

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 7th June 2024

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

Welcome back and I hope everyone has had a good half term break.

Term 6 is always a very busy term and this year there seem to be even more trips and activities. Starting from the last weekend, students and staff were on another Duke of Edinburgh expedition which requires a practice weekend, as well as a final expedition for the award to be fulfilled. Mr Crowther and a group of colleagues have taken several students on the practice experiences at both Bronze and Silver Award level. The final test of their energy, resilience and endurance will take place later in the term. Shortly our Modern Foreign Language staff and colleagues will be taking Year 10 students on a week-long trip to France and Germany to practise and immerse themselves in the language and culture of these two countries. All students at Key Stage 4 study a Modern Foreign Language so this trip is of great importance in their studies, although I also know that the prospect of being away from home and with friends is also very exciting and fun for the students. I am sure they will have a great time. Later in the term, Year 8 students are being offered a taster session to consider joining Reading School and Kendrick School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) when they are in Year 9. Led by Mrs White and colleagues at Reading School, I know that many students get a great deal out of this organisation in terms of skills and leadership. There are other trips and activities planned throughout the term and I am grateful to the willingness and commitment of Kendrick staff who volunteer to take these trips, which require their own time, sometimes away from home and their families, taking care and responsibility for the students. I am sure students and parents also appreciate and acknowledge these experiences their children can have at Kendrick School.

We are about halfway through the public exam season and some students have taken many papers, others have quite a few to go. As I have said before, this period of exams for our young people can be very stressful and tiring. My thanks to the students for their resilience and strength in the way they have conducted themselves so far, planning, preparing, and managing this period. And of course, all the staff including the Exams Team, invigilators, teachers, and staff who make sure that everyone is where they need to be every morning and afternoon, showing care and sensitivity to the students. I am sure the same support and encouragement is happening at home, so thank you to parents too. Internal exams for Year 10 finished before half term and today a week of Year 12 exams finish. Well done to those students for their work and efforts at this stage in their courses.

I am sure people know that running a school is very much like running a business. We must determine curriculum, assessments, staffing and budgets and this is the time of the year when our planning is focused on the new academic year ahead. In school I lead the strategic vision of the school and work with my leadership team and colleagues on the operational side, taking my responsibilities and accountabilities from the Department for Education's, Headteacher Standards. In this work, our school, like all others, has a Board of Trustees, a group of about 16 individuals that work with me and my Senior Leadership Team to oversee what the school sets out to do. The Trustee Board is made up of committed individuals from the local community, staff and parents who meet regularly to discuss, question, and confirm actions and decisions the school would like to take. From time-to-time vacancies on the Board become available and earlier in the week we asked for nominations for two Parent Trustee positions. Four parents have applied, and all parents have been asked to vote for the candidates. If you have not voted yet, please find the email sent to you today to do so. I look forward to working with the successful candidates in the future.

Meanwhile in school, Pride Month is under way and [two super displays](#) have been put up in the library and in the Horizons dining area. Many activities are being planned over the next few weeks to mark Pride month. Thank you to the staff and students working on this initiative. Elsewhere the Eco Group is planning activities for this term. I have received several emails from Mrs Kaur this week about the work of our Eco group, including the work of our Energy

Ambassadors who have been involved in a 'cut your carbon initiative' at the end of last year which has resulted in everyone endeavouring to be more fuel efficient in school, switching off lights, screens, recycling etc. This term there is a focus on wildlife and nature in gardens which I am sure we will hear more about in due course.

Following the announcement the government made before half term to call an election in July, Kendrick, as part of its citizenship responsibilities, will have its own Mock or Parallel Election as we have done in previous national elections. Mrs Lace and Mr Duncan, our PSHCE Coordinators will be working with the Curriculum and Current Affairs Committee of the Kendrick Student Leaders to organise the elections. We will have candidates from the main parties who will represent the policies of a party as articulated in the individual party's manifesto. We eagerly await the manifestos to be published so that we can get started! Our election will take place around the time of the General Election, and we will see how it compares. Several of our students are interested in politics and there will be many students in Year 13 who will be eligible to vote for the first time this year. I hope everyone takes an interest in the debates and for the Year 13 voters, I hope they exercise their right to vote, given the hard fought battles women went through to achieve the vote around 100 years ago – 1918 when women over the age of 30 who were householders received the vote and 1928 when all women were given the vote on the same terms as men.

To finish I would like to acknowledge the ceremonies and events that have been taking place this week to mark the 80th anniversary of the D Day Landings. There are many sources of information available, but this [link](#) from the BBC of the last couple of days gives us a glimpse in photographs of the commemorations of this significant event in history.

Wishing everyone a peaceful 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.



**National
Online
Safety®**

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

PALWORLD

This guide explores the immensely successful game, Palworld, detailing the risks it may pose to younger players and offering advice on how to let them

enjoy this game safely.

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

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

EXAM STRESS – HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

source [BBC Bitesize](#)

Please click [here](#) for an interesting article from BBC Bitesize on how parents can help during exam season and the pressure that young people experience.

YOUNG MINDS PARENTS' HELPLINE

Young Minds support parents and carers who are concerned about their child or young person's mental health.

You might contact them because you're worried about how your child or young person is feeling or behaving. Or you might need advice about finding mental health support for them. Whatever your concern is, the advisers want to understand what's happening and support you to take the next step.

[YOUNG MINDS PARENTS' HELPLINE](#)

Please be aware that Young Minds is not a crisis service. If your child or young person needs urgent help, there is a list of services that can support you now.

[URGENT HELP INFORMATION](#)

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need." - **Cicero**

POEM OF THE WEEK

Nature's Song by *Shathana (Year 9)*

Rabid waves shredded forth,
Opening the ocean's slimy jaw
Hurling tattered memories onto the shore.
Forgotten miseries, all those men,
Buried beneath the stunning Seine.

Foreign words, whispered by the breeze.
Through dense holts and glacial till,

The tumultuous world, now aching still.
Trees affably sway, above overgrown graves,
Of the ones who before, were to march in parades.

Fauna trampled the poppies, the remnants of war.
Blood of the lost grown by the dew,
Springing from sorrow, something of new,
Melodies hushed by this world that had grown,
The bittersweet song sang 'this is their home'.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2023-24

Sunday 9th June	Year 10 MFL Trip depart
Tuesday 11th June	Junior Kangaroo and Junior Mathematics Olympiad (Years 7 and 8) Year 12 Biology Field Trip
Wednesday 12th June	Year 12 Biology Field Trip
Thursday 13th June	Trustee Learning and Teaching Committee, 4.30pm Year 12 Work Experience one day visits
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

We have received four nominations for the two roles of Parent Trustees. Parents and carers have been sent an email with a link to vote. The ballot will close on Monday 10th June at 1pm.

NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB

The [National Saturday Club](#) (NSC) programme is open to 13-16-year-olds of all abilities and in particular works to

engage those who may face additional barriers to success. From 10am-1pm, Saturday 12 October to March 2025, you can join the [Art&Design](#), [Film&Screen](#) or [Fashion&Business](#) Saturday clubs at Reading College for free. As well as weekly Saturday classes, there are opportunities to go on trips and visits, take part in masterclasses and exhibit your work in the National Saturday Club Summer Show. You can hear from past members in a short film, available on the [NSC website](#).

READING CLIMATE FESTIVAL

The fifth annual Reading Climate Festival takes place from 8-21 June, with two weeks of free events to inspire collective climate action. The festival, organised by [ReadingCAN](#), kicks off with [Water Fest](#) on Saturday 8 June before a wealth of events, activities and information sharing begins. Full details of what's on during the festival is available online, along with a [programme of events](#).

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](#).

Careers Coordinator. 15 hours a week, term time only. Closing date for applications – 9am Friday 14th June.

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

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

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

We are excited to announce that tickets for the KPS Summer Fair are now available! There is a **£2 entry fee per adult**, while **children can attend for free**. **Don't miss out – get your tickets here - <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DNTL>**

Invite your friends and their families to join us for this grand gala. It promises to be a fantastic day filled with fun and community spirit!



Join us for the Annual KPS Summer Fair 2024 on **July 6th, 11am to 3pm**. Let's come together for a fun-filled day and make this event a success.

We are seeking enthusiastic individuals to help in the following areas: -

- **Food Stalls:** BBQ, hot dogs, sandwiches, pizza, and more.
- **Arts and Crafts:** Showcase your creative talents.
- **Other Stalls:** Have a unique idea? We'd love to hear it!

Whether you can manage a stall or simply lend a helping hand, we'd love to hear from you. Contact us to get involved at kpschair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk

Additionally, we are **looking for marquees (various sizes)** for the lawn area. Your assistance and participation will be greatly appreciated. Contact us if you can help!

Thank you to all the students who are stepping up to showcase their talents and skills by running stalls.

While there is **no fee for having a stall**, students are **encouraged to donate their profits to the KPS in support of the fundraising efforts**, and live up to the school motto: **Lead, Inspire, Make a Difference**.

Students can fill the form to express interest in running a stall - [KPS Summer Fair Student Stalls Form](#)

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP



The pre-loved uniform store **opens this Saturday 8th June from 9 am to 11 am**, conveniently located in the Conservatory next to the school library.

Parking is usually available in the Cedars car park along London Road, just past the dentist near the traffic light.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS

Are you looking to get more involved in our school community? Please see below on how to get involved. Your involvement is greatly appreciated!



Refreshment Helpers

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