

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 11th July 2025

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

What a busy week again. On the academic front, all students received their report data this week and had good discussions with their subject teachers in Year 12 and all students had conversations with their Tutor. The purpose of this last of the three profiling sessions for the year is to look at and understand the progress, effort, attitude to learning and attainment of each student. The discussions are part of a one-to-one meeting with the Tutor so that those reflections can be carefully considered and students are able to share with their tutor how they feel their year has gone, what they are proud of and what they can try to develop or improve upon next year. As I have said before these three days across the year are a vital part to all students' learning and assessment and enables them to be heard, as well as guided, by their key trusted adult at school. Reports will be received by parents next week and I hope they are greeted positively by parents and where there is room for improvement, parents please discuss with your child how they can begin to make some changes in the new academic year. To support their learning and prepare for next year, students in Years 7-10 have been informed of their new Tutor, Tutor groups, and Tutor basis to support the transition and ease any anxiety or worry they may have about moving to the next stage of school and what to expect when they return in September. Many students may have a new teacher next year as there will be new staff joining us in September as a few staff are leaving us this year. I will mention these colleagues next week when we say our final goodbyes.

A particular academic focus for Year 12 this week has been their Futures Week. A full programme of activities was organised by the sixth form team, including discussions between Year 12 students and former students who are currently at university and who linked in with students in online meetings to share their experiences of university life and studies. This was followed by a most detailed and comprehensive information evening for parents last night about the university applications process, UCAS. For some parents this is their first encounter with applications to university so they may be feeling a bit worried and overwhelmed about the mass of information and as well as misinformation in this area, but all parents need to know that the expertise at Kendrick regarding university applications and or degree apprenticeships is second to none. Led by Mr Wilson, Deputy Head of Sixth Form and Mrs Hearn Head of Sixth Form, the expertise and knowledge they and others in the school have should make all parents and students feel confident that their applications to university this autumn will be handled carefully and thoroughly, and we ask parents and students to trust us in this process.

On the website are some lovely articles of the events that have taken place. Please read them and celebrate the success of these students and our school.

- Gallery of photos of [Pride event](#) two weeks ago
- [Kendrick Poets' Society Movement Anthology](#)
- [Year 10 Orators' Cup](#)

There is more to come today with our Festival of Celebration of Black Heritage culture, music, food, dress, history etc. Displays in the Hall have been set up and at lunch time the celebrations will feature a catwalk and display of ethnic dress, speciality foods to taste, music and lots more. This event is a culmination of our racial literacy work which we embarked on earlier in the year. My thanks to the students and staff for their energetic enthusiasm in this initiative and particular thanks to Mrs Hearn, Mrs Obeng, Miss Campbell, Miss Mendel and Mrs Goodings for their planning and organisation of today's event.

Next week the last week of term we will have a focus on sports for all students, the Kendrick Talent Show, a whole year academic trip for Year 7 students to a Hindu Temple and at lunchtime a Wellbeing Fair on the last day of term . My thanks to all the staff and everyone organising and leading these events.

Last but by no means least, tomorrow is the Kendrick Parents' Society Summer Fair, the last of the fun fundraisers KPS is putting on this year. The event is in the school hall between 11.00am-3.00pm. Many parents and staff have worked so hard to plan and organise this event, so please may I ask everyone to support the event and come along and enjoy the stalls and spend some time and money supporting the school. It should be a lovely day.

Best wishes for the weekend. Please read further into the update for important information on safeguarding and summer activities for young people.

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/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 and ask to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Simmonds, or a Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

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 add 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 well-being support in school please visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

SAFEGUARDING

RAILWAY SAFETY We have been asked to share rail safety information with parents and carers ahead of the summer holidays. In recent years there has been increasing numbers of young people risking their lives because they

are choosing to go on to the railway. There are many different reasons young people make this choice, it could be to pick something up that has dropped onto the tracks, maybe a phone, it could be to take a short cut or it could be a dare but regardless of the reasons for making the choice every time a young person goes onto the tracks they are risking serious life changing injury or even death.

Most young people are not aware of the risks associated with the railway - they do not tend to know that the live third rail has 750v of direct current which is always on whether or not a train is approaching. This gap in knowledge creates the biggest risk for young people around the railway and it is important young people have the right information so they can make safer choices for themselves.

Please remind your child of the following@

- The rail network is never switched off. Electricity powers the overhead cables and third rail 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Passenger services are not the only users of the rail network. Freight trains run all through the day and night.
- Never anticipate that you know when the next train is due. Fewer passenger trains running on the rail network allows more freight services to operate during the day, transporting vital goods around the country. A freight train can travel at up to 100mph

You can also share this [video](#) with them which is suitable for secondary school aged children.

For KS1 students please use this [video](#).

For KS2 students please use this [video](#).

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

TIPS TO COPE IN HOT WEATHER SOURCE: [NHS](#)

Most of us welcome hot weather, but when it's too hot, there are health risks. During heatwaves, more people than usual get seriously ill or die. If hot weather hits this summer, make sure it does not harm you or anyone you know.

Why is a heatwave a problem?

The main risks posed by a heatwave are:

- not drinking enough water ([dehydration](#))
- overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing
- [heat exhaustion and heatstroke](#)

Who's most at risk?

A heatwave can affect anyone, but the most vulnerable people are:

- older people – especially those over 75 and female
- those who live on their own or in a care home
- people who have a serious or long-term illness including heart or lung conditions, [diabetes](#), [kidney disease](#), [Parkinson's disease](#) or some mental health conditions
- people who are on multiple medicines that may make them more likely to be badly affected by hot weather
- those who may find it hard to keep cool – babies and the very young, the bed bound, those with drug or alcohol addictions or with [Alzheimer's disease](#)
- people who spend a lot of time outside or in hot places – those who live in a top-floor flat, the homeless or those whose jobs are outside

Tips for coping in hot weather

- Keep out of the heat if you can. If you have to go outside, stay in the shade especially between 11am and 3pm, wear sunscreen, a hat and light clothes, and avoid exercise or activity that makes you hotter.

- Cool yourself down. Have cold food and drinks, avoid alcohol, caffeine and hot drinks, and have a cool shower or put cool water on your skin or clothes.
- Keep your living space cool. Close windows during the day and open them at night when the temperature outside has gone down. Electric fans can help if the temperature is below 35 degrees. Check the temperature of rooms, especially where people at higher risk live and sleep.
- For more information visit [GOV.UK: Beat the heat: staying safe in hot weather](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/beat-the-heat-staying-safe-in-hot-weather).
- You can also get help from the environmental health office at your local council, if you think a hot house is affecting your health or someone else's. They can inspect a rented home for hazards to health, including excess heat.

Watch out for signs of heat-related illness

If you or someone else feels unwell with a high temperature during hot weather, it may be heat exhaustion or heatstroke.

[Find out about the signs of heat exhaustion and heatstroke, and when to get help](#)

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING

For all our wellbeing information please click [here](#).

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2024-25

Monday 14th July	Sports Day – Field Events
Tuesday 15th July	Sports Day – Track Events
Wednesday 16th July	Year 7 Hindu Temple trip
Thursday 17th July	Wellbeing Fair, 2 nd break
	End of Term 6, 3.15pm
Friday 18th July	Staff Day
Thursday 24th July	New Year 7 Summer School
Friday 24th July	New Year 7 Summer School
	Widening Horizons (am)
Thursday 14th August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 21st August	GCSE Results Day
	Registration for the Sixth Form

Term dates for 2024/25 and 2025/26 can be found [here](#). Please check these carefully before booking holidays and trips.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEND) NEWS

Please see below BFFC commissioned short breaks for the summer holidays. Please contact the providers directly, using the links below to find out more and to book a place.

Chance to Dance Stars CIC

[Reading Directory | SEND Short Breaks -Chance to Dance Stars CIC - Dance and Multi Activity Program \(includes half terms & holidays\)](#) Short breaks are available for Reading children aged 5 years to 18 years old. We cater for children 5 years to 25 years at all our activities. (discounted short breaks not available for 19-25yrs) Chance to Dance Stars CIC will provide group activities for children & young people with disabilities to have new experiences with sport and dance, to have fun and to build upon social and physical needs.

Reading Play

[Reading Directory | SEND Short Breaks - Reading Play - Summer Holidays 2025](#) The Reading Educational Play and Support Team welcomes you to The Ranger Station as one of your [SEND](#) short break providers, we will be holding four sessions this half term. Ages 5 - 7 years, 8 - 12 years

Make Sense Theatre

[Reading Directory | SEND Short Breaks - Make Sense Theatre - Summer Holidays 2025](#) We provide a range of fun, engaging, safe, and inclusive holiday clubs tailored to a variety of [SEND](#) needs. Primary Sensory Clubs (Ages 4–11) Secondary Sensory Clubs (Ages 12–17) MLD/SLD Clubs (Ages 12–17)

Reading Football Club Community Trust

[Reading Directory | SEND Short Breaks -Summer Holidays- Reading FC SEND Play Camp - 5 - 10 years](#) - The camp is run by qualified coaches and support staff with experience in working with young people with disabilities. Over the course of the summer, we will work with the young people in multisport sessions, focusing on their engagement throughout the day whilst helping them develop fundamental skills in sport.

[Reading Directory | SEND Short Breaks - Summer Holidays - Reading FC SEND Sports Camp - 8 -18 years](#). The camp is run by qualified coaches and support staff with experience in working with young people with disabilities. Over the course of the 3 days, we will work with the young people in multisport sessions, focusing on their engagement throughout the day whilst helping them develop fundamental skills in sport.

It's here! The Summer edition of the new look **SEND Local Offer Newsletter 2025**. It's packed with lots of information including blogs from:- [Reading Directory | SEND Local Offer Newsletter Summer 2025 - Issue 38](#)

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

SPORTS DAYS

Students will be taking part in Sports Day next Monday and Tuesday, 14th and 15th July and they have received the following instructions:

Monday 14th July - Field Events - Come to school in uniform and bring all of your books and equipment for the day.

Tuesday 15th July - Track Events - Come to school in PE kit including trainers and house T shirt if you have one.

The weather could be hot so please make sure you bring the following:

Sun cream, Sun hat, 2 water bottles, snack

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

'My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humour, and some style.'— Maya Angelou

WORD OF THE WEEK: Thrive (Noun)

Definition: Thrive means to grow, develop, or be successful in a vigorous and healthy way. It's all about flourishing—whether that's in your studies, friendships, or even your hobbies. Think of it as the ultimate glow-up!

Example: 'In the vibrant community at Kendrick School, every student has the chance to thrive, discover their passions, achieve their goals, and maybe even surprise themselves along the way.'

Etymology: The word 'thrive' hails from the Old Norse word 'þrífask' which means 'to grasp' or 'to thrive'. Over the years, it has transformed into a term that captures not just survival but the joy of flourishing in all aspects of life. It's like going from a seed to a magnificent flower—quite the journey!

FACT OF THE WEEK:

Here's an inspiring fact for you: Research shows that young people who participate in extracurricular activities—like sports, music, or clubs—are more likely to thrive in school. These activities not only help develop important skills like teamwork and leadership but also boost confidence and well-being. So, whether students are participating in Sports Day or are part of a club, remember that these experiences are helping them thrive both in and out of the classroom!

VACANCIES

We will shortly be advertising for a School Administrator and Student Welfare Assistant. Keep an eye on our website and your emails for more information.

PARENTPAY AND EVOLVE REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details. Thank you for your continued support.

PARENTPAY

School fund Donation
Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations
Year 10 and 11 GCSE English set text contributions
Year 12 and 13 A level English set text contributions
Sponsored run and sponsored swim fundraiser

EVOLVEPAY

Payment can be made via trip payment emails or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up.

Year 7 instruments lesson – June/July 2025
Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day – April 2025
The Crucible – The Globe Theatre – April 2025
GCSE Drama trip to The Globe – May 2025
Year 7 Wheelie Fun Challenge – May 2025
Year 10 World of Insights programme – June 2025
Year 12 Work Experience - June 2025
Year 11 A GCSE English Literature set texts (purchase ready for September 25)
Year 13 A level English Literature set texts (purchase ready for September 25)
Year 13 Geography residential, Slapton – October 2025

EVOLVESHOP

Purchase can be made via payment links or a myEVOLVE account if you have set this up

GCSE Drama set text (The Crucible, Arthur Miller)
Year 8 Careers Event – January 2025
Year 9 and Year 10 French and German plays
German set text
Poets Society 2025 Anthology: Movement

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

KPS SUMMER FAIR

Tomorrow is this year's Summer Fair, which is the last KIPS event of the year! Kendrick Parents' Society is delighted to invite you.

There'll be fun stalls, games, food, and entertainment — all designed and run by our students. Entry is £2 per adult, and kids go free.

All funds raised will go towards the renovation of the school's medical room.

If you're a Kendrick alumna, we'd love for you to drop by and share your experiences — your stories can truly inspire our current students!

Can't make it on the day? You can still show your support by donating.

Tickets and donations - Please use the QR code on the poster or this link: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EYVZ> or on the day of the event at the door.

Please visit, have fun, and help us support this great cause!



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS

KPS Events and Refreshments Volunteers

As you are aware, we run many events and support school activities like music or drama performances during the year. We need volunteers to help these events even if for few hours. To join our team of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers, please join the WhatsApp group using this link: [KPS Events and Refreshment Volunteers](#)

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: [Kendrick 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 (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>) and ask to join – **once we have confirmed that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request.**

KPS Team