

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 3rd May 2024

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

This week we have been much more focused on our students and in particular Year 11 and 13 who have had their celebration assemblies and next week begin their study leave for their GCSE and A Levels. Exams appear to be starting earlier this year, but we know that our students have been prepared and supported well as they begin the last bit of focused study that leads to their exams. For GCSE students studying 11 GCSEs this means that they will be taking around 25 exams over the next few weeks, an enormous effort that they are unlikely to do ever again. For A Level students, a three A or 4 Level pathway will result in them taking between 9-12 papers, in some cases a couple more, but these exams are of greater length and intensity. We wish all our students well and know that their several years of study will result in providing them with fantastic opportunities for the future.

Other events that have taken place this week include the Spring Concert, another significant occasion when we our leaving Year 13 students are able to perform to their friends and family for the last time at a school concert. This year Petra, Heather and Diana were the three music students who performed solo items at the concert providing us with such a lovely opportunity to see how they have grown into mature and gifted musicians over the last seven years. At the end of the concert, the three students expressed thanks to Mrs Cooper which was a most touching gesture, acknowledging her and the Music Department for the opportunities and support they have received over their time at Kendrick.

Another group of Year 13 students this week, Esha and Manahil, were keen to raise some money for charity as the last thing they could do before leaving. The situation in the Middle East has dominated most of this academic year and their request was to raise some more money for the victims of war in that region. I believe well over £500 will have been raised for the charity [Medicines Sans Frontieres](#).

As always, some interesting articles on the website detailing activities students have been involved in. Please read the items below.

[Kendrick School - Innovation Challenge Competition](#)

[Kendrick School - Kendrick Young Reporter Competition](#)

Finally, thank you to parents who joined the Social Media Webinar led by Miss Hyde on Wednesday afternoon at 5.30pm. This webinar was targeted at Key Stage 3 parents and carers and aimed to support and guide parents when promoting healthy relationships with students and their mobile phones. The webinar covered social media topics, trends and advice for parents when it comes to using the apps themselves. Thank you to those who attended, and we hope to do more in the future. The webinar for parents of students in Year 10 upwards will be Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 5.30pm. A google meet link will be shared closer to the time.

Please read further into the Weekly Update for important information about safety and safeguarding in the Reading area, including in the vicinity close to our school.

Wishing everyone a good weekend,

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

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 **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 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 wellbeing support in school, students can visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

KEEPING SAFE IN THE READING AREA

As a school close to the centre of Reading, we are updated regularly by our Neighbourhood Police Officer, on safety information for our students. There is an increased police presence in the area at the moment and Neighbourhood Officers are carrying out reassurance patrols at the end of the school day. If a student sees any suspicious activity they should let you know as soon as they get home and you should call 101 immediately to report it. Please also email admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk so appropriate action can be taken the following school day.

KENDRICK SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA WEBINAR

On Wednesday, we launched our first 'Social Media Webinar' led by Miss Hyde. This webinar was targeted at Year 7-9 parents and carers and aimed to support and guide parents/carers when promoting healthy relationships with students and their mobile phones, as well as covering social media topics, trends and a 'how-to' when it comes to using the apps themselves. Thank you to those who attended, and we hope to do more in the future. The webinar for Year 10 and above is on **15th May 2024** at 5.30pm and the Google Meet link will be shared closer to the time.

These webinars are for parents/carers of students at Kendrick School only.

PREVENTING HARMFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR – A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

SOURCE: [Stopitnow](#)

Children and young people are most likely to be at risk of sexual abuse within their family and community. But not all sexual abuse is carried out by adults. Around one-third of child sexual abuse is thought to be carried out by under-18s.

That's why Stop It Now made a guide for parents, carers and professionals on preventing harmful sexual behaviour to help everyone do their part in keeping children safe.

What is harmful sexual behaviour?

Harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) is a term used to describe sexual actions that are outside what is safe for a young person's stage of development. It includes actions that can harm either the child or young person themselves, or another person.

It can include:

- frequently and intentionally accessing age-inappropriate sexual material online
- using inappropriate language
- undertaking mutual sexual activity they are not ready for with peers
- sending and receiving illegal images
- sexual interactions where there are significant power differences, lack of consent, or through force or threats
- engaging in abusive or sexually violent sexual behaviour online or offline.

For more information and resources click [here](#).

SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

[Term 1 2023-24](#)

[Term 2 2023-24](#)

[Term 3 2023-24](#)



**National
Online
Safety®**

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

OFCOM'S MEDIA USE AND ATTITUDES
REPORT FOR 2024

This guide examines Ofcom's Media Use and Attitudes Report for 2024, highlighting the most significant findings of their survey.

[WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS CAN LEARN FROM THE OFCOM MEDIA REPORT 2024](#)



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

DEALING WITH EXAM STRESS

SOURCE: [Young Minds](#)

It's normal to feel stressed and on edge about exams. Stress is your body's natural response to pressure. It can help you focus and get things done, but sometimes it can all get a bit much.

Exam stress can affect anyone, and it can show up in loads of ways, like:

- feeling [anxious](#) or down
- getting irritable and [angry](#)
- struggling to [sleep](#)
- changes in your [eating habits](#)
- having bad thoughts about yourself
- worrying about the future
- losing interest in stuff you usually like
- finding it hard to concentrate
- feeling unwell – like headaches, feeling sick or tired

If any of these feelings are beginning to take over your life, there is help. And Young Minds has advice to help you find it. Click [here](#) for more information.

Are you worried about how they are feeling? DECREASING DEPRESSION FREE TALK



May 14th 7-8pm

Jane Keyworth, Lead Facilitator at FACE
gives a one hour online talk explaining
what we can do to reduce the symptoms of depression.

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk) go to **PARENT** page

The above event is not affiliated with Kendrick School.

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

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

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"That is one good thing about this world ... there are always sure to be more springs." - L. M. Montgomery

POEM OF THE WEEK

A Water Lily is Born, by Hargan (Year 9)

The very first breath
When my heads been drowning under the water
My petal spreads
I see my forever daughter
I'm rising
I'm reaching
I'm praying
I'll reach another day
Away
From the winter



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)

SPECIAL UNITED MAY EVENT

The next Special United evening is on Wednesday 15 May from 6-8pm at Churchend Primary Academy, Usk Road, Tilehurst, RG30 4HP. Maggie Buckley, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Team Manager at BFC, will be joining the group to listen to the employment opportunities young people with additional needs want to see available, such as supported internships, apprenticeships and work experience. £10 Amazon vouchers will also be given out to all young people who take part, along with a free KFC takeaway! Special United evenings are open to any Reading young person who has special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) aged 8-25, and their siblings.

To book for May's event, email lisaharry14@aol.com no later than Tuesday 14 May.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 5, 2023-24

Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
	Start of Deaf Awareness Week
Thursday 9th May	Trustee Resources Committee, 4.30pm
	Start of Public Exams
Monday 13th May	Mental Health Awareness Week
Wednesday 15th May	Year 10 and above Social Media Webinar, 5.30pm
Friday 17th May	Wellbeing Festival
	Year 10 Exams start
Monday 20th May	Year 7 Bushcraft (to Thursday 23 rd May)
Thursday 23rd May	Trustee P&R Committee, 4.30pm
Friday 24th May	End of Term 5, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2023-24 and 2024-25 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

READING CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL 2024

The 35th annual Reading Children's Festival takes place from Saturday 11 May – Sunday 2 June, with three weeks of events and activities for children all over the borough. The activities begin with Forbury Fiesta from 11am on Saturday 11 May, continuing with sport and music workshops, as well as arts and crafts sessions throughout the festival at venues across Reading. The full programme of events will be available soon [on RBC's website](#).

EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR WOMEN FROM MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES

Reading Community Learning Centre is an independent charity which provides education and support for women from minority ethnic communities who may be unable to access mainstream services because of the educational, social or cultural barriers they face. We are currently recruiting for:

- A qualified female ESOL tutor with at least 1 year's teaching experience to teach ESOL to ethnic minority migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women with English as a second language. This is a paid role.
- An experienced, friendly, empathetic, and motivated woman with a good understanding of minority ethnic community issues to work in Reading, as an outreach worker. We are looking for applicants to work on a 1-year contract (14 hrs per week) who can fluently speak in a second language preferably in one of the following: Arabic, Chinese, Bengali, Nepali, Hindi/ Urdu or Pashto or Tigrinya. This is a paid role.
- A female Chair for our Board of Trustees, to chair meetings, provide crucial support to the very experienced Centre Manager, and serve as a spokesperson for our charity. This is a voluntary role.

For an application pack, please email Aisha Malik at aishamalik@rclc.org.uk or go to rclc.org.uk/news for more information.

VACANCIES

We do not have any vacancies at the current time but will be advertising for a few support staff roles soon. Please watch this space for more information.

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.

Reading School has a number of vacancies. Click here for more information: <https://www.reading-school.co.uk/vacancies>

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

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

School Fund Donation

Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations

Year 10 GCSE Drama- set text: The Crucible by Arthur Miller

Year 9 and Year 10 French Play – March 2024

Year 9 and Year 10 German Play – March 2024

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2024

Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award 2024

Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 English set texts

Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and Technology voluntary contributions

Year 10 and Year 11 Art and Textiles voluntary contributions
Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 English set texts
Creative Writing Anthologies – Plain or signed copies
The Poets; Society Anthology – launch on 29th April 2024
Spring Concert 30th April 2024
Music Opera Workshop 18th April 2024

Trips

Year 12 Geography Field trip – 13th March 2024
Year 12 UCAS discovery trip – 17th April 2024
Year 8 Bushcraft- May 2024
Year 10 French and German trips - June 2024
Year 10 Geography field trips 3rd and 4th June 2024
Year 12 Biology field trip 12th June 2024
Geography A level residential course at Slapton Ley October 2024

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

For the latest KPS newsletter please click [here](#).

UPCOMING KPS MEETING

We now have final details of upcoming KPS meeting, which is taking place on **Thursday 16th of May 2024** from **6pm to 7:15pm**. We had to reschedule from **8th May** due to clash with a school event so apologies for any inconvenience.

Google meeting link: To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/xrf-yssv-vhf>. Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 706-750-8030 and enter this PIN: 227 573 041#

(In case of issues copy-paste the above link in Internet browser and join WITHOUT signing in to Google meet)

We look forward to seeing you all.

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 child'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