



The weekly newsletter of

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 31 January 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 magrantham@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.

COVID PCR test

If you take your child for a PCR test, please inform the school.

SEND

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

Covid Immunisations (Year 7-11)

Below are the times for Covid immunisations on Wednesday 2 February. Year 7 students will be collected from their classrooms. All other students who are going to be immunised will need to go to the hall at the allotted time so please ensure your student knows when they should go. Students who are not being immunised should remain in the classroom. Please note that the deadline for providing consent is 9 am on Monday 31 January. To do this, please [click here](#). Our school code is **BK136307**.

Time	Year Group
9.15	7 and 8
9.45	11
10.10	10
10.40	9

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	63767
Grove	62561
Mapledurham	64404
Rosehill	63789

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2021/22](#)

Follow us



Newsletters are now being sent out via Classcharts



Health on the Move Van

On Wednesday 2 February 2022 at The Weller Centre, 10am to 6pm (110 Amersham Road, Caversham, Reading, RG4 5NA) the Health on the Move Van will be on-site to offer covid-19 vaccinations. This service is for 16+ year olds (including pregnant women), 1st or 2nd dose or booster will be available. Spoken translation available. You don't need an appointment, and you don't have to be registered with a GP or have ID to visit. [Please click here for more information.](#)

Careers Corner

InvestIN

We are delighted to announce the first events in our Success Beyond School series for 2022. These are free-of-charge, live online seminars featuring career experts, designed to help parents amplify their children's career potential. We have 5 fantastic seminars this term, including topics such as 'how to help your child choose their career' and 'how to inspire young women to become entrepreneurs.' These events are for parents of students aged 12-18 and are free to attend. Find out more here: [Events for Parents | InvestIN](#)

Eventbrite

Is your child in Years 10-13 and interested in business? Then join us for our Deloitte apprenticeships parents' insight webinar on **Tuesday 1st February at 6.30pm**, to hear all about the range of apprenticeship opportunities Deloitte can offer in areas including **audit, consulting, financial, legal, and tax**.

- Find out about how apprenticeship opportunities at Deloitte can kickstart your child's career
- Hear from experts at Deloitte on how your child can make their application stand out
- PLUS a Q and A session, giving you an opportunity to ask any questions

If you want to support your child to forge a brilliant career with a business that is making an impact worldwide, register here: [Deloitte Parents' Insight Webinar Tickets, Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Engineering Development Trust

EDT would like to invite students aged 13+ to take part in the [Virtual Routes into STEM](#) February course – it is easy to register and the applications are open until the end of next week, 6 February 2022. Not only the course provides guided learning for students to work through flexibly and find out all about college, university, apprenticeships and careers in STEM from the experts, students will also have a selection of tailor-made STEM projects and activities at their fingertips. A variety of live sessions will be running in half-term week for student to join and ask their questions to the panels of experts, students and apprentices.

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>

Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy

A E L E L N D T O V I R

How many words can you make
using only these letters in **one**
minute.

You cannot use a letter more than
once unless there is more than one
in the list.

Numeracy

If the zookeeper had 100 pairs
of animals in her zoo and if two
pairs of babies are born for
each and every one of the
original animals, and then sadly
23 animal don't survive, how
many animals do you have left
in total?

Answers on page 10



Today 7J, 7K, 7L, Dr Capaldi and Mr Loveday got involved with the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch in our STEAM lesson. We learned about the importance of sampling and conservation as we explored our beautiful 32-acre site and its environs. The students saw lots of birds and we were able including 20 red kites. If you want to continue bird watching and Citizen Science you can find out more by [clicking here](#).

Year 7 History Club

Year 7 History Club have made a remarkable effort and produced history themed board games. The students have spent several weeks making their games, and on Thursday they had great fun playing each other's board games. Thank you to all the students took part.

Please note History Club resumes on Thursday 3rd February due to year 11 parents' evening next week. See you all then!

Ms Harding



PSHCE 'Deep Dive Session' Thursday 3rd February

As part of Key Stage 3's (year 7 to 9) PSHCE Deep Dive Session on Thursday 3rd February, all students will be taking part in a 'Smashed' live virtual session. During the live performance students will observe, explore and reflect on vital underage drinking themes including the social and emotional causes, the impact on young lives, social influences and decision making and where and how to help themselves and others. The company delivering the session, 'Smashed', ask for all participating students to complete a quick and easy online evaluation before the event. Therefore, please find below the link to this questionnaire for students to complete.

[Smashed Live GB Virtual Winter/Spring 2022 – Student Pre Survey \(surveymonkey.co.uk\)](https://surveymonkey.co.uk)

Key Stage 4 and 5 students (year 10 to 13) will also be taking part in a live virtual session with Tessa Burnsden, the Community Alcohol Community Partnership Officer. She will also be addressing similar themes as above but made more relevant to the older students.

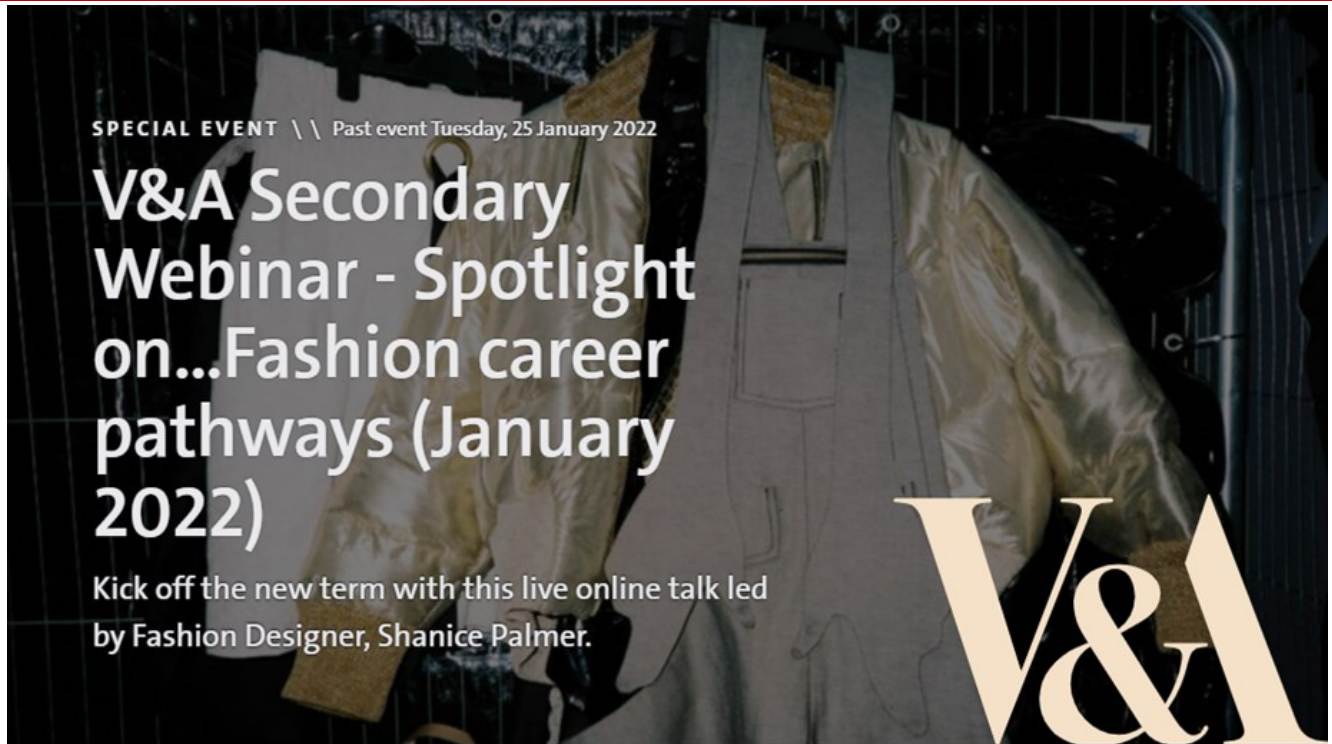
Both live events are set to be really informative for students and I hope they enjoy them.

Miss Clark

PSHCE Co-ordinator

We Will Rock You





This week students of GCSE and A-Level Textiles took part in a Victoria and Albert Museum talk featuring London based designer Shanice Palmer. Her work is driven by the core belief of positive impact, through empowering individuals to unapologetically be the truest versions of themselves. Defining her designs as “rebel wear for royal souls.” Each collection takes on a new perspective of what it means to be royal. Inspired by the worlds of fantasy and documentary her commitment to clothing and craftsmanship expresses her creativity, redefining what British craftsmanship looks like in the modern world. As a graduate of London College of Fashion, she was awarded as one of the ten “One to Watch” designers by Dezeen.

Students learnt about the process of entering the creative industries and what the next steps could be after Highdown. The students were given an insight to what it looks like to be a Fashion Designer and the challenges that were overcome by Shanice to be a successful designer.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions which were answered during the talk. Students are encouraged to further research into her work and potentially use it as Primary research for their upcoming projects.

The feedback from students was that they found it incredibly insightful and beneficial for them in making important decisions about their potential career aspirations within the Fashion industry!

Miss Probert will continue to source innovative ways to bring industry working people to the forefront of our students at Highdown.

Special Day!

- LIMITED EDITION MENU -

**CHINESE
NEW YEAR**
Tuesday 1st Feb

**TRY
SOMETHING
FROM OUR
SPECIALLY
THEMED MENU
TODAY ONLY!**

*Come & celebrate
Chinese food with us!*

brain

boosting foods

EGGS

FEB

LOOK OUT FOR **LIMITED EDITION** RECIPES
FEATURING THIS MONTH'S BOOSTING INGREDIENT!



Tickets are now on sale for the quiz night on Friday 25th March.

This was an incredibly popular event at the end of last year and the mission is on to see who can beat the teachers!

Details are in the poster. [Tickets can be bought here](#), until midnight 20th March:

A lot goes on behind the scenes, and on the night, to bring you such a fantastic event. We're always in need of extra help, so if you'd like to be involved please come along to the planning meeting in the school hall foyer on Thursday 17th February at 6:30. There are many items that need doing, some small, some a bit bigger, some that can be shared. All help very much appreciated.

As ever, if you have any questions, or if you're interested in attending the planning meeting, please email highdown_pta@outlook.com

Answer

977 animals (100×2
 $= 200$; $200 + 800 =$
 1000 ; $1000 - 23 =$
 977)

Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C Tom Sanigar
7D Jacob Payne
7E Sonia Vetsko
7F Sam Smith
7G Sara Anton
7H Asha Chowdhury
7J Aryan Padia
7K Alfie Davis
7L Leiya Simpkins

Year 8

8C Charlie Baker
8D Ella Toovey
8E Maud Hawkins
8F Amaan Ijaz
8G Sophie Troywest
8H Charlie Waterman
8J Ruby Riddington
8K Felix Taylor
8L Theo Bingley

Year 9

9C Lewis Waters
9D Laura Gabriadze
9E Sophia NG
9F Zinnia Hodge
9G Milly Riches
9H Thomas Busby
9J Erin Atherton
9K Amarni McDonald
9L Ariman Vancheeswar
9M Ollie Hayden

Year 10

10C Lucas Taplin
10D Jack Etherington
10E Ari Keep
10F Zak Anning
10G Ben Fraser
10H Bethany Davidson
10J Holly Hallett
10K Evan Harte

Year 11

11C Skye Pennycott
11D Ben Emmett
11E Rafa Adam
11F Sara Varma
11G Kylie Davis
11H Greta Carey
11J Katherine Zelenov
11K Duarte Basto De Lima

HAPPY WEEKEND