

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 20th June 2025

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

This week we welcomed back our Year 10 students and accompanying staff from the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) trips to France and Germany and the Year 12 students from their Work Experience (WEX) placements. It is lovely to have everyone back in school and to see the lively activities and plans that everyone is looking forward to in the next few weeks. At the same time, we have come to the end of the public exam season with GCSE examinations having finished mid-week and A Level examinations finishing today with Chemistry being the final exam for our Year 13 students. With these significant experiences and endings have come many kind words and compliments about the students. The staff who returned from the language trips were full of praise for the students telling me how they enjoyed being with them, watching them grow and develop in their language skills, but also in their personal development and in their relationships; these trips are more than just the acquisition of language and culture, they are also about personal growth. Similarly, we have received several positive comments and feedback from the placements the Year 12 students were at last week. A few primary schools have been in touch to say what a pleasure it was to host our students, and some businesses have also been in touch. Regarding the public exams I have received such positive comments about how the students conducted themselves during this long and arduous period of their school life: being on time, equipped appropriately, responding to the staff and invigilators and of course sitting through hours and hours of exams. I cannot praise and thank the students enough for their efforts, hard work and general attitude to school life whatever they may have been involved in these last few weeks.

For all the above to happen teams of people work collaboratively organising and planning events. The MFL trips take several months of organisation and careful planning of itineraries so that students can have such an enriching experience. Similarly, the WEX programme required a huge amount of time and patience for the individual placements to be checked and confirmed, while the public exam and school exams required meticulous and personalised arrangements to be put in place to accommodate and support all the students. On everyone's behalf, I would like to thank the staff who make these things happen. We were all touched by the kind gesture of thanks the Year 10 parents showed towards all the staff who accompanied the MFL trips and the positive comments from parents I have received about the support and care students have had during their exams, thank you for sharing your feedback with us.

I am heartened by the support we do receive from parents and supporters of Kendrick. The activities of the Kendrick Parents' Society are well known and their drive and commitment to do anything they can to enhance the education of their children through fundraising never ceases to amaze me. At the committee meeting this week, KPS confirmed the amount they will be able to give to the school from the raffle which raised around £8k. The Music Department is now in the process of making the order for the sound and lighting equipment for the Drama Studio which will enhance the learning and teaching and performances of students in these creative subjects. In addition, KPS has committed to buying three more table tennis tables for the PE Department and supporting the school in the renovations we would like to make to the medical room in Sidmouth, more about this project in due course. They have also committed to buying a special printer for the Technology Department. They have also sought matched funding and through them other parents have connected with the school to do some voluntary work and donate laptops to the school. All these gestures of kindness and generosity make such a difference to what we can do in school to support funding and provision and provide the extras that are increasingly becoming essentials in school. Once again, I am most grateful to their tireless efforts and of course to the wider parental body who support KPS and the school. Please see below their update and upcoming events, namely the Summer Fair on Saturday 12th July.

On the website this week are the following:

[Poetry by Heart](#) featuring competition held in school and then students were able to go to the next stage which is a Harvard Book prize, a book award that we are able to give to an individual student.

There have been other successes in Maths and the UKMT Team Maths Challenge National Final where our students won the poster element of the competition, as well as competing with the best of the KS3 mathematicians across

the country. A couple of students in KS4 have won awards from the University of Oxford for short writing pieces in French and some Year 12 student have won the Libra Essay Prize competition 2025. More about these achievements in due course.

To finish, I would like to mention one of my favourite features in school, word of the week. As I have mentioned before, we try to select the word of the week to reflect what may be going on in school or elsewhere at the current time. For the last two weeks, the word has been 'experience', which I think so aptly expresses what goes on in school every day for all of us. Below is the format in which word of the week appears and is shared with the school community.

Definition: Experience refers to the knowledge or skill acquired by a person through involvement in or exposure to events, activities, or situations. It can also denote the process of living through or undergoing something.

Etymology: The word 'experience' comes from the Latin word 'experientia', which means 'a trial, proof, or experiment.' This Latin term is derived from 'experiri', meaning 'to try, test, or prove.' The word has evolved through Old French before entering the English language in the late Middle Ages.

Example: 'Last week, both Year 10 and Year 12 had unique experiences—one group exploring language and culture on an MFL trip, while the other gained practical insights through work experience. Each of these activities will contribute to their personal and academic growth, embodying the essence of the word 'experience.'

Wishing everyone a good weekend with many wonderful experiences from which one can learn and grow.

Please do read the rest of the Weekly Update.

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/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 and ask to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Simmonds, or a Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

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 add 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.

SAFEGUARDING

HOW TO MANAGE THE RISK OF ONLINE CHALLENGES SOURCE: InternetMatters.org

Viral online trends attract many children and teens. Most are harmless, but some challenges can be dangerous.

QUICK TIPS TO THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT ONLINE CHALLENGES

Pay attention to what your child talks about Whether it's trying a new experiment they saw online or taking part in a challenge they heard about at school, listen for signs that the trend could lead to harm. This includes in conversations with their friends or with you.

Ask your child about the challenges they see Avoid naming specific challenges as this can inspire children to learn more about them. However, you can ask your child whether they've seen or heard about any. Ask them whether the challenge is safe and what they could do to make it safer.

Stay informed about trends and challenges Keep on top of news stories around challenges and trends. If you see something on social media or hear about it in the news, take time to explore the issue in more detail. Avoid worrying or panicking until you have more information.

Click [here](#) for an **online challenges guide** to help you keep your child safe online.

Click [here](#) for a **guide to share with your child** so they can protect themselves from dangerous online challenges.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SELF CARE – YOGA Tomorrow (Saturday 21st June) is National Yoga Day, with the theme "Yoga for One Earth, One Health". The theme emphasises that personal wellness and planetary health are inseparably linked.

Lots of people say that yoga has helped them with their mental health. On a physical level, there is evidence to suggest that it calms your nervous system, making you feel more relaxed and less anxious.

By doing yoga you are actively deciding to take care of your body, which may also help promote healthy eating and exercise habits and improve your sense of self-worth. One of the big ideas behind self-care generally is the notion that you deserve that care, and you are worthy of the time and effort you spend on it, and yoga can help remind you of that.

Many of the moves, such as the Warrior pose, are uplifting and empowering, and could help to not only release knots or tension but improve confidence. You can find information about yoga on the [NHS website](#) and try yoga out for free on [YouTube](#).

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING

For all our wellbeing information please click [here](#).

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2024-25

Monday 23rd June	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip
Wednesday 25 th June	Year 13 Farewell Tea Party
Thursday 26 th June	New Year 7 Induction Day
	Sixth Form Induction Day
Monday 30 th June	New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
Tuesday 1 st July	Creative Arts Week
Thursday 3 rd July	Summer Concert, 6.30pm
	Performer Series, 4pm to 6pm
	Creative Arts Festival Showcase
	Full Trustees Meeting, 4.30pm
Friday 4 th July	INSET Day
Monday 7 th July	Futures Week
Tuesday 8 th July	Year 12 Insights Day
Wednesday 9 th July	Profiling Day
Thursday 10 th July	UCAS Parents' Information Evening
	Years 7-10 Moving Up Day
Friday 11 th July	Black Heritage Showcase – lunchtime
Wednesday 16 th July	Year 7 Hindu Temple trip
Thursday 17 th July	End of Term 6, 3.15pm
Friday 18 th July	Staff Day
Thursday 24 th July	New Year 7 Summer School
Friday 24 th July	New Year 7 Summer School
	Widening Horizons (am)

Term dates for 2024/25 and 2025/26 can be found [here](#). Please check these carefully before booking holidays and trips.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEND) NEWS

Promoting and supporting autistic students' mental health in mainstream secondary schools in England



Hello! My name is Şeyda Çetintaş.



I am a doctoral student at University College London.

I want to hear from young people aged 11-16 with a diagnosis of autism and enrolled in mainstream secondary schools in England.

What are your experiences of **school mental health awareness** and **school mental health support**?



What is involved?

- 1 Introductory online meeting session with parent and young person to share interview schedule and pre-interview task.
- 2 Online meeting with young person to discuss their photos, drawings, notes or poems to express their ideas about wellbeing at school.

For parents → How can you take part?

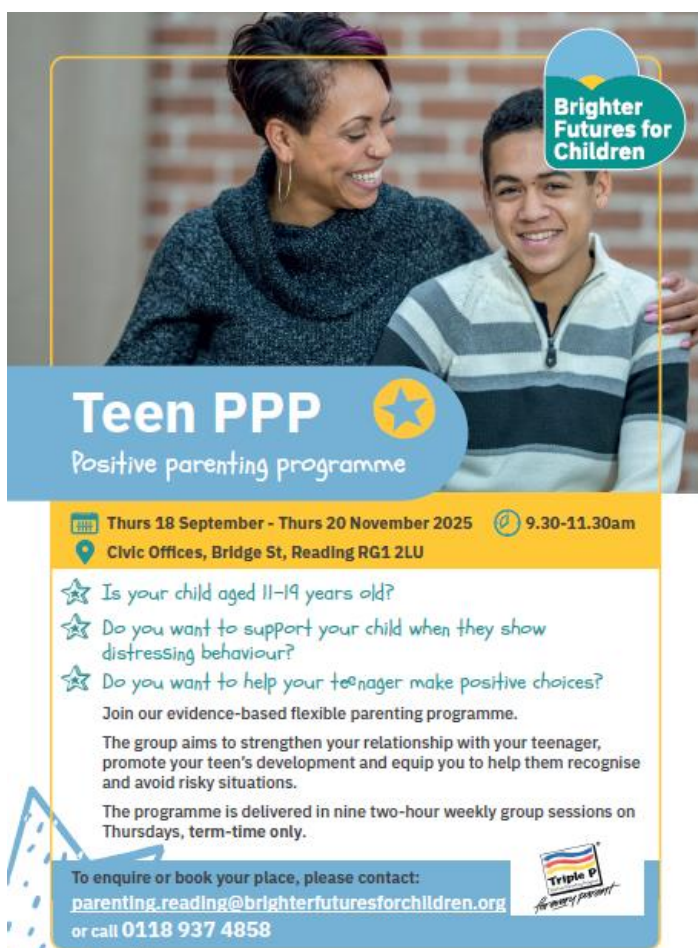
[Click here](#) or scan the [QR code](#) below to access the expression of interest form.

Want to know more? Scan QR code to access the online questionnaire along with the information letter, or email Şeyda at seyda.cetintas.21@ucl.ac.uk



Child Development and Learning Difficulties Lab

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS



Brighter Futures for Children

Teen PPP

Positive parenting programme

Thurs 18 September - Thurs 20 November 2025 9.30-11.30am
Civic Offices, Bridge St, Reading RG1 2LU

- ★ Is your child aged 11-19 years old?
- ★ Do you want to support your child when they show distressing behaviour?
- ★ Do you want to help your teenager make positive choices?

Join our evidence-based flexible parenting programme.

The group aims to strengthen your relationship with your teenager, promote your teen's development and equip you to help them recognise and avoid risky situations.

The programme is delivered in nine two-hour weekly group sessions on Thursdays, term-time only.

To enquire or book your place, please contact:
parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org
or call 0118 937 4858

Triple P
for every parent

BUILDING RESILIENCE WORKSHOP



Does your child find it difficult to bounce back from daily challenges?

DO THEY:

- rely on others to solve problems for them?
- have difficulty handling setbacks in positive ways?
- give up easily when things don't go to plan?



This workshop offers practical strategies to help you build your child's resilience

WORKSHOP DATES:

- Tuesday 1 July, 9.30-11.30am
- Wednesday 9 July, 4.30-6pm
- Monday 14 July, 12-1.30pm

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK



www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org/MHST

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THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

'All experience is an arch to build upon.' — Henry Adams

WORD OF THE WEEK: Experience (Noun)

Definition: A journey is the act of travelling from one place to another, often implying a process of growth, change, or development along the way.

Example: 'As students return for Term 6, they prepare to embark on the next chapter of the school year with new opportunities and exciting challenges ahead.'

Etymology: The word 'journey' originates from the Old French term 'jornee', which means 'a day's travel'. This, in turn, comes from the Latin 'diurnus', meaning 'daily'. Over time, the term has evolved to encompass not just the physical act of travelling, but also the metaphorical journeys we undertake in life, reflecting personal growth and transformation.

CAREERS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

DATA SCIENTIST DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP AT READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Reading Borough Council is currently recruiting for a Data Analyst Apprentice to join the Data Intelligence and Policy team. The apprenticeship is a Level 6 Data Scientist (integrated degree) apprenticeship with BPP University which is an excellent opportunity to study for a BSc (Hons) degree while gaining work experience in the field. During the working week there will be dedicated time for the apprenticeship – including attending lectures, completing coursework and undertaking private study – and for the remainder of the week you'll work within the Data and GIS

team to undertake analytical projects for the Council. This may be of interest to your year 13 students looking into data, analysis, or public service careers.

Why this opportunity stands out:

- Earn while you learn – earn £27,269 - £30,060 and graduate with no student loan debt!
- Work on real-world data projects that impact the local community
- Learn tools like Power BI, Power Automate, Excel, SQL, Python, and R
- Hybrid working at the Civic Offices in Reading and at home, and flexible working hours
- Join a friendly, motivated and highly skilled team who will support you

Entry Requirements:

- 104 UCAS points and GCSEs in English & Maths (Grade C/4 or above)
- Aged 16+, eligible to work in England and meet the residency criteria ([see Appendix A](#))
- Not in full-time education at the start of the course (September 2025)
- Not undertaking or holding a level 6 qualification in a similar topic

For full details and to apply, [please visit the website](#) – the closing date is Wednesday 25 June 2025. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact heather.porter@reading.gov.uk.

THINKING ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS?

Join our free virtual info session
Monday 30th June, 11am - 12pm

This session covers:

- What apprenticeships are
- Types, levels & roles available
- Where to find vacancies
- How to start applying
- Hear from Mo, a current apprentice + a live Q&A

APPRENTICESHIPS. TRAINEESHIPS. T LEVELS

THE ASK PROGRAMME

CXK

[Register for the event here](#) (Please note that registrations close 12pm on Friday 27th June).

VACANCIES

We have no vacancies at the current time.

Reading School has the following vacancy: Fixed-term opportunity for a suitably qualified Science Technician to provide effective support to our Biology and Chemistry departments. Reporting to the Senior Science Technician

(Biology & Chemistry), you will ensure a safe and efficient laboratory technical service is provided for students and teaching staff in both departments. You can find full information regarding the vacancy here:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/136449/EDV-2025-RS-67172>

PARENTPAY AND EVOLVE REMINDERS

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

PARENTPAY

School fund Donation
Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations
Year 10 and 11 GCSE English set text contributions
Year 12 and 13 A level English set text contributions
Sponsored run and sponsored swim fundraiser

EVOLVEPAY

Payment can be made via trip payment emails or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up.

Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day – April 2025
The Crucible – The Globe Theatre – April 2025
GCSE Drama trip to The Globe – May 2025
Year 7 Wheelie Fun Challenge – May 2025
A – Level Biology – Sutton Courtenay – June 2025
Year 10 Geography Amersham visit – June 2025
Year 12 Work Experience - June 2025
Year 7 Hindu Temple trip – July 2025
Year 13 – Geography Slapton residential – October 2025

EVOLVESHOP

Purchase can be made via payment links or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up

GCSE Drama set text (The Crucible, Arthur Miller)
Year 8 Careers Event – January 2025
Year 9 and Year 10 French and German plays
German set text
Summer Concert July 2025

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

KPS COMMITTEE MEETING

We had a very fruitful and last KPS Committee meeting of this year on **Tuesday, 17th Jun 2025**. Thanks to all those who participated and minutes will be circulated shortly.

KPS SUMMER FAIR

It's that time of year again The Kendrick Summer Fair is just around the corner and preparations are underway. We have received overwhelming response from students for stalls —designed to entertain, raise funds for the school, and earn a little pocket money too!

Money raised from this year's Summer Fair will be utilised to support the school in **enhancing the medical room facilities used by students** which will be a great cause.

Kendrick family participation in large numbers is highly appreciated. **Tickets for Summer Fair** can be pre booked in this link and will also be available at the door for the event -

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/87099>



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS

KPS Events and Refreshments Volunteers

As you are aware, we run many events and support school activities like music or drama performances during the year. We need volunteers to help these events even if for few hours. To join our team of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers, please join the WhatsApp group using this link: [KPS Events and Refreshment Volunteers](#)

Pre-loved Uniform Shop Volunteers

Are you available on Saturday mornings? We're looking for volunteers to help run our pre-loved uniform shop. This initiative not only helps raise funds for the school but also supports environmental sustainability by reusing uniforms. It's a fantastic way to provide great value to parents while ensuring students have access to quality uniforms at reduced prices. Join our team by clicking on this WhatsApp group link: [Kendrick Uniform Shop Volunteers Group](#)

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 (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>) and ask to join – **once we have confirmed that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request.**

KPS Team