

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 30th November 2018

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Staff

It is not often that we can see the students utilise the skills and abilities that they learn in each and every subject and put them all together to create a whole group event, but this is what happens every year when we prepare for the Inter Form Dance Competitions. Students in Years 7-11 had their **Dance Enterprise Day** on Tuesday this week when each year group was given a theme on which to base a group dance. In five hours of intensive team work, cooperation and negotiation, a group dance is choreographed and ready to be performed in a competition within the year group. On Wednesday and Thursday the competitions took place with a winning form in each year group. The winners, runners up and others will then perform at our **Evening of Dance** next **Wednesday 5th December**. Every year I am in awe of the ingenuity, creativity and determination of students to execute this activity and it is with amazement and huge pride that Tutors and staff watch their Forms perform their dances. Our PE Department, of course, do a great deal to prepare and set up this activity, but it is on the Enterprise Day itself that the students really excel and prove to themselves and us how very capable they are. I hope many parents come to our Evening of Dance next week to enjoy the enthusiasm and energy of the Inter Form Dance Competition.

Elsewhere in school, our **Head Girl Team** has led a week of **Fringe** events and activities which will continue next week. Within this fortnight of events there has been a focus on veganism, opportunities to take part in fitness workshops like Zumba and Yoga, games like 'Just A Minute', busking and a whole range of other activities. Every day at Kendrick is a fun and exciting day for students; no one can ever feel bored or not able to find something to do in their breaks and lunch times.

As we move into the final month of this term and the year, I am aware of the pleasures as well as the pressures that the festive season brings upon us. It is also a time when we are all beginning to feel very tired and in need of a rest and break from school. I have asked the staff, and I would now like to ask students and parents, to be aware of these pressures at this time of the year and to try to be kind to yourself and each other. Casual, flippant comments can be felt much more when we are tired and under pressure, so I ask everyone in school and at home to take care in your interactions with each other and online, and try to make every interaction you have with a person a positive one, so that when you leave one another's company you feel better by the conversation you have had. Small gestures of encouragement and kind words can mean a lot to people at this time of the year.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

MindEd for families is a free online learning portal with advice on answering parents questions about their child's mental health. Please click on the link below for more information.

[MindEd for Families](#)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The following quote is one of the '140 quotes for 140 years' collected by Year 9 students on the occasion of Kendrick School's 140th birthday.

"Don't let the past steal your present"

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

No news this week.

School Council Christmas Appeal

School Council is supporting the Christmas shoe box appeal and we would welcome your support in helping your daughter actively participate in this event with her form. The guidelines for the boxes are as follows:

Years 7-8: Specific age/gender targeted boxes for children (e.g.: male, 9-14)

Fill a shoe box with small toys, books, chocolate, hair bobbles, trading cards, etc. as appropriate for your intended recipient. (ALL ITEMS MUST BE UNUSED).

Years 9-13: We are introducing 'Body Boxes' for the first time this year. These will be targeted towards women and girls specifically.

Fill a shoe box with sanitary items, lip balm, shower gel, hand cream, chocolate, etc. (ALL ITEMS MUST BE UNUSED).

We would like to ask for a minimum of 1 box per form. Thank you and all efforts are greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your support of our appeal.

School Council

YEAR GROUP NEWS

Year 7

Transition Survey

Please could all Year 7 parents and carers complete the transition survey that was sent to them by ParentMail by midnight on **Friday 30th November 2018**.

Year 13

Parents' Consultation Afternoon

The Year 13 Parents' Consultation afternoon will take place on Tuesday 4th December 2018 when parents/carers will have the opportunity to discuss their daughter's progress with their subject teachers.

Students have been given an appointment sheet so that they can make their own appointments with their subject teachers and they should discuss these timings with you. They should only expect to see one teacher from each subject, as many teachers have a very full evening.

Your daughter is expected to accompany you to the consultation afternoon. If you are unable to attend for any reason your daughter will still be expected to meet with her subject teachers. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be available without appointment to see parents and carers.

For safety reasons, you will be asked to sign in when you arrive and sign out before you leave. There is no parking available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception. We regret that we cannot be responsible for younger children, so please try and make alternative arrangements for younger siblings wherever possible.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 3rd December 2018 (A Week)

Kendrick 'Fringe' Events

Tuesday 3rd December Year 13 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.30pm

Wednesday 5th December Sixth Form Geography Trip – Climate Conference
Evening of Dance

Thursday 6th December Year 10 Theatre Trip

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

MUSIC @ KENDRICK

Music Concert/Events Attendance Survey

At Kendrick School we are very fortunate to have a number of talented musicians who are enthusiastic about being part of an ensemble/choir. They work diligently every week on new and existing repertoire, which they look forward to performing in front of large audiences at concerts. Despite receiving a fantastic audience for House Music this year, we have generally seen a decline in the amount of people attending our concerts and musical events, which is very sad and disappointing for those involved.

I would therefore like to find out the reasons why people are generally not attending our concerts and see if there is anything that can be done to help alleviate these problems. Please tick all of the responses in the survey via the link below that apply to you. Also, if you have any other feedback then please include that in the box at the bottom as well. This will remain anonymous, although you may add your name if you wish.

[Kendrick School Music Concerts Survey](#)

Many thanks

Mrs Catherine Cooper, Head of Music

Christmas Concert – Thursday 13th December 2018 at 6.30pm

Our Christmas Concert will feature a range of seasonal songs from Vox Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir, with instrumental music from Tchaikovsky, Pentatonix, and Henry Mancini. All of the school's main ensembles will perform, including all of Year 7 singing, our Carnatic Singers and the staff band 'No Direction' will dust off their cobwebs to 'entertain' you again. We expect the concert to finish at approximately 8.30pm.

Please note that refreshments, including mince pies and mulled wine will be available before the concert from 6.15pm.

Please may we remind you that no parking is available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception before the event.

Our Christmas concert tends to sell out quickly and tickets went on sale on **Monday 12th November**. We therefore urge you to order them as soon as possible through Parentpay in order to avoid disappointment. Ticket price/suggested donation: £5.00. In the first instance tickets will be restricted to four per family. We politely ask for you not to leave ticket requests or queries until the day of the concert.

If you would like tickets for the Christmas Concert on Thursday 13th December please complete the order on Parentpay. Tickets will be distributed to students via the registers before the concert.

Information about concerts in 2019 will be sent out at the beginning of next year. We look forward to seeing many of you at the concert.

KPS NEWS

We are delighted to announce our new KPS officers:

Chair: Maitri Sanket; Vice-Chair: Gayatri Hariharan; Secretary: Raghavendra Vaishampayan

Vic & I would like to thank you all for your amazing support over the past year and ask that you please continue to support the new KPS team and look out for their introductory newsletter in the coming weeks.

Next KPS event: DISCO 14/12 from 7-9pm, years 7 to 9 only. Tickets online www.trybooking.co.uk/HIA

GAYL is an on-line shopping scheme where just by simply shopping on-line with your favourite stores a percentage of every pound you spend will be donated to Kendrick, without costing you a penny extra. So, start shopping now, in the comfort of your own home by clicking here <http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/kendrick> and raise much needed funds for Kendrick School.

VACANCIES

Please forward to friends or family who may be interested in the following role:

Exam Invigilators

To facilitate the public examinations held at Kendrick School we require a bank of invigilators. We are currently seeking to expand our existing team. Responsibilities include:

- Preparation of the examination room
- Monitoring candidates during the exam
- Distribution and collation of examination papers and supporting material
- Supporting students' needs as required
- Ensuring adherence to JCQ regulations

Person/skills required:

- Understanding of the importance of safeguarding in schools
- Attention to detail
- Calm and professional
- Reliable
- Medical background advantageous
- Must be IT literate and be able to attend face to face training at the school

Training is provided. Please note that this is a part-time seasonal position.

If you are interested please complete the application and declaration of convictions forms on our [website](#) and email to exams@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- A Level Dale Fort Field Trip (June 2019) – Deposit of £50 due
- Year 11 Study Skills Roadshow – 7th December - £5

Please remember to top up dinner money accounts. We have had a few issues with the canteen system this week but by keeping the accounts topped up there should be fewer problems when students buy their meals