

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 4th March 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

I hope that everyone had a good half term. We finished last term with the closure of the school on Friday 18th February due to the storms and high winds. Thank you again to everyone for your response which enabled staff and students to work from home which I believe was very effective. Parts of the school did sustain some damage: tiles came off the roof of Cedars and a walkway cover was also blown off. The damage is being assessed and hopefully repairs will take place soon.

We start Term 4 with a lot of activities and events for students, as well as the Teacher Assessments Grades (TAGs) for students in Years 11 and 13. Year 13 finish their week of TAGs today and Year 11 have their second session of TAGs at the end of the term, week beginning 4th April. Speaking with parents of Year 11 students last night at the KPS hosted drop-in, there is understandably some anxiety amongst parents and students about the TAGs and the time available for revision alongside normal lessons. Teachers will be informing students of the content of their TAGs in the next couple of weeks if they have not done so already, and as always there will be support and guidance for the students.

Elsewhere in the school, a series of lively activities continue to take place. I mentioned the list below to you before half term. In addition, a group of staff have met to begin to discuss ways in which we can begin to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee later in the year. Ideas from students have been gathered and we hope to identify a day in July when we can celebrate this momentous occasion.

- A readathon to raise money for a children's charity
- World Book Day
- An English and Latin Writing competition
- International Women's Day on 8th March with theme being 'Break the bias'
- A visiting speaker and former teacher at Kendrick, Mrs Angela Strach, who is the daughter of a Holocaust Survivor's, on 10th March
- Comic Relief Day on 18th March with many fun activities being planned by School Council and the Kendrick Student Leaders
- KPS planned events, including the possibility of Film Nights for Years 7 and 8
- Another edition of the Gazette

The news from Ukraine cannot but cast a huge shadow on everyone's life. It is with disbelief that we have witnessed events unfold in Ukraine which have devastated the lives of the people, caused hundreds of deaths and left millions of people displaced. The escalation to the bombing of nuclear sites yesterday is a most disturbing development and makes everyone throughout the world fear for the safety of the people in that region and for the entire world. The response of the international community has been swift with economic, political, social and cultural sanctions, plus the huge outpouring of emotion and sympathy for the people of Ukraine. At Kendrick, students immediately began to organise a collection for Ukrainian refugees and I have received a number of emails from students who want to mobilise the strength that we may have as individuals to help the situation. To that end we are liaising with the Ukrainian Community Centre which is in fact on Sidmouth Street and we will endeavour to do what we can to support the humanitarian effort in this conflict. I am aware of students whose families originate from these regions and who have families and friends in Ukraine and Russia and who at this moment are feeling extremely anxious. Teachers have been sent resources to use with students about comprehending and discussing war and conflict. In

the rest of the Weekly Update below, there are further resources for parents to help you in conversations you may wish to have with your child. If people wish to make a donation to the international appeals, including UNICEF and Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal, please see links below: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/donate/donate-now-to-protect-children-in-ukraine/> <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Ukraine and all victims in this senseless war.

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 visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

WELLBEING: TALKING TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT WAR AND CRISES

Children and young people may see images on the news about the Ukraine crisis which upsets them or makes them feel anxious. You may find the following articles and resources useful:

[Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine](#) – The DfE Education Hub

[Supporting children to manage anxiety over war, conflicts and crises](#) – British Psychological Society

[War, crisis, tragedy: How to talk to your kids when the news is scary](#) – KQED

[Advice if you're upset by the news](#) – BBC Newsround

[Talking to your children about scary world news](#) – Mental Health Foundation

Student Welfare Team at Kendrick School

Mrs Hockell Mrs Shaw

Ms Lawlor Ms Edwards

The Base (in Sidmouth basement) is staffed by one of the Student Welfare Team during break and lunchtimes. This is a quiet space for students who would benefit from this. There is a relaxation area, art area and work stations available for your use. Please come to the General Office first to check there is space in The Base.

Contact: StudentWelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING – EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Emotional abuse is often a part of other kinds of [abuse](#), which means it can be difficult to [spot the signs](#) or tell the difference, though it can also happen on its own.

Emotional abuse includes:

- humiliating or constantly criticising a child
- threatening, shouting at a child or calling them names
- making the child the subject of jokes, or using sarcasm to hurt a child
- blaming and scapegoating
- making a child perform degrading acts
- not recognising a child's own individuality or trying to control their lives
- pushing a child too hard or not recognising their limitations
- exposing a child to upsetting events or situations, like [domestic abuse](#) or drug taking
- failing to promote a child's social development
- not allowing them to have friends
- persistently ignoring them
- being absent
- manipulating a child
- never saying anything kind, expressing positive feelings or congratulating a child on successes
- never showing any emotions in interactions with a child, also known as emotional neglect.

Please click on these links for more information:

[Signs of emotional abuse](#)

[Effects of emotional abuse](#)

[Types of emotional abuse](#)

[What to do if a child reveals abuse](#)

[Who is at risk?](#)

[Crisis Text Line](#) has further information and support for emotional abuse including free 24/7 support via text.

SAFEGUARDING – YUBO (DATING APP FOR TEENS)

Yubo, previously known as Yellow, is extremely popular among teens. A number of controversies erupted as soon as it started getting a large number of tween and teen users. It mimics adult social media & dating apps like Tinder and has been called out for being a [dating app for teens](#). Please see the facts on YUBO via this [link](#).

CALENDAR

Tuesday 8 th March	Dance Enterprise Day
Thursday 10 th March	Learning & Teaching Governors, 4.30pm
Tuesday 15 th March	Evening of Dance
Wednesday 16 th March	GCSE Options Evening, 6pm, in school (Year 9 parents and carers only)
Thursday 17 th March	Resources Governors, 4.30pm
Friday 18 th March	Comic Relief Day
Tuesday 22 nd March	Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening, remote
Wednesday 23 rd March	KPS Meeting, 6.30pm
Thursday 24 th March	Air Ambulance concert
Friday 25 th March	Governor Day
Monday 28 th March	Profiling Day
Thursday 31 st March	Year 9 Parents' Consultation, remote

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

WORLD BOOK DAY 2022

The 25th World Book Day took place on Thursday 3rd March and there is a large collection of resources available on the campaign website to help children and young people celebrate the joy of books and reading. They include:

- [25 ways to celebrate World Book Day](#)
- [Twinkl resources in partnership with World Book Day](#)
- [You are a reader competition for schools](#)
- [Resources to celebrate World Book Day](#)

All Kendrick students have been given a book token which can be exchanged for a £1 book or used as £1 off any book.

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!

BREAKFAST CLUB

The Canteen provide a Breakfast Club every day between 7.50am and 8.20am where students can buy hot drinks, cereal bars, Danish pastries and hash browns.

COVID UPDATE

Students no longer need to test twice a week but should take a LFD test if they have COVID symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. If their test is positive they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days. However, students can take a LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another LFD test the next day. If both these test results are negative, and the student does not have a high temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine. All students have been given a pack of tests to take home.

For further guidance please click [here](#).

Students and staff can continue to wear masks in the classroom if they wish, and are strongly encouraged to wear them in busy communal areas such as corridors. This guidance is in place until we have further updates from the DfE.

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
- Year 9 and Year 10 German and French plays: 14th March and 29th March 2022

VACANCIES

We will be advertising for the following next week. Please keep an eye on your emails for more information.

Physics Teacher (full time)

Mathematics Teacher (full time)

Admissions and Outreach Assistant (part time)

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The second-hand uniform shop will be open the **first Saturday of each term between 9am and 11am. The next opening is tomorrow, Saturday 5th March.** The shop is located in the Conservatory, next to the Library. This time there is no need to book a slot to attend the shop.

If there are spaces available, you will be able to park in the Cedars car park (so you don't have to pay for parking). The Cedars car park is situated just before the Turks pub. If you are driving along London Road, you go past one set of traffic lights (and have Kendrick School on your right) continue past the second set of lights by the dentist and then turn right into the car park in front of the school building that is called Cedars. If you are coming down Kendrick Road you will go across the lanes to turn right into the car park. You will then have to walk around to enter Kendrick School via East Street.

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.