

# Kendrick School

## Weekly Update

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020

## WEEKLY LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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I want to begin by reminding everyone that our **Spring Raffle** organised and run by the **Kendrick Parents Society (KPS)** which was relaunched a couple of weeks ago, has another week before it ends. I would very much like everyone to try to buy some tickets if they can. Of course the recent situation has made people's lives and financial circumstances difficult, but if there is a small contribution that people can make it will enable KPS to raise some money for the school given the huge efforts and planning this initiative has taken. Please may I direct you to this [LINK](#) here where you can buy your online raffle tickets; every penny counts, and even more now than ever. Thank you in advance for your support.

In the virtual world we now operate in, we have carried out our **induction programme** for both our prospective **Year 7 and Year 12 students**. Both events were very well attended and we were able to give the talks and presentations that would usually take place in our school hall, virtually. Our **Student Leader, Angelica** and a **Year 7 student, Paris**, once again spoke confidently and enthusiastically about our school, as did staff and governors. Obviously the personal interaction and conversations were missing, but I feel we have communicated with our prospective students and parents very well in the current circumstances. I hope all the students and parents we spoke to feel enthusiastic at the prospect of joining Kendrick in September, just as we are looking forward to welcoming them. The **Work Experience** online programme is underway and I hope this is useful for students. **Year 12 students** undertook **online assessments** last week and **Year 10 students** will be doing their **assessments later in September/October** in a more staggered approach which Mr Stride will explain to the students in his twice weekly communications to them. **Reports for all students** are now being prepared and our usual **profiling sessions**, one to one conversations between tutors and students as well as subject conversations, will be happening next week, on line. These conversations will feed into the reports which will then be sent to students and parents by the end of term. I am very **proud and grateful to the staff** not only for the huge amount of work they are doing to support the students' learning, but also their determination to continue to do as much of what we would have been doing in school at this time of the year, but now carrying out remotely. The students, likewise are responding with a similar determination; **thank you to everyone** and to parents for your support throughout this difficult time.

We all still have a lot to do before the end of term and even more to do in preparation for September. Firstly the **end of term**. I would like to remind everyone that the end of term is on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**. Teaching will carry on as normal and finish at the end of **period 5 on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July**. On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> we will have an **assembly** where I will endeavour to speak to the **whole school** from the School Hall. Staff who will be in school on that day will be my audience in person and everyone else will connect via a link that will be sent to all students. The **assembly will begin at 9.30am** and I do hope all students will be able to join us. Final assemblies are important for everyone as they mark the end of the year and bring closure for all of us. This year, being a particularly different kind of year, makes the end even more important to mark and acknowledge. **All students will be expected to 'attend' the assembly** and I would like to **invite Year 11 and 13** to join us although traditionally they have moved on by this time of the year. This will enable us to say **thank you and goodbye** to them and to the staff that are leaving this year.

The arrangements and [guidelines from government](#) regarding the return to school in **September 2020** were released yesterday and we have started to read the requirements. The key headline is that the government wishes **all students**

**and staff** to return to school in September and that schools organise year groups in what is being described as ‘**bubbles**’ that will keep staff and students safe. Over the next few days me and my senior team and staff will be reading the guidance and planning how we will implement and apply the guidelines to fit our Kendrick setting. In preparation for **September 2020**, I have made the decision with the support of our governors that the **start of next term for students** will be **delayed by two days**. Instead of all students returning on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, all students will return **to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**. Our calendars on the website and elsewhere will be amended to reflect this change of the return to school date. Further details about September will follow as we understand the guidance given.

It is two weeks since the tragic events in the **Forbury Gardens** and I am sure that people are still affected by what happened as the reality of the tragedy on local people in Reading and Wokingham sinks in. Further guidance from **Brighter Futures for Children, psychological services** might help parents and students affected as conversations of this kind can be difficult. Please read the letter [here](#) which offers parents some advice about how to speak with family members about grief and loss.

With further **relaxation of lockdown** this weekend, perhaps everyone is pleased about being given more freedom. I do hope that families take care as they begin to do things that they have been unable to do for the last few months. The situation in **Leicester** this week is a stark reminder that the virus is still with us and can reappear at any time. We must not become complacent or too confident that everything is now getting back to normal, it is not. We must still take great care in our social interactions and strictly keeping to the safe routines of social distancing, washing hands regularly and all other recommended safe practices. Click [here](#) for the latest government guidance on what you can and cannot do after 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Wishing everyone a good and safe weekend.

**Ms Christine Kattirtzi**  
**Headteacher**

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## **SAFEGUARDING & SUPPORT AVENUES**

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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.

[Reading Incident](#) – Support and advice for parents/carers and student from Brighter Future for Children

[Supporting young people as we transition out of lockdown](#) advice from YoungMinds

[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. I hope that you find it helpful.

Another item that might be of interest is that Oak National Academy is teaming up with The Careers & Enterprise Company next week to create Careers Week with sessions giving young people insight into life in one of 15 major public and private sector employers from across the country! [#LearnWithOak](#) <https://oaknat.uk/3eoOc4Y>

**For Kendrick School safeguarding guidelines for online meetings, tutor time and lessons visit [Safeguarding Guidelines for Live Sessions](#)**

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# KENDRICK SCHOOL COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19

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Below are links to news, activities and initiatives which are helping us recreate the Kendrick community in a virtual world. If you have anything you would like to add here that you are personally doing or doing as a group, please email [aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:aemberson@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)

## Reflections on the Kendrick Pledge

After the tragic death of George Floyd, students in Years 8 and 9 were asked to reflect on the Kendrick Pledge by creating an A5 poster to be stuck in the front of their PSHCE books as a constant reminder of our pledge.

As you can imagine some beautiful work was handed in. A few have been chosen for you to see and reflect on. Please click on this [link](#).

## Pebbles for Pride

In order to celebrate Pride month, the KSLT, are proposing the project, 'Pebbles for Pride'. The details below tell you what you, as staff or student, have to do to participate:

[Pebbles for Pride](#)

## Kendrick School Sixth Form – Virtual Induction Event for Year 11 students

The **Year 12 Virtual Induction Session** took place on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 10.00am**. Year 11 students can watch the recording of the session and review the presentations via this [link](#). They will need the user name and password which was shared with them and will also give them access to the bridging work.

## How Should We Decide Which People from our Past to Commemorate?

There has been a great deal of discussion recently about monuments to Britain's past, such as the names of buildings and streets, and especially statues. You are probably aware of the protests which resulted in the statue of Edward Colston being pulled down in Bristol, and others being damaged elsewhere. People have put forward strong views on both sides of this debate.

The question of whether it is right to pull down statues of people from our past makes us ask interesting and difficult questions about why we put up statues of people in the first place. Mr Duncan, Subject Leader for Classics, and Mr Curran, Subject Leader for History, have been considering some of these questions and you can read their analysis [here](#) and [here](#).

Rather than arguing about tearing down statues, we would like to invite you to consider why we should put them up in the first place. Imagine a situation where Kendrick has got five empty plinths on which we are going to put statues of people from history. Your challenge is to choose the five individuals, and to write up to 500 words to justify your choices. You need to think carefully about the individuals' achievements, attitudes and actions. What values and beliefs would it show that we at Kendrick hold to be important if we put up statues of those individuals? You could choose individuals who are already familiar to us and may appear in the school curriculum, or individuals from different cultures around the world who may not be well known in Britain.

This challenge is open to students in all year groups. A blank entry form is available for you to fill out, or you can submit your entry in your own format if you prefer. Entries should be sent by email to Mr Curran by **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020**. Winning entries in each year group will be awarded with a prize! Good luck!

## Anthology- Reflections on a Decade

This year sees the beginning of a new decade and with each periodic in the calendar we find an opportunity to reflect on the past and form new visions of our future.

The last decade, and now including 2020, has seen remarkable national and international events that have changed the landscape of the world:

- We shifted from thirteen years of Labour to [so far] ten years of Tory rule.
- We're still Brexiting.
- We've seen mass movement of people out of the Middle East after the Arab Spring and the rise of ISIL.
- America has a new kind of political leader.
- Social media has sky rocketed in its influence.
- Climate change continues
- And now we're in lockdown, one of the most significant social, political and scientific challenges in more than generation.

Both the arts and the sciences have had a real impact on these and other changes and challenges listed in the document you can access via this [link](#).

But what does the future hold?

In response to this we are looking to you, the talented staff and students of Kendrick, to offer your ideas about the last decade and your hopes for the decades to come.

We intend to consolidate these essays, poems, lyrics and works of art into an anthology of ideas to be published in hard copy and online by the end of 2020.

Do read the attached document and think whether you could write an article, poem, lyric or paint or draw a work of art that reflects on the last decade with a vision for the future.

We are living in unprecedented times and it is for people of all ages to come together and share their thoughts.

Guidance on submissions is in this [document](#). We look forward to your contributions.

Kind regards, Mr. Nemeth

## Kendrick School Tour

Are you missing the Library, the Science Labs, canteen, even just a normal classroom in main school? If so, click [here](#) for a virtual tour of the school produced by Charlotte, a former Kendrick student.

## Kendrick School Remote Open Evening

If you would like to see how we carried out our Open Evening remotely, which included impressive talks from our Student Leader, Angelica, and a Year 7, Paris, please click on this [link](#).

Some feedback from participants included:

***'Thank you Angelica, what an amazing young lady'. 'Love the enthusiasm and passion from the students – so confident!'. 'Thank you Paris, very confident'. 'Thank you Paris for your inspiring speech. You have some amazing***

*students!'. 'Love the confidence of the young girls'. 'She surely loves her school – that was very confident account of her experience'.*

## **KSLT Instagram Page**

To keep up to date with 'all things Kendrick' click [here](#) for the Kendrick Student Leadership Team Instagram page.

## **Other Community News**

[Pride Month presentation](#)

[Scrubs and Hats for Nurses in ICU](#)

[From all the Staff at Kendrick School](#)

[Kendrick School Supports Project Face Shield](#)

[Positive News Stories](#)

[Kendrick Arts Instagram](#)

[Down on the Farm – with Frau Alderson](#)

## **Kendrick School Student News Blog**

Two students in Year 12 have created a news blog with many writers for the site, all of which are Kendrick students. All students across the school are welcome to contribute and if you are interested in writing a blog please email Preesha Gehlot [14pgehlot@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:14pgehlot@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) for more information. The link to the blog is <https://www.theconversant.co.uk/blog>

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# **MUSIC@KENDRICK**

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## **Kendrick School Presents – Online Performer Series 1 and 2**

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to record themselves and send in their performances for this Online Performer Series. We have been overwhelmed by the initial response to our call for videos for our first ever online concert and will therefore be putting our other entries into a series of future online concerts for you all to enjoy.

With everything that has been happening in recent months, we understand that people have been expressing themselves in different ways and finding solace in things like art, dance, poetry and drama. We are therefore expanding out these concerts and asking for further entries, not just of musical performances, but any art work you'd like to share, dance routines you've been working on, poetry you've written or short dramatic works.

If you'd like to be involved in the next Online Performer Series concert then please send your creative and artistic entries to Mrs Cooper by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

Each video is less than 30 minutes.

Online Performer Series 1 <https://youtu.be/Hlr5wroVABY>

## ENRICHMENT AND WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

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As well as enrichment activities and newsletters being produced by Kendrick School, there a lot of information, resources and activities being promoted and advertised online and on social media to help get us all get through these difficult weeks. We will include ones that we are aware of on our website via the link below, and if you know of any that you would like to promote then please let us know. IMPORTANT NOTE – Kendrick School is not responsible for the content of the external activities or resources.

[Stonehenge Virtual Tour](#)

[Coping with Unexpected Endings and Loss](#)

[Virtual tour of the Netherlands most spectacular tulip garden](#)

[Cirque du Soleil – an hour of surreal acrobatics each Friday](#)

[Theatre to watch online](#)

[Online Yoga](#)

[100 Jean-Michel Basquiat artworks - free exhibition](#)

[Kendrick School Wellbeing and Enrichment Resources](#)

[Kendrick School Coronavirus Library Newsletter](#)

[Kendrick School 'Of the Week'](#)

[Thinkuknow Activity Sheets](#) (can be found under Boredom Busters)