

Kendrick School

Weekly Update

Friday 12th July 2019

Letter from Ms Kattirtzi, Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

We are coming to the climax of many sporting events this weekend and so it is wonderful that at Kendrick we too had a super Sports Day on Thursday where the whole school went to Palmer Park for a day of athletics competitions. The weather was excellent and the students and staff threw themselves into the occasion enjoying the community atmosphere of being together but also the healthy rivalry of the Houses playing against each other. **Palmer House** won so well done to them, but all the participants need to be applauded for their efforts in taking part. It was lovely to see some parents and friends join us to cheer on the students, thank you to those who came. Of course a very big thank you to the PE Department for arranging the day and for all the staff who did so much planning to make it a successful event. There will be lots of photos posted on the website next week.

Next week I am meeting Mr Nick Gibb, Schools' Minister, with a group of Reading Secondary Headteachers. We requested this meeting at Westminster in order to express to Mr Gibb the concerns that Reading Headteachers have about the funding of schools. This is the time of year where most schools are finalising their budgets and realising they cannot do all they want to do for the coming year. Here at Kendrick we are fully staffed for September which is of course a priority for any school, but is not the reality for many. Our presentation to the minister will outline the year on year cuts we have endured and how this has impacted on the education delivered in secondary schools in Reading. Having met Mr Gibb a few times, I am sure he will listen to us, however, the political uncertainty ahead, I am sure, will force him to respond to us somewhat vaguely. Nevertheless it is our aim that Mr Gibb and his colleagues at the DfE understand the particular problems of funding in Reading schools.

All schools endeavour to nurture and support their students as well as guide and advise them about what they can do in their future once they leave their school. A couple of weeks ago Year 10 had their week of Work Experience and this week was **Futures Week** for Year 12. Amongst the many things they did, Year 12 students and parents were invited to an event called **Life after Kendrick** where they heard talks on the UCAS process from Ms Stacey, a student finance talk, as well as the opportunity to meet employers who were able to discuss employment opportunities with them post A Level and university. For both Year 11 and 13, next year will go by very quickly and beginning to think about their future plans is very important in motivating and encouraging them in what they need to do in the coming year.

It is always a pleasure at this time of year to receive cards and letters from students and parents/carers when they are leaving and reflecting on their time at Kendrick. I will end this week's letter with a few words from one of the letters I received from a parent recently.

'Where do we begin to thank Kendrick staff... We have loved the ethos of Kendrick; the values and qualities underpinning school life. We love the sense of fun that is a big part of school and of course we prize the academic

excellence that has enabled our daughter to blossom and thrive. We would like to pass our heartfelt thanks to you all.'

Have a wonderful weekend

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING

For many parents the summer can be a time when they book their children into summer camps, activity days and child-care settings. Last year the government consulted on a voluntary safeguarding code for out-of-school settings. Although the outcome of the consultation has not been published, a draft was made available.

In addition to the code for providers, the DfE published draft guidance for parents, in the form of 'Safeguarding questions for parents and carers (DfE, 2018)'.

Some of the questions parents could ask include:

- Have staff and volunteers undertaken DBS checks? How recent were the checks?
- Will any adults besides the instructor be present at the venue while my child is there? If so, will they be there on a regular basis?
- What training have staff had?
- May I have a copy of your child protection policy?
- Who is your designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and what training have they had? How recent was this training?
- My child has Special Educational Needs and / or a disability (SEND). What steps will you take to accommodate this?
- My child needs help with: using the toilet; changing; feeding; their medication, etc. How will these personal care needs be addressed?
- How are you securely storing the information you hold on my child? Who has access to it and are you giving it to anyone else?
- Is my child allowed to access the internet unsupervised?
- Do you have filtering and monitoring systems in place? What are they?

You can download the full document here: https://consult.education.gov.uk/regulatory-framework-unit/out-of-school-settings-voluntary-safeguarding-code/supporting_documents/Safeguarding%20questions%20for%20parents%20and%20carersDraft%20guidance.pdf

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"You have to believe in yourself when no-one else does" Serena Williams

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

News on our Website, Local Press and Social Media

[Kendrick Book Club – End of Year Celebration](#)
[Physics Competitions](#)
[Reading Council Climate Change Emergency Meeting](#)
[‘Engineer Your Future’ Event](#)
[Engineering Society Provides Physics Fun for Year 7s](#)
[Year 8 Journalism Awards](#)

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar for Week Commencing Monday 15th July 2019 (A Week)

Tuesday 16 th July	Year 11 Vietnam Trip Leaves
Wednesday 17 th July	Summer Concert, 6.30pm
Friday 19 th July	Last day of Term 6, 1.05pm

The full school calendar can be found via this [link](#)

Gala Concert – Wednesday 17th July 2019, 6.30pm

Our Gala Concert takes place on Wednesday 17th July at 6.30pm in the School Hall featuring a range of songs from Vox Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir; fantastic instrumental pieces from Jazz Band, Harp Ensemble and our other instrumental ensembles, and two special performances from all of Year 9.

Refreshments will be available before the concert from 6.10pm and during the interval. We expect the concert to finish at approximately 8.30pm.

Please may we remind you that no parking is available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact Reception before the event.

Our end of term concerts have sold out quickly this year so we urge you to order your tickets as soon as possible through Parentpay in order to avoid disappointment. Ticket price/suggested donation: £5.00. In the first instance, tickets will be restricted to five per family. We politely ask for you not to leave ticket requests or queries until the day of the concert.

If you would like tickets for the Gala Concert on Wednesday 17th July please complete the order on Parentpay. Tickets will be distributed to students via the registers the day before the concert.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the concert.

KPS

There will be a full update from the KPS next week including photos from the very successful International Food Festival that took place last Sunday.

VACANCIES

Kendrick School Vacancies

We have vacancies for the following roles. Please click on the links for more information. Please pass the information to family and friends that may be interested in applying.

[English Teacher \(full time maternity cover for November 2019-July 2020\)](#)

[Mathematics Teacher \(part-time for September 2019\)](#)

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

- A Level English texts (Year 12 going into Year 13) - £11.50
- A Level German text - £9.25

There are still a number of trips that have already taken place but where payment has not been made by a small number of students. Please check your ParentPay account (www.parentpay.com) and pay for any outstanding trips that show on your account. If you have any queries regarding please contact finance@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.