie Denyer d.denyer@Learningtowork.org.uk Tel: 01753 376264

Years 9 -13

Design Your Future Careers Event – Thursday 7th November 2019, 6pm to 9pm

You are invited to "Design your Future" careers fayre, Thursday 7th November 6.00pm-9.00pm. Come along and meet professionals representing careers such as legal, engineering, medical, finance and science. We are also looking for exhibitors to volunteer for this evening, so if there is anyone in your family or friends who would like to come along and represent their company and talk to students about their career, then we would love to hear from them! Please contact Mrs Rock at erock@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Year 8

Year 8 Welcome Evening- Wednesday 9th October 2019

The evening will start with a 'Meet and Mingle' at 6.45pm and will be an opportunity for parents to meet their child's tutor. The Welcome Evening will commence at 7.00pm promptly. This evening is for parents/carers only and your child is not expected to attend. As you know there is no parking on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception.

AND FINALLY.... THINKING CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK!

Hercule Poirot detective reviewed the information they had on the case so far.

A lady named 'Monica' was found shot and Hercule already had a list of suspects: Rooney, Torres, Dabid, Messi, Ronaldo

Killer is a fan of Hercule and challenges him by leaving notes at various places.

- # The first was found in a drawing room.
- # The second was found in an art room.
- # The third was in a bed room.
- # the fourth in an ice-cream room.
- # The fifth at the desk room

All of the notes read the same thing, 'The clues are where you find the notes.' Still, nothing was found anywhere. Hercule Poirot pause for a moment and then arrested the killer. Who was the killer?

Answer will be published next week