

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 3rd February 2023

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

An excellent online presentation to students, parents and staff took place yesterday evening given by the [Charlie Waller Trust](#) called **Supporting Teens through difficult times: teenage brain, exam stress and perfectionism**. Almost 140 parents and families joined the call and were able to hear some excellent guidance and explanations about the kind of challenges young people are facing during their school life. There was a very useful Q&A at the end where parents and students were able to ask questions. The session was recorded and will be sent to everyone in due course, but I do hope that for those who were at the presentation last night, they appreciated the event and were able to get some guidance and support from it. These kinds of activities are all part of our developing and ever-increasing **Mental Health Strategy** which we been committed to for several years now, coordinating and communicating with you and students on a regular basis. A link to the information on our website is [here](#).

To that end we will be marking **Children's' Mental Health Week** next week and **Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 6th February**. All of us who work with children and young people have a duty of care to be engaged and involved in this work. If you were unable to be at the presentation last night, please try to watch the recording when it is sent to you. Also please try to talk to your children about these issues which are difficult but essential and need to be talked about more openly. The wellbeing of everyone in our community is vital to us.

If we can take care of our mental health and wellbeing, then everything else that goes on in school will have a much greater impact. An important part of students' curriculum entitlement is careers education. All schools have a statutory requirement to teach and inform students about careers education. This week Year 8 had a morning with employers led by our careers' consultants **Learning to Work** and Mr Rock listening to a variety of employers under the heading **People Like me**. The day started with an inspirational talk by Rena Sharma Theobald, Strategy and Change Lead at McDonald's Corporation, the global food chain, on her career path and the role she has at McDonald's. These events and others enable students to begin to think about their future plans and the career path they may be interested in. A reminder again of our big careers event, **Design Your Future**, organised by Learning to Work, will be in a month's time on Thursday 2nd March, 4.00-6.30pm in the school hall. Students and parents in Years 9-12 are welcome. Please prioritise this live event and come with your child to explore and talk to a variety of employers from across section of careers and professions.

In all we do, I endeavour to celebrate how women can be what they want to be free from barriers or constraints in terms of their education and career path. Our School Birthday project this year, celebrating 145 years of girls' education, gave us another opportunity to focus on women and the lives they have had. A super frieze of 145 women has been put up in the library for everyone to see. In addition, every month under our *Lead, Inspire Make a Difference* display in the library, we focus on a particular woman who may have made the news recently. This month we are celebrating [Vivienne Westwood](#), Fashion Designer and influencer on pop culture, who died in December. She was largely responsible for bringing modern punk and new wave fashions into the mainstream.

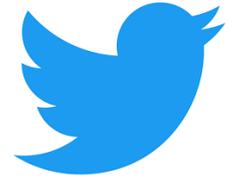
Finally, Year 11 attended a Poetry Live event at the Hexagon last week as part of their GCSE studies. The students were privileged to hear from some current and well-known poets including Carol Ann Duffy, and the Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage who spoke to them about their poetry and the influences that they have had on their writing. Please read the article [here](#)

Wishing everyone a good weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Kendrick School has several 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 – SAFER INTERNET DAY – TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

Safer Internet Day 2023 takes place Tuesday, 7 February and is centred around conversations with its theme '**Want to talk about it?**'

It's never too early or too late to start an online safety conversation and keep it going. See the tips and tools [here](#) created by Internet Matters to support your child's digital journey. This includes free tools to promote conversations with your child.

You may also like to watch this short [video](#) which explains why Safer Internet Day is so important.

We will send you more information on Safer Internet Day on Tuesday and share with you the presentation and information given to students.

SAFEGUARDING – GLASS BOTTLES, CUPS OR CONTAINERS IN SCHOOL

For obvious health and safety reasons, students **MUST NOT** bring glass bottles, cups or containers of on any kind into school.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING – CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Children’s Mental Health Week will take place from 6-12 February 2023. This year’s theme is Let’s Connect. **Let’s Connect** is about making meaningful connections. Human beings thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections – to family, friends and others – this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. And when our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely – which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child’s mental health. Check out the Place2Be’s official free resources for families [here](#).

We will be sending information to students every day next week on the theme of **Let’s Connect** and will share this information and the resources with parents.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 3, 2022-23

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, 4.30pm 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

CANTEEN MENU

An updated canteen menu with more clarity on dates and pricing can be found on our website [here](#).

KENDRICK SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICIES FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2024

The results of the consultation and the final ratified policies can be found on our website [here](#).

Further information on the admission process for entry into Year 7 in September 2024 will be published on our website in Term 4. It is important to note that Kendrick School will no longer be in a consortium and therefore results will not be shared with other grammar schools, including the Slough Consortium. We have already communicated that Kendrick School will be using GL Assessment as the test provider for 2024. This did not form part of the consultation process.

SEND FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY SHORT BREAKS SESSIONS

The following SEND short breaks for February half term are all funded by BFFC:

- [Reading Play](#) – 14 & 16 Feb
- [Make Sense Theatre](#) - 14 & 15 Feb
- [Play Camps with Reading Community Trust](#) – 13 & 14 Feb
- [Multi Sports with Reading Community Trust](#) – 13, 14 & 15 Feb
- [Chance to Dance Multi Activity Programme](#) – see website for details

DESIGN YOUR FUTURE – KENDRICK SCHOOL CAREERS EVENT – THURSDAY 2ND MARCH (YEARS 9-12)



Kendrick School

FREE in-person Careers Event
Thursday 2nd March 2023, 4pm to 6:30pm, Main Hall

Design Your Future

Bespoke careers event exclusively for Kendrick students in Years 9 to 12 and their parents and carers

An opportunity not to be missed!

Find out about post-16 options

Work Experience opportunities

Learn about specific sectors, job roles and career paths

Hear about careers from high-profile local employers

Quality Q&A with experts

Investigate career entry pathways (qualifications, relevant degrees, apprenticeships and placements)

Local Market Information (LMI)

Specific enquires: erock@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Brought to you by  Learning to Work

MUSIC@KENDRICK

AN EXCITING COMPETITION FOR YOUNG SINGERS

Reading Male Voice Choir is running a competition to promote **TALENTED YOUNG SINGERS**. This is the first year of this competition to promote young talented singers in the Thames Valley area. The competition will take place on **11 March 2023** in Reading.

Three categories and the winner of each category will receive a financial award: **10-13 £100 | 14-16 £200 | 17-21 £300** and will be invited to perform at an **'All Winners' Concert'** with Reading Male Voice Choir to be held on 10 June 2023.

Upload a short video of your performance and it will be judged by a small panel including a qualified adjudicator. Those invited to audition will receive feedback on their performance and a certificate.

The competition is open to male and female soloists and duets. Find out more via this [link](#).

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 Mathematics](#) to join us in September 2023. Closing date for applications 9am Friday 3rd February 2023

Part-time [Music Teacher](#) to cover a maternity leave – for end of February 2023 or September 2023 to December 2023. Applications will be dealt with on receipt.

[Chemistry Technician](#) for April 2023. 37 hours a week, term time only. Closing date for applications 9am Wednesday 8th February 2023.

[Exam Invigilators](#) – for the 2023 exam season

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 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase

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

Year 8 Careers Event - Tuesday 31st January 2023

Evening of Dance - Wednesday 25th January 2023

Trips

Year 11 Rural Villages Geography Field Trip -23rd January 2023

Year 11 GCSE English poetry live event at the Reading Hexagon -25th January 2023

Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Support Shaping Places Diverse Places Unit- 13th January 2023

Year 12 French and History trip- June 2023

Year 12 A level Biology Dale Fort residential trip -June 2023

GCSE and A level Art visit to Tate galleries Thursday 2nd February 2023

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SPRING RAFFLE

The raffle team are busy requesting prizes. Thank you to those parents who have offered prizes to the raffle and offered to provide matched funding. If you are able to help secure further prizes, or provide matched funding, please contact us at kpsraffle@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

The raffle will launch on the 27th of February and raise funds for chrome books, benches and items requested by the students. The list of student wished is being compiled and will be shared in time for the launch.

UNIFORM SHOP

The pre-loved uniform shop will be open on Monday 20th February for the students, during second break, in the servery. It will also be open Saturday 25th February 9-11am in the Conservatory for parents/carers.

REFRESHMENT SALES

The KPS provided refreshments at the Evening of Dance and will provide refreshments again at House Drama on the 9th February.