

# Kendrick School - Weekly Update

## Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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It has been a week of reflections. The first year of the lockdown was marked up and down the country and at Kendrick we paused for a minute's silence on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12.00pm. On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Profiling Day, students discussed their progress over the last few months with their Tutors and reflected on how lockdown was for them and their family. As we have said before, for some it has been a most difficult time.

We have another anniversary to mark this week and that is the death of one of our students **Manasvini Kaushak**, a student in Year 8 who died suddenly and unexpectedly on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Her peers, now in Year 10, had a moment of reflection and remembrance this morning. Please see this [link](#).

On Wednesday we had a small presentation to congratulate and acknowledge the winners and participants of our **Holocaust Memorial Poetry Competition**. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear the winning poems being read and to commend the students on their poetry writing skills. Please see the link [HERE](#). Next week, continuing the theme of writing, it is **World Book Day**, another opportunity for students to engage in two creative writing competitions. Information has been sent to students and you can find out more about what they are being asked to do at the link [HERE](#). Also this week we have had another instalment in the story of Eric Strach, a survivor of the Holocaust. His story is being told to us through a series of short videos made by his daughter, Angela Strach, a former teacher at Kendrick. It is now 1945 and Eric has met his wife Margaret and they are about to move to Czechoslovakia, the country of his birth, which he has been unable to visit for many years. Please see the link [HERE](#).

I would like to mention again the **Kendrick Parents' Society Quiz** which is taking place tomorrow night at 6.00-7.00pm. The cost to take part is £5 and monies raised by KPS will go towards installing a water fountain in the Horizons building, a request made by a Year 8 student and parents a couple of weeks ago when I had a drop-in chat with Year 8 parents. If you cannot attend the event, please make a donation via this [this link](#). KPS is working so hard to organise events to bring parents together in these remote times, so please do support them by attending or donating to this event.

I have now had three '**drop-ins**' with parents in Years 7, 8 and 9 organised by KPS; it has been most pleasant to spend some time with parents talking about KPS and what it does for the school, as well as other matters relating to student life. So many parents have told me how impressed they have been with the education provision and experience their children have had during lock down and asked me to pass on their thanks to staff. This acknowledgement of the work and commitment of staff supports what we are doing and motivates everyone. The parents I have spoken to have also said how happy they are that their children are back in school and, of course, we too are happy to have them back! It is so good to see students in classrooms learning with their teachers or sitting together chatting and socialising in their bubbles; so important for their wellbeing. Yesterday as I was passing the Hall, it was lovely to hear the Woodwind orchestra practising for the upcoming on line concert next week. The sound of live music, something missing for so long, was a pleasure to listen to. Let's hope that the restrictions do begin to ease and more of this activity will be able to take place at school.

To end this this week, I would like to share the poem that Year 10 students read this morning in the reflection time they had remembering their friend, Manasvini. We know others in our community have lost loved ones this last year and our thoughts and prayers are with them all.

## As One

It's okay to miss you,  
It's okay to cry.  
Just know I'll never forget you.  
This isn't a permanent goodbye.

Sometimes I sit and wonder  
If you are standing by my side,  
Giving me the courage  
To carry on with pride.

I'll hold onto our memories,  
Until this life is done.  
In my heart is where I'll store them,  
Where we can be as one.

By Samantha Hann

With best wishes for the weekend.

**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](mailto: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 5pm), 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.

## DOMESTIC ABUSE

Witnessing domestic abuse is child abuse. If you are worried about a child, the NSPCC has advice to help you keep them safe.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/domestic-abuse/>

We know, for some children and families, home might not be a safe place and staying there will be extremely challenging. Some may already be experiencing domestic abuse or worried an adult's behaviour is changing and escalating.

If you and your family are in immediate danger call 999. If you're unable to talk press 55 after dialling. **It is okay to leave your home during lockdown if you're experiencing abuse.** The police can also remove the person harming you from your home.

Below are some links to resources relating to domestic abuse.

## **Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together (DART™)(NSPCC)**

In the NSPCC's 'Domestic Abuse, Recovering Together (DART™)' groups, children and mothers can talk to each other about domestic abuse, learn to communicate and rebuild their relationship.

The service, which has been recognised by the Home Office, also provides children and mothers with an opportunity to meet others who have lived through similar experiences.

For further information: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services-children-families/dart>

## **SAFE!**

The independent charity SAFE! provides support to children and families around the Thames Valley who have been affected by crime or abuse through one-to-one and group sessions. The organisation has two core services for children and families living anywhere in the Thames Valley area. **The Young Victim Service** provides support to children aged 5 up to 18 who have been harmed by an experience of victimisation. **The Building Respectful Families Service** provides support to families experiencing Child on Parent Violence.

Website: <https://www.safeproject.org.uk/>

## **Refuge**

Refuge provides specialist support to women, children and some men escaping domestic violence and other forms of violence.

Support for children

<https://www.refuge.org.uk/get-help-now/children/>

Protecting my children

<https://www.refuge.org.uk/get-help-now/protecting-my-children/>

Website: [www.refuge.org.uk](http://www.refuge.org.uk)

## **National Domestic Abuse Helpline**

Freephone 24-Hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Website: [www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk) (access live chat Monday - Friday, 3pm - 10pm)

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# **NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL**

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## **NEWS ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

[Holocaust Poetry Prize Presentation](#)

[World Book Day 2021](#)

[A Tribute to Manasvini](#)

## LATERAL FLOW TESTING (LFT) AT HOME

Please click on this [link](#) for instructions on how you should report LFT results to [Kendrick School](#). This is a very quick and simple method using a system called MedicalTracker. You also need to report the result to [NHS Test and Trace](#).

Taking part in testing is voluntary and all students will be able to attend school whether they take part in testing or not. **However, we are strongly encouraging all students to take part.** Testing at home will allow your child and other students to attend school as safely as possible.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (FAQS) PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE VIA THIS [LINK](#).**

## TRAMPOLINE CLUB

From April 12th, Kendrick School students will have access to an on-site trampoline club run by an experienced and fully qualified British Gymnastics coach. The club welcomes students of all abilities from complete beginner to competitive performer.

Trampolining provides a number of health benefits, such as increased fitness, strength and flexibility, and can also increase the mental well-being of participants by improving self-confidence, leadership skills and providing a sense of achievement.

As an individual sport, trampolining can be conducted in a very safe, COVID-secure environment and all precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of the participants.

Acceleration Trampoline Club will open on Monday 12th April and will run every week in the sports hall from 3:30pm Monday to Friday. Membership spots are limited, and will be on a first come first serve basis.

For more information, please contact us at [accelerationtc@gmail.com](mailto:accelerationtc@gmail.com)

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## KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

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Please click [here](#) for the latest KPS newsletter.

### KPS QUIZ – SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021

The KPS invite you to a **Family Quiz** on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 6pm to 7pm.**

This is a fundraising event to raise money for a water fountain requested by students. There is a target to raise £500 which we hope is achievable with your help. **The ticket price is only £5.**

Please buy your tickets using [this link](#). It will be a fun filled quiz with the questions for all the family. For further information please email [KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)

**The KPS team**

### KPS SHOPPING LINKS

#### AmazonSmile donations

We encourage you to continue your purchases at [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), (not [www.amazon.co.uk](https://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's all together contribute to something that our daughters 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.

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## **NEWS, ARTICLES AND EVENTS – STUDENTS**

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### **YEAR 10 AND 11 MENTORS NEEDED**

Some of you may be aware that Kendrick runs a Homework Club for Year 5 students, as part of our Widening Horizons Outreach Programme.

Homework Club offers Year 5 students extra support with their school work and familiarisation with the 11+ tests (verbal, non-verbal and mathematics). The club has been running remotely every Tuesday at 4pm since January 2021 via Google Meets. Each Kendrick volunteer is assigned one or two Year 5 students. Volunteers have the option of staying in school to use a Chrome Book in the library, or joining Homework Club remotely from home.

We currently have a small number of Year 12s working with the Year 5 students. We will need more volunteers from Years 10 and 11 for the next few months, as people begin to apply to join Kendrick in Year 7. If you are interested in helping with Homework Club, please email Miss Lawlor ([ilawlor@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:ilawlor@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)), Ms Emberson ([aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)) or Dr. Perry ([kperry@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:kperry@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)) by **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**.

Homework Club is an excellent opportunity to be part of Kendrick's outreach work. Our sixth form volunteers have found the experience rewarding and we have received very positive feedback from the Year 5 students and parents. This can also be used as volunteering evidence for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The skills you will acquire in teaching will serve you well in sixth form and life beyond school (resources and guidance on teaching will be provided by Dr. Perry).