



The weekly newsletter of Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 6 June 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.



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

Examinations

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

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	110992
Grove	108786
Mapledurham	110650
Rosehill	109724

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2021/22](#)

Follow us



KS3 Concert



Congratulations to all the students who took part in the KS3 concert on Thursday 19th. This was our first KS3 concert for two years and it was fantastic to appreciate the breadth and depth of musical talent coming through. Our students had the opportunity to display their talent to friends and family in the beautiful setting of our barn. We had a wide variety of acts including solo acts, Orchestra, Junior Choir, KS3 band and Ukulele club performing! This was a huge success and we would like to thank everyone who supported and attended the show. The Music department would also like to thank all those who donated after the show. We raised a whopping £200 which will go towards equipment and creating more shows.



Year 11 and Year 13: More tips from how to handle the day to easing exam stress

Please click on these links for a range of really useful exam advice:

- a [blog](#) with advice for students on this summer's exam series
- a [video from Professor David Putwain of Liverpool John Moores University](#) giving his three top tips to help students prepare for their exams this summer
- a series of videos of students and alumni from other students:
 - [What advice would you give to exam students?](#)
 - [What tips do you have for revising?](#)
 - [What's been your approach to revision?](#)
 - [Are you happy that exams are back?](#)
 - [What's been your approach to revision?](#)

And finally, [click here](#) are a range of videos to help ease any exam stress and encourage positive well-being.



May Half-Term Activities

A wide range of events and activities for children and families in the Reading area are now available to view on the Family Information Service directory. You can find:

[Activities in Reading during May / June Half Term 2022 including SEND Short Breaks | Reading Services Guide](#)

[SEND Short Breaks \(all ability activities & overnight breaks\) | Reading Services Guide](#)

General holiday activities at: [Search Results | Reading Services Guide](#)

Our children's centres have also revealed their half-term timetable which you can find at: <https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/under-5/childrens-centres/>.

Reading Borough Council has also issued a [press release](#) with details of free and low-cost activities on offer.

E-Book System

eBooks are now available as part of the extended School Library Service

All students now have access to more books in the library service via a new eBook system. They can access these books via the school's website or download a free app. Please follow this [link](#) to view the ePlatform system. This service is available to use on computers, laptops, tablets, eReaders and mobile phones - which means you can have a book with you to read wherever you go!

You can log-in to the system with your student email address.

Any questions come and see Mrs Robinson in the Library.

Canvas Bags

As part of Highdown is 50, the business department are looking to create a creative and enterprising competition for the students of Highdown to be a part of the 50th celebrations.

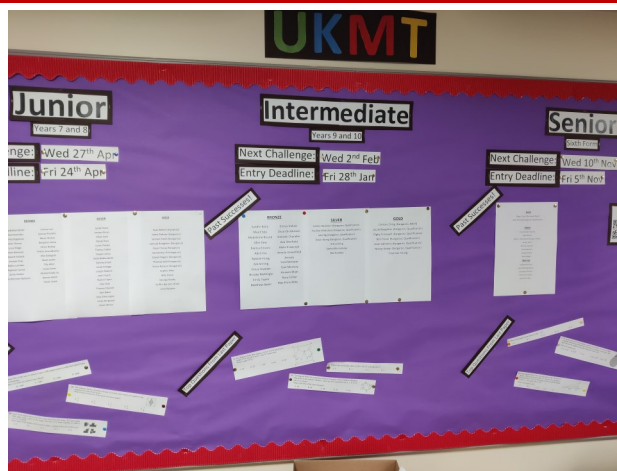
We are looking to create some canvas bags to sell at the Highdown is 50 event on Saturday 18th June but we need your help in creating a design. We are looking for a design which highlights the school and it's values to sell. There will be prizes and house points on offer as well as the winning design being featured on our bags!

Please submit entries to the main office FAO Ms Stevens by Wednesday 8th June. The design should be no bigger than A4 but can you colour as well as black and white.

UKMT

It's been a really good year for UKMT Maths Challengers at Highdown! Students across the school took part in either the Senior, Intermediate or Junior maths challenges testing their mathematical mettle. Those who earned certificates have shown themselves to be among the best logical thinkers in the country, with Bronze being in the top 50%, Silver being in the top 25%, and Gold being in the top 15% of those who participated. Over half of Highdowners taking part in the challenge earned a certificate, showing once again that mathematicians at Highdown are a cut above the rest.

Furthermore, many of our students were invited to the follow-on round, the Kangaroo with Chrissie Ching in year 9 earning a certificate of Merit. Many students in years 7 and 8 are waiting to see if they can match that performance after half term. Finally, a special mention must be made to our two Olympiad level Mathematicians. Dylan Cook in year 13 who achieved a certificate of Merit in his Olympiad in November, and Euan Miller in Year 7 who will be participating in his Olympiad after half term. Well done to all who took part, and a massive congratulations to our certificate holders whose names are now proudly displayed on our UKMT board of fame!



PiXL Edge Certificates



Congratulations to our latest cohort of 21 year 9 students who received their Pixl Edge certificates today. Year 9 are leading the way with a total of 98 certificates issued to date. 2 year 8 students also received certificates - the first awarded this year!

Year 7 Football Tournament



Congratulations to (Team 4) Ben Gibson, George Cantle, Freddie Blackall, Alfie Davis, Casper Lomas, Aidan Clarke, Sam Weller, Sammy Smith who won **Year 7 YoungMinds Football Tournament**.

It was a great tournament played in the right spirit with everyone putting in a fantastic effort and playing with smiles on their faces. It was **ANOTHER** hotly contested final that came down to the wire and was won on penalties!

A special mention to Bernard Mendy who was named Player of the tournament and Cian Ivens who received the sportsman of the tournament award!

Year 9 and 10

We have 4 year 9 teams and 2 year 10 teams who have entered if we don't get anymore teams then we will do a combined year 9 and 10 tournament on the first Thursday (9th June) after half term so if you are interested in entering a team let me know as soon as possible!

Reading Town Athletics Champion

Girls Year 8 & 9

Last Friday saw the year 8 and 9 girls athletics team head to a rather wet Palmer Park to take part in the Reading School Town Championships Competition. The weather did not dampen the girls sprits as they all performed brilliantly in their various events. Stand out performances and medal winners were;

- Mia Corbin 1st in the 200m
- Liliana Orywal-Sykes 3rd in the 800m
- Amelie Greenfield 3rd in the 1500m
- Anabelle Gratrix 2nd in the Javelin

All the combined performances of the whole team meant that Girls Team finished 3rd overall. A fantastic achievement.

Well done

Miss Clark

Boys Year 8 & 9

The boys events saw an equally wet start so a tactical retreat to the school minibus was required! Once the weather calmed and the events started the athletes shone! It was a great pleasure to see all athletes striving for excellence even when faced with an unfamiliar event or strong competition. The Highdown spirit was very evident.

Stand out performances from:

- Ollie England 3rd in 100m
- Johnathan Cantle 3rd 300m
- Torben Evans 3rd 800m
- Harlem Glasford 3rd High Jump
- Kiyan Newton 1st Long Jump – jumping 80cm further than second place!

5th place overall.

Well done to all



PROGRESS YOUTH

WWW.PROGRESSTHEATRE.CO.UK



@progresstheatre

Weekly Workshops

Our vibrant Youth Theatre offers weekly workshops for young theatre makers or aspiring actors aged 7-18 years involving theatre games, improvisations, script work and developing production skills. Based in our gorgeous working theatre, we offer a supportive environment for young people to improve their skills, gain confidence and make friends. We grow a passion for theatre in our young people, stimulate their imagination, and help develop their enthusiasm and confidence to ask questions about the world around them. Sessions run weekly for 10 weeks each school term.

To apply to join a weekly workshop please sign up via our website or email: youthliaison@progresstheatre.co.uk

BIRDIES

School years: 3, 4, & 5
Saturdays 9.30 – 11.00am

PARCANS

School years: 6, 7 & 8
Saturdays 11.30 – 1pm

FLOODLIGHTS

School years: 9, 10 & 11
Mondays 5 – 7pm

BLINDERS

School years: 12 & 13
Mondays 8 – 10pm

LAMDA

We are delighted to be offering one-to-one short workshops to support those young people who would like to work towards a LAMDA exam. Running each Monday Evening. Details online.

Free Taster Workshops August 2022

If you've never been to a Progress Youth Theatre event before, and you're not quite sure what's involved, why not come along during the holidays and have a go! Each session will be a fun combination of theatre games, short devising tasks and a bit of improvisation designed for those who are totally new to theatre as well as those with some experience.

BIRDIES & PARCANS- Saturday 6 August 9.30am-1pm
FLOODLIGHTS & BLINDERS - Monday 8 August 5-10pm



Progress Theatre

The Mount, Christchurch Road,
Reading, RG1 5HL

How to find us

We're not far from the main gate to the University of Reading. Buses 9 and 21 stop nearby.

About Progress Theatre

We're members of the Little Theatre Guild (LTG) and National Operatic and Dramatic Association (NODA). Our patron is Sir Kenneth Branagh. Registered charity number 1182798.



noda
Be inspired by amateur theatre

THE YEAR
1971 - 1972



HIGHDOWN'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



SATURDAY 18TH
JUNE 2022
12:30PM - 4PM



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL
SURLEY ROW, EMMER
GREEN, READING
RG4 8LR

Highdown School opened its doors to the Caversham community in September 1971

This is a celebration of Highdown's 50th Anniversary and the invitation is open to all former students, current students, future students, the local community, staff and their families and friends.

This is a taste of what we have in store for you:

- A selection of food options
- Entertainment such as dance, gymnastics and music performances
- Raffle
- A variety of stalls
- Activities for all age groups!

 www.highdown.reading.sch.uk



@highdownschool



@HighdownSchool



@emmergreen

Last Crumb Junction

Please click on the text below to fill out the survey regarding the Last Crumb Junction in Caversham

Dear resident,

I am writing to ask about your experience crossing the junction of Prospect Street/Peppard Road/Henley Road. I have been contacted by a number of constituents who have had difficulty crossing at this junction, and I am concerned about pedestrian and cyclist safety here. Because of this, I'm interested in the local demand for a crossing at this junction.

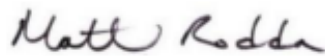
I would be grateful if you could complete my survey by following this link:

<https://mattroddamp.com/peppardjunction> or you can complete the paper survey on the back of this letter. Your response will allow me to gauge the demand for improving this junction and will give me a better understanding of the dangers faced by pedestrians and cyclists when crossing.

I am conscious of the need to avoid traffic congestion in Caversham, but this should not come at the expense of pedestrians' safety. I am also aware that there have been previous petitions for a crossing and that Reading Borough Council have acknowledged these petitions.

Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Rodda MP

Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C Ameera Onile-Ere
7D Ava Friday
7E Darcey Wignall
7F Sam Weller
7G Brooke Dimmock
7H Erin King
7J Ruby Miller
7K Amanda Varming
7L Jacob Pottage

Year 8

8C Ashley De Lima
8D Ella Matthews
8E Elsir Ibrahim
8F Zak Guntzenbach
8G Mia-Rose Somenthal
8H Roshni Taylor
8J Oisin Thorne
8K Helen Argyropoulou
8L Nick McEvoy

Year 9

9C Voke Orife
9D Lucy Tayler
9E Erin Bonsall
9F Annabel Moore
9G Prior O'Reilly
9H Jack Hogarth
9J Omar Altounji
9K Holly Traynor
9L Momina Zulqarnain
9M Xander Bradbury

Year 10

10C Max Hooper
10D Ollie Knott
10E Kaira Ford-Bollen

10F George Fatus
10G Fabian Hancox
10H Bethany Davidson

10J Sam Roberts
10K Isaac Pottage
10L Ruby Charnick