



The weekly newsletter of

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 21 March 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.

Recruitment

Please [click here](#) to view the all of the open vacancies on our school website.

- **Behaviour Advocate**

We are looking to appoint a Behaviour Advocate to join our Pastoral Team

- **Inclusion Advocate**

We are seeking to appoint an experienced professional, with a background in working with young people, to join our established Inclusion Team

- **Administrative Assistant**

We are seeking to appoint a strong Administrator to join our experienced Office Team.

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	82802
Grove	81248
Mapledurham	83011
Rosehill	82402

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2021/22](#)

Follow us



Spring UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair

Join us for the Spring UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair on Wednesday 30th March 2022, taking place from 12:00 to 18:00 (BST). Following the success of our virtual events during lockdown, we are bringing our highly popular fair back for even more students to experience, with a wide range of universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers joining us.

This event will allow you to explore all your post-18 options in one place, with a huge range of exhibitors. Universities will include Russell Group, red brick, modern and specialist institutions, as well as colleges and apprenticeship providers. You'll be able to explore exhibition stands, ask any questions you have, and chat live with admissions officers, student ambassadors, academics and recruitment teams. At this incredible interactive event you can also view virtual campus tours, online prospectuses, and take part in 10 live webinars.

The event is completely free of charge and is for students, teachers and parents looking for information about studying in the UK.

This event is unmissable for students in Year 12 as well as undecided Year 13s. It's also a perfect opportunity for Year 11 students seeking inspiration.

Register here to get a place: <https://ukunisearch.vfairs.com/>

Meet the Russell Group

Join us on Wednesday 27 April for the return of Meet the Russell Group, a virtual event in association with UK University Search. This online and interactive experience will allow you to explore all 24 Russell Group universities. New for 2022, the event will be split into two sessions throughout the day, each with a different focus.

The Afternoon Session will run from 12:00 - 14:30 and will allow you to learn more about the different Russell Group universities. You will be able to take part in 5 live webinars in the virtual auditorium, view information and videos about each university, link directly to Virtual Campus Tours to explore university facilities and accommodation, and download prospectuses.

The Evening Session will run from 16:30 - 20:00, throughout this session you can visit individual booths and speak directly to their representatives and ambassadors using a text-based chat. Each university will also host live video sessions featuring an introductory webinar, followed by a live video Q&A session answering your specific questions.

Meet the Russell Group is designed to support Year 13, 12 and 11 students, and the parents, guardians, teachers and careers advisors who assist them with their applications. It is completely free of charge. The event will allow Year 13 students to explore and compare universities they may have received offers from in order to decide upon their Firm and Insurance choices. Meet the Russell Group will also support Year 12s as they start to make initial decisions about where they would like to study in 2023, and the courses they may be interested in. Year 11 students are welcome to join if they are interested in exploring their future options too.

For more information about the Russell Group universities, UK University Search and the 5 live webinars taking place throughout the event, please visit the website: <https://russellgroup.vfairs.com/>

Careers Corner Continued

Insight into University

Are your students studying maths or science subjects and considering studying a STEM subject at university?

In summer 2022 EDT and Industrial Cadets offer [online](#) and [residential](#) summer schools giving your students an opportunity to experience STEM studies at university and the career opportunities that these subjects lead to. These summer schools are recommended on UCAS website as a tool to prepare students for higher education and make their UCAS application stand out.

The 'My Career, My Vision' Competition:

We invite students aged 12-18 to submit an image depicting their dream career with an accompanying caption. The image can take any form - a photograph, drawing, graphic design, or anything else - as long as it has been created by the student and clearly depicts the career of their dreams. Creativity is highly encouraged! **The deadline is Friday 8th April and students can enter now.**

Apprenticeships

A huge congratulation to Sugitha Nambirajan who has worked through four different selection rounds to be accepted onto a Degree Apprenticeship for Engineering with the Dyson Institute. This is a prestigious apprenticeship for which she should be extremely proud!

If you would like to know more about apprenticeship schemes following your school career please make use of Career Pilot or <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

Elevate Education

Parent webinars to help your son/daughter with exams

How to Help Your Child with Stress & Wellbeing



Here's what we will be covering in this session:

- How to spot your child's stress symptoms early
- How to start a conversation about emotional wellbeing
- Techniques your child can use to self-manage stress

The next Parent Webinar which all parents of Highdown School can access is on 22nd March 6-7pm and is entitled 'How to help your child with Stress and Wellbeing', so it will be especially useful if your son/daughter is in Yr11 or Yr13.

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

House Week

It has been an amazing house week demonstrating what a fantastic community we are part of. Students have learnt what makes a great community and they have collaborated with peers from different year groups - improving their confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. This week, students were asked to work together to score as many goals as possible. The competition was close, and the totals are:

4th place - Grove with 140

3rd place -Caversham with 163

2nd place - Rosehill with 184

1st place - Mapledurham with 192

Well done to Caversham 6 who scored 26 out of 30 shots!

Thank you to everyone for taking part. It has been brilliant to raise money today for Red Nose Day 2022.

Online Safety

We have updated our Online safety webpage with a range of links to organisations which provide parents/carers with advice, guidance and support to help their child use the internet safely. These also provide links to report online content. Furthermore, we have added to the list of guidance documents providing information about specific apps for parents/carers and how to set-up parental controls on different devices.

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/online-and-internet-safety>

We will continue to update this page to help everyone to be able to go online safely.

Year 11 & 13 Exam Timetables

Please [click here](#) to view the exam timetables on our School Website.

Traffic & Road Closures

Please [click here](#) to access the information from Reading Borough that relates to the Road Improvements.

Please be mindful of Surley Row that is being worked on next week although some roads within the area might be sooner. Access to the school remains okay but expect the areas to be congested and so you may wish to consider walking or cycling, especially now the Sun is out!

Food Delivery to the School

Students may NOT order food or other items to be delivered to the school gate during the school day - Dr Capaldi

U15 County Hockey Tournament

Monday 14th March saw fourteen Year 9s and 10s head to Reading Hockey Club to take part in the U15 County Hockey Tournament. They faced a tough pool of teams in all their matches but played well and developed in confidence throughout the whole tournament, scoring a lovely goal against Down House and holding Marist to 0-0 draw. This meant they finished level on points and goal difference with Marist in the Plate competition and had to take part in a Penalty Flick competition to see which team progressed into the Semi Final. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of our goalie and penalty takers Highdown narrowly missed out.

A massive well done to the whole team as everyone played so well, showing great resilience and developing their skills throughout all their matches. Well done to Erin Bonsall, Amber Crees-Jones, Bethany Davidson, Kaira Ford-Bollen, Hazel Gedney, Ellie Hughes, Flo Illman, Madelyn Jones, Hannah Naylor, Rebecca Shepherd, Maisie Smith, Lucy Tayler, Emily Taylor and Rose Weakley

Miss Clark



Hamilton Review

On Tuesday 8th March Mrs Lake took a group of 30 students to London to see a Matinee of the award winning Musical Hamilton, at the Victoria Palace Theatre. We were afforded this opportunity by Performing Arts Alumni Christina Moat, who is currently working as Deputy Head of Wigs at the show. As part of Hamilton Education programme, they asked their cast and crew for school nominations and so Highdown was nominated. After overwhelming interest in the show from students, Mrs Lake ran a prize draw where 30 students from year 9-13 were selected at random.



We arrived on a beautifully bright sunny day and all students were treated to a complimentary programme. The theatre quickly filled up with other schools from all over the UK and we settled down for the performance. Act 1 was sensational, students and staff were treated to an ice cream in the interval and then Act 2 blew us all away!

Here's what the students said:

'It was so much fun! I made a new friend on the coach ride and the play was amazing! The king was really funny, but when Phillip died it was really sad. A great experience!!'

'I thought the show was amazing and all the actors were amazing singers. I thought the lighting was particularly engaging because it syncs to the music and really added to the mood of each scene.'

'I thought this show was amazing and so well put together, not only were the physical movement aspects extraordinary but also you were encapsulated from the singing and the storyline.'

'It was an amazing day and an honour to experience and watch Hamilton and I was completely mesmerised'

Finally, we were treated to a Q & A session from the cast themselves. They were inspirational and gave the students lots of advice for their future goals and aspirations. *'I took away the idea that "kindness is timeless" and to succeed I need to be myself.*

Thank you to Christina for making this trip possible, Dr Capaldi and Mrs Dunn for supporting the trip and Mrs Fitzpatrick in Finance.



Year 8

In textiles students were learning to draw using hot wax using the Batik technique.



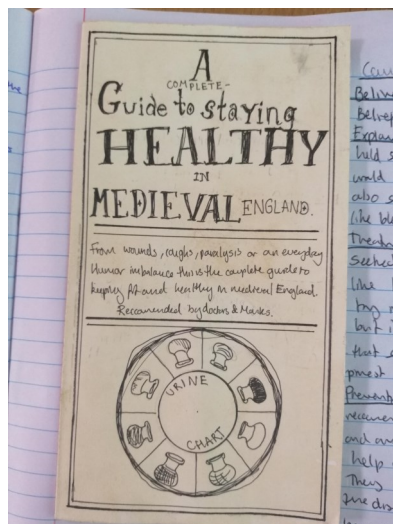
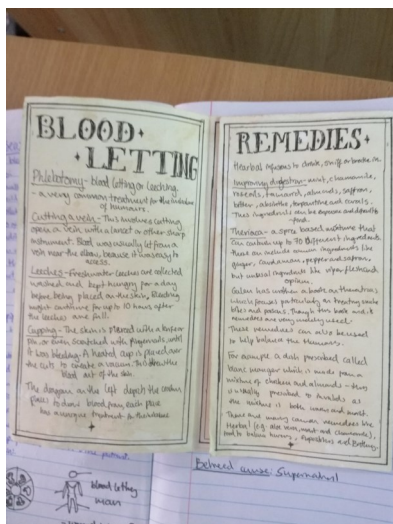
In D&T students were hard at work making Cam toys and mastering the use of wood saws in the process!



In Science 8L learnt about photosynthesis by counting the bubbles coming from plants while they were submerged in water.



Year 10



In History this week students were busy working on Medieval guides on how to prevent illness. Students were shocked at some of the suggestions!

Highdown School PTA

ONLY 20 TICKETS LEFT FOR THE QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT!

If these all sell by the deadline of midnight on Sunday (20th March), that means we won't be selling any tickets on the door.

www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL PTA

Momo House
AUTHENTIC NEPALESE CUISINE

QUIZ NIGHT

School Hall
Friday 25th March
Doors open 7:30 Quiz starts 7:45

£15 entrance including Momo House curry
(meat/veg curry, rice, naan)
www.facebook.com/momohousereading

£7 entrance only (no food)
Cash bar

Ticket sales close midnight 20th March
www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown

Teams of up to 8
Email highdown_pta@outlook.com
if you'd like help forming a team

Parentkind
Member Association



**HIGHDOWN PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY
PRESENTS...**



SCHOOL EDITION



**TUESDAY 22 MARCH - 7PM
WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH - 7PM
THURSDAY 24 MARCH - 7PM**

MAIN HALL

£6 ADULT / £4 STUDENT/CONCESSION

TICKETS AVAILABLE:

**FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE
PARENTMAIL
ON THE DOOR**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY QUEEN

STORY AND SCRIPT BY BEN ELTON

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JUNIOR EASTER CRICKET CAMPS

MONDAY 11 - THURSDAY 14 APRIL 2022



A perfect way to get your child into cricket or prepare them for the 2022 season. Suitable for boys and girls, beginners and more experienced players. (Ages 5-13)

Prices: £40 per day or £130 full 4 days

Time: 9:00 - 16:00

Place: Kidmore End Cricket Club



BOOK AT: [HTTPS://CONCEPTCRICKET.COM/ACADEMIES-%26-CRICKET-CAMPS](https://conceptcricket.com/academies-%26-cricket-camps)

JUNIOR CRICKET

at Kidmore End Cricket Club



First session
22nd April

Weekly training
for boys & girls
ages 4 - 13
on Friday's

Amazing ground & facilities

Professional coaching

Coaches & management up
to ECB level 2

Regular league & club matches

Sociable & lots of fun!

LOCATION: KECC,
THE HAMLET,
GALLOWSTREE
COMMON, RG4 9BU

THE
PAVILION
BAR

Food trucks & bar
every Friday
evening during
coaching!

For more info visit
www.kidmoreendcc.co.uk
or Jules Cook at
keccjuniors@gmail.com
07717 000 761



GIRLS CRICKET

at Kidmore End Cricket Club



LOCATION: KECC,
THE HAMLET,
GALLOWSTREE
COMMON, RG4 9BU

Weekly training
for girls ages
8 - 15 years

AMAZING GROUND & FACILITIES
PROFESSIONAL COACHING
MATCHES IN A GIRLS LEAGUE
PATHWAY TO SENIOR CRICKET
SOCIABLE AND LOTS OF FUN

TIME: TUES
6PM - 7:30PM

FIRST SESSION
19TH APRIL

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT
WWW.KIDMOREENDCC.CO.UK
OR JULES COOK
KECCJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM
07717 000 761

