

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 10th January 2020

Weekly Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

A very **happy New Year** to everyone and I hope you all had a good Christmas and a restful break. Students have come back to school positive and I hope rejuvenated by the long break. Our Year 11 are in the middle of their Mocks. As I always say, the mocks, as the term implies, are an opportunity to practise their skills and test their knowledge, as well as rehearse the practices and procedures of the public examination system. They are also intended to identify gaps and mistakes so that students can learn from the process and improve for the next time. I know all staff will support and encourage the students and I hope the process is not too stressful for them. We wish them well for the next week.

The staff returned to school on Monday 6th for an Inset Day. Teachers had an excellent session led by Mr Simmonds and Ms Stacey on one of the judgments in the new **Ofsted Framework** about the personal development of students. This Ofsted judgement is about how well the school supports the personal development of students beyond the curriculum and how well students are provided with opportunities to develop and discover their interests and talents. In addition, it includes how far as a school we develop students' character, resilience, confidence and independence, as well as help them keep mentally and physically healthy. This area of work also extends to preparing young people for adult life in modern Britain, encouraging them to make a positive contribution as citizens in society, appreciating the diversity within British society, as well as understanding the essential British values as articulated by government. We feel that we do a huge amount of work in this area, much of it planned and coordinated through our PSHCE lessons, House System, numerous clubs and societies, charity work, Enterprise Days, visiting speakers, assemblies etc. in addition, a lot happens through the values we espouse in our Kendrick Pledge and through our daily interactions and the relationships we endeavour to nurture in school. Nevertheless, as with all things, there is more we can do and we are starting to audit activities and see what we do very well, what we could do be better and what more we can introduce. In this work we will engage with all staff and of course our students and in due course parents. I am very proud of the aims of our school and the Kendrick Pledge which I feel are understood by all members of our community. To familiarise yourself with these, the link is [here](#). The pledge, in particular, provides us with values and ideals that can help guide us in our behaviours and interactions with each other in our daily lives. I will come back to the Pledge in more detail in a couple of weeks' time when we once again renew our commitment to it on the occasion of Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January.

The start of this term and of course this year is always a time for consideration of **plans and promises** for the New Year and possibly the decade. I have enjoyed the reflection there has been on 2019 and the decade from 2010 and I want to feel more optimistic for the future. As a school we have a great future to look forward to with our expansion plans and new building, the excellent work and links we are building with local primary and secondary schools and the school improvement work we are involved in with colleagues in Reading. Most of all I am looking forward to some more funding coming into schools as promised by our politicians; perhaps I am being too optimistic here!

When I greeted the staff on Monday and welcomed them back to school, I asked them to have one overriding **resolution** for our school this year. The resolution is that we should at all times and with everyone we are with, be kind and generous. Always greet someone positively, smile as much as you can, speak positive words of

encouragement, praise and compliment where you can and never make anyone feel unvalued, small, or left alone. When we have our first whole school assembly later in the month I will speak to the students about our school resolution which I am sure they will support.

Wishing everyone a good weekend and a once again happy New Year!

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

Children's Mental Health

Recognising the signs that a child may be struggling with their mental health can be really hard. The NSPCC has got advice to help you support children who may be experiencing depression, anxiety, suicidal feelings or self-harm.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/>

CALENDAR

Week Commencing Monday 13th January 2020 (A Week)

Year 11 Mocks continue to Wednesday 15th January

Monday 13th January KPS Meeting, 6pm

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

Key Events in Term 3

Monday 13th January	KPS Meeting
Thursday 30th January	Year 12 Parents' Consultation
Monday 10th February	KPS Meeting
Tuesday 11th February	Year 8 Parents' Consultation
Wednesday 12th February	Music Performance Event
Friday 14th February	End of Term 3. 3.15pm

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

We like to celebrate student successes in and out of school and rely on parents/carers to pass us this information so

we can publish it on our website. Please send any articles and photos to aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk. However, please ensure you have your child's 'permission' to do so! Thank you.

KPS NEWS

The KPS would like to recycle school uniform to raise money for the school.

If you have good quality second-hand or unused Kendrick School uniform you no longer need, please could it be brought to school next week by either of the following methods:

- Via your child who can drop it into the Cover Office at first break
- Personally to Reception in East Street between 8am and 9am

If enough uniform is collected, the KPS will sell it at future KPS events and possibly a second hand sale day.

Thank you for your support.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- Year 11 Poetry Live! at the Hexagon on 23rd January 2020 – £18
 - Music Tour to Belgium April 2020 – please pay full balance as soon as possible
 - Trip to Rome & Naples February 2020 – please continue to pay instalments
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VACANCIES

Kendrick School has the following vacancies. Please click on the links for each role for more information.

[Biology Technician \(please apply immediately\)](#)

[Examination Invigilators](#)

NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

Year 11 GCSE Mock Examinations

The GCSE mock examinations will be taking place after the Christmas break during the period **Tuesday 7th January – Wednesday 15th January 2020** inclusive. A large number of exams have to be fitted into a limited period of time. On some days students may have up to three exams.

The mock examination timetable has already been emailed to students and individual timetables, to include language orals, seating arrangements and any special arrangements, will be emailed to the students shortly to show when they will need to be in school.

Students will be required to attend school on every day that they have an examination and remain in school until they have finished all exams for that day. Morning examinations start at 8.30am so they will need to be in school by 8.10am if they have an examination in the first session. The exception to this is Tuesday 7th January when the morning examination will start at 9.00am so students can arrive at the usual time of 8.25am.

After exam(s) have finished for the day students may then go home. With your consent we would be happy for students to stay at home to do exam preparation or coursework on days when they have no examinations. If, however, you wish your child to remain in school at all times during the exam period then please notify me using the email address twilson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk and there will be rooms made available for private study in school. If I am not notified prior to the Christmas break I shall assume you are happy for your child to be at home during these periods.

I appreciate that illness cannot be avoided but please encourage your child to have 100% attendance during this period. Rescheduling missed examinations is not easy and may mean missing lessons in the week after examination week in order to be assessed in every subject. Normal lessons will resume on Thursday 16th January 2019.

Please note that whenever students are in school they should be wearing correct school uniform.

The Thomas Hardy Society Writing Competition

Open to Y9, Y10, Y11 and A-level students.

Write an essay on any aspect of the work and legacy of Thomas Hardy, or a piece of creative writing in your own voice inspired by Hardy.

Students are invited to submit an essay of 1500-2000 words on any novel, short story, or poem, or a poem of 12-40 lines, or a piece of creative writing of 400-1000 words, by 28 February 2020 for a chance to win £50 in Amazon vouchers for yourself and £50 for your school library.

See Ms Fieldsend or the posters provided to tutor groups for more details, or see the Thomas Hardy Society Website.

European Film Club

For Years 11-13

This club will be run jointly with Reading School and will run twice a week (on Tuesdays and Thursdays) in room V from 15:35 until 16:35, open to anyone in Years 11-13, commencing on Tuesday 14th January.

The plan is:

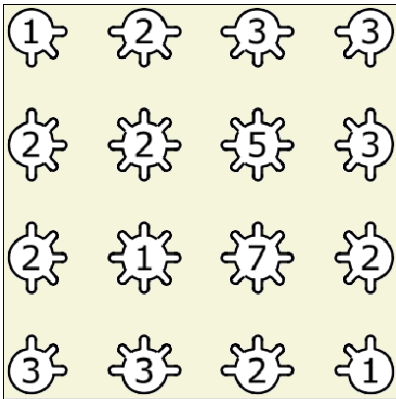
Tuesday: German film

Thursdays: French or Spanish film

Tuesday's film will be 'Er ist wieder da' and the film on Thursday will be 'La Famille Bélier'. Anyone from Years 11-13 is welcome to attend. For any clarifications/queries, please email Amria Heer in 12YLC:

14aheer@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

AND FINALLY.... THINKING CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK!



Can you connect the nodes between them based on the value of the node?

Note: Inside the first node there is a value of 1 which means that this node is connected to just one node



Answer to last week's challenge:

