

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 22nd November 2019

Weekly Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

A trip that the whole of **Year 7** were involved in a couple of weeks ago was a visit to the Reading Museum to see the replica of the **Bayeux Tapestry**. As part of the Year 7 History curriculum examining how and why William the Conqueror gained control of England, the students visited the tapestry to gain a close up look at the intricate needlework depicting scenes and events from of the Battle of Hastings in 1066. I spoke to a few students after their visit who told me how interesting and fascinating it was to view the tapestry, albeit it a replica version. I asked them to write an account of their visit which you can read [here](#). As you can see they enjoyed the visit which included an opportunity to dress up in robes, crowns and chainmail, focus on particular scenes of the battle depicted in the tapestry and also visit the gift shop to buy souvenirs. An all-round super educational trip.

On Wednesday we had the first of our **profiling sessions** when all students had one to one interviews with their Form Tutors or Heads of Year to discuss their progress, as well as discuss how they feel the year has gone so far. This is a most valuable exercise that we believe helps students to review the work they have done so far, appreciate what has gone well, as well as discuss with their tutor what they need to work on and develop in the next few months. For Years 11 and 13, Parents' Consultation Afternoons will follow in the next couple of weeks so that further conversations can occur between teachers, students and parents. Although all students were off timetable for the day, Years 7-11 had a most productive time covering other elements of the curriculum that do not fall easily into individual subjects areas. The 6th Form were able to use the day for private study. Reports will be sent to parents later in the term.

A most enjoyable event was the [GCSE Presentation Event](#) on Wednesday evening when Year 12 students and their parents joined staff and governors for the presentation of the GCSE certificates and awards. To present the certificates to the students, **Kitty Gingell**, former student and Curriculum Prefect in last year's Head Girl Team, returned to Kendrick from university to speak and present the certificates. Kitty spoke to the students about her undergraduate course at Oxford University where she is studying Engineering and how she is enjoying studying subjects that she took at A Level in particular Physics! She gave the students some advice which she said she would have appreciated when she was in their place two years ago. She summed up her advice into five key points:

1. **Persevere - be resilient.** *The next two years and, as I'm coming to realise pretty quickly, the many years after that too, will be difficult and stressful at times. You need to remember that when you're going through a rough patch the only way to get out the other side is often to keep trudging along. So my first piece of advice is to be resilient, keep your head up, and persevere.*
2. **Don't compare yourself to others:** *It's very easy to compare yourself to others while you're at school. Remember that different people have different ways of studying that work for them.....different schedules and different motivations too, and it's counterproductive to try to compare yourself with those around you.*
3. **Always be kind:** *Be kind to others - invite people to events, sit and chat with someone who might not have adjusted to sixth form life yet, be inclusive of everyone. You are in the lucky position that you know this school very well but there are many new students too and they won't necessarily feel completely settled at this point. Reaching out just by offering someone a cup of tea or walking to the station with them can make*

such a difference to their day - even though it might seem quite a small act to you. Also, very importantly, be kind to yourself. Regularly exercising, getting a decent amount of sleep and staying off social media can really help your work and boost your day-to-day happiness.

4. **Get involved:** *For me the extracurricular clubs and societies really enriched my time at Kendrick so I would highly recommend that you sign up to a sports team and go along to some interesting societies (I'd certainly recommend engineering soc!).*
5. **Make mistakes:** *The final piece of advice I would like to offer is that all advice should be taken with a pinch of salt! I hope you've found what I've been saying this evening useful, but the only way to really learn is to make your own mistakes. When I was debating choosing between Physics and Art no amount of advice would have swayed me one way or the other. In fact, quite often being advised against something is the very spark to make you do it! Whether you heed advice or plough your own furrow - if it doesn't turn out so well remember- don't worry, we all learn from our mistakes. That is how progress is made!*

It was a super speech that everyone enjoyed and appreciated. We are very grateful to Kitty for making the time to come and speak to the students and we look forward to welcoming her back in December at her own presentation event when she will be presented with her A Level certificates by another former Kendrick student, now a Lawyer, Jennifer Brace.

Wishing everyone a happy weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

Child Sexual Exploitation

If you're worried about sexual exploitation, NSPCC has information and advice to protect and help children and young people. Click on the link below for more information.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/child-sexual-exploitation/>

CALENDAR

Week Commencing Monday 25th November 2019 (B Week)

Year 8 and 9 Charity Events

Tuesday 26th November
Thursday 28th November

Dance Enterprise Day
Year 13 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm

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

Key Events in Term 2

Tuesday 3rd December	Year 11 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm
Wednesday 4th December	Evening of Dance
Friday 6th December	KPS Disco, Years 7-9
	KPS Christmas Market
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Concert, 6.30pm
Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16th December	A Level Presentation and Awards Evening
Wednesday 18th December	Last Day of Term 2, 1.10pm

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Trip to Germany – October 2019](#)

[Year 7 History Trip to Reading Museum](#)

[My Experience as an ATP Ball Kid](#)

[GCSE Presentation Evening](#)

Widening Horizons Information Event – Tuesday 26th November 2019

We are holding a Widening Horizons Information Evening on Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 4.15pm. This is for parents/carers and girls in Year 3-5 who are in receipt of pupil premium/service premium or a child in care and who reside within our designated area.

There will be fun workshops for students, tours of the school, and information about the free familiarisation programme for students taking the Kendrick School admission test.

To register please email admissions@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

Please share this information with friends or family that would be interested in this event.

Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Local Offer Newsletter

Please click [here](#) for the SEND Local Offer newsletter.

Parent Governor Appointment

There was one nomination for the role of Parent Governor and therefore no need for an election.

The successful candidate is Mr Asim Mushtaq who has a child in Year 13. Mr Mushtaq will serve for four years starting in December 2019.

KPS NEWS

The KPS Disco is on Friday 6th December for Years 7-9, please book [online for tickets](#). We need volunteers to serve refreshments, managing jackets, setting and clearing up. If your child is at the disco and you can help us at that time, please reach out to us. Please see the attached poster to this newsletter.

On the same day we are planning for Christmas market which will be a perfect opportunity for parents to spend time shopping and networking with other parents of the school. We are looking for donations for gift hampers and boxed chocolates and biscuits (all valid in date). Also if you know of any local business who would like to put up their stall please let us know by emailing chair.kps.uk@gmail.com.

More details on our newsletter on Monday!

MUSIC@KENDRICK

Christmas Concert – Thursday 12th December 2019

Our Christmas concert will take place on **THURSDAY, 12TH DECEMBER 2018 AT 6.30 PM**. The whole of Year 7 will be singing, and there will be performances from all of the main school ensembles including Wind Orchestra, Vox Choir, Senior Choir, Chamber Choir, Jazz Band and Symphony Orchestra. The concert would not be complete without a visit from the notorious staff band, No Direction. Tickets for this concert will be available to order through ParentPay shortly.

We look forward to seeing you at this event.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- Profiling Day activities – please pay as soon as possible:
 - Year 7 Study Skills - £6
 - Year 8 Careers Sessions - £5
 - Year 10 Religious Education Workshops - £2.50
 - Year 11 Revision Skills - £5.20
 - Year 12 Book Deposits - £50
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VACANCIES

Kendrick School has the following vacancies. Please click on the links for each role for more information.

[Biology Technician and Outreach Coordinator \(DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER\)](#)

NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

Year 13

Year 13 Parents' Consultation Meeting – Thursday 28th November 2019

The Year 13 Parents' Consultation afternoon is on **Thursday 28th November 2019** when parents/carers will have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress with their subject teachers.

Students have been given an appointment sheets so that they can make their own appointments with their subject teachers and they should discuss these timings with you. They should only expect see one teacher from each subject, as many teachers have a very full evening.

Students are expected to accompany parents/carers to the consultation afternoon. If you are unable to attend for any reason students will still be expected to meet with their subject teachers. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be available without appointment to see parents and carers.

For safety reasons, you will be asked to sign in when you arrive and sign out before you leave. There is no parking available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception. We regret that we cannot be responsible for younger children, so please try and make alternative arrangements for younger siblings wherever possible.

Year 8 & 9

Year 8 and 9 Charity Week - Monday 25th – Friday 29th November

Please support Year 8 and 9 in raising money for BIBS at the Royal Berkshire Hospital (RBH). BIBS is Babies in Buscot Support, which is a registered charity that supports babies and their families in the special care baby unit (Buscot Ward) at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading.

Throughout the week each form in Year 8 and 9 will be creating a baby box and taking part in a sponsored activity.

They will also be running the following activities which we hope you will support:

- Monday – Cake Sale (first and second break), main area will be the servery
 - Wednesday – Creating friendship bracelets and scrunches in SC2 (second break)
 - Thursday – Book Sale in SC2 and Cake Sale (first and second break)
 - Friday – Henna & Nail painting in SC2 (second break)
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AND FINALLY.... THINKING CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK!

In front of you, there are 9 coins. They all look absolutely identical, but one of the coins is fake. However, you know that the fake coin is lighter than the rest, and in front of you is a balance scale. What is the least number of weightings you can use to find the counterfeit coin?

The answer will be published next week

Answer to last week's challenge:

They formed a pentagonal shape and achieved the required.

