# WEEKLY UPDATE – FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2026

I hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable holiday. It certainly feels in school like everyone is back and ready for another term. There is so much to pack in as we look forward to the Evening of Dance; our Sixth Form Open evening; GCSE and A level certificate presentations; concerts; pantomimes; trips here and abroad and of course the school's production of The Curse of Isla Tormentor for which rehearsals and set design are in full swing. On Sunday I will be representing the school at Reading School's Remembrance Sunday Service and laying a wreath in their chapel at the Kendrick Boys School War Memorial; Kendrick Boys was absorbed by Reading School in 1916.

This week Year 11 spent a day thinking about the future at the Post-16 Conference. Visitors, school staff, Year 13 students, local business leaders, college leaders and a keynote speaker all contributed to a packed day helping our students to think widely about their next steps in education and the world of work beyond that.

As always please have good look through the whole weekly update and allow me to draw your attention to the safeguarding messages and links that we regularly update.

I am sure we will enjoy another busy and rewarding term.

Floreat Kendrika.

**Mr Nick Simmonds**
**Headteacher**

## School Notices

Due to Kendrick School's proximity to the town centre, from time to time there are reports of individuals close to school who may be under the influence of drink or drugs or may say something unpleasant to a student/group of students walking to or from school.

While these incidents are not frequent, I would like to emphasise the importance of your child telling an adult about this as soon as possible. Our students generally deal with these situations very well. If your child feels unsafe at the time, they should call the police and then tell a member of staff when they get to school. If they do not feel the need to call the police, please encourage them to tell a member of staff when they arrive at school. We can then assess the situation and call the police if needed, alert neighbouring schools etc. If the incident happens after school and your child is close to school, they can return to school as a place of safety and tell Reception what has happened, and we can then assess the situation. We have frequent contact with our allocated Safer Schools Officers, PCs Dawn and Carly, who attend school every term during lunchtime, and are available to reassure any students who may have any concerns.

Another safeguarding message concerns students waiting around outside school in the mornings. Some students choose to do this and then enter through the school gates in time for Registration. Please talk to your child to make sure that they do not gather close to the road, as there is limited space outside. This is especially pertinent with the darker mornings over the winter months.

Thank you for your help in keeping all our students safe.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding at Kendrick School
**Firework safety for children:** Advice from the BBC on how to enjoy fireworks safely with your child at Bonfire Night events and Diwali.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Kendrick School
**Looking after your mental health through the winter.** The winter months can be difficult for many of us and our mental health. With dropping temperatures and shorter days, we might experience sleep problems, notice a change in our appetite, or find it difficult to do things we normally enjoy. As we continue through winter, we have some

information from mental health charity, Mind on how to spot the signs that the winter might be impacting your mental health, as well as suggestions for support and self-help.

## SEND

Reading's SEND Local Offer. The SEND Local Offer is here to help you find information about local services, support, activities and events for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

## School Fund

Please donate to our School Fund here. You can make one-off payments through your ParentPay account or complete a standing order form for more regular payments. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ensure you also complete a Gift Aid Form.

A school fund is maintained by voluntary contributions from the parents/carers of students. Its purpose is to provide an additional source of funding for the provision of facilities and educational resources for the benefit of students. We use our School Fund to support so many activities **in and out of** school that have now become essential to school life.

## Canteen

The Autumn/Winter menu can be found here. **Please ensure that you regularly check your child's canteen balance on their ParentPay account and settle any 'overdrafts' quickly.** Overdrafts should only be issued on an exceptional basis and not as a regular occurrence.

## Latest News on our Website

Year 12 Biology Syllabus Brought to Life at Longleat
Year 10-13 Trip to see As You Like It as Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
Author Visit from Kendrick Alumna Zsofia Lazar

## School Calendar

*Week B*
Tuesday 10th November – Evening of Dance
Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance Day; Sixth Form Open Evening, 4pm-5.30pm Kendrick students and parents; 5,00pm to 6.30pm External students and parents

## Student Careers and Work Experience

**CAREERS TALK - Meteorology:** including Laura Tobin from Good Morning Britain – 11th November 2026 5pm to 6pm at The Abbey School in Reading

- Laura Tobin - Broadcast meteorologist and scientist, weather presenter on ITV's Good Morning Britain and
- Professor Andrew Charlton-Perez OBE - Climate Scientist, Professor of Meteorology at the University of Reading.

This event is open to all students in the area. If you are interested in attending please complete this Eventbrite link. Please note this event is not affiliated with Kendrick School.

## Vacancies

No vacancies at the present time.

## ParentPay and Evolve Reminders

Latest Reminders for ParentPay and Evolve

## KPS Updates

Please see the latest KPS newsletter here.