

# Kendrick School

## Weekly Update

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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

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We are now at the end of our third week of teaching and I am delighted to be able to report that the school is continuing to run smoothly. Routines that at first were very strange are now beginning to become familiar and have only a small impact on our learning. I have recorded a [short assembly](#) for all the school thanking students and staff for the way that everyone has pulled together and on the success of our safety procedures as well as giving messages that we must still be conscious of the distance that we give each other when moving around the site. Government guidance strongly emphasises that the most important thing for us all to do is remain vigilant, be aware of those around us, follow the rules and wash hands regularly. The 'Word of the Week' this week in school is 'mitigate', a verb meaning to make (something) less severe, serious or painful and I certainly feel that we are effectively mitigating the impact of COVID 19 on the students' learning. Guided by their teachers, they continue to study hard, know more and remember more.

Two year 13 students, Abby and Mo Li have been leading auditions for students in Years 8-12 this week as part of the student-led production of 'As You Like It' for Shakespeare Schools Festival 2020. This production is part of a world record-breaking attempt for the most amount of people simultaneously performing Shakespeare in one evening. Coincidentally I popped into a Year 9 lesson earlier this week to see them discussing a scene from Romeo and Juliet and I was struck by their knowledge, analytical skills and their appreciation of the writing at such a young age. We are all excited to watch as this project develops.

I was able to congratulate the Physics department again this week, this time for the extraordinary achievements of 40 year 11 students last year in the Physics Olympiad Competition. They gained 16 awards including a Gold award for Elli which I was able to present at a meeting of Engineering Society.

School Council has me this week and will continue to meet and work throughout the year and I look forward to giving updates on their plans for the year.

I am sorry that our welcome and information events for parents have all had to go online and that we have not been able to invite parents in for a chat and look around the new Horizons building, but I very much hope that you enjoy and value watching the recorded messages that will be made available early next week for each year group alongside the virtual tour of the building.

Finally this week there are three vacancies currently being advertised on our website for a Student Welfare and Attendance Officer, Chemistry Technician and Outreach and Admissions Assistant; please point these out to someone you know who may be interested in one of these roles.

**Mr Nick Simmonds, Acting Headteacher**

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## SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

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### SCHOOL NURSING VIDEO

The School Nursing team have created a short video on the service <https://vimeo.com/437797725/2b2e26b789>  
**School Nurse Support for young people** - We also have a dedicated phone line for parents and carers and young people in Year 9 and above. It covers Bracknell Forest, Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham. We're here to give you health advice and refer you into the service for ongoing support if you need it.

We're available 9am-4.30pm Monday to Friday. Call **0118 9312111** and select 'Option 4' to speak to a School Nurse.

**Direct message to year 9 students and above** - You do not have to struggle in silence. The school nursing team are here to listen, phone our new advice and support line on **0118 9312111** and select **option 4** to speak to a school nurse. Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm. It's ok to not be ok.

### DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HELPLINE WEEKEND OPENING HOURS

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline remains available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Please listen carefully to the available options and select the most appropriate to your nursery, school, or college's current situation.

To support the transition back to education, we have extended our opening hours and are now available 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm  
Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm

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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*

[Kendrick School Birthday](#)

## YEAR 7, 10 AND 12 PHOTOGRAPHS

Individual and Tutor group photographs are currently being distributed. If you would like to buy copies of the photographs this can be done directly online with Tempest. If you would prefer to order through the school students should place their completed order forms in the box on Reception.

## TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Please remind your child to wear a face covering if they are using public transport travelling to and from school. We had a call from a vulnerable member of the public who was concerned that very few of the students that were on the bus they were on were wearing masks. We have alerted Reading Buses to this and also reminded our students they must wear masks but we would appreciate your help in reinforcing the message please. Students need to replace the mask they travel in with a clean mask when they arrive at school and need a bag to store the travelling mask in.

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## KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

Kendrick Parents' Society's first meeting of this academic year kicked off very well with many new and existing parents, school staff and our acting Headteacher Mr Simmonds participating via zoom call. There was great engagement on a number of topics including the KPS events structure, new innovative social platform and other activities to carry out in the 'new normal' situation. There were many brilliant ideas discussed and we sincerely hope that we can work out together to implement them.

Watch out for more details about all these and many more in our upcoming newsletter that will be circulated to you on Monday via Parentmail.

**KPS Committee**

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## JOB VACANCIES AT KENDRICK SCHOOL

We have the following job vacancies at Kendrick School.

- Student Welfare and Attendance Officer - 35 hours a week – Monday to Friday, 8am to 3.30pm, term time only, plus one week in the summer holidays and INSET days
- Chemistry Technician - 13 hours a week - term time only and some hours in the summer holidays
- Outreach and Admissions Assistant – Monday to Friday, 10.30am to 1.30pm – term time only

More information on both 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.

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## PARENTPAY REMINDERS

**Year 13 Geography Field Trips** during October 2020 - £240 to be paid by 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020. Please contact Mrs Wheeler or [finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) if you require more time to pay.

**Year 13 University Entrance payments** – please note that these are for those students who need to take entrance tests for universities (eg BMAT, Oxbridge etc) – otherwise no payment is required and the items will be taken off your account next month.

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

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## NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

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### KENDRICK SCHOOL INSTAGRAM ARTS ACCOUNT

The KSLT is looking for a few enthusiastic Year 11's to become art representatives, in order to help run the Kendrick Instagram Arts Account this year. You will be involved in setting challenges, creating Instagram posts about the arts and promoting this to the school, plus any of your other ideas! If you are interested, please send an email to the address, [14lzhao@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:14lzhao@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) by Friday the 2nd of October. Thank you.

### SCHOOL BIRTHDAY

Students should send in poems/pictures/photographs/messages for the school birthday display by Monday to the Librarians please.

### THE 16-19 BURSARY FUND

The 16-19 Bursary Fund has been allocated by the Education Funding Agency (EFA), the funding agency for 16-19 education and training.

Please see the [16-19 Bursary Policy 20-21](#) which sets out the arrangements for how the Kendrick School will prioritise and administer the 16-19 Bursary Fund in 2020-21.

The School is committed to ensuring the Fund is used to support financially disadvantaged young people taking up or continuing in their education or training post-16 and achieving their learning aim(s).

Please see the [16-19 Bursary Information for Parent-Carer\(s\) 20-21](#) and [16-19 Bursary Information for Students 20-21](#) for more information which explains who is eligible and how to apply. Please also see the [16-19 Student Assessment Form 20-21](#).

Please note that if your daughter received the Bursary for academic year 2019/20 you will need to reapply for this current academic year.

To apply please download and complete the 16-19 Bursary Fund Application form 19-20 below.

**The deadline to submit a Bursary application, with the correct supporting evidence, is Monday 5th October 2020.**

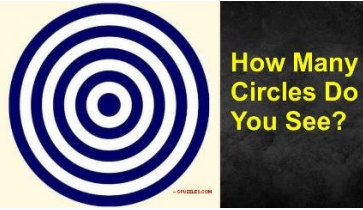
The student liaison contacts for any support with the application process, including details on eligibility criteria and evidence needed, are Ms Le Croisette or Mrs Harrison at the email addresses below:

[ylecroisette@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:ylecroisette@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or [tharrison@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:tharrison@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).

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

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*Answer to last week's challenge:*

A carrot

