

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 28th February 2020

WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

We have quickly settled back to school life after the half term break with students returning with their usual enthusiasm and positive attitude to school. The half term break, however, was eventful for a few people across the school: a group of **40 students went to Rome and Naples on a Classics/Geography Trip** see article [HERE](#), they seem to have had a super time! **20 Year 12 and 13 students attended a Mock UN Conference** in London, a student organised event, in which hundreds of students from across the country come together to discuss issues of international importance.

Another event that took place over half term and a first for us, was the **Lego League National Final** that our **Robot Club Team, ShapeShifters**, took part in at Bristol and came first! Out of 66 teams competing from across the country, **the Kendrick Team won!** [See press release here and photos of the group](#). The consequence of this huge achievement is that the team has been invited to the **International Champions' event in Detroit in the USA** at the end of April! Students, parents and staff are only just coming to terms with this enormous achievement and opportunity and, as everyone can imagine, there is a real will and determination that the team should go to Detroit! With the agreement of parents and staff, the planning of the trip has started and the students will begin their preparation for the competition. A trip like this will be expensive, however, the parents of the students involved are prepared to finance their children to go as they can see the great opportunity this is for them and our school. We do wish to seek **sponsorship** from individuals or companies so that we can make the cost more manageable for the families and the school. If there is any parent who feels that they or their company might be interested in sponsoring and or supporting this unique venture, please get in touch with me via my email head@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Other significant activities that have taken place this week have included the visit of a **Holocaust speaker, Lesley Urbach**, who gave a presentation to the students about the life of her family, parents and grandparents, during the Holocaust. Her mother and aunt managed to escape the persecution of Jews by coming to England in the Kindertransport, but her grandparents, unable to leave Germany in time, perished at Auschwitz. Lesley spoke movingly about the individual members of her family, ordinary German people, but also encouraged the students to think about attitudes and events that take place in our society today which we must be alert to and challenge. Lesley's presentation and some photos taken, can be found [HERE](#). Before she left, Lesley popped into our **Refugee Homework Club** and was pleased to see such important initiatives taking place in school. Our Refugee Homework Club, run by 6th formers helps to support the children of families who have been displaced from their country of origin and who are desperately trying to settle into and understand their new home, a not dissimilar situation to the children that came to England on the Kindertransport all those years ago.

I had a very good meeting with the **Year 11 School Council leaders** earlier in the week. Like Year 11 School Council Reps before them, this group of students want to leave a legacy to the school before they move on next year to the Sixth Form. Their idea is to raise some money for the school that can be put to an item in the new building. Aware that they are very fortunate young people, they have decided to share whatever they raise with a charity and the

one they have chosen is called **Ufulu**, a charity that supports **Period Poverty in Malawi**. The CEO of this charity will be visiting Kendrick next week to speak to the students and talk to them about her work. I am sure she will be delighted when she hears that the students want to support her charity.

In the last two days, a group of **A Level German Level** students went to a workshop at **Reading University** on a film the students are studying in their A Level course. See link [HERE](#). A group of students attended the Badminton Regional Finals in Guildford, **Year 13 A Level students** have had a weeklong of **Mock examinations, Years 8 and 9** were given a talk by an employee from the company **VISA on cybersecurity** [link here](#) and our [Widening Horizons Homework Club](#) started for children in local primary schools. Amidst all these multifarious activities going on in school, we have also been carefully monitoring and responding to the news of **the corona virus** and giving information and updates we receive and are advised of to you all. All of this can feel very frightening and parents are rightly worried, but I would like to reassure parents that we are responding to all the guidance being given to schools, and with sensible routines and practices, as explained in the guidance we have sent to you, people can remain safe and well. I appreciate everyone's trust and support at this time.

Finally, a super **KPS** event took place yesterday afternoon, an opportunity to have a **Mindfulness session** was offered to the students which I understand went very well. On **Monday 2nd March** there will be the long awaited launch of the annual **Spring Raffle** which I hope everyone will try to support with enthusiasm! More information about all these events will be given to you next week via the students and in the **KPS newsletter**. As always, I do hope friends and family can be encouraged to buy (electronically!) lots of raffle tickets!

Best wishes for the weekend,

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

ABUSE AND SAFETY – ADVICE FROM CHILDLINE

Abuse is anything another person does that's meant to cause harm. But it's not always easy to know what's abuse or what to do about it. Find out about the different types and how to get support via the Childline link below.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/abuse-safety/>

CALENDAR

WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2020 (A WEEK)

Monday 2nd March	Launch of KPS Spring Raffle
	Year 10 Hitler on Trial Trip
Thursday 5th March	House Drama Performance, 6.30pm

The full school calendar can be found via this [link](#)

KEY EVENTS IN TERM 4

Wednesday 11th March	Year 9 Parents' Option Evening
Thursday 12th March	Year 10 Parents' Consultation Governor Learning & Teaching Committee, 4.30pm
Thursday 19th March	Governor Resources Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 20th March	Air Ambulance Concert, 7pm
Tuesday 24th March	Year 9 Parents' Consultation
Tuesday 31st March	Spring Concert, 6.30pm and draw for the KPS Raffle
Friday 3rd April	Music Trip to Belgium departs End of Term 4, 3.15pm

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE, LOCAL PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

[Das Leben der Andren – Workshop at the University of Reading](#)
[Cybersecurity](#)
[Rome and Naples Trip 2020](#)
[Lesley Urbach Visit](#)

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. Please send any articles and photos to aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk. However, please ensure you have your child's 'permission' to do so! Thank you

HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION - THURSDAY 5TH MARCH AT 6.30 PM, SCHOOL HALL

Our **House Drama Competition** will take place as an evening event, with a guest adjudicator, Frank Whately, and awards presented on the night. This year, each house will present their plays based on the theme of 'temptation', linking to the quote, "the snake beguiled me and I did eat" from 'Paradise Lost' by John Milton. Our house captains, vice captains and sixth form directors have been working tirelessly to put together their own short plays with very different perspectives of the theme, from psychological temptations to Greek Gods to political ideals. They have rehearsed their plays for a number of weeks to ensure they provide an exciting and enjoyable event for all.

I expect the competition to finish at approximately 8.15pm. Tickets for this event are free but should you wish to make a donation, we will be collecting on the door at the end of the event. All proceeds will go to the Drama Department.

As always, we (students and staff) really appreciate the support of parents, family and friends to make this an entertaining event. We are therefore hoping that as many of you can attend as possible as a large audience makes an enormous difference to the overall atmosphere of the evening.

This year's adjudicator, Frank Whately: Frank has an extensive career in theatre and musical theatre. He was Head of School for Performance and Screen Studies at Kingston University and is now an Honorary Fellow there. He was also one of the founders of the Rose Theatre in Kingston and an Associate Writer and Director for National Youth Music

Theatre for 15 years, as well as being a published playwright. Having recently retired, Frank now presents lectures on Marlowe and Shakespeare; his passion for theatre is second to none and we look forward to having him adjudicate our 2020 House Drama event.

Mrs Cooper, Head of Drama and Music

KPS NEWS

It was a really nice afternoon yesterday when students from Year 7 to 12 came along to the meditation session in the dance studio. The students were keen to attend a future session and perhaps on a regular basis. We thank all the parents who encouraged their children to attend this session and to all the students too who came along! If you would like your child to attend a future session, please email chair.kps.uk@gmail.com.

We are accepting all used, good conditioned uniforms and PE kits on any day of the week. Students can drop them in the KPS Second hand uniform collection box which is in the lost property cupboard.

We are launching the Spring Raffle on 2nd March during tutor time. We are 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 Raffle.KPS@gmail.com.

We plan to provide refreshments at House Drama event on 5th March from 6.30pm to 8.30, if you can spare an hour that day, please email secretary.kps.uk@gmail.com.

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
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VACANCIES

Kendrick School has the following vacancies. 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](#)

[Examination Invigilators](#) **We are in urgent need for enthusiastic and confident exam invigilators to join our**

friendly team, helping to supervise students during the examination periods. The ideal candidate will have experience of working in a school or similar environment and an interest in education, however persons with backgrounds in administration and the medical profession are also highly sought.

We are looking for individuals who can relate positively to all students, have good verbal communication skills and be comfortable in addressing large groups of students. Previous experience would be an advantage, however full training will be available. Employment will be on a casual basis, with days of work subject to timings of each exam. You will need to be available from 08:00am for morning exams or 12:45pm for afternoon exams.

If you are successful, you will be required to come into school every 3 months for a meeting and be available for a minimum of ten invigilating sessions.

If you are interested please complete the application form on our website. We are interviewing on Friday 6th March in the morning so please do apply as soon as possible.

NEWS AND EVENTS - STUDENTS

WORK RELATED LEARNING

Smallpeice – Easter Residential Courses

Please note that the following courses are not run by Kendrick School and booking, travel and accommodation are the responsibility of parents/carers.

[Years 8/9 Engineering Experience](#)

[Year 9 Off Road Vehicle Engineering](#)

[Year 9 Introduction to Cyber Security](#)

[Year 10 Physics in Engineering](#)

WIDENING HORIZONS HOMEWORK CLUB – VOLUNTEERS FROM YEARS 9-13

We are looking for volunteers to help at a homework club for local Year 3-6 students in receipt of pupil premium, service premium or a child in care (held at Kendrick School).

It runs every Tuesday in Term Time 4.00 to 5.15pm and aims to support students with their homework, reading, maths and English. We will also provide activities that they can do.

For students who volunteer for 4 or more sessions we will be happy to provide evidence of this which could be used as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme or in support of other future opportunities.

If are interested in volunteering and able to commit to a number of sessions (minimum 4) please sign up [here](#).

WORLD BOOK EVENTS

Throughout next week (24 Feb-06 Mar) we will have a 'bookish' 1000 piece puzzle for students and staff to come along and help with.

A competition guessing staff members' favourite and scariest fairytales with a PRIZE for the winner And a Book Swap Event taking place on World Book Day (Thursday 5th March).

BOOK SWAP

1. Bring your pre-loved books to the library between 24 Feb & 05 Mar 2019
2. Exchange for token(s)
3. Bring your token during first or second break on Thursday 05 Mar 2019
4. SWAP your token(s) for new book(s)

QUIET EATING SPACE - YEARS 7 – 9

Please be aware that there is now a quiet eating space available for Key Stage 3 students only. This will be in room X and it is an area that you can eat your food in a slightly calmer and quieter area. If you would like to use this, please talk to your Head of Year first (either in person or email, whatever is best for you). Thank you.

Miss Swaine and Mme Hulley.

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



There is a box which have 33 yellow marbles and 35 green marbles. You also have 34 green marbles outside the box. Randomly remove two marbles from the box.

* If they are of different colors, put the yellow one back in the box.

* If they are the same color, take them out and put a green marble back in the box.

Repeat this until only one marble remains in the box.

What is the color of the sole marble left in the box?

Answer to last week's challenge:

3 1 5 2 6 4

4 6 3 5 1 2

5 4 6 1 2 3

1 5 2 4 3 6

2 3 1 6 4 5

6 2 4 3 5 1