

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 14th January 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

It was a pleasure to speak to **Year 8 parents at the KPS hosted 'Drop-in'** last night. Thirty-five parents joined the call and we discussed a variety of topics, including the covid measures and wearing masks, extracurricular activities and clubs, transition and integration and the impact the pandemic has had on students. We agreed that cohorts of Year 8 students everywhere had their end of primary school phase and start of secondary school disrupted more than most other cohorts; occasions of huge importance in children's development. We also talked about the resumption of trips, including residential and how the pandemic has impacted on these educational opportunities for students across the age range. I hope these sessions with parents are useful and enable people to feel more engaged in their child's school life. Thank you to the parents who joined the meeting. The next drop in is with Year 9 parents on Thursday 27th January between 5.30-6.30pm.

I would like to mention the [Kendrick Gazette](#), a publication that started last year and is now in its third edition. It contains articles that cover topics of historic significance and international events. The edition that came out at the end of last term contained a detailed report on the Cop 26 Climate Conference and the migrant crisis. I am impressed by the level of interest and discussion of political, social and economic issues that clearly engage our students. Also, within the publication are some delightful light-hearted features, including an affirmations page, book recommendations and an Agony Aunt column; an excellent read and highly recommended.

I would like to return again to the issue of traffic and the very busy main roads around our school. Both drivers and pedestrians have a responsibility to keep themselves safe when driving or walking to and from school. Please may I ask again that parents who drop off or collect their children from school park in safe places well away from the school entrance. Similarly, students who have to cross the major roads, in particular, London Road and Queen's Road must do so when the traffic lights permit them to do so. We are still hearing of some instances of students being at risk from illegal parking of cars and of students running across the busy main roads. Please can everyone give some thought to road safety.

I would like to end on a positive note which is to share with everyone some of the wonderful displays and stimulating features there are around the school which I hope students notice. Our feature in the library of inspiring people, usually women, is updated regularly and the current display can be found [here](#). It includes notable women from the BBC's 100 inspiring women list. Reading the stories of some of these women can encourage and motivate us in what we do. Whilst we may not all be able to do amazing things in our life that impact the lives of others, we can all do something small that can make others feel valued and understood. We received some feedback from the Reading charity, New Beginnings, to whom we gave 75 Christmas boxes to at the end of last term. One of the trustees of the charity wrote to us to thank the school for the gifts we gave them.

'As an older man in his eighties, I am truly inspired and moved by the kindness and generosity of you and the Community Committee at Kendrick School in reaching out to Reading's vulnerable people. On behalf of the Trustees of New Beginnings Reading, thank you so much, not just for the generous donation which is very welcome in itself, but also for your time and commitment in making this possible.'

I believe we can all be inspirational when we try.

Best wishes for the weekend

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School please email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or telephone 0118 9015859.

If you're worried about a child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 4pm and at weekends and holidays), you can contact the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free - call us on **0800 800 5000** or **contact NSPCC online**.

Children can contact **Childline** any time to get support themselves.

In an emergency please call 999 or for a non-emergency call 101.

We have created a library of resources for parents, carers and students including support avenues which you can find on our website via this [link](#). We will be adding to these on a regular basis.

[CAMHS Resources](#) - This site was created for young people, carers and professionals to pool together lots of helpful resources from across the internet that are available to help support your mental health and well-being.

For well-being support in school please visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

WELLBEING – RED JANUARY - INFORMATION FROM SPORT IN MIND



This January has well and truly kicked off with a bang! We have been absolutely delighted to see how many people are participating again this year and raising money for Sport in Mind in

the process. Seeing all the different ways people are choosing to get active every day is wonderful to watch and so inspiring!

If you would still like to take part, it's not too late at all! You can [sign up here](#) for free, and get moving every day to beat the winter blues away. This year we have lots of brilliant support activities to help you and your family get the most out of the month including our wonderful Youth activity pack designed to help children get their brains and bodies active. You can download it from our website [here](#)

We also have some wonderful merchandise available at Decathlon in stores all across the country, as well as online, with 100% of the profits going to Sport in Mind which is fantastic! You can buy them [here](#).

We are also delighted to share that Decathlon are hosting a 5km RED January run for Sport in Mind in our hometown of Reading on January 16th! You can join in by signing up [here](#)

Student Welfare Team at Kendrick School



Mrs Hackett



Mrs Shaw



Ms Lawlor



Ms Edwards

The Base (in Sidmouth basement) is staffed by one of the Student Welfare Team during break and lunchtimes. This is a quiet space for students who would benefit from this. There is a relaxation area, art area and work stations available for your use. Please come to the General Office first to check there is space in The Base.

Contact: StudentWelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING – REPLIKA

SOURCE: [National Online Safety](#)

Replika is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot companion that its developers claim users can form an actual emotional connection with. Once users have created an account and chosen a 3D avatar, they select the type of relationship they want with the chatbot: friend, mentor or romantic partner. Using a neural network to hold an ongoing one-on-one conversation, Replika gradually becomes more like the user as it gathers data from their responses. It isn't the only AI chatbot app available, but Replika pushes the boundaries of the concept to offer a highly realistic conversational experience.

In the [guide](#), you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as possible addiction, inappropriate content and in-app purchases.

CALENDAR

Thursday 20 th January	L&T Governors, 4.30pm
Thursday 27 th January	Year 12 Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 3 rd February	Resources Governors, 4.30pm
Tuesday 8 th February	Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 10 th February	P&R Governors, 4.30pm
Monday 14 th February	KPS Meeting, 6pm
Thursday 17 th February	House Drama Performance, 6.30pm
Friday 18 th February	End of Term 3, 3.15pm



NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

CHANGES TO THE SELF-ISOLATION PERIOD FOR THOSE WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

LETTER FROM READING LIBRARIES

Dear Families

We wanted to write and invite you to Reading's library service. Joining a library and borrowing books is one of **the biggest single things you can do** to help encourage and improve reading and literacy.

Libraries are free, welcoming and there will be one near you in Reading – there are seven in total. Becoming a library member is free, adults and children can join easily and online.

We have thousands of free books for children and adults. We run free sessions for pre-school children to sing every week. We run a free reading challenge for children every summer. Our biggest customer group is parents and children, so we have thousands of children's books and add hundreds more every week.

Online we have lots of free ebooks, downloadable audio and emagazines. You can also learn languages, practice driving theory tests, practice citizenship tests and lots more.

For more information, ask at your local library, visit www.reading.gov.uk/libraries or contact info@readinglibraries.org.uk – Reading's libraries are there for you and we are sure we can help you – just come and see us.

Libraries are in Reading town centre, on the Oxford Road near Tesco, in Tilehurst, Caversham, Palmer Park, Southcote and Whitley.

We would really love to see you.

Simon Smith

Library Services Manager

Culture | Directorate for Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services

Reading Borough Council

Reading Central Library, Abbey Square, Reading, RG1 3BQ

07 894 600 498

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

'YOUR CHILD, THEIR FUTURE' (YEARS 10-13) INFORMATION FROM [YOUNG PROFESSIONALS](#)

At Young Professionals, we ran a 'Your Child, Their Future' Event back in September 2021 and we had a staggering 3000+ parents and carers attend virtually from all over the UK. After such an incredible turnout and amazing feedback, we are now planning our second parent information evening in February 2022.

The job market for students leaving school or university can be difficult to navigate and now more than ever we need to help our young people by making them aware of all the opportunities available to them, as well as providing them with advice and tips on securing the very best opportunities when they enter the workplace. Therefore, we would like to extend our invitation to all parents and carers to attend our **'Your Child, Their Future' Event on Thursday 3rd February at 6pm - 7.30pm.**

We have leaders from some of the biggest employers in their industry including M&S, HSBC, PwC, Capgemini, Linklaters and more who will each come along to talk to you, as parents and carers, about how your son/daughter/young person can best navigate the job market to find some incredible work experience/internship placements, as well as graduate and apprenticeship opportunities. We will be sharing some useful tips around psychometric testing, how to prepare for assessment centers, putting together a CV, filling out application forms, as well as advice on how you can prepare your child/young person for the working world.

This event is completely free of charge and it will be running via Zoom on **Thursday 3rd February at 6pm - 7.30pm**. You will have the opportunity to join this event virtually with your son/daughter/young person, or the whole family and ask any questions that you may have, directly to leading employers.

The booking link can be found below here, so please do sign up if you would like to attend. The zoom link will be emailed to you nearer the time.

Booking Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YP-Parents-Event>

We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to the event and if you have any questions, please let us know!

Best Regards
Young Professional

VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancies. Please click [here](#) for more information on the roles and an application form. We would be grateful if you could share these vacancies with family and friends.

Food Technician – 16 hours a week – closing date 27th January 2022

PE Teacher for September 2022 – full time – closing date 21st January 2022

French, German and Latin Teacher for September 2022 – at least 0.6 FTE – closing date 21st January 2022

Reading School currently has the following vacancies:

[Catering Assistant](#)

[Teacher of Computer Science](#)

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

Donations

KPS is looking for donations of good quality second hand uniform and sports kit. The donations can be left in the donations box in the lost property cupboard. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Second hand uniform shop opening

The second hand uniform shop will open on Saturday the 29th of January between 9am and 11am.

We are going to have 30 min shopping slots with a limited number of customers per slot. If you are planning to shop for second hand uniform you will need to email thaynes@kendrick.reading.sch.uk to book a slot (indicating if you have any time preference).

You will receive an email confirming your slot. There will be free parking available for those attending the shop.

Please see below for price list.

Second hand uniform shop price list	
School uniform	
Sweatshirt (<i>Kendrick red jumper</i>)	£ 5
Blouse	£ 1
Grey bermuda shorts	£ 5
Grey pleated skirt	£ 5
Black straight leg trousers	£ 5
Sportswear	
Polo shirt	£ 5
PE skort	£ 2 with old logo £ 5 with new logo
Midlayer (<i>long sleeved top</i>)	£ 10
Sports socks	£ 1
Cycling shorts	£ 4
Trackpants	£ 3 with old logo £ 8 with new logo
Baselayer leggings	£ 8
Baselayer top	£ 8
Cedars t-shirt	£ 2
Palmer t-shirt	£ 2

Sidmouth t-shirt	£ 2
Swimming hat	£ 1
Other	
Lab coat	£5

KPS SHOPPING LINKS

AmazonSmile donations

We encourage you to continue your purchases at smile.amazon.co.uk, (not www.amazon.co.uk or the mobile app) These are helping us generate AmazonSmile donations for our school. Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Easy Fundraising Charity

KPS has also signed up to other easy ways of raising funds for the school especially when you are shopping online - **easyfundraising charity site** : <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kendrickschoolreading/> . Please continue to use these links and let us all together contribute to something that our children can benefit from.

TheGivingMachine

Another opportunity for you to raise more donations and funds for the School when you shop online. Go to this site and give for free: Here is the link: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>

GAYL

Give As You Live (GAYL) is one way with which you can help KPS receive additional funds with no cost to you! Please use this link <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/kendrick> and help us raise additional funds.