

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 23rd September 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

We are now in the second of our two-week timetable cycle, which means that all students across the school will have had lessons in all their subjects and met their teachers. We have welcomed a number of new staff to the school this term. They are: Miss Kirkpatrick – PE; Frau Maendler- German and Classics; Mme Roujansky - Subject Leader for French and Spanish; Mrs Obeng – Mathematics; Mrs Sierra – Physics; Dr Green – English; Mrs Neale -School Admin and Student Welfare Assistant; Mr Powney – Caretaker; and Mrs Gray - Clerk to the Governors. From initial discussions I have had with the new staff they are all very happy to be working at Kendrick. In addition, there have been some internal appointments. There have also been some changes to staffing roles and positions this year: Mrs Souch is extending her teaching in Art, Textiles and Technology and so will be part of the teaching staff and Ms Le Croisette joins the SLT as Assistant Headteacher and SENDCo. A reminder of our Pastoral Teams for this year, where there have also been some changes: Mme Hulley is Head of KS3 with Mrs White and Miss Hyde, Assistant Heads of KS3; Mrs Cooper is Head of Year 10; Mr Stride is Head of Year 11; Mrs Hearn, Head of 6th Form and Mr Wilson and Mr Duncan Deputy Heads of 6th Form.

Clubs and societies are starting up again and students are using their lunch times and breaks to do activities, as well as rest and relax. A full set of activities will be sent to you shortly. Already there are some new clubs for this year, one being Creative Writing, which I heard about following a meeting with Year 10 students who are very excited about running such a club for younger students. I am also aware that members of School Council are doing a review of the school's clubs and societies. So far, we have held two Information Evenings for Parents, welcoming parents of Year 12 students and this week Year 7 Parents to the school. It has been such a pleasure to be able to meet people in person.

This week the **Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS)** held their first meeting of the year, which was well supported and a number of new parents in Year 7 attended. Our meetings continue to be online which appears to result in greater participation. At the meeting we talked about events that KPS have so kindly organised for students, and I am pleased that they will be organising a Quiz Night on 8th October, Film night for Year 7 on 14th October, and possibly a Cultural event in December. Also, the KPS AGM is on 17th October at 6.00pm-7.30pm in the school hall. Our second-hand uniform shop run by KPS is going from strength to strength and we discussed at our meeting this week whether we should change its name to Pre-Loved Uniform, a name I have heard other schools use. Finally, we agreed to offer the virtual drop-ins with me across the school and we will send you dates of these in due course.

A responsibility that all staff have in school is the safeguarding of all our students. I want to remind parents and students of key members of staff who lead in this area. **Mr Simmonds, Deputy Head is the Designated Lead Officer (DSL)** for safeguarding in school. Mrs Hearn, Head of 6th Form, Mr Stride, Head of Year 11 and Mme Hulley, Head of Key Stage 3 and Mrs Hackett are all Deputy Designated officers (DDSL). We also have a Safeguarding Governor and that is Ms Julia Drury. If there are any matters of concern that students or parents have, they must contact school to speak to these staff. In the more detailed section of the weekly update and on our website, there is always a lot of information about keeping students safe, including details of agencies and bodies that can be contacted to provide support. Some of the key themes that have become a priority for schools this year are detailed in the updated **Keeping Children Safe in Education document (KCSIE)** which can be found [HERE](#). Staff have been informed of all these developments in the safeguarding training we had at the start of the term and have also read and understood our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** which is [here](#).

Wishing everyone a good weekend, and I hope our student cake bakers have a great time baking cakes for our 145th birthday celebrations on Monday!

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 **0800 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 – COMMON SENSE MEDIA

Source: [Common Sense Media](#)

Since 2003, Common Sense has been the leading independent source for media recommendations and advice for families. They provide independent reviews, age rating and other information about all types of media for children and their parents. Common Sense rates movies, games, tv shows, apps, books and websites so you can feel good about the entertainment choices you make for your children, or they are making for themselves.

To visit their website, click [here](#).

WELLBEING – TELEPHONE SUPPORT

Source: [Anna Freud](#)

Telephone support allows you to express verbally what you're feeling or going through. Sometimes voicing your problems out loud helps you to understand them better, and hearing a kind or supportive voice on the other end of the phone can be really reassuring.

You might like to speak to friends or family members on the phone, but if it's late at night or you're not sure who to call, charities such as the Samaritans (116 123) or Childline (0800 1111) can be contacted 24/7 and won't show up on your phone history, in case you want to keep it confidential that you called them. It can be really useful to hear an impartial opinion, and you may find that you can reveal more about how you're feeling, knowing that the person on the other end of the phone has no preconceptions or judgements to make about your situation.

Anna Freud's [Urgent Help](#) page has a list of national organisations that offer telephone support for a variety of issues.

'Telephone support has helped me talk to other people about my feelings.'

'I think it has helped because I don't have to keep my thoughts to myself and suffer alone.'

'I would definitely recommend other people who need help or just that extra support to phone someone.'

CALENDAR FOR TERM 1, 2022-23

Monday 26th September	School Birthday
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

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 student awareness around online safety and encourages broader thinking around how to make better choices. Find out more on the [Cyber Explorers](#) website.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.

- Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
- Year 10 MFL French and German trip October 2022
- Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase
- Year 11 12 and 13 Christmas Market Trip to Germany

- Year 12 A Level Maths Graphics Calculator
- Year 12 Wokingham Waterside Centre trip - Tuesday 4th October 2022
- Year 13 A Level Geography Residential Field Course October 2022
- Year 13 BMAT - medical school entry
- Year 13 Exams - Oxford/Cambridge/MAT

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. **CLOSING DATE 9AM MONDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2022.**

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

We are pleased to let you know that we are organising the following events:

- **Picnic for Y8** parents/carers and students **at Dinton pastures Country Park on Sunday 25th Sept from 3 to 6pm**. This is an informal gathering and networking opportunity and if you are planning to attend, please make your way towards the playground gate. You will be greeted by the KPS volunteers who will direct you to the picnic site.
- **Movie night for Year 7s on 14th October**, straight after school until 6pm
- **Quiz night** for the whole school on 8th October from 6 to 7pm
- **School wide an extravaganza event** on 3rd December (more details to follow)

We also have our **AGM scheduled on 17th Oct** and we are looking for new volunteers to join. All the positions are open to apply. If you have a financial background, we are eager to hear from you to fill in the Treasurer role on an urgent basis.

Please email KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk for any queries.