

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Thursday 30th March 2023

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

We started our school day this morning with a whole school assembly to mark the end of term. Being able to gather as a whole school, staff and students, is something that is very important to us and valuable for our Kendrick community. The assembly at this end of term is also the time when we complete the House year and the term of office of the current Kendrick Student Leaders. This morning we received reports from the House Captains, Committee Leaders and Mr Duncan about the events they have organised and led this year. They have done so much to integrate year groups and provide students with wide array of activities to be involved in. We thanked and acknowledged them for all they have done this year.

The following news items, which I have mentioned before, do are now articles on the website, please read.

- [Air Ambulance](#)
- [Holocaust Poetry Competition](#)
- [Poets' Society Anthology](#)
- [Year 9 Introduction to Careers](#)

Thank you to everyone for the success of the KPS Spring Raffle this year. We raised £7425 by the close of the raffle on Saturday, £575 short of the target of £8k. However, following the update that was sent to everyone earlier in the week, a generous parent has donated the shortfall and so we have indeed reached our target of £8k! My sincere thanks to KPS, staff and families who bought tickets. We will begin the pleasurable task of purchasing the items that this money will be able to pay for.

We finished this morning's assembly listening to two beautiful poems read by Gauri in Year 13 and Koyenum in Year 10. Gauri's poem is from the Poetry Anthology which you can read about in the link above; a most inspiring poem. Koyenum's poem is the winning poem of the Holocaust Competition called Ordinary People, the theme of this year's Holocaust Memorial Day. We also reflected on the religious themes and occasions being marked at this time of the year amongst members of our community.

To end I would like to share the poem written and read by Koyenum at this morning's assembly.

*We all fear the unknown.
The monsters hidden under the bed;
the storms raging in the blind spots of our eyes.
We curse the unpredictable
the crashing waves that swallow,
the sickness that cuts deeper than a sword.*

*But perhaps the danger is not in what we cannot see,
but in what is right under our noses.
When normal becomes synonymous
with blood running through the streets
and no one blinks an eye at murder;
When the monster under the bed wears a human face
and the storms are called a gentle breeze;
But it seems like to question it
would be to question life itself.*

*There's a comfort in the ordinary,
An ease in the commonplace-
But at what cost?*

Wishing everyone a peaceful and restful holiday. Please read the rest of the Weekly Update below.

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 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 **0800 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 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 – AVENUES OF SUPPORT DURING THE HOLIDAYS

During the Easter holidays, if you are worried about a child or have safeguarding concern you can contact the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free - call on [0800 800 5000](tel:08008005000) 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.

There is also a wealth of information on our [Safeguarding pages](#) and [Mental Health and Wellbeing pages](#) on our website.

Under 25s	Over 25s	Parents
YOUNGMINDS Crisis Messenger Text YM to 85258 Open 24/7	mind Call 0300 123 3393 9am - 6pm, Mon - Fri	YOUNGMINDS Parents Helpline Call 0808 802 5544 9:30am - 4pm, Mon - Fri
THE MIX Call 0808 808 4994 3pm - 12am, every day	SAMARITANS Call 116 123 Open 24/7	
childline Call 0800 1111 7:30am - 3:30am, every day	For more advice and information visit: youngminds.org.uk/find-help	

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING – TEXT MESSAGE SUPPORT

Some people find text message support easier because it's quicker than writing an email, arranging a phone call or attending a face-to-face appointment. It is also another way of reaching out to friends and family, particularly if this feels easier to you than having a verbal conversation. Although there are mixed opinions on the impact of social media on our mental health, texting can certainly connect you to people from a distance so that you can let them know what you're going through, rather than feeling alone with your thoughts. It's useful to assess how texting makes you feel and only continue using it if you feel it's helping – for example, there shouldn't be any pressure to text someone back right away or talk long into the night if you don't want to, and this can distract from things we need, such as a good amount of sleep.

AFC Crisis Messenger

The AFC Crisis Messenger text service provides free, 24/7 crisis support for young people across the UK.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need support, you can text **AFC** to **85258**.

Read more about the [AFC Crisis Messenger](#).

Anna Freud
National Centre for
Children and Families

shout

In crisis?
Need support?

24
hours a day
7
days a week

Text AFC to 85258

Text the free, anonymous crisis textline

All texts are answered by trained volunteers,
with support from experienced clinical specialists

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 5, 2022-23

Monday 17th April	First day of Term 5, 8.25am
Friday 21st April	Year 10 & 11 KPS Film Night
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday – school closed to students and staff
Tuesday 2nd May	Year 7 Parent Consultations
Thursday 4th May	Learning & Teaching Governor Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 5th May	Coronation Garden Party
Monday 8th May	Coronation Bank Holiday – school closed to students and staff
Wednesday 10th May	KPS Meeting online at 6pm
Thursday 11th May	Year 13 Celebration Day
	Resources Governor Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 12th May	Year 11 Celebration Day
Monday 15th May	Start of external exams
Friday 19th May	Start of Year 10 exams
Monday 22nd May	Year 8 Buscraft Trip departs
Thursday 25th May	Performance & Review Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 26th May	End of Term 5, 3.25pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2022-23 and 2023-24 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

BURSARIES AND GRANTS

The deadline for applying for one our bursaries or grants is Friday 19th May 2023. For more information on each bursary or grant please click [here](#).

KENDRICK CHICKENS

We would very much like to hear from any parent/carer who is a veterinary professional who would be willing to give us some support/advice with regard to our chickens. With an arrangement in place, we would feel in a better position to provide the best wellbeing for our birds. Please contact admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or Mrs Rock if you are able to help.

TEEN PPP PROGRAMME

Parenting at Brighter Futures for Children will be delivering parenting programmes **which start after Easter**. There are still places available on the Teen PPP programme.

Teen PPP programme is for parents whose child is aged between 11-19 years

Starts Tuesday 25 April - Tuesday 27 June 2023 from 9am -12pm for 9 weeks.

The programme supports parents to deal with their teenager's risky behaviours, promotes their teen's development and equip parents with evidenced based strategies to any manage escalating behaviours."

To enquire or book your place, please contact: parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org 07812 462799

SEND SHORT BREAKS – EASTER HOLIDAYS 2023

The programme for the SEND Short Breaks funded by BFC over the Easter holidays has been published and sessions are now available to book:

- [Make/Sense Theatre](#)
 - [Multi-Sport Camp](#) run by RFC Community Trust (8-18 years)
 - [Easter Play Camp](#) (5-7 years)
 - [Easter Holiday Sessions – Reading Play](#) – Ranger Stations
 - [Chance To Dance Stars CIC](#) – Dance and Multi Activity
-

FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY – FRIDAY 14TH APRIL 2023

A Festival of Inclusivity is taking place at Palmer Park Leisure Centre and Stadium on **Friday 14 April, 9am-4pm**. The event, organised by GLL, is for anyone aged eight or over with a physical, learning or neurological condition. There is an opportunity for individuals to participate and try out a mix of sports, including athletics, football, rugby, wheelchair rugby and cricket. There will also be a fundraising element, with a sponsored mile taking place to close the day. This promises to be a fun day out, with families welcome to come and watch. Organisers are encouraging participants to bring a picnic and spend the day there. Registration for this event is now open:

<https://sport2getherberks.org/>.

ACCELERATION TRAMPOLINE CLUB

Acceleration Trampoline Club would like to extend an offer to all students at Kendrick School for a free trampoline session over the 2-week Easter break.

The sessions will be held in Sports Hall at Kendrick School, and delivered by a fully qualified and experienced British Gymnastics Trampoline Coach.

Contact Alan at accelerationtc@gmail.com for more details and to register for your free session.

VACANCIES

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. Please click on the links for more information on the roles and how to apply and please share with friends and family.

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. Please read the information on our Safer Recruitment procedures [here](#).

Part-time [Music Teacher](#) to cover a maternity leave – for end of February 2023 or September 2023 to December 2023. Applications will be dealt with on receipt.

[Exam Invigilators](#) – for the 2023 exam season

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details. Please could you check your child's account and ensure that any overdrafts are paid. Thank you.

Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE English set texts
Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level English set texts
Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and technology contributions
Year 10 and 11 Art and Textiles contributions
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
Year 9 and Year 10 French Play - 7th March 2023
Year 9 and Year 10 German Play – 25th April 2023
Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase
KPS department birthday gift - celebrating Kendrick's 145th year
The Poets' Society Anthology - £3 per copy

Trips

GCSE and A level Art visit to Tate galleries Thursday- 2nd February 2023
Year 11 History visit to The Corn Exchange Theatre Newbury -28th February 2023
Geography Field Trip to Hengistbury Head and Hurst Castle Spit - 20th March 2023
Year 12 and Year 13 Classics and Latin students trip – 6th March 2023
Year 12 UCAS Discovery trip – 20th April 2023
Year 8 Bushcraft Residential - May 2023
Year 12 French and History trip - June 2023.

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

SPRING RAFFLE

The KPS would once again like to thank everyone for making the Spring Raffle a success. When school resumes after the Easter break the students will discuss and decide (via the school council) how they will spend a quarter of the money raised in the raffle. We will inform you of their choices in future KPS Newsletters.

The KPS would like to wish everyone a lovely Easter break.