Kendrick School Weekly Update Friday 13th March 2020

WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

I will begin this week's update with the urgent issue of the **coronavirus** (**COVID-19**) and the plans that are in place at school, as well as the contingency planning everyone is doing in the event of school closure. I am sure everyone understands and appreciates that the closure of schools may happen in due course but until then, at Kendrick, we will continue to have a normal school life across the school, teaching our students and running as many of the activities as possible during the school day. The letter sent to parents yesterday, clearly explains what we are doing and what is also being planned. Click <u>here</u> for a link to the letter.

The priority for us all is that, in the event of closure of our school, students' learning can continue at home. All Heads of Departments and teachers are planning and preparing resources for this possibility/eventuality. The priority for all teachers is to make sure that **Year 11, 12 and 13 classes** are properly prepared for their examinations, have completed their courses, have revision resources and are able to keep in touch with their teachers. All other year groups will also be given work to do at home.

I would like to reassure parents and students that all is being done to support our students and their learning at this time. I know that everyone wants to be at school, as school is a place of safety and security and is also a lot of fun, however, we do need to prepare and be ready for the very strong possibility that we will be asked to close. We will maintain our communication with you on a daily basis and we are responding to every email and query that is being sent to us.

Despite all the above, daily life is still going on at Kendrick. The students have been involved in events that the **Head Girl Team and 6th Formers have arranged for Sport Relief**. In due course photos, videos and a report will be put together for the website. I attended a super **Year 7 assembly** yesterday where **7V** took the theme of the Oscars and presented some stark information about how few women directors have received Oscars over the last 92 years of the awards. Their displeasure was apparent and I am sure in their lives they will do all that they can to rectify such situations, not just in the film industry but elsewhere.

On a similar theme that many of us are passionate about, I took members of the **new Head Girl Team** to a conference on Monday in London. The conference, *From Leadership to Empowerment,* provided the students with insights into roles of women who through their leadership have been empowered to make significant changes to society and culture. The students came away from the event inspired and excited about what they would like to do and the potential they and our students at Kendrick have to make changes and address the imbalance and inequalities in our society. Some comments from the students are below.

....such an impactful and eye-opening conference. I personally took so much away from the event and deeply value the insight from all the speakers about the multifaceted nature of female empowerment and representation, including how we as leaders of the school can begin to change and shape the feminist narrative.

The conference was so inspiring and I definitely feel encouraged and motivated in my new role as Student Leader.

We will hear more from our new Head Girl Team when I introduce them to you next term.

Finally I would like to mention the **KPS raffle**. Information has gone to everyone about the raffle and whist we are pleased that tickets are being bought, we still have a very long way to go before we meet our target. Next week I will be speaking to the students myself to encourage everyone to buy some tickets. It really can't be simpler this year now that we are selling the tickets electronically. The link to the website and the tickets is <u>HERE</u>. I know that everyone has a lot to be thinking about at the moment, but our school will and must go on and it does so by the support and encouragement of everyone. Please make the effort to buy some tickets, however many you can afford, so that we can get closer to our target and be able to buy the important things that make the life of the students and their learning at Kendrick even better.

My best wishes to you.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

'INTERNET OF THINGS'

Our homes have become even more connected. More families are buying internet-enabled devices such as smart speakers, toys that connect to the internet and even Bluetooth enabled toothbrushes. In this article, THINKUKNOW explain what is meant by the 'Internet of Things' and how to use these devices safely with your child.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-is-the-internet-of-things-iot/

CORONAVIRUS: KEEP IT SIMPLE, STICK TO FACTS – HOW PARENTS SHOULD TELL CHILDREN (INFORMATION FROM THE BBC)

Please see the link below:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51734855

CALENDAR

WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 16TH MARCH 2020 (A WEEK)

Monday 16th March Tuesday 17th March Wednesday 18th March Thursday 19th March Friday 20th March

Year 12 Geography Trip Year 12 Work Experience Placement Year 13 Geography Conference Governor Resources Committee, 4.30pm Air Ambulance Concert (time to be confirmed)

The full school calendar can be found via this link

Tuesday 31st March Friday 3rd April Spring Concert, 6.30pm and draw for the KPS Raffle End of Term 4, 3.15pm

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE, LOCAL PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

World Book Day 2020 at Kendrick School Library House Drama Competition

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 under <u>Students/Student Achievements</u>. Please send any articles and photos to <u>aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk</u>. However, please ensure you have your child's 'permission' to do so! Thank you

KPS NEWS

We wish to thank the generous staff and parents/carers who have bought tickets and/ or donated towards the Spring Raffle 2020. It is a delight to find parents who have done this for more than one student in the school and those who have donated more than the suggested amount of £20 per student, our sincere gratification to you.

The raffle was launched on 2nd March and as of 12th March the total funds raised stands at £1,182, which at only 8% of our target of £15,000. Also, there have only been 54 participants (excluding staff), so only around 7% of parents/ carers have been involved. If every family could sell £20 worth of tickets, we can easily raise the required funds, and we sincerely urge each of you to kindly make this little effort towards the purchase of the much needed items for the students. We believe that each one of you can help us raise more than this target and we humbly ask you to forward the online raffle link <u>https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/KPS</u> to your friends and extended families.

We wish to remind you again that every single pound raised will be used for the much needed equipment and resources that the school needs, so this event benefits every student in the school. If you have not yet done so, please go to the website <u>www.jumblebee.co.uk/KPS</u> and support the raffle. Remember to forward this link and leaflet to your friends and family. If you have any questions/feedback please feel free to email <u>Raffle.KPS@gmail.com</u>.

We are also looking for your help with matched funding. Many companies have pots of money which they want to give away to charities like ours – they are just waiting for us to ask. They will ask you for a letter which we are more than happy to provide confirming your participation and in return you will have to fill a form for them. Please ask your manager or your HR department, it is as simple as this. Vodafone, Microsoft, Visa, Thames Water, National Grid, IBM, RBS, Shell, BP and many such companies do offer matched funding to their employees. We want to hear from you if you work for one of these companies. Please email <u>Raffle.KPS@gmail.com</u>.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- A Level Biology Dale Fort Residential Field Trip 25-29th June 2020 please continue to pay instalments please contact the school if there are any queries
- Year 12 UCAS Exhibition please pay £8 contribution to coach costs if you have not already paid

VACANCIES

Kendrick School has the following vacancies for September 2020. Please click on the links for each role for more information. Please forward this information on to friends and family that you think may be interested.

English Teacher Mathematics Teacher

NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

WORK RELATED LEARNING

UNDERSTANDING APPRENTICESHIPS

In essence, an apprenticeship is a job. You'll spend 80% of the working week at your place of employment, and 20% at your place of study.

You'll earn a salary, and your course fees will be covered by your employer and the government. You just need to be willing to manage your time between work and study.

There are many different apprenticeships you can apply for depending on your existing qualifications across a broad range of different industries.

Explore the UCAS apprenticeships guide via the link below to find out everything you need to know.

https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships

YEAR 9 PARENTS' CONSULTATION MEETINGS – CANCELLED

As communicated at the Year 9 Information Evening on Wednesday, for the safety and well-being of the whole school community, we are regrettably cancelling the **Year 9 Parents' Consultation on Wednesday 11th March 2020.**

If there are important individual messages, these will be sent to parents/carers by email. If you have any particular concerns, please email the teacher directly or admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

YEAR 10 OPTIONS (FOR CURRENT YEAR 9 STUDENTS)

Please click <u>here</u> for the information regarding GCSE options that was shared at the Year 9 Information Evening on Wednesday.

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

Which film does the image refer to?



Answer to last week's challenge: Centre of gravity

