

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 4th February 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

I would like to begin this week with an update on the Covid situation at school after a spike in infections earlier in the week. The infection levels have now reduced slightly which suggests people are heeding the advice given to us from the local Public Health body; thank you. I appreciate the efforts of everyone in school and at home to keep safe and this enables us to continue school life almost as normal. Yesterday students in Years 8-11, who were eligible and whose parents gave permission, received their second vaccine. This alongside all the other measures we are taking, I hope, will enable us to manage this situation without disruption to the education of our students.

I have continued to have remote meetings with parents and last week I met with Year 9 parents, who again were very supportive and keen to know and understand school life. The obvious concern about students missing out on activities including trips, clubs, interactions with other schools, came up and I hope I was able to reassure people that there is plenty of activity going on in school, which is taking us back to a more normal school life. However, it is fair to say things will never be exactly as they were, and we must see these potential changes as opportunities to do things differently.

One such area which I believe will take some time to get back to normal, is **work experience placements** and opportunities we offer students in Years 10 and 12. As part of the careers education we provide, we have been able to offer our students a one-week work experience in Years 10 and 12, however, this is proving to be very difficult to organise. Employers are saying that with the changes to working patterns and the increase in number of people wanting to work from home, they are unable to offer placements to students for workplace opportunities. The company we work with, Learning to Work, is drawing up different approaches and activities which we can offer our students to make up for the absence of a work placement week this summer. Year 10 and 12 students and parents will receive more information about this in due course. In the meantime, there is an online careers event that we would like to draw your attention to for **Years 9-13** called **Spotlight on Reading 2022 – Virtual Careers Event on Thursday 3rd March between 4-5.30pm**. More information will be sent to you by Mrs Rock, our Work-Related Learning Coordinator.

My drop-in meetings with parents are hosted by the **Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS)** and I believe KPS has been one of the areas in school that has transformed by the new working practices we have adopted over the period of the pandemic. The virtual meetings are better attended, there is greater engagement, and a lot of activity and organisation takes place. Recent developments have been the **Second-Hand Uniform Shop** which is really taking off and we hope that in addition to opening it once a month to parents on a Saturday, we will also be able to run it in school time, by our KPS Student Reps. Please see link [here](#). Thank you to KPS and, in particular, to Mrs Haynes, parent and member of staff for organising and getting the Second-Hand Uniform Shop up and running and raising funds for the school enabling everyone to recycle unwanted uniform. A most exciting event being organised by KPS is a remote **Bingo and Games Night on Saturday 12th February from 6-7.30pm!** You will receive more information about this next week and I do hope many families will take time to join this event. KPS hope to raise £500 which we would like to put to some improvements to our staging equipment in the Hall.

This week's student highlights on our website are below:

- [Canterbury Tales Writing Competition](#)
- [An interesting article by Year 8 on the Journey of a Cheese Sandwich](#)

- The next edition of the Kendrick Gazette which is [HERE](#).

Finally, I attended a Year 8 assembly yesterday morning taken by Ms Grice, Deputy Head of Key Stage 3. As she has done before, Ms Grice selected a theme relevant to our everyday lives, **Friendship**; the importance of being and having good friends and what the essential characteristics of a friend are. I know that Kendrick is a place where lifelong friendships are made, and it is a joy to hear from former students that they are still in touch with their Kendrick friends many years after they have left the school. Perhaps this weekend we can reflect on the friends we have in our life, the kind of friend we are and what friendship means to us. Like any relationship, friendship needs to be worked at and nurtured for it to flourish and grow.

Wishing everyone a great 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 **0808 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 vi-sit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

WELLBEING: CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 7th TO 13th FEBRUARY 2022


The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Growing Together**.

Growing Together is about growing emotionally and finding ways to help each other grow. Challenges and setbacks can help us to grow and adapt and trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'.


Student Welfare Team at Kendrick School




Ms Hockett



Ms 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

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out the **free resources** for families via this [link](#).

SAFEGUARDING – PREVENT RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM BY ACTING EARLY

It can be hard to know what to do if you're worried someone close is expressing extreme views or hatred, which could lead to them harming themselves or others. Working with other organisations, the [police](#) protect vulnerable people from being exploited by extremists through a Home Office programme called [Prevent](#).

For more information please click on this [link](#).

New **ACT Early** assets and toolkit has been launched which includes new ACT Early 'letters to my younger self' films.

The aim of this is to take the message directly to young people, with innovative new first-person videos. More children and young people than ever before are being drawn towards extremism, and sometimes even terrorism. This comes after the impact of the pandemic where children and young people have spent more time at home, online and out of education – putting them at risk of radicalisation and conspiracy theories.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.counterterrorism.police.uk/actearlyrealstories/>

CALENDAR

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



NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

COVID UPDATE

As of yesterday, the COVID cases within the school are as follows:

| | Mon 24/1 | Tues 25/1 | Wed 26/1 | Fri 28/1 | Mon 31/1 | Tues 1/2 | Thurs 3/2 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Year 7 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 18 | 17 | 16 |
| Year 8 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Year 9 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Year 10 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| Year 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Year 12 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| Year 13 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 21 | 27 | 27 | 33 | 40 | 38 | 32 |

We have one member of staff that is positive.

We are liaising with the Public Health Team at Reading Borough Council and have put the following outbreak measures in place:

- Students in Years 7, 10, 12 and 13 are carrying out daily LFD tests. The number of cases that triggers this measure is 5 within a year group.
- All other year groups and staff should take a LFD test twice a week.
- Continuing to ventilate rooms as much as possible
- Limiting large group activities such as assemblies
- Enhanced cleaning regimes are in place

If your child tests positive with a LFD test, they do not need to take a PCR test, but need to self-isolate. The self-isolation can end after 5 full days if there are two negative LFD tests taken on consecutive days. The first LFD test should not be taken before the fifth day after symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if there were no symptoms). The self-isolation period remains 10 full days for those without negative results from 2 LFD tests taken a day apart.

For advice on when to take a PCR test please click [here](#).

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19): [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#):

- Get vaccinated – everyone aged 12 and over are eligible – see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) for more details and how to book.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze and put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- Open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- Wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- Participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

We will continue to monitor the situation and update you as appropriate.

ONE DAY LIBRARY COMPETITION



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

One Day is the theme for the **2022 Holocaust Memorial Day**. As you can see from the words on this poster, even the font and background can evoke different emotions when reading the two words: **ONE DAY**

One Day could mean a specific day, it could also be **One Day** in history, **One Day** when life changed (for better or for worse), **One Day** at a time or **One Day** in the future.

Either relating this to the Holocaust or subsequent genocides or perhaps to something in your own life, this year's competition is to write a poem or short prose based on the theme **One Day**.

Entries from all year groups welcome. Prizes will be presented. **Closing date: Monday 28 February 17:00**

HOUSE READING COMPETITION

The House Reading Competition is drawing to a close, but there are still a few more weeks to gain some valuable points for your house... YOU could make the difference!

We have decided to finish the 'reading period' just before the February term break. Any books read AFTER 20th February WILL NOT count. You can add up your books and email your House Representatives with the total numbers

Palmer

Staff & Years 7-9 please email: Ana Lenoir; Years 10-13 please email: Aysel Turacli

Cedars

Staff & Years 7-9 please email: Geetika Lakhanpal; Years 10-13 please email: Serena Whitehead

Sidmouth

Staff & Years 7-9 please email: Alice Owen; Years 10-13 please email: Lucy Ward



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.

PE Teacher 2022 – full time – closing date 9TH February 2022

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

On Saturday 29th January, Kendrick Parents Society (KPS) arranged the opening of the first uniform shop of the year in the School Conservatory.

Thanks to the generous donations of good quality second uniforms, there was plenty of stock available for those who attended the shop.

For the rest of the school year, the shop will be open on the first Saturday of each term between 9am and 11am. The next opening will be on Saturday 5th March. If spaces are available, those attending the shop will be able to park in the Cedars car park along London Road.

ONLINE BINGO & QUIZ NIGHT

KPS is organising an Online BINGO & FUN QUIZ event and are looking forward to your participation along with the whole family.

Below are the details of the event :

When: 12th Feb @6pm till 7:30pm

Where : Online Zoom Event

Tickets Available (Online) from Feb1st - Feb 11th [here](#)

The tickets can be purchased online via the link shared and you will receive an email confirming your purchase. The event link will be shared prior to the event. If you are unable to participate there is the option of making a donation in support of the event via the shared link.

Any queries feel free to reach out to the KPS organising committee

kpssecretary@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

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.