

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 25th June 2021

WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

I have to begin with the **Kendrick Summer Raffle**. As of yesterday morning, we had reached £4k in our sales and donations which is not an insignificant amount, but it is £3k below our target. If you have not bought any tickets yet but had intended to do so, or you wish to make a donation, please do so now. The draw is tomorrow, Saturday 26th June between 5pm and 6.00pm. There are over 90 prizes to win! Please support KPS and our school. A reminder that the money raised will be used to buy new and better lighting for the Hall which would enhance our production of concerts and show events. The link to the raffle is [here](#).

I have spoken a lot about Year 11 and Year 13 recently as was appropriate, so I was pleased this week when Ms Fieldsend, Head of English drew my attention to work being done by Year 10 in their English lessons. Ms Fieldsend writes:

This week, the English Department have greatly enjoyed listening to the Y10 students delivering their speaking and listening assessments for GCSE English Language. For this assessment, students choose a topic themselves, and a persuasive point of debate on the topic. As always their teachers have been impressed with the range, sophistication and creativity of the topics, the detailed, persuasive and informative arguments, and the articulate and confident presentation. Topics and arguments have included: 'why universal basic income should be adopted', 'nurses should be paid more than footballers', 'the problem with historical dramas', 'why fish consumption should be reduced' to 'Hades – hero or villain?', 'the problem with cryptocurrencies' and 'why diverse representation in literature is so important' amongst many other fascinating topics. Well done to Y10 for their hard work and excellent outcomes on this project. Once again, you have proved that Kendrick students have a lively interest in everything the world has to offer, and an authentic desire to have a positive impact.

Next week I have been invited to a Drama lesson by Mrs Cooper with Year 9 who have been studying theatre practitioners and interesting themes and works chosen by the students: As Mrs Cooper says:

We have been looking at theatre practitioners alongside Noughts and Crosses/BLM movement recently and students have decided to do their performances in the style of Brecht. This has resulted in them creating devised pieces in groups which focus on challenging the thoughts of the audience and getting them to question the action and the social/political/cultural message it is exploring. It is a non-naturalistic style of acting which can be really powerful and, at times, a little shocking. We will be using our new lighting for effect too.

It is a joy to be in a classroom observing students and teachers working together and it is one of the privileges of my role that I most enjoy. I am always in awe of the expertise and skill of our teachers and how they convey their curriculum content and passion for their subject in a way that excites and energises students to perform at their best.

How we teach, what we teach and why are themes that are considered when Ofsted Inspectors visit schools. Yesterday an important session on our Inset Day programme was an update by **Mr Simmonds on Ofsted Inspections**. We were reminded of the key principles and lines of enquiry Ofsted Inspectors will focus on when they begin to inspect schools again in the autumn. As well as observing lessons, speaking to subject leaders and the

Senior Leadership Team, Inspectors will look at students' personal development and their understanding of basic British values. During lockdown it has been more difficult to articulate and highlight some of these elements of school life, but we are planning to get back to these when the lock down restrictions are lifted. I will speak more about these themes in the future.

As well as the session on Ofsted, we also had a most detailed presentation from our **Safeguarding Team and Pastoral leaders** about the procedures, processes and personnel we have in place to safeguard our students. As Headteacher of our school, I felt very reassured that the students in our care are carefully and sensitively monitored and looked after by all the staff who care deeply about them and their wellbeing. I will be sharing some of the details of our structures with parents and students in the autumn when we have our Information evenings for the different year groups.

In preparation for next year and the possibility that movement around school will be less restricted than now, we are trialing some new times of the school day. The start and end times of the day stay the same: 8.25am start of day and 3.15pm end of day, but timings in between will vary slightly. The longer break at lunchtime will be cut slightly but will still be long enough for staff and students to have a good lunch break and attend extracurricular activities if they wish. I hope that everyone will find these new times of the day workable so that we can implement them in September.

Some photos and a report of an event from last term, the **Year 8 Bushcraft trip**, have been put together for you to see [here](#).

Today is **Kendrick Earth Day**, organised and led by the Eco Group, a report, photos and details about the day and activities will follow in due course.

Finally, our usual summer concert event will take the form of a **Summer Showcase** event. Mrs Cooper has communicated to students and staff to send her recordings of musical, dramatic and dance performances, poetry, photos or pictures of Art and Textiles work to include in this end of term event. The theme is a celebration of all that we have achieved, as well as a reflection of how things have changed.

Best wishes for the weekend,

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

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.

If you're worried about a child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 5pm), 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.

SAFEGUARDING – INTERNET CONNECTED DEVICES

Many families have internet connected devices for their child or home. Internet connected devices are devices or toys that are connected to the internet via WiFi, Bluetooth or a physical connection like a USB cable. They can also be connected to each other.

Internet connected devices can send and receive data, respond to voice commands and be controlled remotely using a smartphone app. They can also be called 'the internet of things'.

Examples of internet connected devices include:

- smart speakers, such as Google Home and Amazon Echo
- wearables, such as Fitbit and Apple Watch
- smart meters measuring household energy consumption
- toys with voice or image recognition, such as Hello Barbie™ and Furby Connect
- robots, drones and other mechanical toys, controlled via an app, such as Dash and Dot.

For advice and support from the NSPCC on keeping internet connected devices safe, please click on the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/internet-connected-devices/>

SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING – PARENTS' SURVIVAL GUIDE

For a Parents' Survival Guide provided by Young Minds please click below.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-survival-guide/>

The guide has advice for any parent who is worried about their child, or their own parenting skills.

NEWS AND EVENTS - WHOLE SCHOOL

[Year 8 Bushcraft Residential Trip](#)

BERKSHIRE MAESTROS



EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME – APPLY BY 30TH JUNE 2021

If you are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, you and your family need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by **30th June** to continue to live, work and study in the UK. For Further information see <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

LATERAL FLOW TESTS (LFT)

We encourage all students and staff to take a Lateral Flow Test on a Wednesday and Sunday every week and report the results through Medical Tracker via this [link](#) and Gov.uk via this [link](#).

MOBILE EMERGENCY ALERTS TEST IN READING



A new government Emergency Alerts system is being tested in Reading next week. The scheme allows the government and emergency services to send alerts to mobile phones in a specific area to warn people of emergencies, such as severe flooding or terror attacks.

If you receive an alert on your mobile phone, you will hear a loud, siren-like sound and a message will appear on your screen to tell you about the emergency and how best to respond.

The government is carrying out a series of tests and the next one will be in Reading on Tuesday 29 June, between 1-2pm. If you receive a test alert, you will not need to do anything on this occasion. The alert may be received by anyone who is in Reading at the time but the message on screen will reassure people it is just a test and no action is necessary.

If the test is successful the system will be rolled out across the country for use when lives are in danger. You can find out more about [Emergency Alerts](#) on the gov.uk website.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

Own Clothes Day – Friday 25th June 2021

Please pay the donation of £2.00 through ParentPay if you haven't already done so. Thank you.

VACANCIES

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. Please click on this [link](#) for more information and please pass to friends and family that you think would be interested.

Senior Technical Engineer for September 2021	Full time
English Teacher (maternity cover) for September 2021	0.7 FTE
Cover Assistant for September 2021	3 days a week

CALENDAR

Monday 28 th June	Year 10 Work Experience Week KPS Meeting at 6pm
Friday 2 nd July	Enterprise Day
Monday 5 th July	Year 12 Futures Week
Wednesday 7 th July	'Life After Kendrick' Year 12 Event Profiling Day (remote)
Monday 12 th July	Sports Day
Friday 16 th July	End of Term 6, 1.10pm

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

Please click [here](#) for the latest KPS newsletter.

The **Summer Raffle draw will be tomorrow, Saturday from 5pm to 6pm**. Here is [the zoom link](#) to join the draw.

So far we have raised £4453 but our target is £7K. You can still help us to achieve this. Today is the last day for you to enter the draw. In exchange, you will have a great chance to win many prizes out of our 90 fabulous prizes. You can see the prize list via this [link](#).

The competition is close between Y9PB and Y7SG, 7WM & 7HES but by clicking on this [link](#) you can help your child's year group win by buying some tickets!

See you all tomorrow!

KPS team

KPS SHOPPING LINKS Amazon Smile donations

We encourage you to continue your purchases at smile.amazon.co.uk, (not www.amazon.co.uk or the mobile app) These are helping us generate AmazonSmile donations for our school. Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Easy Fundraising Charity

KPS has also signed up to other easy ways of raising funds for the school especially when you are shopping online - **easyfundraising charity site** : <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kendrickschoolreading/> . Please continue to use these links and let's all together contribute to something that our daughters can benefit from.

The Giving Machine

Another opportunity for you to raise more donations and funds for the School when you shop online. Go to this site and give for free: Here is the link: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>

GAYL

Give As You Live (GAYL) is one way with which you can help KPS receive additional funds with no cost to you! Please use this link <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/kendrick> and help us raise additional funds.

NEWS, ARTICLES AND EVENTS – STUDENTS

SUMMER SHOWCASE!

As we draw towards the end of another monumental year, we're looking to celebrate all that we've achieved and reflect on the things that have changed. To that end, we're putting together a virtual 'Summer Showcase' which encompasses the creativity of students and staff.

We are looking to receive recordings of musical, dramatic and dance performances, poetry, photos or pictures of Art and Textiles work and other things too. You may wish to send things you've created in lessons or items that you've put together in your own time – it's up to you. If sending a recording, please keep it to a maximum of four minutes or less so that we can fit in as many as possible.