

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 25th January 2019

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Staff

You may have seen the performance tables that the government published yesterday. We are obviously delighted with the success of our students and staff in achieving such brilliant results that place us so highly in these tables and rankings. To view the rankings click on the link below, select "Secondary" and search for "Reading".

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-46947617>

We had a most delightful evening on Wednesday when a Choral Masterclass organised by Mrs Cooper took place. We welcomed Harmesh Gharu, a Vocal specialist and teacher who worked with a group of students, including our GCSE and A Level Musicians, and guided them in developing their vocal skills which they then demonstrated in a concert of solos and choir performances. It was a pleasure to listen to our students who sang and performed beautifully.

This morning the whole school gathered together for an assembly to mark [Holocaust Memorial Day](#) which is on Sunday 27th January. Every year this assembly is taken by our two Holocaust Ambassadors, who this year are Zakiyyah and Rosie, students in Year 13, who visited Auschwitz last year. As student ambassadors they are tasked to teach their school community 'Lessons from Auschwitz' and over the last year Zakiyyah and Rosie have been doing this. This morning they spoke to the school movingly and knowledgeably about their visit and the lessons they learnt. In a short extract from the assembly, they said: *'It's so easy for every one of us to use phrases such as "it's freezing" or "I'm starving", but do we ever stop to consider what this actually means? For us, our visit to Auschwitz put this into perspective. We thought we knew what cold feels like as we stood in Auschwitz wrapped up in multiple layers, enduring the Polish winter in which our face and fingers went numb and our legs were shaking. But we don't and nor does any single person in this room. Cold is enduring unbelievably freezing temperatures wearing nothing but thin striped pyjamas. We think fear is worrying about exam results and grades, but fear is not knowing if you'll live for another day, an hour or minute. We think hunger is missing a meal or maybe even two in a day. But hunger is surviving on almost nothing for weeks on end, until all you can see is bones.*

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day this year is **'Torn From Home'** and I spoke a little on this theme this morning. Our displays in the Library and the Vestibule explain in more detail the ideas we have been encouraged to reflect upon this year. For the next few weeks our Word of the Week and Thought of the Week will focus on such thoughts. I hope all students will take time to think and discuss what this means in our school and in the community around us. In March we shall be welcoming a Holocaust Survivor to our school who will speak to us about her experiences of being torn from her home in the late 1930s.

Next week we have another in the series of workshops on Mental Health at Kendrick on Wednesday 30th January at 6.00pm in the Hall. The focus of this next workshop is Depression/Low Mood. Our work in this area is developing and we are now a *Schools' in Mind Pioneer School*. This work, combined with the work we are doing with the Local

Authority's 'trailblazer project', demonstrates our recognition and commitment to supporting mental health and wellbeing of our community. To book on this workshop please click on this [link](#).

I wish everyone a good weekend. I hope we can all take a moment in our busy lives to consider the themes of Holocaust Memorial Day and value the simple but important things and people we have in our lives which we can sometimes take for granted.

Best wishes

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

eSafety Advisors' Online Safety Magazine - January 2019 Edition

The latest edition of Alan McKenzie's #DITTO magazine has been published. #DITTO is a free online safety (e-safety) magazine for schools, organisations and parents to keep you up to date with risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online, with a view to enjoying and learning about technology.

Download here: <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

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

"Thou shalt not be a victim, thou shalt not be a perpetrator, but above all, thou shalt not be a bystander" Yehuda Bauer

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Berkshire County Badminton Tournament](#)

[Robotics Competition](#)

[Kendrick School Hosts Rehearsal for Royal Albert Hall Performance](#)

[Holocaust Memorial Day – Sunday 27th January 2019](#)

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 28th January 2019 (A Week)

Sixth Form House Football all week

Monday 28 th January	Year 12 HGT Presentations
Wednesday 30 th January	RYPEWP Workshop on Depression and Low Mood – 9.30am RGS; 6.00pm Kendrick
Friday 1 st February	Piano exams in the School Hall

Key Events in Term 3 and 4, 2018-19

Monday 4 th February	Year 7 Charity Events (Monday to Wednesday)
Tuesday 5 th February	Kendrick Year 11 students – deadline for A Level options
Thursday 7 th February	Year 10 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.15pm Governor Resources Committee, 4.30pm
Monday 11 th February	Fairtrade Week KPS Meeting, 6pm
Friday 15 th February	Last day of Term 3, finish at 3.15pm
Monday 25 th February	First day of Term 4, start at 8.25am
Tuesday 26 th February	Year 12 Higher Education Conference
Wednesday 27 th February	Year 9 GCSE Options Evening, 7pm RYPEWP Parent Workshop
Thursday 28 th February	House Drama Production Governor Learning and Teaching Committee – 4.30pm
Monday 4 th March	KPS Spring Raffle Launch
Friday 7 th March	Year 7 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.15pm
Tuesday 12 th March	Year 9 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.15pm
Wednesday 27 th March	RYPEWP Parent Workshop
Friday 28 th March	Year 8 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.15pm
Friday 5 th April	Last day of Term 4, finish at 3.15pm

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

Lost Property

Please may we remind students to look after all their personal belongings and make sure they are named. There are a large quantity of un-named items which never find their way back to their owners. Students are welcome to come to the Cover Office and see the lost water bottles, PE kits, t-shirts, school jumpers etc.

Library Update

Thank you to all those students who have returned their library books. We still have a number of outstanding books, which are now overdue. Please can you check for any books you may have (at home, in lockers, in classes etc). Please bring them back to the library for renewal (unless there is a reservation on the book). Unfortunately the

library cannot issue you with any further books until your over-due one is returned or paid for. If you are unable to find your overdue book, please don't worry, come in and talk to one of the librarians. An email will be sent home to parents of those students who have had overdue books since the beginning of Term 2.

News and Events by Year Group

Year 9 - Girls Engineering Summer School

Please be advised that application process for the Year 9 Girls Engineering Summer School at Imperial College London is now open. The Summer School is non-residential and will take place from 27th to 31st August 2019. Students will tackle challenges across engineering utilising their knowledge of maths, physics, chemistry and biology to learn how engineers use their scientific knowledge to develop solutions to real world problems.

For more information please visit [Year 9 Girls Engineering Summer School](#).

For information on other summer schools please visit [Imperial College London Summer Schools](#).

Year 12 - UCAS Higher Education Exhibition – Tuesday 26th February 2019

This annual event will take place at the University of Surrey, Guildford for all of Year 12. The purpose of the day is to provide an opportunity for students to engage in some active research into their options for Higher Education, as they begin to consider their plans for the future.

The day consists of an exhibition of a significant number of universities and colleges, giving the students an opportunity to speak to staff from each institution and, in addition, find out more about employment, gap years and volunteer programmes. There will also be opportunities to talk to professional advisers about their individual questions on matters such as student finance.

We shall hold a briefing session with all students in school before the event, to provide information and confirmation of all the details for the day.

We shall be leaving Kendrick at 12.15pm and travelling to the event by coach. The estimated time of arrival back at Kendrick is 16.15. Please make arrangements for their safe return home at this time.

The cost to students for coach travel will be £7.50. Please make your payment through your ParentPay online account as soon as possible and at the latest by Friday 8th February. If you have any difficulties in paying, please contact our Finance Department or email finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

If your daughter is unable to go on this trip please email admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk as soon as possible. If we do not hear from you we will assume that you consent to your daughter attending.

This Educational visit is covered by the Annual Parent Consent Form. Please notify the School immediately (admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) of any changes to the information you have previously given on the Kendrick School Parental Consent Form. Please note that it is particularly important that you advise of any changes to medical information.

KPS NEWS

Firstly, our New Year greetings to all and we hope that this year has started on a good note for all of you. In this newsletter we outline the next KPS event and request for your generous help and support.

Spring Raffle 2019

Following our recent information regarding the Kendrick Parents' Society Spring Raffle 2019, we wish to draw your attention to the work that is going on in the background to raise additional funds for the school through this raffle which we are hoping you will be able to support by donating a prize.

The KPS Spring Raffle team, led by Mrs Karen Skipsey, has been working very hard the past few months approaching local businesses and shops to sponsor and donate a prize or voucher. **Raffle tickets will soon be on sale from February with the draw planned for April.**

If you are able to support us this year by donating a prize or voucher for our raffle, or if you know of anyone, a local shop or business or your employer can support us in this, we would be most grateful.

You can contact us with details by emailing to raffle.kps@gmail.com or by letter to the school's address. We would greatly appreciate if you could respond by **Friday 25th January.**

If you would like us to collect your donation please let us know. Alternatively, we could provide a stamped addressed envelope to return the prize directly to the school.

If you have any questions or if you would like any further information please feel free to email Karen Skipsey, the Raffle Co-ordinator, on raffle.kps@gmail.com.

We are also looking for helping hands in managing and running other KPS activities and events. If you think you can help in any way, please email chair.kps.uk@gmail.com.

If you are not able help at any of the events, you can still help us raise funds for the school if your company can match the profit, just let us know and we will help you with this.

All the money raised through these initiatives help and benefit students across the whole school. We regularly consult with staff and students on what the money raised by the KPS should be used for. If you wish to know more about this, please come along to the next KPS committee meeting in school on 11th February 2019.

Once again, we thank you for your continued support and encouragement!

KPS Committee

VACANCIES

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

Mathematics Teacher for September 2019 – NQTs encouraged to apply

A teacher of Mathematics is required for September 2019. Please see our website for more details.

[Mathematics Teacher for September 2019](#)

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- Year 11 GCSE/A Level Art trip to London 12th February 2019 - £15
- Years 9/10 MFL plays in February/March (£3 per play)
- Year 11 Study Skills Roadshow that took place on 7th December (£5) – there are still a number of payments outstanding