

# Kendrick School

## Weekly Update

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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### LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Staff

I have just come back from speaking to Years 7 -11 and Year 13 in an assembly and giving them a few more details of our future plans. As you know from the email I sent earlier in the week, we were successful in our **Selective School Expansion Fund application** which we made in August 2018. This means that 32 more students, predominately from the Reading area, will be coming to Kendrick in September 2020 and thereafter there will be an increase of 32 students, year on year, until 2024. To accommodate the enlarged student population we have been given a capital sum of money, just over £2million, to build a three storey block containing six classroom and a dining space. There will also be some other adjustments to parts of our existing buildings. The other and very important element and remit of the application is the **Fair Access and Partnership Plan**, known as the FAPP, which details how we plan to work with local schools to support pupil premium and disadvantaged students to have a fairer chance of applying to Kendrick. Working with Reading Local Authority, we have already identified a number of schools in the Reading area who would like us to work with them. We hope that this work will support all students in schools and help raise aspirations and ambition in education. Some of our own students who I have spoken to are very excited by this development and we are looking forward to engaging many of our staff and our students in this outreach work. I believe this is momentous time for Kendrick which will enable the school to become even more rooted in its local community and share its expertise more widely. We have exciting times ahead to look forward to.

We have had two Parents' Consultation meetings in the last two weeks for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. This time of the year is very stressful for these students as they begin to think and plan for their mock examinations in January. I am sure, like previous cohorts, they will do very well, but that does not stop them worrying now. I hope that both in school and at home, they are receiving support and encouragement to do their best, with kind words and gestures that appreciate the workloads they have.

I have spoken before about the mental health work that we are doing in school, led by Ms Stacey, which is part of the **Reading Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Partnership**. As well as the work being done in school with students and staff, there is also a series of workshops taking place for parents. The first workshop is next **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm at Kendrick** and it is on **Anxiety**. I think this will be a most valuable and useful session for parents and urge parents who wish to try to understand this condition to come along. The workshops, including the Anxiety workshop, are also taking place at Reading Girls' School on the same day at 9.30am. Please see the flyer via this [link](#) for more details.

Please click [here](#) for the KPS December newsletter and support the KPS in any way that you can.

Today is the last day of our **Year 13 Fringe Fortnight** when there will be some fun activity for all the school to watch in the Sports Hall at second break! Thank you to the Head Girl Team for organising the wonderful series of activities that have engaged so many students at break and lunch time these last two weeks.

I believe we are getting into the festive spirit as our plans for the season, including decorations, unfold for the last week and a half of term; it is such a nice time of the year to be at school and to be part of the Kendrick community.

Enjoy the weekend.

**Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher**

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## SAFEGUARDING

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### Small Talk Saves Lives (Samaritans)

Samaritans have launched a new campaign and video called small talk saves lives. The campaign has been produced in partnership with Network Rail, British Transport Police and the wider rail industry. Samaritans says, 'if you see someone you think might need help, trust your instincts and start a conversation. You could help save a life'.

British Transport Police data shows that in 2016/17, there were 6 potentially life-saving interventions made for every suicide/suspected suicide on the railway. Engaging someone in such circumstances might be all it takes to interrupt someone's suicidal thoughts and start them on a journey to recovery.

Upset or distressed people can be found in many different places, not only by the railway, and the same strategy might be important. There is no evidence that intervening when someone is at risk will make the situation worse. And there's no perfect way to make an intervention, we just have to do our best.

If it's not safe to make an approach or you don't feel comfortable then speak to a passer-by, call 999. You could help save a life.

For further information and to watch the video, go to: <https://www.samaritans.org/media-centre/our-campaigns/small-talk-saves-lives>

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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*The following quote is one of the '140 quotes for 140 years' collected by Year 9 students on the occasion of Kendrick School's 140<sup>th</sup> birthday.*

**"It's nice to be important, but more important to be nice"**

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## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

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News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Success in the Selective School Expansion Fund \(SSEF\)](#)

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## Socks for the Homeless

On Friday 14th December at first and second break in the servery, students can exchange socks for cakes! Any pair of socks are welcome as long as they're clean and have no holes!

## Amnesty Society Appeal

The Amnesty Society is holding a food drive for the food bank ReadFood from 10th - 14th December.

They will be collecting the food in Room M at break and lunch, and students should please bring any donations on the day allocated to their Year group to earn points for their form. The form with the most points will win a prize!!

Year 7 - Monday

Year 8 + 9 - Tuesday

Year 10 + 11 - Wednesday

Year 12 + 13 - Thursday

Examples of the food needed include:

- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Ready Meals
- Tinned Chopped Tomatoes
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Potatoes
- Biscuits
- Small Bags of Pasta
- Small Bags of Rice
- Pasta Sauces
- Tinned Fruit
- Coffee/Tea bags
- Tinned Puddings
- Tinned Pies

Thank you for your support with this.

## Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 14th December 2018

Kendrick School will be supporting the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Students are invited to wear their Christmas jumper into school for a donation of £1.00. **Please note that the Christmas jumper replaces the Kendrick red sweatshirt ONLY and other uniform must be worn as normal.**

Please click [here](#) for a link to the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day website.

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# YEAR GROUP NEWS

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## Year 11

### GCSE Mock Examinations

The GCSE mock examinations will be taking place after the Christmas break during the period **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019** inclusive. Lessons will take place as normal on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January. A large number of exams have to be fitted into a limited period of time. On some days your daughter may have up to three exams.

The timetable, which your daughter will receive via email, shows when she will need to be in school. She will be required to attend school on every day that she has an examination and remain in school until she has finished all exams for that day. Morning examinations start at 8.30am so she will need to be in school by 8.10am if she has an examination in the first session. The exception to this is Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January when the morning examination will start at 9.00am so your daughter can arrive at the usual time of 8.25am.

After her exam(s) have finished for the day she may then go home, having signed out. With your consent we would be happy for your daughter to stay at home to do exam preparation or coursework on days when she has no examinations. If, however, you wish your daughter to remain in school at all times during the exam period then please notify me using the email address [wstride@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:wstride@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) and there will be rooms made available for private study in school. If I am not notified prior to the Christmas break I shall assume you are happy for your daughter to be at home during this period.

I appreciate that illness cannot be avoided but please encourage your daughter to have 100% attendance during this period. Rescheduling missed examinations is not easy and may mean missing lessons in the week after examination week in order to be assessed in every subject. Normal lessons will resume on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Please note that whenever your daughter is in school she should be wearing correct school uniform.

**Mr W Stride, Head of Year 11**

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 10th December 2018 (B Week)

Wednesday 12th December      [RYPWP Parents' Workshop on Anxiety](#)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December      Full Governing Body Meeting, 4.30pm  
Christmas Concert, 6.30pm

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December      Christmas Jumper Day  
Year 10 Panto, P4&5  
[KPS Christmas Disco for Years 7 -9](#)

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

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## MUSIC @ KENDRICK

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### Music Concert/Events Attendance Survey

At Kendrick School we are very fortunate to have a number of talented musicians who are enthusiastic about being part of an ensemble/choir. They work diligently every week on new and existing repertoire, which they look forward to performing in front of large audiences at concerts. Despite receiving a fantastic audience for House Music this year, we have generally seen a decline in the amount of people attending our concerts and musical events, which is very sad and disappointing for those involved.

I would therefore like to find out the reasons why people are generally not attending our concerts and see if there is anything that can be done to help alleviate these problems. Please tick all of the responses in the survey via the link below that apply to you. Also, if you have any other feedback then please include that in the box at the bottom as well. This will remain anonymous, although you may add your name if you wish.

Many thanks

**Mrs Catherine Cooper, Head of Music**

## **Christmas Concert – Thursday 13th December 2018 at 6.30pm**

Our Christmas Concert will feature a range of seasonal songs from Vox Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir, with instrumental music from Tchaikovsky, Pentatonix, and Henry Mancini. All of the school's main ensembles will perform, including all of Year 7 singing, our Carnatic Singers and the staff band 'No Direction' will dust off their cobwebs to 'entertain' you again. We expect the concert to finish at approximately 8.30pm.

Please note that refreshments, including mince pies and mulled wine will be available before the concert from 6.15pm.

Please may we remind you that no parking is available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception before the event.

Our Christmas concert tends to sell out quickly and tickets went on sale on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November**. We therefore urge you to order them as soon as possible through Parentpay in order to avoid disappointment. Ticket price/suggested donation: £5.00. In the first instance tickets will be restricted to four per family. We politely ask for you not to leave ticket requests or queries until the day of the concert.

If you would like tickets for the Christmas Concert on Thursday 13th December please complete the order on Parentpay. Tickets will be distributed to students via the registers before the concert.

Information about concerts in 2019 will be sent out at the beginning of next year. We look forward to seeing many of you at the concert.

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## **KPS NEWS**

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Please click [here](#) for the KPS December newsletter.

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## **VACANCIES**

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**Please forward to friends or family who may be interested in the following role:**

### **Exam Invigilators**

To facilitate the public examinations held at Kendrick School we require a bank of invigilators. We are currently seeking to expand our existing team. Responsibilities include:

- Preparation of the examination room
- Monitoring candidates during the exam

- Distribution and collation of examination papers and supporting material
- Supporting students' needs as required
- Ensuring adherence to JCQ regulations

Person/skills required:

- Understanding of the importance of safeguarding in schools
- Attention to detail
- Calm and professional
- Reliable
- Medical background advantageous
- Must be IT literate and be able to attend face to face training at the school

Training is provided. Please note that this is a part-time seasonal position.

If you are interested please complete the application and declaration of convictions forms on our [website](#) and email to [exams@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:exams@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).

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## PARENTPAY REMINDERS

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- Year 11 Study Skills Roadshow 7th December 2018 - £5

Please remember to top up dinner money accounts.