

# Kendrick School - Weekly Update

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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We have completed the first full week of Term 3, and I would like to begin by praising Year 11 students for the Mock examinations they have just completed. Unlike the summer examinations, the mocks are carried out over a very short period with papers and oral exams happening very close together with little time to rest between each session. It is always impressive to see how Year 11 students rise to the challenge and manage this period sensibly and with focus and maturity. Well done to them. The process of giving back papers will begin over the next few weeks which is when the focused learning can continue as the students with their teachers complete the GCSE courses and identify areas for further revision and practice.

Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS) has got off to a flying start with the first meeting of the year on Wednesday. With the new committee in place there was a new look and presentation from them. We received updates on the KPS Wish List Project which was launched in December and will finish in January. A target of £4k was set and £1130 has been raised to buy gifts for the school which will directly benefit the students' learning. So far, the participation of parents has been slow, but we hope with the holiday period behind us, parents will consider a 'New Year' gift for the school. Please use this link to donate. <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/kps-wishlist-project>

Other fund-raising initiatives were discussed and in a few weeks' time KPS will be launching the **Kendrick Spring Raffle**, a very important fund raiser for the school. This year monies from the raffle will be directed to improving PE facilities for students. We also confirmed the KPS 'drop-in' sessions with me which will begin next week. This is an opportunity for parents of each year group to engage with KPS as well as have a chat with me about school life. I am very aware that secondary school can sometimes feel more remote to parents and our interactions are limited to Parents' Consultations and Information Evenings so an informal chat is another way we can connect. I thank KPS for hosting these sessions. The first drop-in will be with Year 7 parents on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January between 5.30-6.30pm. Arrangements for a school Disco at Kendrick for Year 7 and 8 students were confirmed which will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> February. This time parents will be able to meet and mingle in the conservatory whilst students are enjoying the disco in the Hall. Finally, an Own Clothes Day was also confirmed for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January, for £2 donation. Thank you to the KPS committee for the enthusiastic and committed efforts they are putting into supporting our school. More parents are always welcome to join and participate, please contact the KPS Officers for information [kpschair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:kpschair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or join the Facebook group "[Kendrick Parents' Society](#)".

There are some super articles on the website of activities students have been involved from the end of last term, as well as displays that have been refreshed in school. Please take time to read and take pride in the interests our students have in addition to their day-to-day studies.

- [Gift Drive for the Children's Ward at RBH](#)
- [Model UN Conference - A Level Geographers](#)
- [Senior Maths Challenge and Maths Olympiad for Girls](#)
- [Our Flying Experience](#)
- [Year 9 student at the Karate Championships](#)
- [Library Displays](#)
- [Inspire Board display- Dr Emma Duncan](#)

Wishing everyone a good weekend

**Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher**

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## KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

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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.



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## SAFEGUARDING

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### WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School, please email [studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) or telephone 0118 9015859 and ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Officer.

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 wellbeing support in school, students can visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email [studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).**

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### NSPCC BETTER SAFE CAMPAIGN

You may have heard on the radio or seen adverts on the television for NSPCC's, supported by the Home Office, **Better Safe campaign**, which aims to tackle child sex abuse and raise awareness of the Childline helpline.

- New data reveals almost 87,000 sexual offences against children were recorded by police in 2022/23.
- Types of offences included rape, sexual assault, grooming and sexual exploitation.
- Childline is encouraging adults to contact their Helpline if they are concerned a child could be at risk.

This is data is why Childline is launching a new campaign in partnership with the Home Office to tackle child sexual abuse.

Together, they are encouraging adults to [contact their Helpline](#) if they are concerned a child could be at risk. The partnership also encourages people to report on instances where there are concerns that a child might be experiencing [sexual abuse](#).

The Home Office is providing funding for the Childline Helpline to increase capacity as well as to raise awareness of their service to the public and professionals.

Please see the video [here](#).

## The NSPCC Helpline

The [NSPCC Helpline](#) is a free advice line for any adult, including professionals, who has any concerns about a child.

Their dedicated child protection specialists can give advice on a wide range of issues affecting children, as well as when child abuse is suspected. They also operate a dedicated [Whistleblowing Helpline](#), which can be contacted for any concerns around child protection within the workplace, or other professional organisations.

They are encouraging any adult to use the Helpline to express any concerns they might have regarding a child, **even if they're not certain**. By doing this, everyone can play a part in helping keep children safe from sexual abuse.

You can contact the Helpline by calling [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000), emailing [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or completing our [report abuse online form](#).

**If you think a child is in immediate danger  
Don't delay – call the police on [999](tel:999).**

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## SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

[Term 1 2023-24](#)

[Term 2 2023-24](#)



National  
Online  
Safety®

## STAYING SAFE ONLINE

### FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

Freedom of expression is enshrined in international law. Some individuals, however, misunderstand the right to share their opinions as a license to target others with the most horrendous prejudice. So how do we balance people's prerogative to have their voice heard against everyone's right to live in a respectful, inclusive society?

This conflict frequently unfolds in the digital world. Online posters can be falsely accused of hate speech, while actual hate is often defended as merely being 'free speech'. To help children and young people learn to identify the boundaries and recognise genuine hate speech when they see it, our [#WakeUpWednesday](#) guide provides some helpful definitions and guidelines.

[Free Speech vs Hate Speech](#)

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

### VOLUNTEERING

SOURCE: Anna Freud

***"The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer someone else up" - Mark Twain!***

For lots of people, volunteering, or regularly dedicating a specific amount of time to focus purely on another person or cause, can be a useful distraction technique when they are feeling anxious or low. When you know you've helped someone, it can feel really satisfying and remind you of things you are good at which you may have forgotten about. This could be something small like making a cup of tea for a family member or something bigger like starting a new voluntary job. Find what fits your life and makes sense for you.

*"Having a purpose is something that can save me when I'm in my darkest moments. I volunteered for a charity for a long time and it was really helpful knowing I was needed somewhere once a week. It reminded me of other things about me apart from just my mental health problems. It was also something I could put on my CV to help me get a job in the future"*

There are so many different kinds of voluntary roles you can do from helping an elderly person with their iPad, to stroking animals at the local animal rescue centre or putting up posters around your town for people who've gone missing. Find an opportunity local to you on the [VInspired](#) website or by visiting your [local NCVO volunteer centre](#). And, if you take care of your family in your spare time or are responsible for caring responsibilities, please get into contact with your local [Carers charity](#) and remember you do have rights as a Young Carer, which you can view on the [NHS website](#).

In this [video](#), Young Champion, Sophie, talks about how volunteering, including here at the Centre, helps her manage her mental wellbeing.

At Kendrick, students in Year 10 and above can volunteer to support our Inspire Club, an online club for pupil premium students in Years 3-5, which runs every Tuesday between 4pm and 5pm. Anyone interested should email Mrs Nicholson, [gnicholson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:gnicholson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).  
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/social-media-and-mental-health/>

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## KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

For all our **Wellbeing Newsletters** please click [here](#).

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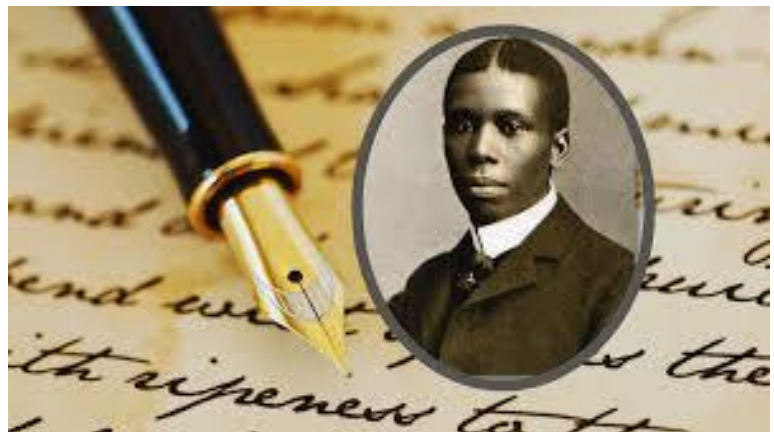
### POEM OF THE WEEK

#### The Change Has Come

*by Paul Laurence Dunbar*

The change has come, and Helen sleeps—  
Not sleeps; but wakes to greater deeps  
Of wisdom, glory, truth, and light,  
Than ever blessed her seeking sight,  
In this low, long, lethargic night,  
Worn out with strife  
Which men call life.

The change has come, and who would say  
"I would it were not come to-day?"  
What were the respite till to-morrow?  
Postponement of a certain sorrow,  
From which each passing day would borrow!  
Let grief be dumb,  
The change has come.



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

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## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)

### PARENT/CARER AUTISM ONLINE WORKSHOPS FROM THE AUTISM TRAINING NETWORK

Whether your child is awaiting a diagnosis or has already been diagnosed, these workshops are a great opportunity to learn more about Autism & ask questions within a supportive group of other parents & carers.

- **Monday 5th February - An introduction to Autism**

An opportunity to explore what Autism is, the many strengths and the differences that make each child so wonderfully unique.

- **Monday 12th February - Communication**

Identifying what communication is and the different communication methods that may be helpful for Autistic children.

- **Monday 19th February - Sensory Processing**

Explaining the 8 sensory systems, how the environment can impact on a child with sensory processing differences/challenges and strategies to meet an individual's sensory needs.

- **Monday 26th February - Pathological Demand Avoidance**

A look into the interesting subject of PDA, how this may present and what is the best approach to take to avoid conflict.

**Workshops will be held 7:30-8:30pm via Zoom**

£25 per workshop for each family.

**To book your place...** Email enquiries@theau1smtrainingnetwork.com

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## SPORT TOGETHER BERKSHIRE CIC - FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY 16TH FEBRUARY 2024

**Save the Date: 16th February 2024**

A great day of activity, including:

- Football
- Rugby
- Cricket
- Hockey
- Art & Crafts
- Sensory Room
- And much More....

**Bookings from January 2024 – Times to be advised.**

[sporttogetherberks@gmail.com](mailto:sporttogetherberks@gmail.com)

<https://sporttogetherberks.co.uk/>

Further information can be found here [Reading Directory | Sport Together Berkshire CIC - Festival of Inclusivity 16th February 2024](#)

[SEND Local Offer Newsletter Winter 2023](#)

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 3, 2023-24

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Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	EPQ Exhibition
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	EPQ Presentations (until Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Trustee Learning & Teaching Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	KPS Non-Uniform Day
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 11 Geography Trip
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Year 12 Parent Consultation
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Trustee Resources Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 7&8 KPS Disco
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
	GCSE and A Level Art Trip
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 8 Parent Consultations

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February

House Drama

Trustee P&R Committee, 4.30pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

End of Term 3, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2023-24 and 2024-25 please click [here](#)

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## NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

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### HOUSE READING CHALLENGE



Don't forget to take part in this year's **House Reading Challenge**.

Try to tick off as many books as you can from the list sent to you from the Library Coordinators.

Come to the library and choose some books – you are allowed **four fiction** books and **four non-fiction** books at any one time, and you can keep them for three weeks. (If you have any OVERDUE books, you must return these first before borrowing more) 😊

HAPPY READING!

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## WORK RELATED LEARNING AND CAREERS

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### CAREERS AND BCA PRODUCTION ARTS COURSES

Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) is proud to offer a wide range of subjects across multiple disciplines, so there is something for everyone after GCSEs. As well as the many agricultural, equine and other land-based courses BCA offers, some may not know that there are also options for those looking for a creative course. Production Arts could be the perfect subject to study for those looking to get into the creative industries, including aspects of set and costume construction and design, prop making and stage management. More information on this online course, as well as other creative arts courses including Media, Art & Design and Performance Arts can be found on the [BCA website](#).

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## VACANCIES

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We currently have the following vacancies. Please click on this [link](#) for more information and please forward to friends and family who may be interested.

English Teacher for September 2024

Mathematics Teacher for September 2024

*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.*

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**Reading School** has the following current vacancies. If you know anyone who might be interested, please do pass on the details to them.

[Head of Operations and Projects](#) – further information can be found [here](#).

[Student Support Assistant](#) – further information can be found [here](#).

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## PARENTPAY REMINDERS

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*We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.*

School Fund Donation

Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations

Year 7 Profiling Day- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Year 10 and Year 11 A performance of a Christmas Carol- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Year 10 GCSE Drama- set text: The Crucible by Arthur Miller

Year 9 and Year 10 French Play – March 2024

Year 9 and Year 10 German Play – March 2024

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2024

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award 2024

Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 English set texts

Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and Technology voluntary contributions

Year 10 and Year 11 Art and Textiles voluntary contributions

Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 English set texts

### **Trips**

Year 12 Wokingham Waterside Centre trip

Year 10 French and German trips - June 2024

The Legacy of East Germany in film, Southbank, London, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Wicked performance at Apollo Victoria Theatre – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

Wicked performance at Apollo Victoria Theatre – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Year 11 Poetry live event at The Hexagon Reading – 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Year 11 Rural Villages Geography trip- 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Year 12 local Geography field trip – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

GCSE and A level Art trip to Oxford – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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## KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

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For the latest KPS newsletter please click [here](#).

### **KPS MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY**

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the recent KPS meeting. Your presence, engagement, and valuable insights contribute significantly to our school's success. It was truly inspiring to see so many of you actively participating in discussions and sharing your perspectives.

Your involvement is a crucial part of our collaborative effort to enhance our children's educational experience. Together, we are making a meaningful and positive impact on their journey of learning and growth.

### **KPS NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY**

On **January 19th**, we invite students to participate in **KPS Non-School Uniform Day** with a special mission—to fund new Chromebooks for our school.

Your £2 contribution will directly impact students, providing them with essential digital resources for success.

Let's come together for education, innovation, and a day of comfortable, non-uniform fashion!



Kindly make your £2 donation through Parent Pay. Thank you for your support!

## KPS WISHLIST PROJECT



We are thrilled to express our heartfelt gratitude to the **22 supporters** who generously contributed to the KPS Wishlist project. Your kindness and support have helped us raise an impressive **£1130**.

With this encouraging start, we would like to request each and every parent's help in reaching our **target of £4000**. Imagine the possibilities if every parent could contribute even a small amount; reaching our goal would be like a breeze. **Your participation, no matter the size, can make a significant difference.**

Additionally, we kindly ask parents to check with their employers regarding match funding opportunities. Many companies offer this benefit, and it could effectively double your contribution, further taking us towards our goal. Every little bit helps, and your efforts in this regard could make a substantial impact.

### DROP-IN SESSIONS WITH MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

We're excited to announce the dates of this anticipated '**Drop-In Sessions with Ms. Kattirtzi**'. These sessions are scheduled from **5:30pm to 6:30pm**. The dates for each year group are as follows:

**Year 7:** Tuesday 23rd January

**Year 8:** Tuesday 6th February

**Year 9:** Tuesday 20th February

**Year 10:** Tuesday 5th March

**Year 11:** Tuesday 19th March

**6th Form:** Tuesday 16th April

The protocols for the sessions will be explained before the meeting starts.

### KPS DISCO FOR YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8

Kendrick Parents' Society is thrilled to invite the students of Kendrick School and Reading School to the Disco Party on **Friday 2nd February from 6 30 pm to 8 00 pm (Gates open from 6 pm) in the Kendrick School, Main Hall**

This electric evening is exclusively for Year 7 and Year 8 students and is guaranteed to be a night full of fun, music, and dancing.

Mark your calendars!



For more details, please click on the below link to see the disco poster and to book tickets.

[KPS Disco Tickets, Kendrick School | TryBooking United Kingdom](#)

## JOIN KPS

Since KPS operates as a registered charity, we invite you to become a part of our community by joining us. Connecting with your daughter's school through KPS is a simple process.

Please take a moment to complete our [online membership form](#) making your involvement seamless and effortless. Your participation is highly valued, and we look forward to welcoming you to the KPS family.

## KPS FACEBOOK CLOSED GROUP

KPS runs a closed Facebook group where we provide details of upcoming events and other important information.

To join this group, search for the “**Kendrick Parents’ Society**” group

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>) and ask to join – once we have confirmed that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request.