

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 6th November 2020

WEEKLY LETTER FROM MR SIMMONDS, ACTING HEADTEACHER

A lot can change in two weeks, when we broke up at the end of term a fortnight ago the talk was about regional tiers and the outcome of the upcoming US election. Yesterday we have started a national lock down and we are still talking about the US election. From talking to students this week I think that most, like me, are feeling restored from a week of holiday, are pleased to still be in school and are enjoying working hard in lessons. The government's guidance to schools has been sent out to all staff, students and parents and it brings some changes to how we are working. Most noticeably we are all now required to wear a face covering in communal areas of the school. After-school clubs cannot run except for child care purposes; we have decided to continue to allow small numbers of students to use the Library areas for a short time after school if they are waiting for a particular bus, train or lift.

This week Frankie in Year 11 and School Council have organised a [Christmas shoe box appeal](#) for Operation Christmas Child and I have just seen the outcome of this work with 58 boxes filled and the accompanying money collected to go towards shipping and distributions costs. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

The school has a profiling day on **Wednesday 18th November 2020**; this is a day on which lessons are suspended and all students meet with their tutors to review their report, progress and wider school life. This year we are restricted in the activities that we can run on this day and some year groups will be working at home and having these meetings remotely. Full details will be sent out shortly.

We have two parent/teacher consultation afternoons this term for Years 13 and 11 and we are currently making plans and testing software to ensure that these meetings, which will be run remotely, go as smoothly as possible.

Next week we will launch all of the prospectus and admissions information for entry in the Sixth Form in September 2021 so students and parents of Year 11 should keep a look out for all of this information. All subjects are recording content to try to replace a live open event as effectively as possible.

On Wednesday next week we will commemorate Remembrance Day with tutor activities and a minute's silence in morning registration. The library has also put up two excellent displays in the vestibule about [The Poppy](#) and [Anna Guerin](#), the originator of the Remembrance Day Poppy

I am afraid that I want to talk about picking up students by car again as I have received some complaints from residents on Kendrick Road concerning the parking and traffic management of parents picking up students. Please can I ask you to only park in parking bays and to not attempt three point turns at a time when this road is very congested with traffic and students. Thank you.

We are delighted to have appointed a new Design and Technology technician, Miss Jessica Dickens who will start with us in the next few weeks when we will be saying a sad and heartfelt goodbye to Mrs Sue Reeves who has been a talented, caring and integral technician for many years at the school and we wish her incredibly well. She will be greatly missed.

Finally please continue to help us in a search for a [Chemistry teacher](#) and the advert for this is still on the website.

Mr Nick Simmonds, Acting Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School please email 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.

GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS IN LOCKDOWN

This week the government issued further [guidance for schools in lockdown](#).

FACE COVERINGS

From **Monday 9th November**, face coverings are **mandatory** in communal areas of secondary schools and colleges. **Therefore your child MUST have at least one face covering to wear in school and a suitable bag to store it in when it is not being worn.** If your child travels to school by public transport, they should have a separate face covering for their journey, and a fresh face mask to put on when they arrive at school.

Please see the video below regarding the correct way to wear a mask. This video will be shown to students on Monday morning.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Tv2BVN_WTk

We will also be reminding them of the handwashing video below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ij1I0OB2hk>

CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE (CEV) STAFF AND STUDENTS

- Both staff and students who have been identified by their doctor as still considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), will be advised not to come into school or college. The [government guidance](#) on shielding and CEV people has been updated to reflect this position. Schools will be expected to provide remote learning for any students in this category. We do not believe we have any students at Kendrick School that are in this category, but please contact us urgently if you believe this impacts your child.
- Students and staff who live with people who are CEV, but are not CEV themselves, are still expected to come into school or college.

CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- During school time only, PE, sport, music, dance and drama lessons will continue in line with the current guidance.
- Schools must only provide team sports listed on the [return to recreational team sport framework](#). Competition between different schools or colleges cannot take place.
- Schools are able to work with external coaches, clubs and organisations for curricular activities where they are satisfied that it is safe to do so.
- After-school clubs can only continue if their primary purpose is childcare. Our Library will continue to remain open for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 until 4.00pm.

The current series of exam re-sits will continue

Thank you for your continued support during these difficult times.

PRIVACY SETTINGS

The internet can be a great way for adults and children to connect with friends, family and new people. An increasing amount of children and young people are using social media, gaming and live streaming apps to chat and share content with others. But connecting and sharing with people online can come with risks too.

Once shared, personal information like their name, address, photos, or bank details online, could be used by others. For example, it could lead to the child being bullied, **groomed** or **blackmailed**. It might also be used by cyber criminals.

Privacy settings can help you and your child to manage how much and what kind of information is shared, whilst enjoying their favourite sites, games and apps.

Click [here](#) for more information on privacy settings provided by thinkyouknow.co.uk.

NEW SAFEGUARDING IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL SETTINGS (DfE)

In December 2018, the government consulted on a (voluntary) code of practice for 'out of school settings' (OOSS).

Out-of-school settings do not have to follow any specific code of conduct with regards to health & safety, safeguarding or to act to prevent radicalisation or extremism.

The non-statutory Code of Practice has now been published and is made up of the guidance and a range of supporting documents for organisers and parents. The code covers advice on what policies and procedures providers should have in place for health and safety, safeguarding and child protection, staff suitability, and governance. There are guides and checklists for parents and carers to help them choose a safer setting for their child.

The guidance covers:

- community activities
- after-school clubs
- supplementary schools
- tuition
- music lessons
- sports training
- other activities for children that take place without their parents' or carers' supervision, that are not a:
 - school
 - college
 - 16 to 19 college
 - provider caring for children under 8 years old registered with Ofsted or a childminder agency settings

Keeping children safe during community activities, after-school clubs and tuition: non-statutory guidance for providers running out-of-school settings (webpage)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-out-of-school-settings-code-of-practice/keeping-children-safe-during-community-activities-after-school-clubs-and-tuition-non-statutory-guidance-for-providers-running-out-of-school-settings>

Keeping children safe in out-of-school settings: code of practice (Non-Statutory) pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/931529/6.6903_DFE_OOSS_Code_of_practice_document_A4_v8__1____.pdf

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE, LOCAL PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

TERM DATES

Please click [here](#) for the term dates for 2021-2022. Parents/carers are reminded to please look at these term dates before booking any holidays. Please be aware that the majority of holidays are recorded as an unauthorised absence.

PARKING ON KENDRICK ROAD

We have received a complaint from a member of the public regarding parents parking dangerously and irresponsibly in Kendrick Road to pick up Kendrick School students. This particular complaint included a photograph of a vehicle which belonged to a Kendrick parent (including the number plate) which was parked on a clearly defined 'do not park' zone of traffic lights for over 20 minutes whilst they waited for their child. This member of the public is considering reporting this matter to the police.

This is far from the first complaint that we have received. We appreciate that more parents are collecting their child from school due to the pandemic. However, please show respect to our neighbours and other schools in the area by parking safely and legally whilst you wait for your child.

SATURDAY STEM SPECTACULAR

The event is being organised by the ASE working in collaboration with the University of Wolverhampton. It is an online STEM engagement event for people of all ages. The event is on **November 21st 2020 from 10-2pm**. There will be live and online presentations, with a range of activities aimed at primary children in the morning followed by an amazing lab tour. There will be a visit by presenters from Wales and NI around midday. The afternoon session will include presentations 5 or 6 aimed at older students and this will be followed by a provocative panel discussion to finish the day.

This Saturday STEM Spectacular is now live on Eventbrite for the Saturday STEM event is up:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/saturday-stem-spectacular-tickets-126207362619>

TRAIN TO TEACH

The Berkshire Teaching School Alliance are continuing to look to recruit high quality trainees for the school direct programme and to support this, they are holding a virtual Train to Teach information evening on **Thursday 26 November 18:00 – 19:00**. They wish to invite you to this virtual evening which will include a presentation from Rob

Buck, Director of the Teaching School and Q&A session. The presentation will cover the different routes into teacher training, funding, submitting a successful application and what a career as a teacher is really like.

Please click on this [link](#) for more information.

JOB VACANCIES AT KENDRICK SCHOOL

We have the following job vacancies at Kendrick School.

- **Finance Officer** – 2 roles – 20 hours a week, term time only, but must be able to work flexibly in July and August. For December 2020.
- **Chemistry Teacher** – at least 0.8 FTE – for January 2020

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

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

Years 7,8 & 9: Contributions to Food & Textiles and Technology

Years 10 and 11: GCSE English texts

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

KPS

Kendrick Cultural Fest is on Saturday 21st November. Posters and link to participation forms are in full circulation through our Whats App group channel. There are 6 categories that students can participate in - **Art, Food tech, Ethnic and Traditional wear, Quiz, Speech and Performance in singing, dancing and instrument playing**. If your daughter is interested in showcasing their talent please fill in [this google form](#) and one of the focus group members will contact you. The deadline for completing the form is **11th November**. Please see the leaflet attached for more information.

Unfortunately, due to the recent lockdown, the **Year 7 film night is postponed until the New Year**. We will be refunding the tickets within a week. We are trying our best to find some alternative event for these students. It is all the more a reason that they should participate in the Kendrick cultural fest which is later this month.

The KPS non-uniform day is on **Friday 13th November**. This is a very popular fundraising drive where parents and students collectively raise money for a good cause. We request you for a donation of £2. We are in discussion with the school to see what the money can be spent on. We will give you more details on this in our next newsletter.

We hope that our newsletter is engaging and provides you with all information. It was heartening to get feedback on our last newsletter. We are happy to note that you have looked at our new KPS team structure, upcoming event

updates and information on various ways of raising funds through [Easyfundraising](#), [GAYL](#), [the giving machine](#) and [Amazon smile](#). Please continue to use these links and let's all together contribute to something that our children can benefit from.

KPS Committee

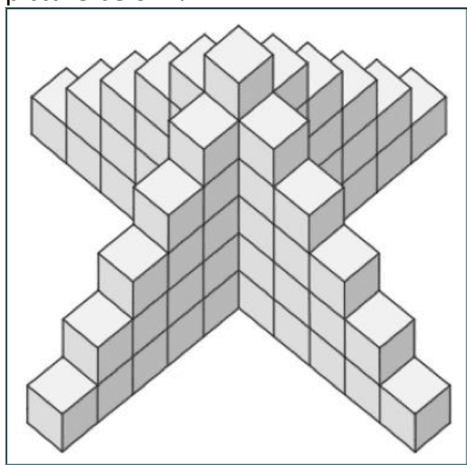
NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

KPS OWN CLOTHES DAY – FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

Kendrick Parents' Society are organising an Own Clothes Day on Friday 13th November. Please bring a donation of £2 – all proceeds go to the KPS in order to buy new equipment for the school. Please be aware of the [Dress Code](#) which you can find on the school website.

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

Can you solve the block counting puzzle by counting the number of blocks in the picture below ?



Answer to last week's challenge:

Microsoft (Mic + Crow + Softy)