

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 18th January 2019

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Staff

Over the Christmas holiday, Mr Stride took a party of students and staff on a ski trip to Italy. They seem to have had a super time and I would like to thank Mr Stride, Ms Stacey, Ms Musgrave and Miss Long for accompanying the students on this trip and the students for being such great participants and team players. Please click [here](#) for a report on the website.

Although we are only into our second week of Term 3, we are already making plans for the appointment of our new [Head Girl Team](#), 2019-20. According to our school archives, the first Head Girl was appointed in 1915 and her name was Edith Chalker. Between 1915 and 1969 there was a Head Girl, Deputy Head Girl and Prefects with the numbers of Prefects increasing over time. The system stopped in 1969 and we don't really have any information to tell us why this happened. In 2005, when Mrs Elms was the Head of Kendrick, the Head Girl Team was reintroduced, initially with a Head Girl, a Deputy Head Girl and two Prefects evolving into the team we have today which is made up of a Head Girl, Deputy Head Girl, five Prefects and three House Captains. The election process is democratically conducted and students tell us that the process itself is a wonderful opportunity to think about being a student leader and what they can offer their school. It is hard to imagine life at Kendrick without our Head Girl Team because of the immense and significant role they play in the life of the school.

Successful students who make it into the team are often students who have been taking part in school life since they were in Year 7 either at Kendrick or in their previous school. They are people who are community spirited, generous with their time, determined to make a contribution to the school, often because they feel they have received so much from their school. They are often people who have been members of clubs: music, PE, Debating, Amnesty, Chess, or a member of any other club or society we have in school or in their previous school. They are team players and community leaders that have demonstrated such characteristics within their form or year group or outside school. They are also those students who always demonstrate a positive and optimistic attitude to life and have the ability to take people with them on a journey.

I am looking forward to the process and the joy and inspiration we will feel when we hear from the many candidates who will put themselves forward to be considered for the team. For the younger students the Head Girl Team is something they can aspire to. They can begin to prepare for Sixth Form life by taking part in school life now. I am told by Mrs Mason, Head of PE and Mrs Cooper, Head of Music that their clubs are not very well attended at the moment, perhaps this is the time for students to begin to consider [taking](#) part in the extracurricular life of the school as it may lead them to some wonderful opportunities in the future!

Finally, I would like to thank Year 11 and Year 13 for conducting themselves so well over the last couple of weeks whilst taking their mock GCSE and A Level examinations. I hope they are able to see the exams in a positive light and

use the feedback they receive from their teachers to support and guide them in their studies over the next few months.

I wish them and everyone a pleasant and restful weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

Advice for the parents and carers of teenagers (Anna Freud Centre)

The teenage years are both exciting and challenging to parent and carers. It can be hard to know whether a teenager's feelings and behaviour are normal or becoming a problem.

Anna Freud Centre's child mental health experts have written a leaflet to provide simple advice and guidance to parents and carers about how to make conversations about their child's feelings part of everyday life.

Download "Talking Mental Health with young people at secondary school: some advice for parents and carers" booklet here: <https://www.annafreud.org/media/7223/secondary-parents-leaflet-final-proofed.pdf>

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.

"Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try"

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Meeting Ruby Wax](#)

[Ski Trip 2018/19](#)

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 21st January 2019 (B Week)

Tuesday 22nd January Year 12 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm

Wednesday 23rd January Start of House Football – Year 12

[Choral Masterclass with Harmesh Gharu](#)

Thursday 24th January Governors Learning & Teaching Committee, 4.30pm

Friday 25th January Holocaust Awareness Memorial Day

Key Events in Term 3, 2018-19

Wednesday 30th January [RYPEWP – Parent Workshops – Depression/Low Mood](#)

Monday 4th February Year 7 Charity Events (Monday to Wednesday)

Tuesday 5th February Kendrick Year 11 students – deadline for A Level options

Thursday 7th February Year 10 Parents' Consultation, 3.45pm to 6.15pm
Governor Resources Committee, 4.30pm

Monday 11th February Fairtrade Week
KPS Meeting, 6pm

Friday 15th February Last day of Term 3, finish at 3.15pm

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

AnDY Research Project

We are pleased to be supporting a research project led by the 'Anxiety and Depression in Young People' (AnDY) research team at the University of Reading. This explores adolescents' mood and enjoyment of activities. Losing interest or enjoyment in previously fun experiences is one of the core symptoms of depression. Therefore gaining a better understanding of this symptom will help to improve how we recognise and treat depression in young people. To find out more, please see the attached 'Parent Information Sheet'.

All students in Years 7 to 13 will be invited to complete a questionnaire in school over the next few weeks to contribute to this study. If your child is in Years 7 to 11 and you do NOT consent for them to take part, please complete and return the 'Opt-Out Form' that was included in the ParentMail message to your child's Form Tutor by Monday 21st January 2019. If your child is aged 16 or over, they do not need parental consent but will be asked if they are happy to take part and will be able to opt out themselves.

Thank you for your support of this important research study.

New Version of ParentMail App

Over the past few months ParentMail have been making improvements to their parent App for Android and iOS devices and have recently launched a new version. You may already have received a communication from ParentMail with the information below.

If you are using our own school branded App, there are a few important things you need to know to ensure you continue receiving school communications.

Our existing school branded App is no longer working so it's really important that you download the new App as soon as possible.

To download the App, simply search 'ParentMail' in the Apple or Android App store.

Once installed, please delete the current App from your device.

The new App includes lots of improvements, including:

- Improved user interface, making it quick and easy to find and manage school communications
- An 'Unread' section, where parents can find all new and unread items quickly and easily
- A new 'Announcements' feature to keep parents up to date with important Parentail news.
- Improved archiving and delete functionality, making it easy to select items in bulk

Choral Masterclass with Harmesh Gharu – Wednesday 23rd January 2019

Following the success of the first 'Performer Series' Masterclass with Chi-Chi Nwanoku OBE last year, Kendrick School Music Department is excited to host its second 'Performer Series' event, our Choral Masterclass on **Wednesday 23rd January**. Students from Kendrick School and soprano/alto singers from surrounding schools are invited to join in this free choral masterclass in which students will work on two contrasting choral pieces, as well as experiencing three masterclasses with senior vocal students. There will also be a short time for a Q&A with tea and nibbles, and will culminate in a short concert (no interval) at 7pm featuring Harmesh Gharu himself, as well as the vocal masterclass students and the choir as a whole.

Tickets will cost £5 for adults (students will not be charged) and can be brought in advance on ParentPay or bought on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm. To sign up, please send your child's name, form (or age if not from Kendrick School), part (soprano 1 or 2/alto 1 or 2), approximate standard and your contact details to ccooper@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

Mrs Cooper, Kendrick School Music Department

News and Events by Year Group

Year 12 Parents' Consultation Afternoon – Tuesday 22nd January 2019

Year 12 parents and carers are invited to the Year 12 Parents' Consultation afternoon on **Tuesday 22nd January from 3.45pm to 6.30pm** when you will have the opportunity to discuss your daughter's progress with her subject teachers. Your daughter will book appointments directly with her teachers.

Your daughter is expected to accompany you to the consultation afternoon. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will be available without appointment to see parents and carers.

When you arrive please sign in and, for safety, please sign out before you leave. Also, please may we remind you that no parking is 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.

KPS NEWS

Kendrick Parents' Society - Spring Raffle 2019

Dear Parents and Students

The annual Kendrick Spring Raffle is now being planned and I'm pleased to be co-ordinating this major fundraising event for the school on behalf of the KPS. At this time the focus is on acquiring donations and prizes, so all support with this is welcome! If there are places you go to regularly, like your hairdressers, fitness club, restaurants, days out with the family or you work for a local company, perhaps you could approach them for a donation/ prize? If a formal letter is required with KPS charity details, please contact raffle.kps@gmail.com as I can follow up directly if you provide the company details.

Another way of supporting the school is by matched funding. Matched funds are contributions provided by your employer direct to school for volunteering work you do for a charity. Many local companies have matched funds schemes including Microsoft, Vodafone, Thames Water etc. If your employer runs such a scheme and you can volunteer for activities such as preparing envelopes, folding tickets etc. please contact raffle.kps@gmail.com. We can work around your schedule and make this volunteering experience very easy!

The more prizes we have, the more tickets we can sell and the more funds we can raise for the school, so any support by volunteering , providing donations or matched funding is very much appreciated by the KPS, school staff and students.

Karen Skipsey
Raffle Co-ordinator

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

Please remember to keep your daughter's dinner money and printing money top-up and check that any overdrafts have been paid.