

WEEKLY UPDATE: FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2025

Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

I haven't mentioned the website to you for some time, so please have a look at the recent articles that have been put on. There are so many things that go on in school every day which would be wonderful to share with you and create articles for the website, but the time to do so is sometimes a challenge. Below is a glimpse of some the activities students have been involved in recently. As always, I thank the students for their enthusiastic participation and the staff who give so much of their time and effort to make these events and activities happen.

[GCHQs National Language Competition 2025](#)

[Launch of Widening Horizons 2025-26](#)

[Young Faces Safety Summit](#)

[Reading Schools Climate Conference 2025](#)

Today is a no less busy, with Year 10 GCSE Drama students performing pantos to primary school children from Katesgrove and Geoffrey Field School, two local primaries. All students have such fun on these occasions, with Kendrick students encouraging the wonderful audience participation from the primary children. Another performance occasion this week has been the Evening of Dance which featured group performances from across the school with all four Year 7 Tutor groups performing their group dance. Some beautiful individual performances from GSCE and A Level PE students made the evening a special event. Thank you to all our students who have been involved in these events this week, both on and off stage. Next week is the Christmas Concert, on Thursday 18th December, please come to support us on this final event of the term. Year 7 will be performing again!

Today many students and staff are wearing Christmas jumpers as part of the [Save the Children](#) initiative to raise funds for the charity's Christmas Appeal. We are asking parents for a donation of £2 and this can be paid directly to Save the Children by using the QR code further down in this update. Also, KPS has been delighted with the response from parents on the Wishlist contributions which have reached the target of £5k. This means that all the items on the Wishlist will be bought for departments. KPS has agreed that any extra money raised will go towards replacing an Inter Active Whiteboard in one of the classrooms. If you have not given a donation yet, then please do so [here](#).

It was International Human Rights Day on Wednesday, and a group of sixth formers led the school in a letter writing campaign called Write for Rights, an initiative run by the charity Amnesty International. Over 100 letters have been written to the governments of South Africa, Cambodia and Ecuador expressing our concern at the injustices that exist against specific groups of young people in these countries. An article is being prepared for the website for next week. This activity aligns so well with the part of our pledge that says we promise to stand against injustice. Thank you to everyone involved. For more information, on Amnesty and this specific campaign, please see this [link](#) highlighting the meaningful phrase - *a few words go a long way*.

To end with a few more meaningful words, as expressed in our poem for Advent today, below is a poem which as Mr Dilley tells us 'is a sonnet which captures what appears to be a very simple but beautiful moment - a snowflake landing on two young skaters just as they are about to kiss (the final rhyming couplet perhaps mirroring their kiss). The poem explores the apparently random and unplanned events that led up to this moment - the formation of the snowflake from vapour rising to the sky, and its journey over "*countless miles*" to reach its destination: it could so easily not have happened, and yet it does. The snowflake is compared to love, "*sensing, seeking out, its destiny*", and there is something very touching about the way that the male skater also "*blocks the wind raging from the south*". Baer seems to be highlighting the innocence and fragility of both the snowflake and of young love, and yet both survive to coincide perfectly at this moment.'

Snowflake

by William Baer

Timing's everything. The vapor rises

high in the sky, tossing to and fro,
then freezes, suddenly, and crystalizes
into a perfect flake of miraculous snow.
For countless miles, drifting east above
the world, whirling about in a swirling free-
for-all, appearing aimless, just like love,
but sensing, seeking out, its destiny.
Falling to where the two young skaters stand,
hand in hand, then flips and dips and whips
itself about to ever-so-gently land,
a miracle, across her un-kissed lips:
as he blocks the wind raging from the south,
leaning forward to kiss her lovely mouth.

Wishing everyone a peaceful weekend. Please enjoy our musical Christmas Card on our website via this [link](#).

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

School Notices

Christmas Jumper Day

If your child wore a Christmas jumper today, please donate £2 to Save the Children via the Just Giving QR code below, if you haven't already done so. Thank you.



Safeguarding

[Safeguarding at Kendrick School](#)

[Information on TikTok 'Tap Out' Challenge](#)

Wellbeing

[Mental Health and Wellbeing at Kendrick School](#)

[Article on Distraction Techniques](#)

SEND

[Adult Dyslexia Centre \(ADC\) - Understanding Dyslexia and Dyscalculia](#). An online course for parents, carers and teachers of dyslexic children.

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.

[Latest News on our Website](#)

[GCHQs National Language Competition 2025](#)

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[Young Faces Safety Summit](#)

[Reading Schools Climate Conference 2025](#)

[School Calendar](#)

Week commencing 15th December 2025

- Tuesday 16th December - Presentation of the A Level Certificates, 4.00pm
- Thursday 17th December- Christmas lunch in the canteen; Christmas Concert 6.30pm
- Friday 18th December - end of Term 2, 3.15pm

Student Careers and Work Experience

[Current Opportunities](#)

[Vacancies](#)

No vacancies at the current time.

ParentPay and Evolve Reminders

[Reminders on Friday 12th December 2025](#)

[Kendrick Parents' Society \(KPS\)](#)

[Weekly News - 12th December 2025](#)