

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 24th February 2023

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

I hope everyone enjoyed some rest and relaxation over half term break and has returned to school ready to embark on the second half of the academic year. For our Year 13 students they have been taking mock examinations this week, always a tense time for them, but the work they have put into these will enable them and their teachers to focus on what they need to prepare and complete for the final examinations in the summer. We wish them well.

There are lots of activities to look forward to this term including our Deign Your Future Event for Years 9-12 next week on Thursday 2nd March between 4.00-6.30pm in the school hall. Many employers will be there to talk to students about their chosen careers and professions. We are making a last-minute call to people who may be able to represent their profession at this event, please see item below in the second part of the Weekly Update.

As always at this time of the year there are a lot of planned events for students in school. The Kendrick Student Leaders will be leading an assembly on Monday 27th February on the theme of LGBTQ+ for the whole school and again on Wednesday 8th March they will be highlighting International Women's Day which this year's theme is **Embrace Equity**. The Debate Society is organising an inter-school debate in the afternoon of 8th March from 3.45-5.00pm in the school hall, with students from Reading School. Details and information will be sent to everyone shortly. The Kendrick Spring Raffle is being launched next week and students have engaged in making requests about for how some of the money raised should be spent in school. Comic Relief activities take place in the week of 13th March and then on Friday 24th March there is the annual Air Ambulance Concert which this year will be held at Kendrick. Details will be sent to everyone next week when tickets will be on sale on parent pay. If you wish to make a donation to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance in advance of the concert the link is [here](#).

On the website this week is an article from the Geography Department about a [Field Trip students in Year 11](#) took part in last term, gathering data on the village of Berinsfield, as part of the GCSE course. Historians will be on a trip soon, as will be the Art Department. I am often asked by parents if trips have resumed at Kendrick post the pandemic; they certainly have although at present these trips are related to subject areas and the curriculum that students are studying. The summer term will see more taking place. As always it is the generosity of teachers and staff that enable these events to happen and we must be aware of the huge amount of additional work trips and excursions take to prepare and conduct.

It doesn't seem possible that it is one year since the start of the invasion of Ukraine which occurred on this day last year. The relentless bombings and attacks have left parts of Ukraine devastated with millions of people displaced and fleeing their homes and their lives overturned. The international response at the time was swift and continues to be strong, but few believe there will be a resolution to the situation any time soon. There are memorial services being held across Ukraine and other parts of the world today and the hopes and prayers of everyone remain with the people of Ukraine and those who have and are suffering from this war.

Please read the rest of the update for more important information.

Wishing everyone a peaceful weekend

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

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.



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 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 well-being support in school please visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

SAFEGUARDING – DANGEROUS DOGS AND SAFEGUARDING

The following information has been taken from a safeguarding update from Andrew Hall, who is a safeguarding professional.

At the beginning of the month, there was the harrowing case of Alice Stones, who was attacked and killed by an out-of-control dog at 5pm in her back garden. Normally dogs are our best friends and according to the PDSA there are 10.2 million dog owners in the UK. But sometimes they get out of control, and depending on the breed the outcome can be devastating. Especially to small children who lack the strengths that allow adults to physically defend themselves in these cases. Often dogs that are out of control is due to poor parenting on behalf of the owner, but when you encounter a dog, it is no immediately obvious whether or not they are a danger. For children exploring the world, the tell-tale signs of a poorly trained, or poorly supervised dog are not apparent – they simply don't have the life experience at that point in their early lives to be aware of it. [The Dogs Trust](#) has some excellent advice for keeping children safe around dogs. You can access these resources below:

[Keeping Children Safe Around Dogs](#)

[Getting a dog when you have children](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING – EAT, SLEEP, BREATHE

Our wellbeing theme this term is "Eat, Sleep, Breathe" and we will be sending students, parents and carers, and staff information throughout the term on why eating well, getting good sleep and relaxation is so important to good mental health and wellbeing.

One way to relax is to take time away from technology. Sometimes technology and social media can be a lifeline but sometimes they can be completely overwhelming and it feels like notifications and messages are never ending.

When we feel like we are constantly attached to everyone and all that is happening in the wider world it can become exhausting. That's one of the reasons why lots of people find time away from social media a really important part of their daily self-care (even if it does feel weird at first!).

"As much as I love my phone and everything I use it for I feel like I'd be much less anxious without it. I have to be really strict with myself sometimes and just turn it off for a bit because I can get kind of addicted".

There are, ironically, [a range of apps](#) which can help you manage your use of technology if you feel you spend too much time on social media.

"I find that I sleep better when I stop looking at my phone earlier in the evening"

'It is so easy to get tied down to your phone or other forms of technology. By taking a break and living in the moment, you can find your brain becomes uncluttered and you feel more refreshed.'

'You may think your phone is essential and without it there is nothing to do, but just see how it feels to take yourself away from it for a bit, it doesn't have to be for long but can make a whole lot of difference.'

'I could focus on my direct surroundings, real necessities and have time and enough calm to think and reflect by myself. When connected to technology, I easily get distracted and lose focus and purpose on what I'm doing. Sometimes I even feel like killing time instead of directing it to a purposeful end.'

'It helps as you are able to detox from it - if you can just have some time on your own without friends messaging you or watching a program you can feel more uplifted. Also the accomplishment of not using your phone for a few hours can really make you feel stronger and more able.'

'Go ahead and try it for yourself; think what you use it for and how it impacts your daily activities and relationships. That might help to decide when to disconnect.'

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 4, 2022-23

Monday 27th February

Fairtrade Week

Tuesday 28th February

KPS Meeting, online, 6-7.30pm and launch of the KPS Spring Raffle

Wednesday 1st March

Year 11 History Trip

Thursday 2nd March

Year 9 Options Evening

Thursday 9th March

Teachers' Industrial Action: remote learning for Years 7-9; normal school day Years 10-13

Saturday 11th March

Design Your Future careers event, 4.00-6.30pm in school hall

Sunday 12th March

L&T Governors meeting, 4.30pm

UK Space Design competition

UK Space Design competition

Monday 13th March	Comic Relief Week
Tuesday 14th March	Year 10 Parents' Consultations
Thursday 16th March	Resources Governors meeting, 4.30pm
Friday 17th March	Year 12 Geography Coasts trip
Tuesday 21st March	Profiling Day
Thursday 23rd March	Year 9 Parents' Consultation
	KPS Spring Raffle draw
Friday 24th March	Air Ambulance concert, 6.30pm, school hall
Thursday 30th March	End of Term 4, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2022-23 and 2023-24 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

CAREERS EVENT – THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023



Kendrick School

FREE in-person Careers Event

Thursday 2nd March 2023, 4pm to 6:30pm, Main Hall

Design Your Future

Bespoke careers event exclusively for Kendrick students in Years 9 to 12 and their parents and carers

An opportunity not to be missed!

Find out about post-16 options

Work Experience opportunities

Learn about specific sectors, job roles and career paths

Hear about careers from high-profile local employers

Quality Q&A with experts

Investigate career entry pathways (qualifications, relevant degrees, apprenticeships and placements)

Local Market Information (LMI)

Specific enquires: erock@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Brought to you by 

We are hoping for a few more exhibitors to attend our careers fair, and that is not too late to volunteer. We are keen to cover a variety of sectors...Medical, IT, Engineering, Social Sciences, STEM, Arts, Psychology etc. Please contact Mrs Rock: erock@kendrick.reading.sch.uk and Cc in Amanda from Learning To Work: a.silvester@Learningtowork.org.uk, if you are able to support this event.

STRIKE ACTION – THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023

Members of the National Education Union (NEU), one of the trade unions representing the teaching profession, will take strike action on Thursday 2nd March 2023.

The arrangements for that day will be the same as the previous strike day, as follows:

- If your child is in Years 10-13 they should attend school as normal that day.
- If your child is in Years 7-9 they should stay at home but will be asked to remotely register at 8.25am, attend online classes if these are available and/or complete work that will be set for them. If you are a critical worker, your child may attend school, however, we must be informed of this by emailing admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk by Friday 24th February at the latest so arrangements can be made. As for Profiling Days, vulnerable students are also able to attend school and our Student Welfare Team (SWT) will make contact with the parents of those students as appropriate. Students in receipt on free school meals will receive a voucher as before.

The Design Your Future careers event will take place as planned on that day.

If you require any clarification on the above, please email Mrs Amanda Emberson-Powney, aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

WORLD BOOK DAY EVENTS

We will be celebrating **World Book Day** all next week...

Extreme Reading Competition

Send in your photos of you reading books in unusual places.

Prize for most creative.

Deadline: Monday 06 March, 17:00

Monday Lunchtime

Bookish puzzles and biscuits.

All welcome.

Tuesday Lunchtime

Book page origami and biscuits.

All welcome.

Wednesday Lunchtime

Charity Book Sale

If you have any books in good condition that would be suitable for Kendrick students to buy, please drop them off to the library between now and Wednesday.

All welcome Wednesday lunchtime – bring money as a donation for books.

Friday

Years 7, 8 & 9 can come to school dressed as a book character.

Google form (sent via email) must be completed first.

No fee, just for fun!

Pop into the library and show us your costumes

Friday Lunchtime

Book Club

All members welcome.

Who owns a book pile like this? Competition

Guess which staff members own which book piles.

Copies will be available in the library & will be sent out via email on Monday.

Deadline: Monday 06 March, 17:00

SPOTLIGHT UK – YOUNG CARER NETWORK

Spotlight UK support young people and families in the area as well and have recently launched a new Young Carers Networking Programme.

The aim of the Young Carers Network is to bring young carers together through fun events, give the young people a voice and offer support to them and their families.



The poster for the Young Carers Network features a grid of images and text. At the top, it says 'SPOTLIGHT UK SOUTHEAST'. Below this, a box reads 'YOUNG CARERS NETWORK For 8-25 year olds'. To the right are images of children climbing a wall and a child on a boat. Below the main title, a list of activities includes 'Free activities', 'Friendships', 'Emotional Support', 'Trips Out', 'Newsletters', and 'and more....'. Further down, there are images of a group of children on a boat and a group of children playing with a large colorful umbrella. A blue box contains the text: 'Is your child a young carer and would like to make friends with other young carers across the Southeast and have some fun if so get in touch'. At the bottom, contact information is provided: 'To find out more contact admin@spotlightuk.org or call 07804880072' and 'Registered charity 1129258 www.spotlightuk.org'.

VACANCIES

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. Please click on the links for more information on the roles and how to apply and please share with friends and family.

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. Please read the information on our Safer Recruitment procedures [here](#).

[Head of Physics for September 2023](#). Full time. Closing date for applications 9am Monday 27th February 2023

[Geography Teacher](#). Full time for September 2023. Closing date for applications Tuesday 14th March 2023.

Part-time [Music Teacher](#) to cover a maternity leave – for end of February 2023 or September 2023 to December

2023. Applications will be dealt with on receipt.

[Exam Invigilators](#) – for the 2023 exam season

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details. Please could you check your child's account and ensure that any overdrafts are paid. Thank you.

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE English set texts
Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level English set texts
Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and technology contributions
Year 10 and 11 Art and Textiles contributions
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase
Year 8 Careers Event - Tuesday 31st January 2023
KPS department birthday gift - celebrating Kendrick's 145th year

Trips

Year 11 Rural Villages Geography Field Trip -23rd January 2023
Year 11 GCSE English poetry live event at the Reading Hexagon -25th January 2023
Year 12 Geography Field Trip to Support Shaping Places Diverse Places Unit- 13th January 2023
GCSE and A level Art visit to Tate galleries Thursday- 2nd February 2023
Year 11 History visit to The Corn Exchange Theatre Newbury -28th February 2023
Year 12 and Year 13 Classics and Latin students trip -6th March 2023
Geography Field Trip to Hengistbury Head and Hurst Castle Spit - 17th March 2023
YEAR 8 Bushcraft Residential - May 2023
Year 12 French and History trip- June 2023
Year 12 A level Biology Dale Fort residential trip -June 2023

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SPRING RAFFLE

We now have a huge and amazing list of Raffle prizes ready. The Raffle team is grateful for the prizes that are being donated by parents, staff and businesses.

The Raffle will be officially launched on Monday the 27th of February. Please look out for the launch letters in your mailbox on Monday.

If you are still able to provide a prize, please contact us at kpsraffle@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

UNIFORM SHOP

The pre-loved uniform shop will be open **Saturday 25th of February, 9-11am** in the Conservatory for parents/carers.

DROP-IN MEETING

Year 10 Drop-in Meeting is on 7th March. **Link is <https://meet.google.com/ngk-vkpp-ecw>**

KPS COMMITTEE MEETING

The next KPS committee meeting is scheduled on Monday, 27th February 2023. This will be an online session from 6pm to 7:30pm. The Skype Link to join the meeting is: <https://join.skype.com/tWZRbtAA4Mrd> (In case of issues copy-paste the link in Internet browser and join WITHOUT signing in to Skype app)