

# Kendrick School

## Weekly Update

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020

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#### WEEKLY LETTER FROM MR SIMMONDS, ACTING HEADTEACHER

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This week we have said a sad goodbye to Mrs Tracy Harrison who has worked at the school for 13 years as the Attendance and Welfare Officer and First Aider, and many students will know Mrs Harrison from their visits to the General Office for any medical needs that have resulted in a trip to the medical room. She has been a caring and reliable person for students to see and has brought a cheerful outlook to all her work at the school. We wish her incredibly well in her planned move away from Reading to be closer to her family. In her place we give a warm welcome to Mrs Jo Hackett who is replacing Tracy in this role.

Each week in morning registration and form time there is a wide variety of activity and recorded assemblies being conducted and viewed. This week we finally found out who won the House Cup 2019/20 and we watched the presentation ceremony in form time. Congratulations to Sidmouth House with a winning total score of 3559 points, just 23 more than Palmer in second place. We were left wondering how many unposted Palmer house tokens that there are out there in pencil cases and pockets! I am delighted that the competition was so closely fought and it shows that each and every house token and participation in house events can truly make a difference. We have also watched Mr Curran's excellent introduction to Black History Month which has given us all a host of leads to follow and explore. Year 7 are exploring learning how to learn in their form time and I have had the privilege of spending some time with Year 8 groups discussing with them school life, COVID safety in school, the books we are reading, why teaching mathematics and sport is such a fabulous career and much more.

Last weekend I found the time to watch the film Summerland that came out this year, which is notable as it is a fabulous family film and is written and directed by a former student, and indeed former teacher, Jessica Swale. Jessica has had her plays performed in the West End and at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and we always follow her career and enjoy her work enormously.

You may have seen on the website news feed how Year 7 have excelled themselves in the [Poetry Recitation Competition](#) and congratulations to all who took part and to the winner and runners up.

A reminder to all parents and students of the school's early finish time of 1.30pm for all students all next week on account of the 11+ testing that is happening in school. All the details have been sent by Parentmail. In school we are running the normal timetable just with shortened 50 minute lessons and only one break to accommodate this.

Another reminder to parents and students that food bought into school **must not contain nuts** as there are a number of students and staff with allergies that can easily be triggered.

Finally this week there is a vacancy advertised on our website for a Chemistry Teacher and please point this out to someone you know who may be interested in the role.

**Mr Nick Simmonds, Acting Headteacher**

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## SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

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### WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School please email [safeguarding@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or telephone 0118 9015859.

If you're worried about a child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 5pm), 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.**

### WHATSAPP – A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

WhatsApp is an instant messaging app which lets you send messages, images and videos in one-to-one and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.

For more information on WhatsApp, click [here](#) for the Net Aware guide for parents.

### SERIOUS ALLERGIES – NUT FREE SCHOOL

We had an incident this week where one of our highly allergic students came into contact with peanuts. Please ensure that your child **does not bring any food containing nuts into school at any time**. Anaphylaxis is a potentially life changing result of ingesting an allergen, we need to ensure that this cannot happen in school.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

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### NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE, LOCAL PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

*We like to celebrate student successes in and out of school and rely on parents/carers to pass us this information so we can publish it on our website under [Students/Student Achievements](#). Please send any articles and photos to [aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk). However, please ensure you have your child's 'permission' to do so! Thank you*

[Poetry Recitation Competition](#)

[Classics for All](#)

### BIKEABILITY COURSES THIS HALF-TERM

Avanti Cycling is running several Bikeability courses for children in Reading and Wokingham over the half-term. The organisation also provides a range of other cycle-training courses for children and adults in a COVID-secure environment. Check their website at <https://avanticycling.co.uk/> for more details.

## SCHOOL FINISH TIME – MONDAY 18TH TO FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER

This is a reminder that school will finish at **1.30pm every day next week** due to the 11+ admission tests taking place in school. All students must leave the school site promptly at 1.30pm and the Library will not be open after school as normal.

Parents/carers who normally collect their child from school should be aware that the roads will be particularly busy and stopping in East Street or on the London Road is not permitted. Thank you for your cooperation.

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## JOB VACANCIES AT KENDRICK SCHOOL

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We have the following job vacancy at Kendrick School.

- Chemistry Teacher – at least 0.8 FTE – for January 2020

More information on the role can be found on our website via this [link](#). Please pass this email on to friends and family that may be interested in applying.

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## PARENTPAY REMINDERS

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**Year 13 Geography Field Trips during October 2020** – any outstanding amounts (£240) to be paid as soon as possible. Please contact Mrs Wheeler or [finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) if you require more time to pay.

Please top up dinner money accounts if they are in debit.

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## MUSIC@KENDRICK

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### UPPER SCHOOL CHAMBER CONCERT

Calling all Year 10-13's! This year, due to COVID, the Upper School Chamber Concert will be held online. If you would like to participate please sign up on a spreadsheet that will be sent around shortly. The deadline to sign up and send in your video recordings is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October. All instruments, voice with instruments, styles and standards are welcome, but please ensure performance is limited from 3 – 4 minutes so that we can fit in as many performances as possible. The concert will go live on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Any donations from the concert will go towards the Music department, so the more students willing to participate the better! If you have any questions, please feel free to email [17nstevenson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:17nstevenson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or [17szheng@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:17szheng@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)

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## NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

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### SIXTH FORM HOME STUDY – WEEK COMMENCING 19TH OCTOBER 2020

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Due to the changes to the timings of the school day next week we have agreed the following;

- Sixth form students will be allowed home study as normal, after second registration next week, which means that they can leave at 11.50am. They will need to sign out in the normal way.
- Sixth form students may NOT work in school or the library until 3.15pm, as all students need to leave the site at 1.30pm

We have asked that they use this time wisely, to get up to date with work, to allow them to fully relax over half term.

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## AND FINALLY.... THINKING CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK!

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What 8 letter word can have a letter taken away and it still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left. What is the word?

***Answer to last week's challenge:***

Take the goose over first and come back. Then take the fox over and bring the goose back. Now take the corn over and come back alone to take the goose. Take the goose over and the job is done!

