

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 9th September 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to everyone – staff, students and parents and a very warm welcome to our new students and parents in Year 7 and Year 12 and in Year 8, 9 and 10. I hope everyone has had a good summer and feels refreshed and rejuvenated after the holiday.

Following the news of the death of **Queen Elizabeth II** yesterday, I will delay talking about the start of term and events this week and devote this week's Weekly Update to a tribute on behalf of Kendrick School to the late Queen.

The very sad news yesterday of the death of Queen Elizabeth II at Balmoral is an historic moment for the country and the world as people everywhere acknowledge the tremendous contribution and service the Queen gave to the country, the Commonwealth and all the charities and organisations she supported and interacted with in the 70 years of her reign. As Head of State, the death of the Queen is a hugely significant event in the history of the constitution and political system of the country as the death of one monarch leads to the succession of the next.

The commentary and tributes in the media both last night and this morning, and no doubt for the weeks and months ahead, tell the story of a young woman who unexpectedly had to take on the responsibility of Head of State, a role she embraced and carried out for the rest of her life with sincere commitment; an example of selfless devotion to duty and service.

As a school, I am pleased that only two months ago we were able to acknowledge and celebrate the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and demonstrate our appreciation of what the Queen did and what developments and achievements marked the 70 years of her reign.

Today students were able to have some time for quiet reflection and conversation to acknowledge the death of the Queen, her long reign, their memories and understanding of her role as Head of State. A video clip was shared of the Queen *'in her own words'* which some classes watched.

As the country begins a period of **national mourning**, which began yesterday and will end after the State Funeral in 10 days' time, we at Kendrick School will plan our own acknowledgement and tribute to the late Queen.

Our condolences and thoughts are with the Royal Family this weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

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.

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 **0808 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 will be adding 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 – TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Source: [NSPCC](#)

- Make sure your child knows their address and your telephone number by heart, in case they get lost or have to navigate home from somewhere new.
- If they have a mobile phone, remind them to fully charge it before leaving the house, and make sure they have all your contact numbers saved.
- Talk to them about road safety. They should always look both ways before crossing the street, and never be on their phone whilst crossing a road.
- Remind them never to accept a lift from someone they don't know or let a stranger into the house. They should never give personal information away – in real life or online.
- Remind them that if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable at any time, they can call you or a trusted adult.
- If they ever feel like they're in immediate danger, they should call the police straight away on 999.

WELLBEING – HOW TO TALK TO CHILDREN ABOUT THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN

Source: [Winston's Wish](#)

The death of a prominent figure can significantly affect children, as well as adults. This could be a child's first experience of death and they don't really understand it or maybe they have been bereaved and this brings up those difficult feelings again. Everyone will be talking about it and there will be lots of coverage so it can really help to talk to your children about the death of the Queen. Winston's Wish, a charity with the aim of supporting grieving children and young people after the death of someone important, has put together tips and guidance to help you talk to your child about this difficult subject. Please click [here](#) for a link.

For older children, young adults and adults please click [here](#) for information on how to look after yourself when a public figure dies.

CALENDAR FOR TERM 1, 2022-23

Tuesday 13th September	Year 12 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Saturday 17th September	Admission Test Day for September 2023 Entry
Tuesday 20th September	Year 7 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Tuesday 27th September	Year 10 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Thursday 29th September	L&T Governor Meeting, 4.30pm
Tuesday 4th October	Year 8 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Thursday 6th October	Resources Governor Meeting, 4.30pm
Sunday 9th October	MFL Trip Leaves (to Friday 14 th October)
Wednesday 12th October	Year 13 Geography residential (to Sunday 16 th October)
Thursday 20th October	Upper School and Sixth Form Chamber Concert, 6.30pm
Friday 21st October	End of Term 1, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#)

For the Term Dates for 2022-23 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

AWARDS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

This is a mean-tested award to help with music studies. This is for instrumentalists, composers or songwriters. Unfortunately, this not for vocal studies. Please look at this website for more information:

<https://apply-aym-awards.smapply.io/res/p/Eligibility/>

BIRMINGHAM CONTEMPORARY MUSIC GROUP

BCMG Young Composers is an exciting project for budding composers aged 11-14 (KS3). We are offering young people the opportunity to compose for BCMG musicians guided by composer Kirsty Devaney.

Do you play a musical instrument but also have a passion for composing or, would like to try composing for the first time? If yes, this project is for you!

READING CLIMATE FESTIVAL AND YOUTH FAIR

The third Reading Climate Festival will run from Saturday 24 September to Sunday 2 October, concurrently with the UK-wide Great Big Green Week. Its aim is to inspire and encourage positive action on climate change, supporting Reading's commitment to being a net zero, climate resilient town by 2030.

One of the new additions to the festival is a dedicated [Reading Climate Festival Youth Fair](#) which will be taking place at **Reading School on Saturday 24 September, 10am-4pm**. The Youth Fair aims to inspire young people to tackle the climate crisis. The Youth Fair will have an array of stalls, workshops, films, music and presentations. It is aimed at young people aged 12-18 years old and parents are welcome.

EXPLORING CYBER CAREERS

The Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has launched a free interactive learning platform for 11 to 14-year-olds offering insights into how digital, computing and cyber skills can lead to exciting careers. The learning

content in Cyber Explorers has been developed by experts and heighten sstudent awareness around online safety and encourages broader thinking around how to make better choices. Find out more on the [Cyber Explorers](#) website.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

Please ensure that your child has enough money on their dinner money account every day. 'Overdrafts' should be in emergency situations only and not a regular occurrence. If your child is issued with an overdraft please ensure you pay this back promptly through their ParentPay account. Thank you.

VACANCIES

Kendrick School currently has the following vacancies. Please click on this [link](#) for more information.

Art & Technology and Performing Arts Technicians – 2 roles for 25 hours and 10 hours a week respectively or full time if you are interested in 35 hours a week. To start as soon as possible. Early application is advised as we will close the application process early if a suitable candidate applies and is appointed.

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The shop will be open in the Conservatory this Saturday 10th September, 9-11am. Payment is with cash, cheque or card.

In addition to the uniform items, sports kit and lab coats, there will also be second hand text books for the science topics on sale. All books are sold for £2 or less.

If spaces are available you can park in the Cedars car park before entering the school via East Street.

DONATIONS OF SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Donations of good quality second hand uniform and sports kit can be dropped off in crates by the servery – please note the new drop off point (to avoid confusion with the lost property items).