



# Highdown Link

Term 5 2013/2014  
Volume 13 Issue 5

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre Newsletter – keeping parents and the  
community informed

## The Giving Machine

Highdown is registered with The Giving Machine. This is a quick and easy way to help raise money for Highdown and it will not cost you a penny. All it involves is registering on the website, [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk) before you make online purchases. Go on to the website and set up your email and password log in details. All you have to do is remember to use it every time you shop online. It has access to over four hundred and twenty internet stores, including Amazon, e-Bay, John Lewis and M&S to name a few. The Giving Machine directs you to the retailer internet site. You can split rewards between a number of causes (so you can support more than one school or cause if they are registered for the scheme). Some retailers offer additional promotions and offers so you can save even more on your shopping. The school benefits through a one off payment or percentage of your spend. Usually you are told what this can be as you go through the site, it is quite surprising how much this can be. One of our parents used it for an Amazon purchase and it was 3.5%.



## Year 8 Champions

As the B Team had won the Reading Schools' B Tournament the previous day, it was now the turn of the A Team to try and become the champions of Reading. It was a tough semi-final against JMA, but with Bradley Keetch bossing the midfield, Highdown were always in control. A good move down the left led to a foul on Khalid Simmo in the penalty area and Bradley Keetch coolly slotted home the resulting penalty. This was to be the only goal in a 1-0 victory for Highdown. Man of the match, alongside Bradley, was Tom Wright in defence. Highdown met Blessed Hugh Faringdon in the final and scored two quick goals through Khalid Simmo and Man of the Match Alex Aldrich. Blessed Hugh Faringdon reduced Highdown's lead with a great goal but Highdown held on for a 2-1 victory.

The Giving Machine	1
Year 8 Champions	1
Joint Mathematics and RE Lesson	2
Calshot AS Trip	2
Year 12 Geography Trip	2
PSHCE Day	3
Young Shakespeare Company	3
Charity Bake Sale	4
Turn £10 into Something Special	4
Noticeboard	4



### Joint Mathematics and RE Lesson

Mathematics and RE got together to plan a couple of lessons promoting numeracy across the curriculum. Lili Smith in Year 7 writes, "In RE we have looked at Islam and Islamic Art, which is usually made up entirely of geometric shapes in complicated patterns. In Mathematics, we linked in with our RE topic and constructed circles with various geometric shapes in them just like Islamic Art."



### Calshot AS Trip

After Easter 2014, Mrs Everett, Mrs Flynn, Miss Chapman, Dr Capaldi and Mr Haskins took forty five Year 12 students to Calshot Activities Centre near Southampton for three days of Mathematics and Science AS revision. The students also were able to learn other activities including Archery and Climbing. They had a chance to cycle in the velodrome where the track is steeper than the official Olympic track. Students worked incredibly hard and were in revision sessions until 8.30 p.m. Hopefully all their hard work will pay off when examinations start.



### Pembrokeshire Year 12 Geography Field Trip

Thirty one Year 12 students along with teachers, Mrs Eaton, Miss Laird and Mr Potter braved the elements during their week long field trip to Pembrokeshire. The students needed to collect primary data for their AS Geography examination. During the day the students collected information about rebranding in Milford Haven, Narberth and Laugharne. They conducted surveys including questionnaires with the general public. They also undertook physical Geography fieldwork on coastal erosion in Saundersfoot, Wiseman's Bridge and Amroth using clinometers and ranging poles. In the evenings students collated and analysed the data. Some of the fieldwork was done under adverse weather conditions which the students dealt with very well. A special mention goes to Laura Skeldon and Cameron Stichbury for their excellent work throughout the week.



**PSHCE Day Term 4**

The topic of the fourth PSHCE day at Highdown was Charity. Tutor Group 8E decided they wanted to support the 'Make a Wish Foundation'. The tutor room was set up with a tombola, Mothers' Day stall, guess the weight of the Easter egg, guess how many sweets in the bottle and a refreshments stand. Photographs were also taken with the school reptiles. Their tutor Mrs Bonnett, contacted 'Make a Wish' who sent her information and a short DVD showing the work they do for terminally ill children. 8E raised over £200.00. Thank you to everyone who donated anything and came and visited on the day.



**Young Shakespeare Company**



The Young Shakespeare Company made their annual visit to Highdown before Easter. The actors presented a workshop and performance of Macbeth for the Year 8 and Romeo and Juliet for the Year 9 students. Once again they managed to combine

entertainment with learning, showing how characters are developed and how dramatic tension is created. The students enjoyed offering their suggestions for interpretation of character, which, no matter how outlandish, were attempted by the actors as they demonstrated the versatility of Shakespeare's language and ideas, before performing their own versions of scenes from both plays.





## Charity Bake Sale



A group of students in Tutor Group 8H:- Beth Gowlett Russell, Isabelle Buckingham, Lauren Harvey, Jade Livingstone, Frances Patrick and Charlotte Budd held a Charity

Bake Sale which raised a massive £180.00. The students choose to donate to the Downs Syndrome Association as this charity is personal to Lauren who has a family member with Downs Syndrome. Thanks to Miss Chakera and Miss Hurst who made cakes to sell and to the people who purchased them.



## Turn £10 into Something Special

Year 9 Highdown students accepted the Tenner Challenge, to create an enterprise beginning with just £10, with the goal of making it much more. Young people are pledged £10 from the Tenner Bank, a Charity to encourage enterprise and skill of entrepreneurship. Students choose to work alone, or in a group to generate ideas and to set up and run the activity. The activities took place in March, inside and outside school, with the aim of making as much profit as possible. Students had weekly meetings with their business advisors, Mrs Stevens and Ms Nsiah to run through their ideas. The actions of the students will make a difference, as they donated some of their profit to Charities of their choice, and kept the remainder themselves. Some of the activities included a talent show, cake sale, selling of sport equipment, car washing and a nail painting service.

## Noticeboard

### SCHOOL CALENDER ALTERATIONS

Monday 7 July 2014 - Sports Day

Tuesday 8 July 2014 - Sixth Form Art Trip

### MOBILE PHONE RULES FOR STUDENTS

Mobile phones are NOT to be used during the school day, including break and lunchtime. If a student is found to be in breach of this rule, the phone will be confiscated and remain secure in the Headteacher's PA's office until the end of the school day, when it can then be collected. The sanction will be to serve an afterschool detention on the following Thursday. Parents will be notified.

### ABSENCE LINE

If your child is ill please contact the School Office on 0118 9015823 before 9.30 a.m. or email [k.ifill@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:k.ifill@highdown.reading.sch.uk)

### DATA CHECK

Do we hold the correct information on your student? Please complete a data form and return it to Highdown.

### TERM 6

Starts: Monday 2 June 2014

Ends: Friday 25 July 2014

### LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure that your student's belongings are named. Lost property handed to the School Office, if named, can be returned to the student. Any unnamed items will be displayed for students at regular intervals.

School Reception 0118 9015800

Email [office@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:office@highdown.reading.sch.uk)



HighdownSchool



[www.highdown.reading.sch.uk](http://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk)