

WEEKLY UPDATE – FRIDAY 10TH JULY 2026

Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

What a busy week again. On the academic side, all students received their report data this week and had good discussions with their teachers and tutors. The purpose of this last of the three profiling sessions for the year, is to look at the progress, effort, attitude to learning and attainment of each student. The discussions are part of a one-to-one meetings students have with tutors to reflect how they feel their year has gone, what they are proud of and what they can try to develop or improve upon next year. These conversations are a vital part of students' learning and assessment and enables them to be heard, as well as guided, by a key trusted adult at school who is an academic mentor, as well as someone who can see the wider issues a student may be dealing with. Reports will be received by parents next week and I hope they are greeted positively. Where there is room for improvement, parents should have conversations that are encouraging and supportive so that changes, where necessary, can be considered for the next academic year.

To support their learning and transition into next year, students in Years 7-10 have been informed of their new Tutor, Tutor group, and Tutor base so that the transition to the next stage in their Kendrick journey goes smoothly with as little anxiety or worry as possible. Many students may have a new teacher next year as there will be some new staff joining Kendrick in September following the departure of current staff who are leaving. I will mention these colleagues next week when we say our final goodbyes.

Some highlights this week have been the Futures Week for Year 12. A full programme of activities was organised by the sixth form team, including discussions between Year 12 students and former students who are currently at university and who linked in with students in online meetings to share their experiences of university life and studies. This was preceded by the event for parents last week explaining the UCAS process which Year 12 students will be embarking on next year.

On the website this week are some lovely articles of the events that have taken place. Please read them and celebrate the success of these students and our school.

[Pi Representation Competition 2026](#)

[Year 12 Debate in French](#)

[Light and Dark Creative Writing Anthology](#)

Next week, the last week of term, we still have many events to get through. We start the week with a focus on sports for all students, then Kendrick 's Got Talent show, Year 7 RS trip to a Hindu Temple, a sixth form trip to Bletchley Park and the postponed Geography Field trip for Year 10. We will finish term on Thursday 16th July at 3.15pm. This also includes the library closing at 3.15pm on that day.

I have mentioned some changes for next year and I have emailed you separately about the changed library hours and a few other topics which are based on requirements from the Department for Education. These specifically relate to:

1. Uniform: the requirement that only 3 items of badged uniform are necessary for school uniform. For Kendrick this will comprise the Kendrick sweatshirt and two items of PE kit.
2. Mobile phone use: these are guidelines from government that schools should be a mobile free zone. At Kendrick we believe our students understand and adhere to this regulation, however the sanctions have been revised in our policy and we will be contacting parents if students are misusing their phone in school time.
3. New Relations and Sex Policy and guidance from the DfE which requires schools to share their policy and practice for consultation and feedback with parents.

As we approach the end of term, we also approach the time of my departure from Kendrick. Already several events have taken place where parents, students and staff have generously shared their thanks and appreciation of the work I have done at Kendrick, initially as a History Teacher and then Headteacher. On Saturday, Kendrick Parents' Society and students gave me a very warm and heartfelt tribute acknowledging what I have done at Kendrick and I felt very honoured by what they said. On Wednesday this week at an event with former colleagues, Trustees and fellow Headteachers in the local area and beyond, I was able to thank people for what they have done for me in my

career. They too said much about my leadership and impact on the school and on education more widely. Thank you. There have also been assemblies this week with year groups and individual students coming forward to say some very kind things about what they see I have done for them in their time at Kendrick. Finally, last night at the Summer Concert, always a favourite event for me, I was caught completely unaware, when a most beautiful song called *Sisters* was performed by the Chamber Choir and its words were dedicated to me; this was utterly overwhelming but hugely appreciated. Thank you to everyone for your contributions, thoughts, gifts, and kind words. It is with some words from that song that I will end this week's update.

*Sisters, we can't stand on our own, but on the strength each has shown
Sisters, I will learn to be true, I can be me because of you.*

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

School Notices

YOUNG VOICES ANNUAL SURVEY

Young Voices has launched its third [Annual Safety Survey](#) to hear from young people on their views on safety and the issues that matter to them.

The survey will close on **Monday 31 August**.

The full survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. Anonymous responses will be shared with key partners and decision makers, along with Reading Borough Council's Community Safety Partnership, senior leaders, and Thames Valley Police so that we can all work better together over the next 12 months on making our area safer for young people.

The results will also help shape our plans for the third Annual Safety Summit at the beginning of 2027.

Safeguarding

[Safeguarding at Kendrick School](#)

[NCA GUIDANCE TO PARENTS: CHILDREN'S IMAGES ONLINE](#). AI is being used to turn ordinary photos of children into sexual abuse material. The National Crime Agency and Internet Watch Foundation have issued new guidance to help parents make informed choices about sharing images of their children online. It covers reviewing privacy settings, revisiting consent with your child as they grow, and what to do if you're worried. The parent's guidance can be found here: <https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

[ASK ABOUT GAMES](#) Children are spending more time than ever online, and it can be hard to know where to start. Ask About Games is here to help parents and families navigate the digital world safely. Explore top tips, expert knowledge, and answers to questions about video games and the wider online landscape.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

[Mental Health and Wellbeing at Kendrick School](#)

[CREATING A SELF-CARE PLAN](#). Self-care is all about what you can do to help yourself feel better or to keep yourself feeling good. It's a way that we can look after our own mental health and wellbeing. Everyone's approach to self-care will look different. What works for you might not work for others. There are lots of different self-care strategies so you can try out different ones until you find something that works for you.

SEND

[Reading's SEND Local Offer](#). The SEND Local Offer is here to help you find information about local services, support, activities and events for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

School Fund

Please donate to our School Fund [here](#). You can make one-off payments through your ParentPay account or complete a [standing order form](#) for more regular payments. If you are a UK taxpayer, please ensure you also complete a [Gift Aid Form](#).

A school fund is maintained by voluntary contributions from the parents/carers of students. Its purpose is to provide an additional source of funding for the provision of facilities and educational resources for the benefit of students. We use our School Fund to support so many activities **in and out of** school that have now become essential to school life.

Canteen

The Spring/Summer menu can be found [here](#). **Please ensure that you regularly check your child's canteen balance on their ParentPay account and settle any 'overdrafts' quickly.** Overdrafts should only be issued on an exceptional basis and not as a regular occurrence.

Latest News on our Website

CURRICULUM AND CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PODCAST

A podcast has been created by the Curriculum and Current Affairs Committee. The link to the page can be found below; please then click on Curriculum and Current Affairs Committee to listen to the podcast.

<https://www.kendrick.reading.sch.uk/page/?title=Kendrick+Student+Leaders&pid=282&action=saved>

School Calendar

Week commencing 13th July 2026 – Week A

Monday 13 th July	Sports Day Field Events
Tuesday 14 th July	Sports Day Track Events
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 7 Hindu Temple Trip
	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip
	Year 12 Computing Trip to Bletchley Park
Thursday 16 th July	Last day of Term 6, 3.15pm
Friday 17 th July	Staff Admin Day, school closed to students
Thursday 23 rd July	New Year 7 Summer School
Friday 24 th July	New Year 7 Summer School
Thursday 13 th August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 20 th August	GCSE Results Day

Student Careers and Work Experience

Current Opportunities

Vacancies

No current vacancies

ParentPay and Evolve Reminders

[Latest Reminders for ParentPay and Evolve](#)

Kendrick Parents' Society (KPS)

