

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 24th May 2024

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

In the last few weeks, I have had meetings with a few senior leaders of schools, some in our area and some further afield. The purpose of school-to-school meetings at any level is to build relationships, learn from each other and share good practice, which is very important to everyone in education as we all strive to do the best for our students. Interest in Kendrick is often around the teaching and learning and the curriculum we teach our students, which as I have said many times is a key area of our work, development, and success for us. We are always seeking ways to enhance our teaching and students learning, keep up to date with current pedagogy and try new practices and ideas. Today is a Curriculum Day for all teachers who are working in their department areas discussing, developing, and planning schemes of work, lesson plans and sharing their practice with each other. All over the school, departments are assembled and enjoying the joy of talking about their subject, the aims and content of what they teach, current educational thinking and how they can make the learning and delivery of lessons, assessments, and the overall experience of students better.

Elsewhere in the school, public examinations continue. Years 13, 11 and some Year 12 who have taken AS levels, have been quietly getting on with their timetable of exams or are revising at home for their next paper. As always, students understand the seriousness of the moment and remain focused and supported by the staff, friends and family around them to get through this challenging time. Year 10 students have also been taking their end of year exams this week, and Year 12 will do their exams after half term.

Years 7 and 9 have enjoyed the week with extended periods at Palmer Park doing athletics, as well as an Enterprise Day for Year 7 yesterday when they took part in the Wheelie Fun Business Challenge. This was an educational and fun day when they worked in groups to create business ideas that involved wheels! Some amazingly creative and workable business proposals were presented and the winning team, Sara, Lamiah, Misha, Srilasya, Cecilia, Amelie, Shanzay and Aapti, came up with the business idea *Bowl on the Roll*, which comprised a double decker bus where you could do bowling on the upper deck and have refreshments at a café on the lower deck; a great idea! Mr Wilson, Head of Business and Economics, described the idea as having *strong business acumen and entrepreneurial potential*. Well done to the winning team and to the rest of Year 7 and the projects they presented. Thank you also to Mrs Rock, Work Related Learning Coordinator, and her team for organising and managing this event.

Year 8 were not in school this week as they enjoyed four days away at Bushcraft camp, experiencing all sorts of activities and skills outdoors. I thank the staff who accompanied the trip for their efforts and time they have given to being with the students and away from their families this last week. Despite the rain, I am told Year 8 students had a great time experiencing the outdoors and being with each other and learning important skills of teamwork, cooperation and collaboration.

On the website is a report from last week's [Wellbeing Festival](#). Also an article about Sithmi, a Year 8 student who has enjoyed some amazing success at the British Arts Awards coming 2nd in the [Intermediate Singing/Musical Theatre category singing 'My House'](#) from the musical Matilda. Having heard Sithmi sing this song at a concert recently I can see why she was so successful. Well done Sithmi!

Finally, we come to the end of this term and getting closer to the end of the academic year. I know staff and students are ready for a break from school and the routine of work. I would like to thank staff, students and parents for all the work that has been done this term, as well as the support and encouragement we get from each other. I know that there are people in our school community who may be dealing with loss and bereavement this week and extend my thoughts to them. Also I would like to remember Sahana, a Year 7 student, who died two years ago. Thinking of her family and her friends and remembering Sahana this weekend.

I wish everyone a peaceful and restful half term break.

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

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 **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 wellbeing support in school, students can visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

'STAY TRUE TO YOU' HUB IS LIVE

Stay True to You, a safety campaign developed by the **Thames Valley Violence Prevention Partnership**, takes a deliberately positive approach to empowering young people and helping those who work to support them. Last week, the [Stay True to You hub](#) officially went live, bringing resources for practitioners, parents and young people. A launch webinar was also held last week available to [watch again online](#).

SUMMER WATER SAFETY – INFORMATION FROM ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY UK

Summer is an amazing time to enjoy our beautiful waterways but we must be mindful that according to RLSS UK's National Drowning Report 2023 warmer weather is directly linked to an increase in fatal drowning incidents.

46% of drownings occur in the summer months and this rises to 75% amongst 13 – 17-year-olds.

Rivers and Lakes/Lochs pose the greatest statistical risk as there are often hazards that the average person is equipped to handle and there is a lack of professional supervision. Accidents are mostly preventable with the correct knowledge and judgment so please click [here](#) for tips to staying safe in the water during the summer.

AVENUES OF SUPPORT OVER THE HALF TERM

Under 25s	Over 25s	Parents
YOUNGMINDS Crisis Messenger Text YM to 85258 Open 24/7	mind Call 0300 123 3393 9am - 6pm, Mon - Fri	YOUNGMINDS Parents Helpline Call 0808 802 5544 9:30am - 4pm, Mon - Fri
THE MIX Call 0808 808 4994 3pm - 12am, every day	SAMARITANS Call 116 123 Open 24/7	
childline Call 0800 1111 7:30am - 3:30am, every day	For more advice and information visit: youngminds.org.uk/find-help	

THE WELLEBEING CLASSROOM

Invite code: e3kisin

Mental health awareness helps reduce stigma, promotes empathy, and encourages open conversations about mental health concerns.

01 There is a lot of useful information on here related to mental health and wellbeing including friendships, dealing with change, building confidence and self-esteem, anxiety, period power, to name a few.

02 The wellbeing ambassadors and committee alongside a few members of staff provide helpful resources on the classroom to help boost your mental well being.

SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

[Term 1 2023-24](#)

[Term 2 2023-24](#)

[Term 3 2023-24](#)



National Online Safety

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

WINK

Wink is a messaging app which allows children to connect and communicate with other users. In a similar style to Tinder, Wink uses the swipe method for browsing profiles and accepting or declining them. Once two users have accepted each other by swiping on each other's profile, they can then communicate and play games online together. The fact that Wink allows children to share photos, personal information and their location with other users has caused significant concern.

[WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WINK](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

DEVELOPING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

A study from the British Psychological Society found that the majority of children (71%) had at least one close friend as early as five years old. These connections can form rather quickly and develop with equal speed. At such a young age, it can be remarkable how suddenly two children can hit it off with one another. However, it is deeply important that children can recognise both the features of a healthy relationship, as well as the potential signs of a less healthy dynamic one. This [#WakeUpWednesday](#) guide offers some top tips on reinforcing the formation of healthy friendships among children and young people.

[10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS – ENCOURAGING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS](#)

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

For all our **Wellbeing Newsletters** please click [here](#).

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

'The greatest thing in the world is to know how to belong to oneself.' - *Michel de Montaigne*

POEM OF THE WEEK

To Joy, *by Sara Teasdale*

Lo, I am happy, for my eyes have seen
Joy glowing here before me, face to face;
His wings were arched above me for a space,
I kissed his lips, no bitter came between.
The air is vibrant where his feet have been,
And full of song and color is his place.
His wondrous presence sheds about a grace
That lifts and hallows all that once was mean.
I may not sorrow for I saw the light,
Tho' I shall walk in valley ways for long,
I still shall hear the echo of the song,—
My life is measured by its one great height.
Joy holds more grace than pain can ever give,
And by my glimpse of joy my soul shall live.



SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2023-24

Monday 3rd June	Start of Term 6, 8.25am Public exams continue Year 12 exams all week
Tuesday 4th June	Year 10 Geography Rivers trip
Wednesday 5th June	Year 10 Geography Rivers trip
Sunday 9th June	Year 10 MFL Trip depart
Tuesday 11th June	Junior Kangaroo and Junior Mathematics Olympiad (Years 7 and 8) Year 12 Biology Field Trip
Wednesday 12th June	Year 12 Biology Field Trip
Thursday 13th June	Trustee Learning and Teaching Committee, 4.30pm Year 12 Work Experience one day visits
Wednesday 19th June	New Year 7 Induction Morning or Afternoon
Thursday 20th June	Trustee Resources Meeting, 4.30pm
Tuesday 25th June	Year 13 Farewell Tea Party
Wednesday 26th June	New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
Thursday 27th June	Sixth Form Induction Day
Monday 1st July	Creative Arts Festival Week
Tuesday 2nd July	Performer Series, 4-5.45pm
Thursday 4th July	Full Trustee Meeting, 4.30pm Summer Concert, 6.30pm
Friday 5th July	INSET Day, school closed to all students
Saturday 6th July	KPS Summer Fair
Monday 8th July	Year 12 Futures Week
Tuesday 9th July	Year 12 Insights Day
Wednesday 10th July	Profiling Day Marriage of Figaro Trip

Thursday 11th July	UCAS Parents' Information Evening Year 7 Hindu Temple trip
Monday 15th July	Sports Day (half day)
Tuesday 16th July	Sports Day (half day)
Thursday 18th July	End of Term for students, 3.15pm
Friday 19th July	Staff Administration Day

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2023-24 and 2024-25 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

PARENT TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS

We have received four nominations for the two roles of Parent Trustees. A ballot of all parents and carers will be sent out on Monday 3rd June 2024. Thank you to those parents that put themselves forward for these roles.

READING CLIMATE FESTIVAL

The fifth annual Reading Climate Festival takes place from 8-21 June, with two weeks of free events to inspire collective climate action. The festival, organised by [ReadingCAN](#), kicks off with [Water Fest](#) on Saturday 8 June before a wealth of events, activities and information sharing begins. Full details of what's on during the festival is available online, along with a [programme of events](#).

READING FAMILIES FORUM SURVEY

Over 100 parent carers completed Reading Families Forum's annual survey. The anonymised results have been shared with health, social care and education managers in Reading and the full report is [available to view online](#).

READING CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL 2024

The 35th annual Reading Children's Festival takes place from Saturday 11 May – Sunday 2 June, with three weeks of events and activities for children all over the borough. The activities begin with Forbury Fiesta from 11am on Saturday 11 May, continuing with sport and music workshops, as well as arts and crafts sessions throughout the festival at venues across Reading. The full programme of events will be available soon [on RBC's website](#).

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for the following roles:

[Careers Coordinator](#) for September 2024. 15 hours a week, term time only. Closing date for applications – 9am Friday 14th June.

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.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.

School Fund Donation
Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations

Year 10 GCSE Drama- set text: The Crucible by Arthur Miller
Year 9 and Year 10 French Play – March 2024
Year 9 and Year 10 German Play – March 2024
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2024
Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award 2024
Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 English set texts
Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and Technology voluntary contributions
Year 10 and Year 11 Art and Textiles voluntary contributions
Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 English set texts
Creative Writing Anthologies – Plain or signed copies
The Poets: Society Anthology – launch on 29th April 2024
Spring Concert 30th April 2024
Music Opera Workshop 18th April 2024
Year 7 The Wheelie Fun Business Challenge – 23rd May 2024

Trips

Year 12 Geography Field trip – 13th March 2024
Year 12 UCAS discovery trip – 17th April 2024
Year 8 Bushcraft- May 2024
Year 10 French and German trips - June 2024
Year 10 Geography field trips 3rd and 4th June 2024 ~
Year 12 Biology field trip 12th June 2024
Year 12 Career interest destination trip and CV feedback June 2024

Year 7 Swaminarayan Hindu Temple trip 11th July 2024
Geography A level residential course at Slapton Ley October 2024
Year 12/13 French and History trip October 2024

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

For the latest KPS newsletter please click [here](#).



Join us for the Annual KPS Summer Fair 2024! Let's come together for a fun-filled day and make this event a success. We are seeking enthusiastic individuals to help in the following areas:

- **Food Stalls:** BBQ, hot dogs, sandwiches, pizza, and more.
- **Arts and Crafts:** Showcase your creative talents.
- **Other Stalls:** Have a unique idea? We'd love to hear it!

Whether you can manage a stall or simply lend a helping hand, we'd love to hear from you. Contact us to get involved! **Additionally**, we are **looking for marquees (various sizes)** for the lawn area.

Your assistance and participation will be greatly appreciated. Please contact us at kpschair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk. if you can help

KPS SUMMER EVENT – 6TH JULY 11AM TO 3PM

We are excited to announce that tickets for the KPS Summer Fair are now available! There is a **£2 entry fee per adult**, while **children** can attend **for free**. Invite your friends and their families to join us for this grand gala. It promises to be a fantastic day filled with fun and community spirit! **Don't miss out – get your tickets now and mark your calendars for July 6th, 11am to 3pm. See you there!**

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/62021?>

JOIN KPS

Since KPS operates as a registered charity, we invite you to become a part of our community by joining us. Connecting with your daughter's school through KPS is a simple process.

Please take a moment to complete our [online membership form](#) making your involvement seamless and effortless. Your participation is highly valued, and we look forward to welcoming you to the KPS family.

KPS FACEBOOK CLOSED GROUP

KPS runs a closed Facebook group where we provide details of upcoming events and other important information. To join this group, search for the 'Kendrick Parents' Society' group and ask to join - once we have confirmation that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>)

KPS Team