

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 14th June 2024

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

In the last two weeks I have spent a couple of days at various conferences and meetings with other Headteachers. At these conferences issues related to school and practice are discussed and shared. Several topics featured in the conferences this year, issues that we deal with and hear about in school. One area of particular interest for me was anti-racist education which I am sure everyone will consider a very important area of education for all of us. The speakers focused on unconscious bias and whether in our actions and or conversations we are aware of this. Surveys show that in the main very few people feel comfortable talking about race for fear of upsetting people, however training and guidance on unconscious bias is an area that I would like to look at with our school community next year. Other issues related to the future of education and the plans that each political party has for education were keenly discussed and all Headteachers present look forward to education being prioritised in the next government's agenda. Incentives and funding to encourage more teachers to join the profession is something we all want to see, as well as an emphasis on teaching and education as a highly valued profession in our society.

Following on from some of the topics I mentioned last week, our Year 10 students have enjoyed their language trips in Germany and France. My check-ins with the staff this week tell me that all is going well and both staff and students are having a productive time. We look forward to them returning to their lessons next week and I am sure the students will have gained a greater level of confidence in language speaking because of their week away. I am sure everyone will be exhausted and so a restful weekend is what is required for all. Thank you again to the staff for taking the students on such an important trip and for the students for being such great learners.

Public exams continue and I am told that for many of our Year 11 students their exams finish today. All public exams finish by the end of next week and I hope that after next week's papers are done, everyone will enjoy some well-earned rest and recuperation from such an intense period of concentrated study.

As part of the Creative Arts Week later this term, I would like to highlight the [Classical and Carnatic Performer Series](#) which will be on Tuesday 2nd July between 4.00-6.00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for a masterclass, ensemble singing and a concert of this music which I am sure people will enjoy. On Thursday 4th July, will be the Summer Concert from 6.00pm so for all our music lovers that week is very special this year. In school there will be other activities which will celebrate the Arts, including the A Level and GCSE Art Exhibition 2024 on Tuesday 24th June between 4.30-6.30pm. More information about this will be sent to you next week. In our news section on the website, an item on the visit (online) of the author Catherine Bruton was very successful, please read the article [here](#). Also, yesterday our Eco-committee students participated in the Reading Climate Festival in Reading where they took part in activities on the theme of 'Create a Buzz'. Please see the article and photos [here](#).

I would also like to mention again the Kendrick Parents Society' Summer Fair which you have received details about and can also read below in the update. Please add this to your summer diary of events and please come along to have some fun and entertainment on Saturday 6th July between 11.00am-3.00pm.

Wishing everyone a good weekend.

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.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

#ASK THE AWKWARD

Being online is an important part of how young people 'do' relationships. Young people are using online spaces for their social and romantic lives. They told us that they would like their parents and carers to talk with them more about this. We know that these topics aren't always easy to talk about, so #AskTheAwkward has been created to help you to explore online relationships with your secondary aged children, making these conversations part of everyday life.



Education from
the National
Crime Agency

A parent and carers introduction to Asking The Awkward

Unsure where to start? This introduction to Asking The Awkward helps you to prepare for regular conversations with your child about online relationships and related topics. It also offers advice on how to keep conversations positive and what to do if your child tells you something that worries you.

[Download A parent and carers introduction to Asking The Awkward here.](#)

#AskTheAwkward help sheets

The #AskTheAwkward films explore lots of topics. To help you get talking, these key topics have been picked out from each film and created help sheets with what you need to know, suggested conversation starters and links to further information.

[Download the #AskTheAwkward help sheets here.](#)

For more information and to watch the films click [here](#).

INSTAGRAM

Instagram is one of the most popular social media platforms in the world, with over 1 billion users worldwide. The platform allows users to upload images and videos to their feed, create interactive 'stories', share live videos, exchange private messages or search, explore and follow other accounts they like – whilst at the same time continuously updating and adding new features to meet the needs of its users.



In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as addiction, unrealistic ideals and the influencer culture.

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

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

HOW CAN I HELP SOMEONE ELSE SEEK HELP FOR A MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM?

Many people experiencing a mental health problem will speak to friends and family before they speak to a health professional, so the support you offer can be really valuable. Click on the links for help and information from MIND on:

[What emotional support can I offer?](#)

[What practical support can I offer?](#)

[What can I do if someone doesn't want my help?](#)

[What if they believe things that seem very unusual or scary to me?](#)

[What can I do if it's an emergency?](#)

[How can I look after myself?](#)

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"I have always been delighted at the prospect of a new day, a fresh try, one more start, with perhaps a bit of magic waiting somewhere behind the morning." - J. B. Priestley

POEM OF THE WEEK

by Neha (Year 7)

The world is changing,
I've watched it pass by.
For the better for the worse,
But we always recovered.
Blossom in spring,
Wither in winter,
But buds will grow from their founder.
War conquered, the world with despair,
But the Allies can see peace as clear as the menace.
Many moons go by,
The monsoon sends danger and,
The sun brings gold.
I age with nature,
And bring the beauty with me.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2023-24

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

Thank you to the four candidates for their interest in the Parent Trustee election. We can confirm the two new elected members are Andrew Green and Shekhar Natarajan. There were 183 votes made overall.

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for the following roles:

TEACHING ROLES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024. Closing date for all the roles is 9am Friday 21st June 2024. More information can be found [here](#).

Mathematics Teacher (0.3FTE)

French and German Teacher (0.5FTE) or can be French Teacher (0.3FTE) and German Teacher (0.2FTE)

Latin Teacher (0.2FTE)

SUPPORT STAFF ROLES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024. More information can be found [here](#).

Music and Drama Technician. 10-15 hours a week, term time only. Closing date for applications – 9am Friday 21st June.

School Caretaker – 37 hours week, 10am – 6pm, more information to follow.

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, 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

The Poets; Society Anthology – launch on 29th April 2024

Year 7 The Wheelie Fun Business Challenge – 23rd May 2024

Year 12 German set text: Der Besuch Dear Alten Dame – May 2024

Trips

Year 10 French and German trips - June 2024

Year 12 Biology field trip 11th and 12th June 2024

Year 12 Career interest destination trip and CV feedback June 2024

Year 12 World of Work Insights Programme 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

The marriage of Figaro by Garsington Opera 10th July 2024

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

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

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

Does your child participate in music or drama performances at the school? We need volunteers to help serve refreshments during these events. This is a great way to be part of the school activities and support our students.

Please note, your help is needed only when your child is performing. To join our team of Refreshment Helpers, please join the WhatsApp group using this link: **[Refreshment Helpers Group](#)**

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: **[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 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