

# Kendrick School

## Weekly Update

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

#### WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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We have woken up today to a tiny bit of encouraging news which may begin to see some changes to our current way of life. Whilst we are nowhere near what might look like our normal way of life, both at work or pleasure, I feel the anticipated announcements by the Prime Minister on Sunday will at least begin to enable us to plan more specifically about what we can or cannot do over the next few weeks. It seems fruitless to second guess what the changes might be, but there seems to be a hint that some of the restrictions about staying at home will be lifted and greater movement of people will be allowed. Once we have more details, we will be able to plan with greater certainty how school will be in the next few weeks and months. The message, however, still remains that we must stay safe.

The **75<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration for VE Day**, although reduced in public spaces, are still being featured on TV, social media and in people's lives. At school Mrs Cavaciuti, one of our Librarians, had already planned a super wall display for our vestibule about VE Day which you can access [here](#). In addition, our recommended **History Books** of the month to go with the commemorative occasion are: **VE Day – The People's History by Russell Miller and Inferno – The world at War 1939-1945 by Max Hastings**. Of course, there are many other books on this period for you to choose to read. As we have said before, reading has been one of the positives of the lockdown period and I hope that people have continued to find pleasure in books and stories that can transport them to places they cannot go to. Again, I thank Mrs Cavaciuti and Mrs Williamson for the super [Library News](#) we have received every week which has encouraged and amused us in equal measure. I am also continuing to receive messages about what students and staff are doing at home during lockdown. Jyothi in Year 9 is trying to raise money for the NHS by entertaining people with her musical skills on a YouTube channel. So far she has raised £480. Please see the information in the Kendrick School Community section in the Weekly Update.

Along with reading, the TV seems to have featured much more in people's lives in these last few weeks. Perhaps some of you watched **Britain's Got Talent** last Saturday night which featured the youth orchestra **Chineke!** Chineke was founded in 2015 by a former student of Kendrick, a classical musician **Chi-Chi Nwanoku**. Chi-chi gave our first Masterclass in the autumn of 2017 as part of our 140 year Birthday celebrations and we have always been keen to follow her progress. The Chineke! Orchestra was her brain child and its aim was to encourage more Black and Minority Ethnic groups to engage with making and performing classical music, often seen as being the preserve of white middle class people. The reaction they received on Saturday night to their performance suggests that Chi-chi's vision is being realised. You can catch up on their performance on the ITV hub.

I have open spoken about former students many times, usually students I have got to know or I have taught at Kendrick, however, occasionally students come into our lives that I have not known and definitely did not teach. One former student who has become known to us recently is a **Miss Julie Ann Bromley**, a student who attended Kendrick in the 1940s. Miss Bromley sadly died last year and in her will left the Kendrick Parents' Society a legacy. The little we know about Miss Bromley is that she was at Kendrick around 1947-48. She loved to play the piano and she learned to play the flute as an adult and it seems music was a passion of hers. She visited Kendrick a few times, perhaps during the more recent occasions of School Birthday or before when the Kendrick Old Girls' Association (KOGA) was very active. Kendrick must have been very important to her and made a big impression on her life. The legacy that we will receive from the late Miss Bromley is £42k. We are extremely grateful to Miss Bromley for thinking of us and

leaving this vast sum of money to our KPS, which I know will be spent wisely on our school and in our Music Department to benefit our students. You will be receiving some more news from KPS in the next week or so, particularly about the Spring Raffle and the plans we have to complete the raffle this year.

Finally, I would like to finish this week by acknowledging and thanking our **Year 11 and Year 13** students. Of all the students in the school, I believe this pandemic has affected them most in terms of what their plans, ambitions and dreams for the future might be. I would like to reassure them that the strength of character, resilience and the hard work they have shown us throughout their time at Kendrick and most recently in this lockdown period, will help them manage the challenges ahead. All that they had hoped and dreamed of will eventually come to pass. This week their celebrations days and assemblies would have happened and we would have wished them well for their exams and their future. Today the same message goes out to them all – **we sincerely wish YOU, our Year 11 and 13 students, the very best in in your exams and in your future plans; be strong and be bold, you have already made us and your families very proud in all that you have done.**

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

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## SAFEGUARDING & SUPPORT AVENUES

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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.

The latest information we have added is Thinkuknow help sheets to for parents to support their children's learning. Click [here](#) to access the resources.

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## KENDRICK SCHOOL COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19

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Below are links to news, activities and initiatives which are helping us recreate the Kendrick community in a virtual world. If you have anything you would like to add here that you are personally doing or doing as a group, please email [aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)

### Raising Money for the NHS

**Jyothi** in Year 9 is raising money for the NHS by entertaining people with her musical skills on a YouTube channel. So far she has raised £480. Please find the link below for the YouTube channel and also the fund raising link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CR5ivIM2U0>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC80oXEzLtRf62s2Cg-hrncA>

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jyothi-lal?fbclid=IwAR3MezY13FqViBInXyLVQoNIL3qp56gB2FWmuJBt6UV2zyX86riJzpMA0c&utm\\_campaign=eua-share-facebook&utm\\_content=Jyothi-lal&utm\\_medium=shares-from-eua&utm\\_source=facebook](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jyothi-lal?fbclid=IwAR3MezY13FqViBInXyLVQoNIL3qp56gB2FWmuJBt6UV2zyX86riJzpMA0c&utm_campaign=eua-share-facebook&utm_content=Jyothi-lal&utm_medium=shares-from-eua&utm_source=facebook)

## **KSLT Lock Down Challenges!**

Are you feeling bored in quarantine? Are you tired of scrolling through your For You Page on TikTok? Well, we have come up with exciting new challenges which you can participate in. We will set four different challenges every fortnight; you can select whichever challenges appeal to you the most. If you decide to join in, send photos of your results to:

[14mkrishna@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:14mkrishna@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) (Manya Krishna, Communications Prefect)

In the case of the General Crafts challenge, send to:

[14lzhao@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:14lzhao@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) (Letitia, Deputy Student Leader and Inclusion Prefect)

The deadline is on Friday 22nd May. Have fun!

Click [here](#) for the challenges.

## **Other Community News**

[Positive News Stories](#)

[Kendrick Arts Instagram](#)

[Down on the Farm – with Frau Alderson](#)

## **Kendrick School Student News Blog**

Two students in Year 12 have created a news blog with many writers for the site, all of which are Kendrick students. All students across the school are welcome to contribute and if you are interested in writing a blog please email Preesha Gehlot [14pgehlot@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:14pgehlot@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) for more information. The link to the blog is <https://www.theconversant.co.uk/blog>

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## **ENRICHMENT AND WELLBEING ACTIVITIES**

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As well as enrichment activities and newsletters being produced by Kendrick School, there a lot of information, resources and activities being promoted and advertised online and on social media to help get us all get through these difficult weeks. We will include ones that we are aware of on our website via the link below, and if you know of any that you would like to promote then please let us know. IMPORTANT NOTE – Kendrick School is not responsible for the content of the external activities or resources.

[Kendrick School Wellbeing and Enrichment Resources](#)

[Kendrick School Coronavirus Library Newsletter](#)

[Kendrick School 'Of the Week'](#)

[Thinkuknow Activity Sheets](#) (can be found under Boredom Busters)