

Kendrick School
Weekly Update
Friday 21st September 2018



Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

In this week's update to you I want to focus on the safety and safeguarding of all our students.

At Kendrick we take the safeguarding of our students very seriously and all staff have been trained on all the recent updates and changes to the [Keeping Children Safe in Education Document](#). At our meetings with parents we stress the importance of this element of our responsibilities and always speak to students about this. If any parents have any concerns about their daughter or another student and feel that they need to share information with us, please do so. **We all have a duty of care towards our children.**

Yesterday tutors were asked to have conversations with students about **personal safety** to and from school. We have asked all students to try to make their journey to and from school with friends and or in groups. This is not always possible but we strongly urge that students make their way to the station or bus stops quickly and safely and with others. We also encourage all students to be purposeful and vigilant when walking in and around Reading and make their way home quickly. Here is [link](#) to some tips regarding personal safety that were discussed with students this week. May I also remind you that we expect parents to collect students aged under 16 from school in the event of them having to leave early for reasons such as medical appointments.

A number of students have to go into Reading to get buses or trains and so have to cross the **Inner Distribution Road (IDR)**. This is a very busy road and students often rush across the road and or follow others in front of them with little regard to the traffic signalling or cars on the road. Please may I ask parents to discuss this issue at home and rehearse sensible **pedestrian behaviour** on this road and others? We have tried on many occasions to bring up the issue of IDR crossing with Reading Borough Council and with the support of our local MP, but we are told it is a safe crossing if pedestrians, including children, follow the rules.

We have also been asked by **Thames Valley Police (TVP)** to make students and parents aware of the campaign that they are running called [Hidden Harm](#) which seeks to raise awareness and understanding of abuse happening in the heart of our communities including: modern slavery, online abuse, honour based violence, forced marriages, female genital mutilation, domestic abuse and hate crime. Issues like these are discussed in PSHCE lessons with students but TVP want all of us, in their words, to '**open our eyes to abuse**'. **Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.**

Another area of safety and safeguarding is related to use of **mobile phones** and there are conversations going on in different year groups and advice coming to parents on this issue.

Best wishes.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

Brake, the road safety charity, have the following advice for young people for staying safe on foot or bicycle:

“Look out for yourself and your friends when out on foot or bicycle. Choose the safest routes you can (which are often nicer anyway), like quieter, slower roads, with pavements if you’re walking or cycle paths if you’re going by bike.

It’s easy to get distracted by your phone or by friends, but you need to be alert to traffic. Put your phone away and take your earphones out when crossing the road. Don’t trust that drivers will spot you and be able to stop in time – many drivers go too fast and don’t pay enough attention, so anything you can do to protect yourself is a good thing.

Go to Brake’s [cycling advice pages](#) for more info on keeping safe while cycling”

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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

“If opportunity doesn’t knock... build a door”

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Kendrick School achieves Eco-School Bronze Award](#)

[Expedition to Norway](#)

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 have been sent out by email and can be accessed via this [link](#). Nomination forms should be returned to Ms Amanda Emberson, Clerk to the Governing Body (clerk@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) by Friday 5th October 2018.

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

School Birthday – Monday 24th September

Monday is our 141st School Birthday! We are celebrating with a whole school assembly, a cake competition and a picnic lunch.

Form Cakes

Students should bring their cakes to SC2 before morning registration. This will be a competition with certificates for the best cake in the Year Group, Key Stage and whole school. **Form Tutors will provide knives to cut the cakes – students should not bring knives with them to school.**

Picnic Lunch - Each student should provide their own picnic lunch. Some Forms are grouping together to organise this. The Canteen will be providing a normal service 1st Break and 'take-away' finger foods at 2nd Break. Hopefully we will be able to hold the picnic on the lawn and students have been asked to bring a plastic bag or something suitable to sit on.

Lunchtime Clubs and Activities

All the lunchtime clubs and activities should be running by next week. A full list of all the clubs, activities and societies are attached and will be available on our website next week.

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.

NEWS AND EVENTS BY YEAR GROUP

Years 7, 10 and 12

School Photographs years 7, 10 and 12

If you would like to order a photograph of your daughter that was taken on the first day of term, students should place order forms in the box in the General Office by 3,30pm Wednesday 26th September.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 24th September 2018 (B Week)

Monday 24 th September	School Birthday
Tuesday 25 th September	Year 8 Welcome Evening, 6.45pm Ski Trip 2018 Meeting
Thursday 27 th September	Governor L&T Committee, 4.30pm Full Governing Body Meeting, 6.00pm Year 10 Welcome Evening, 6.45pm
Friday 28 th September	KPS 'Thank You' Event (invitation only)

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

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>

SUBJECT NEWS

Poetry Competitions

Students should see the English noticeboard (next to room A) for details of two new national poetry competitions. The Young Writers competition is open to all. The Christopher Tower Competition is open to 16-18 year olds. See your English teacher or Miss Fieldsend if you would like to enter. Watch this space for exciting new school competitions!

If you would like to contribute a poem or drawing on a literary theme to help beautify the English noticeboard, we would be glad to have them. Submit to your English teacher.

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

Kendrick Diwali Mela 2018

Diwali is the festival of lights which signifies the victory of light over darkness, and good over evil.

This year Kendrick Parents' Society is organising "**Kendrick Diwali Mela 2018**" on **Friday 2nd November 2018, 5pm-8:30pm**, at Kendrick School. The KPS invites you all to come and enjoy vibrant performances and music alongside authentic Indian traditional and street food, handicrafts, community stalls, Henna, face painting and tattoos.

This is an opportunity for Kendrick students and parents to perform (dance/singing/instrumental) and register interest in putting up their stalls. Please register your interest in doing this Friday 28th September 2018.

The KPS is organising this event to raise funds for our school so let's all work together to make this event a success.

Please contact the people below if you would like to register your interest in supporting this event:

Stalls:

Ruchi - khattriruchi05@gmail.com

Sarika- sarikadhallam@gmail.com

Performances:

Malar- mallarjosh@gmail.com

Gayatri- urgayi@gmail.com

Student stalls / volunteering / games:

Maitri- maitrivish@gmail.com

Jyoti- jyoti07@gmail.com

PARENTPAY

There are a lot of items on ParentPay so please could you check to see you if you have any outstanding payments.

Please remember to top up dinner money and printing accounts.

VACANCIES

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>