

# Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

---

*Out of Time* was the theme of last night's House Drama productions, such an intriguing idea which each of the houses interpreted differently. Palmer applied the theme to an orchestra, basing the plot on music and musicians involved in an orchestra. The play explored the complex personal relationships and rivalries within the group and its conductor. As well as some super individual performances, the play contained some joyful music and some quirky moments. Cedars' play was a whodunnit which kept us on the edge of our seats in terms of the tension and theatrical techniques used. We followed the thought processes of a detective and his assistant as they worked out who was the murderer. Incredible use of light and sound made this an intense play to watch. Sidmouth's play used the visual prop of an hourglass which accompanied the key characters as they managed the power of time and succession in a mythical world. Strong stage presence of the lead characters kept us all engaged in the mythical story and lyrical lines conveying a message that no one can control time. All three houses made an outstanding effort demonstrating teamwork, creativity and enjoyment in planning and presenting such great plays. Many thanks to all the staff involved in supporting the students in their work and the students for giving us all such pleasure and great entertainment last night. The winning house was Cedars House, well done to Cedars.

Students have received a lot of information this week. Following assemblies to KS3 and 4, all students have now received information about the [Bursaries and Grants](#) available to them. On Tuesday, it was [Safer Internet Day](#) and Mr Duncan prepared a [presentation](#) for all students to watch during their form time. The presentation highlighted the techniques used by scammers to trick people into responding to them and ways we should all use to protect ourselves from scams and fraud online. The key message being not give away personal or financial information to anyone online who may be offering you something that is just too good to be true. Look carefully at emails/texts or any messages that you do not know or recognise and report anything you receive that you may think is suspicious.

The group of Year 13 students I mentioned a few weeks ago held their fund-raising events for Syria this week and I am told they raised over their target amount of £1k. Well done to them and to everyone for contributing to the fund raising by buying the cakes and treats the students made and brought into school for sale. The money raised will go to the UN charity for aid to Syria.

Finally, thank you to students and staff for their tremendous efforts this term. Although a short term, it has still been intense and fast paced. I hope that everyone takes time to relax and refresh and set aside schoolwork. Our Year 13 students, come back to mocks after half term so I know they will be revising and preparing themselves for their exams, but I hope they too can take some time to rest and relax this holiday.

Please read further into the update for some useful information and reminders about safeguarding and wellbeing guidance, including trying to spend more time outdoors.

With all best wishes,  
**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](mailto: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 **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 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](mailto:studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk).**

---

## SAFEGUARDING

---

### HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS SOURCE [BBC BITESIZE](#)

#### What is fake news?

Fake news means news that is completely untrue – it has been made up.

#### Where did fake news come from?

Fake news isn't actually new – people have been making up news for centuries. Social media means it is easier for these stories to spread and this means it is a bigger problem for us. It is also much more difficult to stop these stories from being published because there aren't checks on what gets put on the internet.

#### There are two main types of fake news:

1. **Disinformation** – this is fake or misleading stories created and shared deliberately, often by a writer who might have a financial or political motive, e.g. propaganda. These stories were published even though the person publishing them knew they were false.
2. **Misinformation** – this also includes fake or misleading stories, but in this case the stories may not have been deliberately created or shared with the intention to mislead. Sometimes stories are published where the facts haven't been checked properly or some of the story might be true but other bits may have been exaggerated.

**Pause before you share:**

1. **Watch out for the “woah”** – emotion fuels fake news. When you see something that makes you feel super sad or super happy, it might be playing on your emotions to get a reaction
2. **Beware exaggeration** – words like “terrible”, “worst”, “amazing” or “shocking” add drama to a story and make us want to click on it
3. **Fight the ‘Illusory Truth Effect’** – the more you hear or see something, the more likely you are to believe it’s true – even if it’s not. If a story seems to be everywhere, remember that doesn’t mean it’s 100% fact
4. **Check your ‘filter bubble’** – social media and ads are designed to suggest stories that match your browsing habits, interests and opinions, so watch out for being taken in by fake news that sounds too good to be true!

BBC Bitesize has a lot of very useful resources that you can share with your child/young person explaining [why fake news is dangerous](#) and [how to spot fake news](#). You can also take their [Happy Valentines: Can you spot the real celebrity couples from the AI](#) online quiz!

---

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

---

### SELF CARE - SPENDING TIME OUTSIDE DURING HALF TERM

If you're anxious or feeling low, it can be really easy to slowly spend more and more time indoors and at home. We've all been there! Some people find the simple act of forcing yourself to get out of the house, whether to a café to people watch or to the park for a walk, can be a good way to change up your mental state by changing the environment you're in.

If this is something you really struggle with and it feels like a big step, why not just try to get to the end of your road or give yourself a set amount of time, such as 5 minutes, to stay outside? It may feel tricky, but you may also find that once you've made that first step of getting out the house, the times goes by without too much effort.

*I spend so much time worrying what I'll do when out of the house, what I'll think about and what I'll say if there's someone with me. It can get to the point I have panic attacks and dread it. But usually once I'm actually out those things aren't a problem and it helps me take my mind off of things.*

In [this video](#), Kim and Live share how being outside helps them as a family.

#### What young people have told Anna Freud:

*'It helped me focus on the things around me and to be more mindful.'*

*'I found being outside in the fresh air really freeing. I listen to music and i just go for a walk around the block or a park. It's very nice to just for a little bit not really think of anything.'*

*'Being inside can give a feeling of confinement. Going outside can give the opposite feeling. When you're outside there are things to do. things to view. which may take your mind of the stress.'*

*'Being outside really helps give your mind a break. Also it helps to wake me up and re-charge my mind. Taking photos further let me stop stressing about what was on my mind and focus on a different and creative task.'*

---

## KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING

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

---

## SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 4, 2024-25

---

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 13 Mock Exam week

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Sixth Form external applicants consultations

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February**

KPS Own Clothes Day

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

KPS Pre-Loved Uniform Sale (see KPS news below)

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

KPS Online Drop In with Ms Kattirtzi and Miss Hyde (see KPS news below)

<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Sixth Form Computing trip to Bletchley Park
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day
	Design Your Future Careers Event at Kendrick School
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Kendrick Student Leaders (KSL) voting opens (students only)
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 9 Parents' Consultation
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Air Ambulance Concert
	Year 11 German trip to Reading University
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 13 Leavers photo
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	KSL Voting closes
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 12 Maths trip to The Hexagon
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 12 Geography Coasts trip
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	A Level Music Performances
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	KPS Disco for Year 8 & 9
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Profiling Day
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	A Level Biology trip to Oxford
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Trustee Day
	Year 11 English trip to London - The Shakespeare Globe
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	Spring Concert
	KPS Sixth Form Online Drop In with Ms Kattirtzi
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	Year 13 Celebration Day
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Year 11 Celebration Day

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

---



---

## NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

---

### DESIGN YOUR FUTURE CAREERS EVENT

# Kendrick School



in conjunction with

Learning to Work

## DESIGN YOUR FUTURE

An exciting opportunity for students and their parents to meet and talk to professionals from a wide range of career paths

**WHEN**  
**Thursday 6th March 2025**  
**4.30pm to 7.00pm**

**WHERE**  
**Kendrick School Hall**

**BESPOKE  
CAREERS EVENT  
EXCLUSIVELY FOR  
KENDRICK  
STUDENTS AND  
THEIR PARENTS  
IN YEARS 9 AND  
ABOVE**

Learn about specific sectors, job roles and career paths

Discover post-16 options

Explore work experience opportunities

Hear insights from high-profile local employers

Investigate career entry pathways, including qualifications, degrees, and apprenticeships

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

---

**HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2025 POETRY COMPETITION** This Holocaust Memorial Day, we all have an opportunity to act for a better future. A time where people are not suffering prejudice or persecution because of their faith, ethnicity or other characteristic.

Activity: **Write a poem highlighting the theme for this year 'For A Better Future'**

Further information can be found at: <https://www.hmd.org.uk/>

Please submit to the library either by hand or via email: [library@kendrick.reading.sch.uk](mailto:library@kendrick.reading.sch.uk)

Deadline: **Monday 3rd March 2025, 17:00**

---

## CAREERS GUIDANCE AND EVENTS

---

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

---

**ORACLE WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY | VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE | 17-19 February | 10am-3pm | Age 16-19 / [Young people apply here by 30/01/25](#)**

Are you looking to explore career paths and gain real insights into the tech world? Oracle is the 3rd biggest software company in the world with over 160,000 employees across 75 different countries. This unique experience is tailored to help you explore your future career options in tech—whether you've thought about it before or are just curious.

Discover diverse roles in areas like marketing, design, social impact, and engineering—there's so much more behind the scenes of a tech company than you might think. Our programme is delivered by Oracle interns from prestigious universities, many not much older than you! They've built a program that addresses what they wish they'd known at your age. You'll walk away with an experience you can talk about on your CV and through interactive workshops, we'll equip you with the skills to talk about it well. This experience is designed for anyone interested in exploring diverse career paths—no technology background required! Just bring your curiosity and an open mind, and we'll take care of the rest.

---

## **PWC VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE DAY** Tuesday, 18th February - 10am - 3pm

### ***Gain Real-World Experience with PwC***

Are you a Year 11, 12, or 13 student interested in gaining work experience with one of the world's leading professional services firms?

Join the PwC Virtual Experience Day during February half term to explore career opportunities in business, finance, accounting, and professional services while developing key employability skills.

#### **Event Details**

Date: Tuesday, 18th February

Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Virtual (join from anywhere)

Who Can Attend? Year 11, 12, and 13 students

#### **What to Expect?**

- Learn about PwC's degree apprenticeship and early career pathways, providing alternatives to university
- Take part in interactive sessions and real-world business case studies
- Gain insights into careers in finance, tax, consulting, and accounting
- Hear from current apprentices and senior professionals about their experiences at PwC

#### **Why Attend?**

This one-day virtual experience is designed to give students valuable exposure to the world of professional services, helping them build confidence, develop key skills, and gain an understanding of career opportunities at PwC.

Whether you are considering an apprenticeship, exploring work experience, or simply want to learn more about the industry, this event will provide first-hand insights and career advice to help you take the next step.

Register now to secure your place! Register Here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PwC-WExDay>

---

## **VACANCIES**

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. More information on each of the roles can be found by clicking on the roles below. Please pass on this information to family and friends.

[English Teacher](#). 0.6 to full time on a temporary basis for Terms 5 and 6. Closing date for applications 9am Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

[Governance Officer](#). To join in April 2025. 200 hours over the academic year. To be worked flexibly in school and at home although applicants must be able to attend pre-arranged meetings which take place after school, remotely or face to face. Deadline for applications 9am Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

*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.*

---

## 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  
Year 10 2025 MFL trip to France or Germany instalments  
KPS Own Clothes Day – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### EVOLVEPAY

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

Year 11 Geography Rural villages trip – January 2025  
GCSE and A Level Art trip to London – January 2025  
A Level Classics Trip to Warwick University – January 2025  
Year 12 and Year 13 French BFI visit – February 2025  
Year 13 Spanish BFI visit – February 2025  
Year 11 English Macbeth trip – March 2025  
Year 8 Bushcraft May 2025  
Year 12 Hengistbury Head – March 2025  
Year 12 Work Experience June 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 9 and Year 10 French and German plays

---

## KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

---

### HOUSE DRAMA

KPS and volunteer team supported this event, which happened on **Thursday 13th of February 25** with refreshments. It was a very successful event and would like to thank the parents/carers, the school, Participants and KPS volunteers for the same

### UPCOMING KPS MEETING

Please mark your calendars for our **next meeting**, which will take place on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2025 from 6pm to 7:15pm**. We will be sharing further details and the agenda for the meeting closure to the date.

### DROP-IN SESSIONS WITH MS KATTIRTZI

Next session is for Year 10 and Year 11: Tuesday 4th March with Ms Kattirtzi and Mme Hulley

Year Group: Years 10 & 11

Date: Tuesday 4th March

Time: 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Google meeting link: To join the video meeting please use the link sent in an email to you.

The protocols for the sessions will be explained before the meeting starts. We look forward to meeting with everyone. Please take advantage of this opportunity.



The dates for other year groups are as follows, meeting links will be circulated nearer the date:

6th Form: Tuesday 1st April with Ms Kattirtzi and Mrs Hearn

## **PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP**

Our next opening will be on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025, 9am - 11am in the Conservatory.**

Please note that donation point has been moved to the outside of library.

## **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**