

WEEKLY UPDATE – FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026

Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

We have come to the end of the academic year and with that the end of my Headship at Kendrick. I will write to you all in due course on my thoughts and reflections of my time at Kendrick, but for this update I will just comment on what we have done this week.

We ended the term as we always do with a whole school assembly which we held in the school hall, a space that is rich in history and tradition. Without Year 11 and 13 students, the rest of the school and staff could fit in the hall comfortably. We heard reports from our Kendrick Student Leaders about activities and events that have taken place over the last few months. We listened to some music and poetry, items dedicated to me, and said our thanks and goodbyes to leaving staff and to me. I believe it is important for everyone in our community to feel and hear that their role in our school is important and valued and so our assembly was a combination of celebration and joy, as well as anticipation of what the next term will bring. We acknowledged the many activities that have taken place in school even in this last week of term: Talent Show and Sports Day, plus 3 school trips! Throughout the assembly students sat attentively and diligently appreciating and respecting the reports and messages they heard. Thank you to everyone for creating a school where this kind of gathering is possible and appreciated.

There are a few items on the website, please read.

- [Royal Air Squadron Trophy](#)
- [Mila plays Bridge](#)
- [National Writing Competition](#)

A lot of words have been said in the last few days and weeks, mainly by me in my messages and thanks to students and staff. My words and speeches have focused on Kendrick School and the privilege and honour it has been for me to teach in this school and over many years to be in the leadership team and ultimately the Headteacher. I could not have wanted a better school, a better student body, parents, staff, trustees to have worked with for so many years of my career. I have said a lot about education, girls' education and I can never say enough about how important this is to our society. An education enables people to be seen and heard from wherever they come from; for women it gives them opportunities to be in the places where decisions are made and where the voice of women can be heard. This is what has given me greatest joy in my career and in my time at Kendrick.

Finally, this week's word of the week was **accomplishment**, a word deliberately chosen to mark the end of the school year. **Definition:** *something you achieve through effort and care, and the quiet satisfaction of having seen it through.* As I come to the end of my Headship at Kendrick, I feel a sense of accomplishment. There have been many accomplishments that I am proud of, which have been achieved working cooperatively and with the support of others. I ask everyone, staff and students to reflect on their accomplishments, not dwell on what they have not done, but to see what they have done and achieved and can be proud of. *To accomplish something is, at heart, to carry it through to the full.* There is much that the Kendrick community has accomplished this year, much that we have all seen through. Well done to everyone on their endeavours this year.

My sincere thanks to everyone: students, staff, parents, Trustees, Kendrick Parents' Society for your encouragement and support of Kendrick School.

I wish everyone a wonderful and restful summer

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

School Notices

Changes for the new school year ahead

School Library – the library hours will be reduced from **3rd September 2026** and the new library hours will be **8am-4pm**. All students need to have vacated the school site by **3.30pm** every day unless they are in the library.

School Uniform – the government has provided some new guidance for school uniform requirements from September 2026 which allows for 3 branded uniform items. The 3 branded items required for Kendrick school uniform will be:

- Kendrick School jumper/sweatshirt
- Kendrick PE polo shirt
- Kendrick PE midlayer

The only changes therefore to the Kendrick school uniform will be to the PE kit which will now be as below:

Essential

- *Polo shirt – Black with Kendrick Logo
- *Sweatshirt – Black midlayer with Kendrick logo. School sweatshirts must **not** be worn for PE lessons.
- Gym shorts – plain black with no logos
- Cycling shorts – black with no logos
- Sports socks - white sports socks must be worn
- Sports trainers – Not basketball boot type/suede or canvas leisure wear – Non marking sole.
- Swimming costume
- Goggles
- Swim Hat
- **Optional Extras**
- Cycling shorts – black with no logos
- House T-shirt - used for inter-house events and sports day, purchased from Stevensons
- Tracksuit trousers- plain black with no logos
- Sports leggings – plain black with no logos
- Long sleeved base layer – plain black with no logos

*must be purchased from Stevensons. All other items can be purchased from any supplier but must follow the guidelines stated above.

More information regarding the government guidance can be found at [Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill: policy summary notes](#)

Mobile Phone Usage - as you will no doubt have heard in the news, the government is requiring schools to take a much more stringent approach to the use of mobile phones within the school environment and the guidance that schools must follow can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools/mobile-phones-in-schools>. This requires all schools to be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only. Whilst Kendrick is already a mobile phone-free environment, should any student be found to be using their mobile phone on school premises the consequences will be more severe and we will be updating our school policy to reflect this.

New Relations and Sex Policy – there is new guidance from the DfE which requires schools to share their policy and practice for consultation and feedback with parents.

Benedict's Law – the new Benedict's Law which comes into force in September affects students with allergies and who have been prescribed an epi-pen. Further information will follow on this next week from the Student Welfare Team.

Free School Meals- please read the email sent to you regarding the changes to Free School Meals (FSM). If you child is currently in receipt of FSM **you must complete the form sent to you in order for your child to continue receiving FSM in September.**

Safeguarding

[Safeguarding at Kendrick School](#)

[Avenues of Support for the Summer Holidays](#)

[Reading Festival Safety Advice](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing

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

[Staying Safe over the Summer](#)
[Managing stress when waiting for exam results](#)

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 Autumn/Winter menu will be shared in due course. **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

- [Royal Air Squadron Trophy](#)
- [Mila plays Bridge](#)
- [National Writing Competition](#)

School Calendar

Thursday 13th August A Level Results Day
Thursday 20th August GCSE Results Day

Week commencing 31st August 2026 (Week A)

Monday 31 st August	Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 1 st September	INSET Day for staff
Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET Day for staff
Thursday 3 rd September	First Day of Term 1, 2026-27, 8,25am
Friday 4 th September	Photos Year 7, 10 and 12

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)

[KPS Update - Friday 17th July 2026](#)