

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 6th January 2023

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Once again, I would like to welcome everyone back to school after the Christmas break and wish you all a very happy New Year.

The arrival of the Ofsted report following our Inspection in November has given us all such joy and a great boost to the New Year. Who could want for a better post-Christmas present/New Year gift for their school community than a categoric and clear endorsement that what we are doing at Kendrick in our learning and teaching, actions and interactions with students are all judged to be outstanding; there is no better accolade for a school than this. Thank you again for everyone's hard work and support, as well as the huge camaraderie and community feeling that we all demonstrated on the two days the inspectors were with us. Thank you to the parents who responded to the parental survey with such positive and supportive comments; to the staff and students on the two days for doing and being their best. Our combined efforts contributed to the overall judgement about our school. My sincere and heartfelt thanks to you all. Thank you also to the many parents and friends who have contacted the school to express their congratulations and best wishes. The link to the Ofsted article is [here](#).

Whilst we are all justly and rightly proud of this achievement, this does not mean that we sit back and think that our work is done. The inspection was a snapshot of our school over just two days and we were able to show ourselves at our very best. The challenge to us now and for the future is to maintain and build on this standard and to continue to provide an outstanding education and experience for our students now and for future cohorts.

To this end we started back at school with a staff inset day on Tuesday 3rd January. This was an excellent day of training for everyone. The news of the Ofsted report was a theme throughout the day, but we also focused on other key areas of the school. Safeguarding updates and actions from various audit reports we have had recently were shared. Some refresher training on the therapeutic thinking principles that underpin our [Relationships and Behaviour Policy](#) were discussed. Our SENDCo, Ms Le Croisette, delivered some training focused on Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASD), and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) tendencies and diagnosis and how we can best support students in their learning. We also maintained our focus on the development of our [Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy](#) and practice.

The first week back has been busy. Year 11 students have embarked on their GCSE mock examinations, always an intense and focused period for them, but, as we remind students, these are mocks and serve the purpose of identifying areas for development and revision for the final exams in the summer. We also had a very pleasant afternoon on Wednesday 4th January presenting GCE certificates to last year's Year 13 cohort, many of whom are at university and pursuing such wonderful plans. I will speak more about this event next week, but for the moment [here](#) is a glimpse of our speaker and her profile, a former Kendrick student, Olivia Sandy, who presented the certificates to the students.

Finally at the end of last term, the German Department took a group of students to Germany for a Christmas Market trip. The report details and some photographs of this most enjoyable and educational trip can be found [here](#).

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Kendrick School has a number of social media platforms and sites. Please follow us to get the latest news and information about the school. The links are in the logos below.



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 any 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.

SAFEGUARDING – FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM)

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is illegal. FGM is when a female's genitals are deliberately altered or removed for non-medical reasons. It's also known as 'female circumcision' or 'cutting' but has many other names such as:

- female circumcision
- cutting
- sunna
- gudniin
- halalays
- tahir
- megrez
- khitan

The National FGM Centre also has a list of [traditional terms \(PDF\)](#) that you might find helpful.

FGM is a form of child abuse. It's dangerous and a criminal offence in the UK. It is known:

- there are no medical reasons to carry out FGM
- it's often performed by someone with no medical training, using instruments such as knives, scalpels, scissors, glass or razor blades
- children are rarely given anaesthetic or antiseptic treatment and are often forcibly restrained
- it's used to control female sexuality and can cause long-lasting damage to physical and emotional health.

FGM can happen at different times in a girl or woman's life, including:

- when a baby is new-born
- during childhood or as a teenager
- just before marriage
- during pregnancy.

For more information, please click on the links below:

- [What is female genital mutilation \(FGM\)?](#)
- [Signs of FGM](#)
- [If a child reveals abuse](#)
- [Effects of FGM](#)
- [Why FGM happens](#)
- [Who's at risk?](#)
- [Support for parents, young people and children](#)

Worried about a child?

If you're worried about a child, even if you're unsure, contact studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or the NSPCC helpline to speak to one of their counsellors. You can also call NSPCC on 0808 800 5000, email help@nspcc.org.uk or fill in their [online form](#).

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING POLICY

At Kendrick School we do so many excellent things in school to support and build good mental health and wellbeing in our students. We have coordinated all what we do into a Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy which you can access [here](#).

The policy aims to:

- Promote positive mental health and emotional wellbeing to our school community.
- Increase understanding and awareness of common mental health issues.
- Enable staff to identify and respond to early warning signs of mental ill health in students.
- Enable staff to understand how and when to access support when working with young people with mental health issues.
- Provide the right support to students with mental health issues and know where to signpost them and their parents/carers for specific support
- Develop resilience amongst students and raise awareness of resilience-building techniques.
- Raise awareness amongst staff and gain recognition from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) that staff may have mental health issues, and that they are supported in relation to looking after their wellbeing; instilling a culture of staff and student welfare where everyone is aware of signs and symptoms with effective signposting, underpinned by behaviour and welfare around school.

The policy is in consultation stage until **Friday 13th January 2023**, and we welcome your comments on the policy during this period.

Comments can be emailed to admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

In Term 3 our mental health and wellbeing focus will be on building resilience and understanding and coping with perfectionism. We will send information to students and parents, and are also hoping hold a remote information event for parents and carers to attend. More information will be sent in January.

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS – LET’S HAVE A HAPPIER JANUARY!

Happier January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others
8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone
22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently
29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 3, 2022-23

Wednesday 11th January	KPS Online Meeting, 6pm to 7.30pm
Thursday 12th January	Bushcraft Parent Information Meeting, 6pm
Friday 13th January	Year 12 Geography Trip
Tuesday 17th January	Dance Enterprise Day
Thursday 19th January	L&T Governors Committee
Monday 23rd January	Year 11 Geography Trip
Wednesday 25th January	Evening of Dance, 6.30pm
Thursday 26th January	Year 12 Parents' Consultations
Thursday 2nd February	Resources Governors Committee
Monday 6th February	Start of Year 11 Sixth Form Consultation meetings
Tuesday 7th February	Year 8 Parents' Consultations
Thursday 9th February	P&R Governors Committee
	House Drama, 6.30pm
Friday 10th February	End of Term 3, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2022-23 and 2023-24 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

GLL SPORT FOUNDATION APPLICATIONS OPEN

Applications are now open for the GLL Sport Foundation for young athletes in Reading who could benefit from financial support. The foundation provides athletes under 18 with support in the form of gym membership, monetary funding and other athlete services. Eight Reading-based young athletes benefited from a cumulative £4,300 worth of support in 2022. Applications are open until 20 February 2023 and more information can be found on the [GLL Sport Foundation](#) website.

THE CHRISTOPHER TOWER POETRY COMPETITION, 2023 (AGED 16-18)

Write a poem on the theme of The Planets. Any style or form, maximum 48 lines.

Top prize - £5000. Closing date - 24 February 2023.

For more details see the poster on the English noticeboard, or Ms Fieldsend, or the website

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/towerpoetry

MUSIC@KENDRICK

CLASSICAL
MUSIC
ALIVE
IN READING



Fabio Biondi, Solo Violin

Calling all Violinists...

FREE Open Rehearsal & Q&A

Wednesday 11 January, 2023

5pm

Come along to watch an Open Rehearsal and Q&A with violin virtuoso, Fabio Biondi, ahead of his concert in the evening. A fantastic opportunity to see how a professional artist prepares for a concert, and to ask Fabio questions about his playing.

Arrival Time: 5pm
Rehearsal: 5.15pm - 5.45pm
Q&A: 5.45pm - 6pm

FREE Entry, but tickets must be booked in advance at www.whatsonreading.com
Use promocode **FABIOQ&A** when prompted

Email julia.cook@reading.gov.uk for more information.

U18s **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. One adult can bring a group of U18s.

(Tickets for the evening concert are U18s £6 & School Parents **ONLY** £12 using the promocode **SCHOOLPARENT** when booking.)



The Concert Hall
Blagrove Street
Reading
RG1 1QH



FREE OPPORTUNITY - ORA SINGERS YOUNG COMPOSERS' SCHEME

The award-winning vocal group, ORA Singers, has launched its fourth national **Young Composers' programme** – a **free** scheme aimed at developing the skills of young composers from UK state-schools. The programme sees 10 Young Composers each receive **10 hours of one-to-one mentoring** with **professional composers**, who will help them write a new choral piece which will be **performed and recorded in concert by ORA Singers**. During the scheme, Young Composers have their ideas and sketches workshopped by ORA Singers, who offer specialised tips and advice along with a guest composer.

The 2023 Young Composers scheme will also see up to **40 Apprentices** fast-track their skills in composition through a series of online, in-depth workshops, and will gain invaluable insight into the world of professional composition by hearing from industry experts.

Applications are now open: <https://www.orasingers.co.uk/young-composers>

VACANCIES

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. Please click on the links for more information on the roles and how to apply and please share with friends and family.

Kendrick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure check by the Disclosure & Barring Service. Kendrick School is an Equal Opportunity employer.

Please read the information on our Safer Recruitment procedures [here](#).

[Head of English](#) to join us in September 2023. Closing date for applications 9am Monday 23rd January 2023

[Head of Music and Drama](#) to cover a maternity leave – at least 0.8FTE. Job share will be considered. For end of February 2023 to at least December 2023. Closing date for applications Monday 23rd January 2023.

[Exams Officer](#) – for January 2023. 25 hours per week, term time only plus 2 weeks in the summer holiday. Closing date for applications 9am Wednesday 11th January 2023

[Exam Invigilators](#) – for December 2022 and onwards

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.

Please could you check your child's account and ensure that any overdrafts are paid. Thank you.

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE English set texts

Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level English set texts

Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and technology contributions

Year 10 and 11 Art and Textiles contributions

Year 7 Study Skills Workshop – 17th November 2022

2022 Biology Week: Design a Biology Tote Bag

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase

Daisy's Dream: Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 9th December 2022

KPS department birthday gift - celebrating Kendrick's 145th year

October trips

Year 12 Wokingham Waterside Centre trip 4th October 2022.

Year 13 A Level Geography Residential Field Course 12th to 16th October 2022

Year 12 Biology Brain Afternoon 20th October 2022

December trips

Year 11 12 13 Christmas Market trip to Germany 1st to 4th December 2022

2023 trips

Year 12 A level Biology Dale Fort residential trip.

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCEITY (KPS)

KPS wishes you all a very Happy 2023!

Our Preloved/ **Second Hand Uniform shop will be open tomorrow, 7th Jan from 9 to 11am** in the Conservatory (next to library). As before parking is available in Cedars car park. If you have any questions please email Teresa at thaynes@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

You all are invited to our **KPS Committee meeting on Wednesday 11th January from 6 to 7:30pm**. Please [use this link](#) to join the call. If you have any questions please contact kpssecretary@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

KPS Team