



The weekly newsletter of

## Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

### HELP US IMPROVE OUR NEWSLETTER!

Please click [HERE](#) to give your opinion on what needs adding or changing to our School Newsletter. The questionnaire takes 1 minute to complete. All feedback would be much appreciated!

**w/c 11 July 2022 Week B**

#### 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](mailto: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.

#### Examinations

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

#### Join Us!

Please [click here](#) to view our current vacancies on our website.

#### Water Bottles

The weather will be very hot for the remainder of the term. Please could you make sure your child brings a water bottle to school.

#### Sports Day

Please be aware that your child will be outdoors for the afternoon on Tuesday 12th. We advise that students bring sun cream and a cap to school.

#### HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	125282
Grove	124104
Mapledurham	125134
Rosehill	122891

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2021/22](#)

Follow us



### Pioneers of Tomorrow

Introducing [PIONEERS OF TOMORROW](#), a dedicated STEAM day at Farnborough International Airshow 2022, for schools, colleges and early career professionals to learn about STEM/STEAM application and the exciting high-tech, high-skill, high-wage careers available - [and it's FREE for under 21s and group organisers](#).

View the world of aerospace with a fun day of activities and the chance to meet potential employers and view routes into our sectors including apprenticeships and graduate opportunities.

#### WHAT'S ON:

Hands - on activities - with STEAM applied in a fun and interactive way for children and young adults to enjoy.

Careers Hub- academic institutions, leading businesses and careers advisors on hand to offer advice through one-to-ones and seminars and view live vacancies.

R&D Showcase - bringing together the best new tech from universities and organisations.

World - famous flying display all the action from fast jets to commercial airlines.

Find out more and book your tickets [here](#).

### Routes Into Stem

Is your Son/Daughter looking for a course they can do in their summer holidays once the school is finished? Would you like to help them make well-informed choices about their future study and careers? EDT and Industrial Cadets has arranged an insightful virtual course over the summer holidays, collaborating with multiple colleges, universities and companies to deliver their [Virtual Routes into STEM programme](#) and to showcase STEM courses, apprenticeships, degrees and careers.

Live content will run from 25th until 29th July and student can study the rest of the course content flexibly whenever suits them between 14th July - 4th August.

What is Routes into STEM? Routes is an innovative course which provides young people aged 13 to 15 with an understanding of the amazing opportunities offered by STEM based careers. If your Son/Daughter is enjoying their Tech, Design, Maths or Science subjects and would like to know what exciting future these subjects could lead to then by joining the course they will:

- take part in exciting projects for example, Tempest Cockpit Design challenge by BAE Systems, Biopharm challenge by GSK, Flight challenge by University of Cambridge, Let's go Fission challenge by Babcock... and more!
- access live sessions and content from Cambridge, Hertfordshire, Abertay universities and many more!
- hear from graduates and apprentices at various companies about early careers, apprenticeships, and pathways into the industry.
- be inspired by professionals in STEM at Network Rail, Saint Gobain, Aquila Nuclear Engineering to name just a few!
- gain [Bronze Industrial Cadets award](#), a highly regarded industry led accreditation that was inspired by His Royal Highness Prince of Wales, and be in a position to make informed decisions about their future.

Watch [this YouTube video](#) to take a sneak peek at what you can expect.

To read more and apply for our next July course please [visit our website](#).

**Closing date for applications is Sunday 10th July!**

## Careers Corner Continued

July's FREE Virtual Work Experience Sessions are now LIVE!

Every month Medic Mentor, Dental Mentor and Vet Mentor release free E-Learning Work Experience for students, our July sessions are now live!

July's courses will be available from the 04/07/2022 to 01/08/2022

Throughout July, applying students in years 10-13 will have access to:

### Medics

Medic Mentor's Free Virtual Work Experience on:

Acute Emergency Medicine

Students can enrol for free by clicking [here](#).

### Dentists

Dental Mentor's Free Virtual Work Experience on:

Paediatric dentistry and oral surgery

Students can enrol for free by clicking [here](#).

### Vets

Vet Mentor's Free Virtual Work Experience on:

Small Animal & General Health

Students can enrol for free by clicking [here](#).

## Highdown School PTA

A big thank you to everyone who was involved in the Highdown 50th Birthday Party!

Special thanks to Mr Burnell, the Senior Leadership team, the Music department, our stallholders, and our wonderful PTA volunteers.

Most of all, we would like to thank all the parents and students that attended and supported the event.

This year it has been great to return to in-person events - Y7/8 disco, two of the ever-popular quiz and curry nights and helping with the 50th anniversary celebration last month. We also gain funds from the sale of second-hand uniform and easyfundraising.

Thank you to everyone for supporting all of these and to those who volunteer their time in organising and assisting, it's very much appreciated.

This academic year you have helped us raise £9k.

The PTA hold 3 fund reviews each year where departments can submit a request for funds. This year we've given £6300 to the school towards items/events including national careers challenge, performing arts festival, D&T vegetable planters, positive feedback cards, 50th anniversary branching out project, year 13 leavers party, screen printing resources, basketball hoops and geography books.

In order to continue with this, we're holding more events next academic year so save the dates!

AGM                      Monday 26th September 2022 (email coming out soon)

Y7/8Disco              Friday 21st October 2022

Quiz                      Friday 11th November 2022

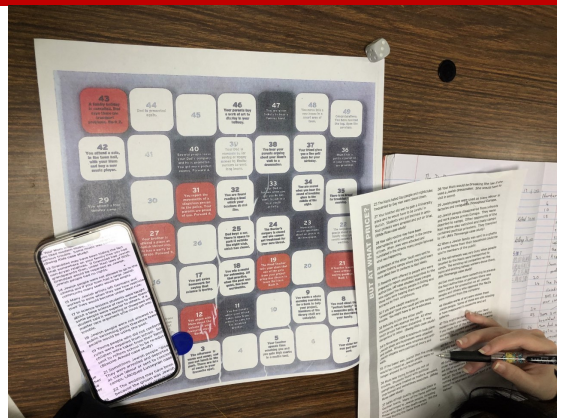
Quiz                      Friday 24th March 2023

And finally, the PTA cannot function without a link into the school. For the last academic year, it has been Daniel Burnell and we thank him for his input, support, and endless positivity and enthusiasm!

## Year 9

### 9H History

This week 9h have been learning through an intensive game of "But at what Price" It was fantastic to see students so engaged with their learning and working collaboratively!



### Student Expectations

It has been brought to our attention that some individuals have taken to ripping the pockets off other students' shirts. Please can you discuss this with your child and ensure they are aware significant sanctions will be set if this continues.

### Keyboards Free to a Good Home

A fantastic opportunity has arisen for all our budding musicians as the Music Department has a stock of older keyboards that are now surplus to requirements. If you would like one of these keyboards, please email Mr Santer at [hhsa@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:hhsa@highdown.reading.sch.uk). They will be allocated on a first come first served basis and will need to be collected by the end of term. The keyboards are free but any donations would be gratefully received and go towards future equipment purchases for the Music Department. Please be aware that some of the keyboards do not have power supplies and these will be given out last (replacement power supplies should be possible to buy elsewhere). The school takes no responsibility for working order or maintenance of the equipment once it has left the site.

### Acceleration Trampoline Club

## *Acceleration<sub>tc</sub>* *Summer Holiday Trampoline Club*

FREE taster sessions available over the Summer Holidays

All abilities welcome, from complete beginner to experienced gymnast

Sessions are within walking distance of Reading town centre  
and run by a highly qualified and experienced trampoline coach

Contact Alan at [accelerationtc@gmail.com](mailto:accelerationtc@gmail.com) for more  
details and to register for your free taster session.





Do you shop at any of the following co-op stores.

Monument Close, The Broadway, Burwood  
Centre, Harts Hill Road, Newbury Road

Become a member and support a local charity



Spotlight Uk are a local charity that have been working in your local area for the past 13 years.

We work with young children and families that have been affected by mental health, loss or separation, neglect or abuse, Children in care, low income families and service families. We receive our referrals from Schools, Early Help Hubs, Social Workers, Family Support Service and other professionals.

We offer emotional support, food bank, clothes bank, toys bank, mentoring for children, family support and free youth activities and family events.

To keep these sessions free we need your support! Becoming a co-op member is an amazing way of helping us without any expense to yourself. Its a win-win-win, for everybody involved.

Spotlight Uk Registered charity  
number 1129258

## How to sign-up!

Head to the Co-op website, and select the sign in button.

Complete the sign in page to become a member, this cost a one time purchase of £1.

Once you are signed in you can "Choose a local cause"

If you don't see Spotlight UK right away, head down to the "Find other causes", and change the "Distance from you" to 15 miles, and change category to "Mental Wellbeing"

This then allows you to find Spotlight UK.

## How this helps us!

Once you have selected Spotlight Uk as your local charity, for every £1 you spend in the co-op stores, using your membership, 2p will go directly to Spotlight UK.

You also receive discounts using your membership card!



Scan me to find more information on Spotlight UK

## 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.

## Stars of the Week

### Year 7

7C Kobe Pattison  
7D Mia Crees-Jones  
7E Lola Wilde  
7F Ashis Tamang  
7G Thomas Talbot  
7H Bailey Lamden  
7J Samuel Musker  
7K Zara Bacon  
7L Ed Hackett

### Year 8

8C Tom Barrs  
8D Elsie Vugler  
8E Chun Hei Lai  
8F Jude Lambourne  
8G Karen Alexy  
8H Evelyn Hunt  
8J Tommy Veal  
8K Freya Carter  
8L Alicia Trott

### Year 9

9C George Mee  
9D Serene Wong  
9E Sarah Hoxhaj  
9F Francesca Tillet Hill  
9G Rory Collier  
9H Natalie Wong  
9J Nancy Lowther  
9K Charlie Gomm  
9L Ella Martin  
9M Taine Buck

### Year 10

10C Malek Istatiah  
10D Freddie Chapman  
10E Isabel Moore

10F Danny Jones  
10G Mehdi Allouche  
10H Toby Schofield

10J Katie Weeks-Morten  
10K Bea Howes  
10L Miles Escott

# HAPPY WEEKEND