

# Kendrick School - Weekly Update

## Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

### LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

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The long-awaited performances of *Into the Woods* started on Wednesday evening with an enthusiastic cast, musicians and crew and an eagerly awaiting audience of staff, family and friends. The performances on Wednesday and Thursday evenings have lived up to expectations and have been amazing! The musical 'Into the Woods' is not an easy production to take on and the singing parts and musical accompaniment appear quite a challenge. However, the talent of our students and staff has meant they have responded to the challenge of the work and put on an incredible show. The staging and set design are also impressive with the excellent puppetry in the design and make-up of Milky White, Jack's cow who is managed by the students and appears almost real! Well done to all the staff, in particular the key staff in the Music and Drama Departments: Mrs Cooper, Mrs Rohweder, Miss Hyde, Miss Waller and Miss Rodriguez who have been leading the production. Also Mrs Souch in the Art Department who has led the set design and all the other staff and visiting musicians who have helped with the music, costumes, programmes, technical areas and all other areas required for a production of this scale to take place. And, of course, the best of all are the students who as always respond the challenge of this complex and demanding music and acting with enthusiasm and determination, resulting in another wonderful achievement for our school. Well done to you all. Those attending tonight, the last performance, I know will appreciate the event even more with everyone - cast and musicians being even more practised and perfect in their performances. Thank you to you all and thank you to KPS for providing the refreshments in particular the delicious samosas!

On a completely different topic, this week we launched a Work Experience programme for our Year 12 students, the first work experience of its kind we have been able to do since before the pandemic. As we all know the pandemic had the effect of changing working patterns in business with the emergence of home working and flexible working models. This has made it difficult for us to secure placements for all our students at a particular time. The result has been that students have made their own arrangements to do ad-hoc work experience, often in school time which impacts on their learning as lessons may be missed. Working with a consultant organisation, Learning to Work, we are trialling a pilot project to place our students on work experience for four days in June 2025. In order to secure placements, all parents will be asked to offer any placement positions for students to go to in their organisation or workplace, then Learning To Work will undertake security and safeguarding checks to enable the placement to be confirmed. We are excited to embark on this new project which will enable our students to benefit from such an important experience in the workplace. Information is being sent to Year 12 parents this week and an on-line parent event is scheduled for further explanation and Q and A. Information will be sent to all parents to begin to gather a data base of placements which we hope will enable us to find a position for all our students to go to. This will also support the organisation of our Careers Fair, Design Your Future which we run every other year and will take place in March 2025.

On the website this week for you to read are the following articles:

- [Year 12 Longleat Safari Trip](#)
- [Arushi Wins Gold Aware in the BPhO Computational Challenge](#)
- [Jessica Wins Royal Academy of Art's President Prize 2024](#)
- [Visit from Award winning Author Manjit Mann](#)

Returning to our production of *Into the Woods* this year, taking on such a challenge in the middle of winter and in the middle of a term which is so busy with curriculum work, would seem an extra activity we do not need to do. I am grateful to our staff for providing this opportunity for students across the school to be able to share and showcase their talents and abilities in a way we do not always see or know. Our students are not just academically able, they are also outstanding musicians, actors, vocalists and creative people who should be given the opportunity to express themselves and their talents in ways the conventional classroom does not allow. In a few weeks' time we will be having our Dance Enterprise Day, another opportunity for all students, including the talented dancers I know we have in school, to display their art to us. This is the broad and balanced education that I am proud Kendrick School offers its students which also provides everyone with a sense of community and belonging that contributes to our

ethos and values. Thank you to everyone - students, staff, parents, trustees for your support and encouragement in all we do.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

**Ms Christine Kattirtzi**  
Headteacher

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## KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

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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.



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## SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

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### WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School, please email [studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).**

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## SAFEGUARDING

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### USING AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS, TUITION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES Source: [Gov.uk](#)

This guidance is for parents and carers. It explains what school and activities clubs, tutors and coaches should be doing to provide a safe environment for the children <sup>[footnote 1](#)</sup> that attend their setting. Settings could include:

- community activities - for example, youth clubs
- before- and after-school clubs
- holiday clubs
- supplementary schools - for example, language, cultural and religious

- private tuition
- music lessons
- sports training and coaching

A typical provider may be:

- a tutor who works alone from their home
- a coach who runs training sessions in a sports field for children
- a club with volunteers or paid staff members

There is no single legal framework that governs how clubs and activities for children operate. Although these settings offer provision for children, their staff members and volunteers are not typically inspected, overseen or assessed by any regulatory organisation.

This means that when choosing a club, tutor or coach for your child, it's important to:

- ask questions
- check the [policies](#) and insurance they have in place

You should feel able to ask questions about the provider's activities and policies. A well-run and trustworthy provider will welcome questions. They should be willing to give this kind of information to anyone who leaves a child in their care.

To satisfy yourself that it is a safe environment, you may wish to:

- meet the providers before your child attends a first session
- ask providers if you can meet with them during a session

If a provider is going to be working on a one-to-one basis with your child (such as in the case of a private tutor), you may wish to supervise sessions.

For more information on raising a concern about a tutor, club or coach, choosing a suitable club, tutor or coach, and other important information, please click [here](#).

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## STAYING SAFE ONLINE

### FAKE NEWS, HOAXES AND MISINFORMATION SOURCE [NSPCC](#)

#### What's real and what's false online?

Digital platforms have made it easier for anyone to share information online, and it can be difficult to determine whether something is real or false.

What a young person sees online can shape how they view the world and impact their overall wellbeing. It's important to talk to them about how misinformation spreads and how to look out for it.

#### What do we mean by misinformation and disinformation?

False information that is spread online is known as misinformation or disinformation. These are most commonly referred to as 'fake news' or 'hoaxes'.

**Misinformation** is where false information is shared by accident without the intent to cause harm. For example, sharing inaccurate photos, quotes or dates online because you believe them to be true.

**Disinformation** is false information shared deliberately to mislead and cause harm. For example, fabricated news stories and political propaganda.

For examples of misinformation and disinformation, how to spot it and how to report it, please click [here](#).

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

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### NOTICING YOUR TRIGGERS SOURCE [ANNA FREUD](#)

Noticing your triggers is something that can be difficult to learn. When you are in emotional distress of any kind, it can be hard to see 'outside' of that experience to what might have caused it, as the experience itself is very overwhelming. That's why it can be useful to think about this even when you're feeling better or your distress has somewhat subsided, as it could help you protect yourself from environments that negatively impact your mental health.

A trigger might be obvious, for example, an upsetting word or image, but could also be harder to pinpoint, for example, a general sense of unease after spending a lot of time with someone or talking about a particular topic in depth.

Another reason it can be difficult to spot triggers is that they may be things that are part of every day, 'normal' life, which aren't always things we are taught that we can question or challenge. For example, some people find loud noises particularly alarming, and find that they trigger symptoms of panic, fear or anxiety, so they would feel safer in environments where people try to be actively mindful of that.

It is always okay to say something if there is an activity, experience or conversation that causes you emotional distress - you might find that something can be done to avoid having to encounter it again. Ultimately, you deserve to be in an environment that makes you feel safe and secure.

Psychology Today has these [top tips](#) to managing your emotional triggers which you may find helpful.

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### KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

For all our **Wellbeing Newsletters** please click [here](#).

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 2, 2024-25

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<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Widening Horizons Information Evening, 4pm
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Profiling Day Year 7 Study Skills Trustees Resources Committee, 4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	GCSE Presentation Event, 2.30pm
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	KPS Meeting, 6pm
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 11 Parents' Consultation
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Former Students and Staff Reunion event, 3.45pm
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Start of Fringe Fortnight Dance Enterprise Day
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Dance Performance Day Year 13 Parents' Consultations
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Concert, 6.30pm
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Full Trustee Body Meeting, 4.30pm
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 13 Presentation Event
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas dinner day in the canteen
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	End of Term 3, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2024-25 and 2025-26 please click [here](#)

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## CAREERS GUIDANCE AND EVENTS

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Please note that whilst we are happy to share these opportunities with you, we are unable to endorse or recommend them.

### FREE ONLINE KING'S COLLEGE LONDON MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY LECTURE

**SERIES** - now open! [application form](#) for students who are interested in becoming a **doctor** or **dentist**.

Applications will close on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January.

Lectures include;

- Medical and dental specialties: cardiology, oral surgery, renal transplant, and many more!
- Q&A's each week with current medical and dental students.
- Support with the application process: UCAT, personal statements, and interviews.
- Q&A with admissions colleagues in the school of medicine at KCL, UCL, St George's, Queen Mary, Brunel, and Imperial. [students should follow this link](#).

For students studying at a **state selective** school, they must meet one of our **widening participation criteria**. For full details, please see the application form.

### VIRTUAL BUSINESS & ACCOUNTING EVENT TAKING PLACE WITH KPMG

on Monday 9th December 5pm – 6pm.

This is an opportunity to hear from one of the largest accounting and professional services firms in the world. During the event they will hear about the consulting, audit and tax degree apprenticeship options, work experience and in-person events at their offices.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/29X225X>

### NHS ALLIED HEALTHCARE WORK EXPERIENCE - PAEDIATRIC PATHWAYS

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December - exploring the journeys of two patients from initial presentation to full recovery. Students will gain invaluable perspectives on patient care dynamics and the collaborative efforts within the NHS

Sign up here:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

### APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY WITH THE BBC IN BERKSHIRE.

Closes November 28<sup>th</sup>.  
<https://careers.bbc.co.uk/job/Reading-Journalist-Apprenticeship-Level-5-Reading-RG1-1PT/805710602/>

### ARCH EVENT - EXPLORING HEALTHCARE

If you're interested in a career in healthcare, have you thought about which area you would want to specialise in? Abbey Alumna Dr Shonelle Novintan will share her career story of becoming a plastic surgeon, why specialisms are so important and how, when they work together, they can truly change lives.

Dr Novintan will be joined by dentists, a speech and language practitioner, a clinical psychologist and a trainee Maxillo-facial surgeon who all support the charity CLEFT ([cleft.org.uk](http://cleft.org.uk))

This is an amazing opportunity to learn about the pathway into their roles, how they're all giving back through the charity and take part in some hands-on activities! How good would you be with a suture kit? Come and find out!

Join us for an evening of inspiration and insight on **Thursday 28 November, from 19.00 to 20.35**. Please register your place via the following link on The Abbey's Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/arch-exploring-healthcare-tickets-1049443613097?aff=oddtcreator> **GET INTO**

**DENTISTRY CONFERENCE:** Sunday 1st December from 9:30am - 3:30pm

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9Iwk6/shrBuiR7SBACc19kE>

**GET INTO MEDICINE CONFERENCE:** Saturday 23rd November from 9:30am - 3:30pm

Sunday 24th November from 9:30am - 3:30pm

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9Iwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

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## NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

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### TEEN POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAMME (run by Brighter Futures for Children)

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Fairview Community Centre, 90B Great Knollys Street, Reading RG1 7HL

- Is your child 11-19 years old?
- Do you want to support your child when they show distressing behaviour?
- Do you want to help your teenager make positive choices?

Join our evidence based flexible parents programme. The group aims to strengthen your relationship with your teenager, promote your teen's development and equip you to help them recognise and avoid risky situations.

The programme is delivered in nine two-hour weekly group sessions on Tuesdays, term time only.

To enquire or book your place, please contact [parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org) or call 0118 9374858.

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## VACANCIES

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We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. More information on each of the roles can be found on our website [here](#). Please pass on this information to family and friends.

**Caretaker.** To join us in January 2025. 10am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Deadline for applications Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.

**Exam Invigilators.** We are looking for Invigilators for the 2024/25 exam season. If you are interested in this role, then please visit our [website](#) or email [exams@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:exams@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) for an informal chat. Please note that Year 11 parents would not be able to invigilate GCSEs and Year 13 parents would not be able to invigilate A Levels.

*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.*

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## PARENTPAY REMINDERS

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*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.*

School fund Donation

Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations



A level Maths graphical calculator  
Year 7 Profiling Day – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### **Trips**

Year 12 Wokingham Waterside Centre September 2024  
Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Drama trip to Oxford November 2024  
Year 10 2025 MFL (France or Germany trip) deposit  
Ultimate Frisbee, Bristol, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
A level Sociology in Action conference – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
The Legacy of East Germany in film, Southbank, London 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024

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## **KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)**

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**SCHOOL PRODUCTION – INTO THE WOODS** What a fantastic performance, a great job done by students and staff. It's mesmerising vocal, acting, background and music, well supported by parents, carers and families. Sold out third day (22/11/24) performance is a testament for the same.

KPS and volunteer team supported with refreshments 2 days so far and looking forward for the last day as well. Happy to be associated with such an event which channels and showcases exceptional talent.

**LAUNCH OF YEAR 2025 WISH LIST PROJECT** **Wish List Project** for this festive season, i.e. Dec is being setup to bring joy and generosity to our school, directly benefiting students and enhancing their school experience.

More details of the launch will be circulated shortly and we appreciate your continued support. Feel free to reach out to [KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:KPSChair@kendrick.reading.sch.uk) for any ideas, input and feedback on this initiative.

**PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP** Next pre-loved uniform store **opens on Saturday 11th January 2024, 9am - 11am in the Conservatory**, conveniently located in the Conservatory next to the school library.



**Parking is usually available in the Cedars car park** along London Road, just past the dentist near the traffic light.

Parents and carers are welcome to utilise the opportunity.

If you have uniform, PE kit or lab coats to donate, your donation can be left either at Reception or the students can leave it in a collection box by the Servery.

### **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS**

#### **KPS Events and Refreshments Volunteers**

As you are aware, we run many events and also 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**