

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 18th March 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

It is two years since schools were told to close and the lockdown started as a result a global pandemic that was surged around the world. At that time, we all thought school closures would be for a few weeks and our lives would hardly be affected. Little did we know what was to come and how our lives and way of life would change. Two years on, we are in a different place, more secure against the pandemic because of the widespread vaccination programme and practising new approaches to our work and life, with all of us trying to create our new normal. I say all this because I feel that in the last few weeks, including this week, school life has been the most normal since before the lockdown two years ago.

I refer to the super articles about school activities on our website this week:

- [Book Day](#)
- [Harry Potter Book Night Celebration](#)
- [Berkshire Singer of the Year Competition](#), in which one of our Year 11 students Natalia was Highly Commended in the Competition
- [House Drama](#) and the fabulous plays we watch a couple of weeks ago.

In addition, this week we had an **Evening of Dance** superbly organised by our PE Department, presented to a live audience which was such a pleasure and delight to watch. On Wednesday we invited Year 9 parents into school to talk to them about their children's **GCSE options** and the process towards this, which has begun this week. Throughout the week we have been supporting **Comic Relief** with fun activities demonstrating that we are back to being able to do things that we have not done for three years! The student/staff activities have been taking place over lunch breaks and have included, nose and spoon races, the Big Quiz, and today we shall have a themed Own Clothes Day with some students dressing up their Tutor! And all to raise money for the worthy charity Comic Relief. There is fun and excitement in school and it is wonderful to see students and staff interacting in this way once again.

Of course, the shadow that the war in Ukraine has cast on all of us persists, with no prospect of ending, as the bombardment of cities becomes ever more intense. However, as schools we were able to show our solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people on Wednesday when the government invited all schools to have a **Day for Ukraine** which we did. We also showed students some press videos, which I appreciate were quite upsetting for some students. We have collected clothes and necessities to send to Ukraine which we were able to take to a transport depot last week, and we continue to have the people of Ukraine in our hearts and minds.

With these thoughts in mind and a reminder of the charities we are supporting for Ukraine and Comic Relief, I wish everyone a peaceful weekend.

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/donate/donate-now-to-protect-children-in-ukraine/> <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>
<https://www.comicrelief.com/>

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

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.

If you're worried about a 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 **0808 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 vi-sit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

WELLBEING: ANXIETY

SOURCE: [MIND](#)

Anxiety is what we feel when we are worried, tense or afraid – particularly about things that are about to happen, or which we think could happen in the future.

Anxiety is a natural human response when we feel that we are under threat. It can be experienced through our thoughts, feelings and physical sensations.

Most people feel anxious at times. It's particularly common to experience some anxiety while coping with stressful events or changes, especially if they could have a big impact on your life. See [how to manage stress](#) for more information about stress.

If you are feeling anxious or experiencing a panic attack right now, see [how to manage panic attacks](#).

For more information on Anxiety including symptoms, causes, self care and treatment, please click on this link.

WELLBEING: FRIDAY LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES IN THE BASE RUN BY THE STUDENT WELFARE COMMITTEE (SIXTH FORM STUDENTS)

- 25th March- Jigsaw puzzles
- 1st April- Origami
- 8th April- Colouring in

SAFEGUARDING – GUIDES TO HELP PARENTS PROTECT CHILDREN ONLINE

National Online Safety has produced a series of useful guides highlighting what parents need to know about the variety of different games, apps and social media platforms their children may be using. The guides include the potential risks of popular apps such as Yubo, Instagram and WhatsApp and give advice on how to keep children safe

when using them. There are also information sheets aimed at young people. The guides are free to download from: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>.

CALENDAR

Tuesday 22 nd March	Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening, remote
Wednesday 23 rd March	KPS Meeting, 6.30pm
Friday 25 th March	Governor Day
Monday 28 th March	Profiling Day, remote
Tuesday 29 th March	Spring Concert
Thursday 31 st March	Year 9 Parents' Consultation, remote
Friday 1 st April	Air Ambulance concert at Reading School
Friday 8 th April	End of Term 4, 3.15pm
Monday 25 th April	Start of Term 5, 8.25am

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

AIR AMBULANCE CONCERT – FRIDAY 1ST APRIL 2022

The Air Ambulance concert is on Friday 1st April at 7pm at Reading School, and the ticket link is [here](#). Please click [here](#) for a flyer for the event.

ENGLISH AND CLASSICS COLLABORATIVE CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

The English and Classics Departments are collaborating on an exciting creative writing competition where students are invited to write a creative piece (no more than 400 words) from the perspective of a classical figure. Some options of creative writing may include, but not be limited to, poetry and short stories.

Miss Akcay and Mr Duncan will judge it based on the following:

- how creatively they have used literary techniques and language to craft an effective and powerful piece of writing (Miss Akcay will judge these elements).
- how imaginatively they have created the character, narrative voice, or point of view of their chosen figure (Mr Duncan will judge these elements).

Please send all entries to Miss Akcay and Mr Duncan by 28th March 2022. There is no limit to the number of entries you want to submit. The winners will be announced in the final week of term 4. We are looking forward to reading your pieces! Good luck!

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment. Please see your ParentPay accounts for details. We appreciate your continued support.

- Year 8 Bushcraft residential trip - a deposit of £100 was due for payment by Friday 18th February.
 - Year 8 'People Like Me' CEIAG event held on Wednesday 16th February.
 - Year 12 A Level Biology Residential Field Course at Dale Fort Field Centre. If paying by instalments, the fourth instalment of £85 was due on Monday 28th February.
 - Year 7, 8 and 9 food and textiles contributions.
 - Year 10 and Year 11 Art Textiles GCSE contributions.
 - Year 12 Geography Field Trip To Hengistbury Head and Hurst Castle Spit: 4th March 2022
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- Year 9 and Year 10 German and French plays: 14th March and 29th March 2022

VACANCIES

Kendrick School currently has the following vacancies. Please click on this [link](#) for more information on each of the roles:

Head of French – full time – for September 2022

Physics Teacher - up to 8.FTE or full time for an ECT – for September 2022

Mathematics Teacher – full time – for September 2022

Admissions and Outreach Assistant – 15 hours a week, Monday to Friday 1pm to 3pm for April 2022

Caterlink, our school meal provider, is currently looking for new team members to join their kitchen teams within our area. They are looking for:

- Kitchen assistants 10-16hrs per week
- Chefs 25-30 hours per week (experience required)
- mobile kitchen assistants (must drive and own car – mileage paid)

They offer full training, competitive salary and full uniform including safety footwear

Anyone interested can email jbateson@caterlinkltd.co.uk providing their details including their telephone number

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

UNIFORM DONATIONS

If you have any good quality second-hand uniform, please ask your child to put it in the donations box, in the **lost property cupboard, next to ICT1**.

NEW FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE - EASY2NAME LABELS

Looking for ways to improve our school for our students is always a priority. One of our efforts to do this is through our partnership with Easy2name, a name labelling company. They allow us to raise funds through their fundraising scheme for our school, and ultimately, our students.

Easy2name have labels and tags for everything, such as clothing, sports equipment, accessories, household items and stationery, helping prevent items ending up in Lost Property.

When you put an order through at www.easy2name.com, please state our school when it gives you an option, and we'll earn 20% cashback of your entire order than we can use to directly improve our school. Just select our unique code at the checkout **FR-KENDRKPAS-76**.

KPS SHOPPING LINKS

AmazonSmile donations

We encourage you to continue your purchases at smile.amazon.co.uk, (not www.amazon.co.uk or the mobile app) These are helping us generate AmazonSmile donations for our school. Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Easy Fundraising Charity

KPS has also signed up to other easy ways of raising funds for the school especially when you are shopping online - **easyfundraising charity site** : <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kendrickschoolreading/> . Please continue to use these links and let us all together contribute to something that our children can benefit from.

TheGivingMachine

Another opportunity for you to raise more donations and funds for the School when you shop online. Go to this site and give for free: Here is the link: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>

GAYL

Give As You Live (GAYL) is one way with which you can help KPS receive additional funds with no cost to you! Please use this link <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/kendrick> and help us raise additional funds.