

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 26th May 2023

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

This time last year, I shared with you the news that we had received a significant grant following our successful bid to the **Conditions Improvement Fund Project (CIF)**. This project was to fund repairs and renovations to the Cedars building, our Drama and Music Block. The work has not started yet, but we hope to have contractors on site next month and the project completed by September 2023 when we return to school for the new academic year. This year, I am delighted to report that we have been successful again in a bid for a CIF grant, this time the project is to replace fire doors in the Main School. While this injection of capital, approximately £290k, will not have an immediate impact on learning and teaching in school, it will of course make our school safer and meet the standards expected of new regulations in this area.

A key characteristic of our school is the quality of learning and teaching, delivered by our teachers who today are having a Curriculum Day. This time has enabled them to work in their departments focusing on teaching and learning, planning and development of schemes of work and lessons for the coming year. Gathered in different locations across the school, some intense and rich conversations have been taking place on curriculum and development. There is never enough time for this kind of work and so our dedicated day at this time of year is invaluable. A local Christian group called Reach has kindly come into school to provide coffee and cake at break time which has helped the day go very well. Churches local to our school have baked the cakes and volunteers, Sarah and her colleagues, served them to the staff. We are enormously grateful for this kind gesture.

Elsewhere in the school public examinations are taking place with Year 13 and 11 who have been managing a rigorous timetable of exams these last two weeks. I am very proud of how they have all settled into this new work routine, being at school on time and prepared for each exam. The careful preparation, thorough teaching, robust assessment and general support and encouragement they have received over the last two years puts them in a very good position to manage these exams successfully. Year 10 and 12 are taking school exams, Year 10 finishing today and Year 12 starting after half term.

Outside of the formal curriculum, students in Year 8 enjoyed four days away at Bushcraft camp, experiencing all sorts of activities and outdoor skills. I thank the staff, led by Mme Hulley, Head of Key Stage 3, who accompanied the trip for their efforts and the time they have given to be with the students and away from their families this week. Yesterday Year 7 were involved in a Wheelie Fun Business Challenge organised by Mrs Rock, our Work-Related Coordinator, an exercise in working in teams creating a business idea. I believe they had a lot of fun doing this while at the same time developing cooperation and negotiating skills. Also, this week, 9ED presented a well-informed and researched assembly on drugs and the misuse of illegal drugs which also included a survey of their year group about views on the issue. Their sensible and mature approach to the topic and its presentation to their peers was impressive.

I would like to suggest some half term reading and viewing if time permits and if you have not done this already. The [Asteria magazine](#) that I mentioned last week, a joint Kendrick and Reading School publication, is well worth a read. Also, if you have not seen this yet, please take some time to watch the seminar and slides presented by Jenny Langley of the Charlie Waller organisation about supporting students manage anxiety, as well as, information and guidance on good parenting approaches with our young people. Our students work so very hard every day at school, perhaps by means of helping them we should all do what we can to understand some of the issues they go through during their different stages of development so that we can be even better parents and educationalists to them. You can access the recording [here](#) (password: CWTJL180523) and slides [here](#).

Finally, I would like to end this week by remembering Sahana, a Year 7 Kendrick student who died this time last year. Sahana had been unwell and was undergoing treatment which we hoped would make her better, but sadly this was not to be. We continue to remember Sahana as a delightful child, who loved her school, enjoyed learning, and brought happiness and joy to everyone's life.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and restful weekend and half term break.

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

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

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SELF CARE PLAN

Just as we look after our physical health, it's important to look after our mental health. In fact, the two are closely connected. Most of us will know what it's like to feel worried, stressed or low from time to time. We might be affected by our relationships with friends and classmates or things we see on the news, and we might feel worried about school or our home lives. This is understandable.

So how should we manage when we're having difficult feelings? There are lots of things you can do to look after your own mental health and wellbeing. [This booklet](#) from Anna Freud will give you some ideas of things you can try, to help you find what works for you.

WELLBEING NEWSLETTER NO.3 – SELF ESTEEM AND BELIEVING IN YOURSELF

Self-esteem is how we think, see and feel about ourselves. It isn't just about how we physically look but also how confident we feel.

Good self-esteem means we feel good about ourselves and confident in who we are and in our abilities. When we have good self-esteem, we're not too worried about what other people think, or how much we get wrong, because we accept ourselves just the way we are, without judgement. It also means we believe we are worthy and deserving of all the good things in life.

But sometimes, we might find it hard to believe in ourselves and feel good enough. That's okay - it's normal to struggle with our self-esteem and this can change at different times in our lives.

Wellbeing Newsletter No.3 - Self-Esteem and Believing in Yourself

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 6, 2022-23

Monday 5 th June	Start of Term 6, 8.25am Year 12 Exam Week External Exams continue
Tuesday 12 th June	Information Evening for Year 12 History/French Trip
Wednesday 13 th June	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip
Thursday 14 th June	Year 10 Geography Rivers Trip L&T Governor meeting, 4.30pm
Sunday 18 th June	Biology Dale trip departs
Monday 19 th June	French and History trip departs
Wednesday 21 st June	New Year 7 Induction sessions
Thursday 22 nd June	Resources Governor meeting, 4.30pm
Monday 26 th June	Year 13 Farewell Tea Party
Tuesday 27 th June	INSET Day. School closed to students other than those taking exams
Thursday 29 th June	Sixth Form Induction Day New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
Saturday 1 st July	KPS Summer Festival
Monday 3 rd July	Futures Week Creative Arts Festival Week
Wednesday 5 th July	Profiling Day KPS Meeting (online) UCAS Parents' Information Evening, 5.30pm
Thursday 6 th July	Summer Concert Full Governing Body Meeting, 4.30pm
Monday 10 th July	Sports Day
Tuesday 11 th July	Year 7 trip to Neasden Hindu Temple
Friday 14 th July	End of Term 6 for students
Monday 17 th July	Staff Day
Tuesday 18 th July	Staff Day

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

CREATING WRITING WORKSHOPS AT WOKINGHAM LIBRARY, SUMMER 2023

These workshops, run by **Igniting Writing**, are available for all pupils in Year 6-13 and held at Wokingham Library. **Each workshop costs just £5 to attend** (to be paid in cash on the day). Attendees will also need to **bring a packed lunch**, as there will be a lunch break for both workshops.

Email **Ms Fieldsend** for the links, or go to the Wokingham Libraries website and navigate from there.

The first workshop session will be on **Saturday 22nd July, 10:30am to 3:00pm, on the topic of sports stories**. We'll be exploring why people around the world connect with sport on such an instinctual level and how it can be used in stories to craft interesting plots, characters and motivations! The link to register is [here](#).

The second workshop session will be on **Saturday 29th July, 10:30am to 3:00pm, and is all about chain stories**. This workshop will be about creating collaborative stories, where everyone writes part of a story and then hands it onto

another group member to continue crafting the characters, settings, plotlines, worldbuilding and more! The link to register is [here](#).

FOOTBALL FOR YOUTH MENTAL WELLBEING

Sport in Mind is running a new weekly football session for 10-14 year olds every Wednesday, 4.30- 5.30pm. The free session on the 3G pitch at Prospect Park, west Reading, offers a great way of helping to build self-confidence, support self-esteem and meet new friends. Places can be booked by email to: youth@sportinmind.org.

INFORMATION EVENING – THE HENLEY COLLEGE

As part of the [Baker Clause](#), we are letting students know about alternative provisions for post-16 education.

Click [here](#) to book your place at the Henley College Information Evening in the heart of beautiful Henley on Thames.

Find out more about the three new T Levels they are introducing this September along with their wide range of A Levels and vocational courses.

VACANCIES

Currently we do not have any vacancies at Kendrick School.

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
Coach trips to Palmer Stadium: Athletics Season – Term 5 2023
Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations

Trips

Year 12 French and History trip - June 2023
Year 12 A level Biology: Dale Fort centre residential trip – June 2023
Year 10 work experience insight programme 28th June 2023
Year 12 work experience insight programme 16th June 2023
Year 7 Swaminarayan Hindu Temple trip 11th July 2023

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

KENDRICK SUMMERFEST

Our summer event is planned for **1st July from 11 to 3 pm**. We still do not have many stalls to put so if you are

willing to put a stall or know anyone , a small or a medium to large local business who is able to put a stall, please email KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

THE GREAT KENDRICK BAKE OFF COMPETITION

We are hosting a bake off competition for Kendrick Students only on that day. We would welcome entries from students via the [google form](#) or copy & paste the link in your browser. We will send you further instructions closer to the date of the event. There are no other eligibility rules, all we need is your creativity and innovativeness :-)!!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSffkbf9OEaaNyQNK5NufbPctbKcKS3LHv0nxCWylf2xyE62ug/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

The Pre-loved Uniform Shop will be open on Saturday the 10th of June, 9-11am in the Conservatory. Special offer to buy one and get one free for skirts and trousers.

DONATIONS

Please bring in any donations of uniform and PE kit during the first week of next term, ready for the planned shop opening. There is a box for the donations by the Servedy. Your donations are much appreciated and help us raise funds for the school.

