

WEEKLY UPDATE – FRIDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2026

Letter from Mr Simmonds, Headteacher

On Tuesday it was the turn of Year 7 parents to come into school to meet their daughters' tutors and then hear from the pastoral leadership team and myself. I was delighted with the number of parents who attended, and it was a pleasure to meet so many enthusiastic new parents.

Admissions test day is happening today, and we are doing all that we can to let the day run smoothly for all the young people seeking a place at Kendrick in 2027. The current Kendrick students are spending the day reading, working and catching up with work and maybe also having some time to socialise and pursue their own interests.

Next week the school will celebrate its 149th birthday with an own clothes day, a reflection assembly and free cupcakes with any purchase in the Canteen. This is quite an undertaking for our brilliant catering team. Students are also invited to picnic together on the front lawn. Next year, of course, we will be 150 years old and the planning has already begun. We will have a lot of fun and make it a most memorable occasion.

During my birthday assembly on Monday I will be exploring the different school mottos that have been used at various times in the school's history as well as diving into the school magazine from 1909! More of this next week. In the meantime. Floreat Kendricka, long may our Lion roar.

Mr Nicholas Simmonds
Headteacher

School Notices

School Fund

School Fund provides a way for parents and carers, should they wish, to make one-off or regular donations that directly support the school and enhance the educational experience of our students.

During the recent information evenings for Years 7, 10 and 12, I spoke about the importance of School Fund and the significant difference it makes.

Like many schools, we have faced increasing costs over the past two years and have been required to absorb a significant proportion of these within our existing budgets. While we continually seek efficiencies and ensure that every pound is spent wisely, there is always more that we would like to provide for our students. School Fund helps us to make these additional opportunities possible.

School Fund is organised into four areas:

General School Fund

Supports a wide range of initiatives and priorities across the school.

Digital Fund

Supports the ongoing development of our IT infrastructure and devices, ensuring students have access to increasingly fast, reliable and effective digital resources.

Super-Curricular Fund

Enables participation in competitions and challenges, supports educational visits and travel, funds specialist resources and helps us provide a wide range of enriching experiences beyond the classroom.

Work and Well-Being Fund

Contributes to maintaining a high-quality learning environment and school facilities. It also supports counselling provision for students and staff, alongside the activities of our various well-being groups and initiatives.

If you are in a position to support the school through School Fund, we suggest a contribution of £250 per year, or regular monthly donations of £10 or £20. However, every donation, regardless of size, makes a meaningful difference and is greatly appreciated.

Donations can be made through ParentPay, where you will find the School Fund payment options.

Reading Borough Council – Post-16 Transport Policy Consultation

Reading Borough Council has launched a consultation on its Post-16 Transport Policy and would welcome feedback from schools, colleges, parents, students and other interested stakeholders.

The consultation can be accessed via the following link: <https://reading.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/reading-s-post-16-transport-policy-consultation>

Safeguarding

[Safeguarding at Kendrick School](#)

[Parent Guide to Snapchat](#). Learn how Snapchat works, key protections offered to teens, and how to use the Snapchat safety tools. Remember, Snapchat is a 13+ platform.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

[Mental Health and Wellbeing at Kendrick School](#)

[Social Media and Mental Health](#). Social media can have a positive impact on your mental health. But it can also make you feel anxious and overwhelmed. [Young Minds](#) advice can help you stay in control of your feed and look after your mental health online.

SEND

[Reading's SEND Local Offer](#). The SEND Local Offer is here to help you find information about local services, support, activities and events for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

Canteen

The Autumn/Winter menu will be shared in due course. **Please ensure that you regularly check your child's canteen balance on their ParentPay account and settle any 'overdrafts' quickly.** Overdrafts should only be issued on an exceptional basis and not as a regular occurrence.

Latest News on our Website

School Calendar

Week B

Monday 21st September – School Birthday

Tuesday 22nd September – KPS online meeting, 6pm to 7.15pm

Thursday 24th September – Year 10 Welcome Meeting, 5pm to 6.15pm

Student Careers and Work Experience

[Current Opportunities](#)

Vacancies

[Attendance Officer and Administration Coordinator](#) – Monday to Friday, 8am to 3.30pm, term time only.

[Art and Technology Technician](#) – 30 hours a week, term time only

ParentPay and Evolve Reminders

[Latest Reminders for ParentPay and Evolve](#)

KPS Updates

KPS has created WhatsApp groups to link parents across each year group. From this group you can also link into the individual classes' groups and class representatives. If you would like to join the group, please use the link below for your child's year group (for September 2026). KPS will manage the group on behalf of the parents as we all transition through our child's time at Kendrick. The WhatsApp group is open to all parents and carers, however, please do not share the link outside the school community or on any other groups. Existing groups are unchanged (no need to rejoin).

Year 7 (2026-27). This group will be open to join until the end of the month, after this time permission will have to be requested to join. This is for security reasons.

[Year 7 \(26-27\)](#)

Year 8 (2026-27). This is the same as last year's group for Year 7 (2025). No need to rejoin, but permission will need to be sought to join.

[Year 8 \(26-27\)](#)

Year 9 (2026-27). This is the same as last year's for Year 8 (2025). No need to rejoin, but permission will need to be sought to join.

[Year 9 \(26-27\)](#)

Year 10 (2026-27). This is the same as last year's group for Year 9 (2025). No need to rejoin, but permission will need to be sought to join.

[Year 10 \(26-27\)](#)

Year 11 (2026-27). This is the same as last years' group for Year 10 (2025). No need to rejoin, but permission will need to be sought to join.

[Year 11 \(26-27\)](#)

The 6th form (2026-27). This merges Year 11 (2025/6) and Year 12 (2025/6). This is the same WhatsApp group for Year 11 (2025/6), no need to rejoin.

Year 13 (2026) parents will need to join. The existing 6th form group (2025/6) will be archived soon.

This new group will be open to join until the end of the month, after this date permission will have to be requested to join. This is for security reasons.

[Year 13 \(26-27\)](#)

If you are not a KPS member and would like to join KPS, please reply to this e-mail. You can also donate to the KPS charity. All funds go to support our girls, the school and facilitate events. We cannot support the school without your help.