

WEEKLY UPDATE – FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026

Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

Another busy week and today we have our Comic Relief Day, raising money for good causes. There is some dressing up and interesting costumes that I have seen around the school. The Community Team of the KSL has organised events to engage the school community in this annual fund-raising event. As the strap line for the charity says *Take Yourself Funny for Money!* You can donate [here](#).

We have acknowledged the poets in our school again this week with students who recently responded to our poetry writing competitions. Last week I mentioned the *Beginnings Poetry Competition*, the link to the article on our website can be found [here](#). This week we awarded prizes to poems written for the Holocaust Memorial Day Poetry Competition earlier in the year. I am always impressed by the maturity of writing, depth of feeling and understanding students show to some very complex and serious subject matter. We will share the poems with you in due course.

There are a couple of items on the website that I would like you to read. Firstly, the report on International Women's Day a couple of weeks ago from a Year 13 student; you can read Isabelle's reflections on the various speakers and what they said and meant to her. Photos accompany the article which can be found [here](#) and Isabelle's journalistic skills are clear to see.

Another article that you may be surprised to read is about a Year 11 student, Vy and her debut performance in the film *Wuthering Heights!* The photo shows Vy with the cast of the film and her article explains how she got the part. Speaking to Vy a couple of weeks ago, I could see how genuinely honoured and slightly overwhelmed she was to find herself working with such a group of known actors and directors. She speaks modestly and humbly about her part in the film, however, Vy managed this alongside her GCSEs which is quite an achievement. Well done Vy! The article on our website can be found [here](#).

At this time of the year, we have our annual Trustee Strategy Day when the Board of Trustees come together with the SLT to discuss the development plans for the school for next year and beyond. With an Ofsted Inspection due for us in the autumn, there is a focus on the new framework for Inspection called [State Funded School Inspection Toolkit](#) There is a helpful video for parents which summarises the new approach to school inspection and the new report cards which schools and parents will receive following an inspection. This can be viewed here. [Ofsted video for Parents](#)

Other areas of school work we will look at include the Racial Literacy training we have done with the whole school, which I am very proud of. This work aligns so well with our values and The Kendrick Pledge, please read more details [here](#). We will also update our Trustees on our [Widening Horizons](#) work, the cornerstone of our expansion initiative 6 years ago, and the greater opportunities that we have been able to provide for more local students and those from disadvantaged backgrounds. There will be some discussion on the government's White Paper *Every Child Achieving and Thriving* (the paper can be found [here](#)), which I mentioned last week. As always there will be much to discuss.

This is also a busy weekend for Kendrick with our Year 9 students involved in the Mock Trial at Reading Crown Court. We wish them well and thank Miss Hyde for the work and preparation she has done with them. A party of musicians is on a Music Tour, led by Mrs Cooper and Mrs Rohweder, we hope they are having a wonderful time. For several of our students and families today is the celebration of Eid al-Fitr which marks the end of the month long fasting during Ramadan. To them I say Eid Mubarak wishes! And to others around the world who are celebrating but not in such safe circumstances we wish them our very special Eid Mubarak wishes.

Finally, I must mention the Kendrick Parents' Society Spring Raffle which really has been slow to take off this year and is a real disappointment to me. A very small group of committed parents are working very

hard to encourage sales so that we can reach our target and raise enough money to buy four Interactive White Boards for school classrooms. I believe we have not quite raised half the funds we wanted, so the raffle has been extended by one more week to try to have a final last push to get to our goal of £8k. Please buy some tickets this weekend and help us get to the target. [Here](#) is the link, please donate or buy a ticket.

Wishing everyone a good weekend.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

School Notices

Spring Concert: Tuesday 24th March 2026 at 6.30pm

Our **Spring Concert** is a time to celebrate all that has been achieved by our most senior students as they enter their final formal concert at Kendrick before they go on study leave in May. As such, selected students from Year 13 who have contributed a lot musically to the school during their time at Kendrick are given the opportunity to perform as a soloist either by themselves or in performing with a senior ensemble. This year we have a Japanese piece, an exciting jazz piece, a movement from a clarinet concerto and more!

Alongside our wonderful Year 13 students, we have our exceptional students of Chamber Choir, Mass Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia, Wind Orchestra and Jazz Band in addition to our outstanding chamber groups, Harp Ensemble, Flute Ensemble and Carnatic Ensemble. We hope there is something for everyone to enjoy and expect the concert to finish at approximately 8.45pm.

Please note that refreshments, including our famous samosas, will be available from KPS before the concert.

Tickets

Concert tickets tend to sell out quickly and will be going on sale from Friday 13th March 2026 at the cost of £5.00 each. We therefore suggest you order them as soon as possible through myEvolve to avoid disappointment. In the first instance, tickets will be restricted to five per family. We politely ask for you not to leave ticket requests or queries until the day of the concert.

If you would like tickets for the Spring Concert on Tuesday 24th March, please complete the order on myEvolve (through EVOLVEshop) or by using the link below.

https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/shop/shop_item_public.asp?site=rbcvisits&estab=3359&id=6186

Kendrick School Food Bank Easter Collection

I am very pleased to be able to update you on our last food bank collection and to launch an Easter Collection running throughout next week.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and remember that students can leave donations in the sixth form block or the servery area near the hall. Parents can also donate through Parent Pay.

Last term we delivered 8 large boxes of donations and a fabulous cheque for £1300 representing money raised since last summer on Parent Pay and through in school fund raising events. This money supports families in moments of crisis and is always incredibly gratefully received.

I would love to take a large donation up to Whitley Park Food Cupboard in time for the Easter holiday. Sarah is asking for toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant), toilet rolls, cleaning products, washing powder for clothes, stir in pasta sauces and tea/coffee/biscuits. I am sure that we may be able to also donate chocolate treats for Easter. This would be amazing!

Mr Nick Simmonds, Deputy Headteacher

Safeguarding

[Safeguarding at Kendrick School](#)

[Student Safeguarding Assemblies](#). Our students receive a wide range of safeguarding information, including regular assemblies on various safeguarding topics. If you would like to see what topics these assemblies cover, please click [here](#).

Mental Health and Wellbeing

[Mental Health and Wellbeing at Kendrick School](#)

[Nature and Mental Health](#). Spending time in green space or bringing nature into your everyday life can benefit your mental health. It can benefit your physical wellbeing too. There's lots of ways you can connect with nature. Mind is here to help you get started.

SEND

[No.5 School Transitions Project – 7-10th April 2026](#). A 4-day series of Creative Expressive Wellbeing workshops to help support young people who feel they may struggle with varying school transitions through creative and performing arts. This project is open to young people starting Year 7, 8, 9 or 10 in September who may be struggling with school or feeling nervous about moving up to a different year group. Registration form can be found [here](#).

School Fund

Please donate to our School Fund [here](#). You can make one-off payments through your ParentPay account or complete a [standing order form](#) for more regular payments. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ensure you also complete a [Gift Aid Form](#).

A school fund is maintained by voluntary contributions from the parents/carers of students. Its purpose is to provide an additional source of funding for the provision of facilities and educational resources for the benefit of students. We use our School Fund to support so many activities **in and out of** school that have now become essential to school life.

Canteen

The menu for Autumn/Winter can be found [here](#). The menu is subject to change dependent on food availability. **Please ensure that you regularly check your child's canteen balance on their ParentPay account and settle any 'overdrafts' quickly.** Overdrafts should only be issued on an exceptional basis and not as a regular occurrence.

[Latest News on our Website](#)

[Behind the Wind of Wuthering Heights](#)

School Calendar

Week commencing 23rd March - Week B

Year 10 PE Assessments (Monday to Wednesday)

- Tuesday 24th March – Spring Concert
- Wednesday 25th March – Year 13 Celebration Day; KPS Meeting, 6pm
- Thursday 26th March – Year 11 Celebration Day; KPS Sixth Form Drop In with Ms Kattirtzi and Mrs Hearn
- Friday 27th March – End of Term 4, 3.15pm

Student Careers and Work Experience

[Current Opportunities](#)

Vacancies

[Business and Economics Teacher](#). For September 2026. Closing date for applications 9am Wednesday 15th April 2026
[Evening Site Assistant](#) to join us in April 2026. 4.45pm to 9.30pm Monday to Friday. Closing date for applications: 8am Friday 20th March 2026.

ParentPay and Evolve Reminders

[Latest Reminders for ParentPay and Evolve](#)

Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS)

[Weekly News – Friday 20th March 2026](#)