



w/c 4 April 2022 Week A

Latest News

Please download our mobile website app to ensure you receive all the latest news. Click this [link](#) for further information.



Recording Lateral Flow Test Results

We have made it easier for you to record your child's lateral flow test results with school. This can now be done on Class Charts (parents only). From the dashboard select the student you wish to record a test for and then on the top banner scroll across to COVID test. Please can you record all future results via Class Charts.

Problems with Class Charts

If you are experiencing issues with accessing your Class Charts account, please contact vihamer@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Absence Reporting

Please notify us if your son/daughter is unable to attend either online or onsite lessons due to illness or other reason. Please report all absences, preferably via [ParentMail](#) or by telephoning the absence line.

SEND

Please follow this [link to the school website](#) to find out about any SEND information.

School Aged Immunisations Team

Please [click here](#) to view the information regarding immunisations during half term for 12-15 year olds.

Examinations

Please [click here](#) to see the examination information on our website.

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	89419
Grove	88388
Mapledurham	89954
Rosehill	89260

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2021/22](#)

Follow us



CIMA

On **Monday 11th April from 9:00am - 4:00pm** we'll be hosting CIMA's Business & Management Virtual Work Experience.

The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants® (CIMA), founded in 1919, is the world's leading and largest professional body of management accountants. They are the world's leading professional qualification when it comes to business and accounting. Most of the world's top business professionals have their qualification.

As part of the work experience, CIMA will be bringing along with them a number of other business professionals from Sodexo and Balfour Beatty, two enormous multi-billion turnover conglomerates, to run online business games, psychometric exercises and workshops to test your business brain and encourage you to start thinking like an entrepreneur.

We also have the Vice President of CIMA coming to speak to us to share a bit about his career journey and experiences in the business world.

If you're interested in a career in Business, Accounting or Finance then this work experience is very much for you.

Certificates of completion for the day as well as for the business games will be awarded.

The online event is open to: Y10 / S3, Y11 / S4, Y12 / S5, Y13 / S6 & Y14.

If you'd like to take part in this virtual day work experience, click on the registration link below.

Registration Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Business-Work-Experience>

Engineering Development Trust

Here at the EDT (Engineering Development Trust) we would like to invite your Year 12 & 13 students the opportunity to register for our Brand New 'Your Route to Professional Qualifications' Masterclass that we are running over the Easter Holiday on Tuesday 12th April.

This Masterclass will be run on Zoom by a Senior Professional Development Advisor for the IET and will provide students with a fantastic understanding of the routes to Professional Qualifications in Engineering and Computing that are available to them and how much they can plan the next steps in their personal and professional development. These skills will help and support them in a number of ways including Job Interviews, Assessment Days, Annual Appraisal Discussions, knowledge growth and understanding, Networking opportunities, planning for their future!

There is a small cost of £10 for this Masterclass which will include access to the live session, a copy of the slides used by the presenter, further reading links and a certificate of attendance which will be a great addition to their portfolio. Register here: <https://masterclasses-edt.talentlms.com/>

Careers Corner Continued

The Big Bang

Spark curiosity and challenge your students' perception of STEM at The Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair.

We're thrilled to announce that the UK's biggest STEM celebration for young people is returning to the NEC in Birmingham for the first time in 2 years, from 22 to 24 June 2022.

Get inspired by hands-on activities from across the world of science and engineering, discover exciting possibilities and connect to inspiring role models in STEM.

The Big Bang Fair 2022 is open to 11 to 14 year olds, and all hands-on activities and workshops have been specifically created for this age group. Schools can explore The Fair from 9.30am to 3.30pm, Wednesday 22 June to Friday 24 June, and families, home educators and community groups are welcome to discover the wonders of STEM at the new Big Bang Fair Unlocked, running from 4pm to 8pm on Thursday 23 June. Make sure you book early to avoid disappointment! Find out more by [clicking here](#)

Elevate Education

Elevate: Parent Webinars

Elevate has worked with our Yr11 and Yr13s by delivering high impact sessions covering study skills, motivation, wellbeing and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you will learn how to better support your children at home through reinforcing skills they have learnt in schools.



We don't want you to miss out on the next installment of the series of parent webinars available for you; so here are details for the next sessions.

A session entitled discussing '**Resilience**' is on the 3rd May 6-7pm; this is a key quality will help build endurance and enable students to find ways to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

The session after this is '**Essay Writing Masterclass**' on 24th May 6-7pm – clearly a key skill all students need to refine in order to do well!

If you would like to attend, please follow this link to register. We are sure you find it useful. <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

Hot Chocolate Friday with Ms Cave

It was lovely to have hot chocolate Friday last week with students from all year groups. We enjoyed chocolate and discussed extra-curricular activities - what students were enjoying taking part in and what they would like to do as well. We did of course discuss the amazing We Will Rock You and how working with other year groups is such an amazing experience and develops so many skills.

University Challenge

'It's all an excuse to learn!'

Reading University make history by making the University Challenge final

Reading University sailed through to the Finals of University Challenge this week (the first time in Reading's history), beating strong contenders Edinburgh University. Reading's team captain is Highdown's very own Mr Hutchinson, a teacher in our Maths department.

University Challenge was not Mr Hutchinson's first taste of TV Quizzes. Wins on both 'Who Dares Wins' and '15-to-1' really sparked his interest in quizzes and the journey on his *love of learning* began. And where his ambition to become a teacher started. In his words "It's all an excuse to learn!". He began working hard on building on his general knowledge; reading, learning and remembering facts, figures, dates and linking this to his prior knowledge.

Mr Hutchinson applied to University Challenge through Reading Uni's online open try-outs, involving answering 40 general knowledge questions. He sailed through the process to become part of the team and was a natural choice for the Team Captain role. Being in the Captain's Chair allowed him to take off part of the pressure on the team and be able to make any inspired guesses on the bonus questions.

Reading beat Strathclyde in the first round with a decisive victory. It was the first time the team met host Jeremy Paxman – who Mr Hutchinson describes as 'a legend' and not as grumpy in real life as he is on TV. In the second round they sailed through beating Dundee 245 points to 50. Making this the first time Reading had made it through to the quarter finals in their history. They went on to beat Birmingham University in the first of the quarter finals.

In the second of the quarter finals, they were beaten by Imperial College London (their grand final opponents!). With his teacher mind-set, instead of accepting defeat the team learnt from their weaknesses and used this to spur them on before their next game. They spent many hours prepping; quizzing, reading and most importantly extra buzzer practice. They were ready for the final quarter final and showing resilience and determination to bounce back with victory against St Johns College of Cambridge University.

Finally, Reading managed an impressive semi-final win over Edinburgh University and earned themselves a place in the grand final. Of all the wins, this was the most rewarding as the team dug-deep and pushed themselves to victory against some formidable opponents.

And to the final...they take on the only team to defeat them, Imperial College London. Good luck Reading!!

We are very proud of Mr Hutchinson and we look forward to watching him in the final on Monday 4th April at 8.30pm on BBC 2.



Highdown School PTA

'Thank you so much to everyone who attended the PTA Quiz night on Friday! Thank you all for buying tickets and supporting our bar on the night. Thank you also to the PTA parents and families, as well as Mr Burnell, who co-ordinated and arranged the evening. We raised £480 for Ukraine, including fund matching courtesy of Oracle.

The Quiz night raised £2484 including fund matching from Microsoft and Vodaphone!

Our thanks to Bir from Momo House for the wonderful food, please support this lovely family run Nepalese restaurant, visit their website by [clicking here](#).

A special shout out to the following student leaders for volunteering their time and helping us to make it a success:

- Lamy Adams
- Chloe Gaskell
- Nana Yaa Agyemang
- Meher Emkay
- Raven Scott
- Karima Siddiqui

We will be communicating about a new summer event very soon!

Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy

World Jumble

Can you work out what the words are?

- Maellovent
- Ssoionoup
- Ivndcitive
- Ntasy

Numeracy



Can you make 300?
Who can get the closest to 300?

Easter invitation to Reading vs Cardiff City

When?

Reading vs Cardiff City

Saturday 9th April 2022, 3pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

What's happening?

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £3

18 to 24: £5

65 and over: £5

Adult: £10

That's right, with this special offer your children can come to watch our Championship match against the Bluebirds for just £1!

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: #150HighdownSchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

Calling All Former Students

If you're a former student of Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, we want to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the school.

We've partnered with the national education charity Future First, who specialise in helping schools like ours to stay connected with their former students.

You can choose how and when you help – perhaps you can act as a career and education role model, provide work experience, become a mentor in person or online, or help with donations, fundraising or even apply to become a governor.

We are delighted to partner with Future First to create our first Alumni network and are grateful for a generous grant from the Thames Valley hub of the Careers and Enterprise Company of which Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre is a member.

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help.

'To celebrate our 50th year as Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre we are delighted to partner Future First to create our very first Alumni Network and are eager to make contact with our original pupils from the early 1970s'. *Rachel Cave, Headteacher, January 2022.*

In order to sign up, just follow the link below!

<https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/highdown-school-and-sixth-form-centre>



READING CANOE CLUB FOR THE BEST FUN ON THE RIVER

Learn to kayak with the Highdown Beginner's course ... it's fun, it's outdoors and as energetic as you wish ... flat water kayaking and slalom – take your pick – and become a champion!

LEARN TO KAYAK AT READING CANOE CLUB 5-WEEK BEGINNER'S COURSE FOR HIGHDOWN STUDENTS

The course runs from Monday 25th April to 23rd May. Each session is an hour long and you'll get to try all sorts of boats and skills. The cost of the course is £50 for the 5 sessions. The school minibus will bring you down to the Club* for 3.45pm, ready to get on the water at 4pm. Finish at 5pm.

Just 8 places available, so be sure to fill in the form to book your place.

WWW.READING-CANOE.ORG.UK

Reading Canoe Club, The Warren, Caversham, Reading, RG4 7TH

5-WEEK
BEGINNER
COURSE RUNS
25TH APRIL TO 23RD MAY
HIGHDOWN STUDENTS
ONLY



* there is an inset day on 25th April, so for that day only you will need to make your own way to the Canoe Club



READING CANOE CLUB FOR THE BEST FUN ON THE RIVER

Learn to kayak with the Highdown Beginner's course ... it's fun, it's outdoors and as energetic as you wish ... flat water kayaking and slalom – take your pick – and become a champion!

LEARN TO KAYAK AT READING CANOE CLUB 5-WEEK BEGINNER'S COURSE FOR HIGHDOWN STUDENTS

The course runs from Tuesday 26th April to 24th May. Each session is an hour long and you'll get to try all sorts of boats and skills. The cost of the course is £50 for the 5 sessions. The school minibus will bring you down to the Club for 3.45pm, ready to get on the water at 4pm. Finish at 5pm.

Just 8 places available, so be sure to fill in the form to book your place.

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Reading Canoe Club, The Warren, Caversham, Reading, RG4 7TH

5-WEEK
BEGINNER
COURSE RUNS
26TH APRIL TO 24TH MAY
HIGHDOWN STUDENTS
ONLY





Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and
Families services

Thank you....

**For your support with the
delivery of the HPV programme**

**The uptake for your school
is:**

Year 8: 91%

Year 9: 95%

Across Berkshire we are expected to achieve an average
uptake of 90%

If you want to contact us or need more information...

Call: 0300 365 0077

Email: westschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk



cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk

Answers:

Malevolent
Poisonous
Vindictive
Nasty

Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C Rowan Harris
7D Amber Yearwood
7E Dylan Griffin
7F Kaya Bell
7G Holly Parr
7H Eddie Wenman-Bateson
7J Ralphie McKenna
7K Olivia Belcher
7L Aiden Clarke

Year 8

8C Kara Taylor
8D Aisha Alizada
8E Aubin Smith
8F Thomas Leach
8G Olivia Mann
8H Charlie Harvey
8J Ethan Bishop
8K Helen Argyropoulou
8L Grace Ranson

Year 9

9C Jazmine Cole
9D Benyameen Faisal
9E Elijah Charles
9F Ollie England
9G Ellie Perkins
9H Megan Ray
9J Kiranpreet Lally
9K Hannah Chandler
9L Henry Beeney
9M Bethia Miller

Year 10

10C Grace Marsh
10D Maisie Smith
10E Callum Gilbert
10F Sean Gallantry
10G Jessica Nothnagel
10H Haydn Peachey
10J Ione Forsyth-Hayden
10K Luke McAdden-Evans / Maciek Wiercinski
10L William Casey

Year 11

11C Elsie Kuiper
11D Stefan-Razvan Josu
11E Emily Sumners
11F Mia Morgan
11G Violet Wood
11H Evie Elson
11J Elman Li
11K Nikolas Argyropoulos
11L Isabella Weller

happy
WEEKEND!