



The weekly newsletter of

## Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 14 November 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 using the Class Charts app rather than by telephone, email or ParentMail. We hope parents will find this route much more straightforward and efficient. You can find out more here:**

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1803&type=pdf>.

### SEND

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

### Join Us

We currently have a number of support staff positions available. Please follow the link [here](#) to the school website to find out more information.

### HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	39175
Grove	37488
Mapledurham	38011
Rosehill	37774

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2022/23](#)

Careers Spotlight Week 2: *Global Entrepreneurship*

Geography Awareness Week

MFL Speaking PPEs

Mon 14 Nov	St Giles Trust Presentation to Yr7 in PSHCE
Wed 16 Nov	Yr 12/13 Senior Kangaroos and Olympiad Maths Challenge
Thurs 17 Nov	Careers Fair 6.00pm

Follow us



## School Photographs

### Collection of School Photographs

Please be advised the School Photographs have arrived. Any students in Years 7, 9 and 11 who ordered school photographs can now collect them from the Finance Office.

## Holiday Activities and Food Scheme

### Registration for Christmas HAF activities to open 9 November

Brighter Futures for Children is excited to be preparing for the next round of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) scheme over the Christmas holidays, with registration due to open on 9 November 2022. Please keep an eye on [our HAF page](#) for more details.

## Remembrance Sunday

### Reading Remembrance Service

The main Remembrance Sunday Service in Reading will be taking place at Reading Minster at 9.25am on 13 November and is open to all. A march through the town, led by The Waterloo Band and Bugles of the 7 Rifles, will follow at 10.15am and arrive at Forbury Gardens for laying of wreaths and a two-minute silence at 11.00am.

Friday 11 November marks Armistice Day and Reading Mayor Cllr Rachel Eden will lead a two-minute silence at Forbury Gardens War Memorial at 11.00am. The Deputy Mayor Cllr Debs Edwards will lead a two-minute silence outside the Civic Offices.

Find more information on the [Reading Borough Council news website](#).

## Health and Safety

### Coughs and colds in young children

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT) has launched its winter campaign about coughs and colds in young children and, in particular, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The campaign is focused on parents looking after young children at home and knowing when to seek help. Advice about [coughs and colds in children](#) can be found on the NHS website and there is a [short video about RSV](#) on the RBFT YouTube channel.

### Guidance on Covid for the winter months

Please be advised the current guidance from the UK Government for children and young people is as follow:

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults. Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

For further information please visit our website at: <https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/medical>

## KS3 Reading Club

We had a great first session at the KS3 Reading Club in E6 on Tuesday after school.

We had hot chocolate, read our books and had a chat about our favourite reads.

We would love for more people to join us! Bring a book 😊



## English Department

### The Literary Festival

On Monday 7 November we had The Literary Festival! Two authors (Simon James Green and Matt Dickinson) visited the school to deliver talks to encourage students to get reading. In lessons throughout the day KS3 students spent time building their own characters and creating a fictional world!

#### Student Reviews

*"The author talks were very inspiring and taught me a lot of things about writing a story."*

*"Simon James Green seemed kind and was very comedic."*

*"It was so interesting to hear about Matt Dickinson's experience of climbing Mount Everest!"*



## Performing Arts

### Halloween Decoration Plea!

Now that Halloween is over, if you have any unwanted Halloween decorations, the Performing Arts Faculty would love to take them off your hands for our upcoming performance of the Addams Family!

We are looking for such things as : cobwebs and creatures, fake candles, menacing things etc.... not Halloween 'labelled' products (unless you have an Addams Family costume specifically).

Please contact Mrs Lake via email to [office@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:office@highdown.reading.sch.uk) if you can help in any way.

Thank you very much in advance!

*The Performing Arts Team*

## Year 11

### Lessons in Financial Education Award

On Monday 7 November, some of our Year 11 students completed their external assessment for their Lessons in Financial Education Award.

I am pleased to congratulate the following students in achieving the pass mark for this. They will now be moving on to complete their final units and hopefully achieve their Lessons in Financial Education Certificate at the end of Year 11.

Savannah Bacon  
Cian Murray  
Angelika Szymczyk  
Bella Uygur

### Stars of the Week

7C Violet Ellis  
7D Jacob Scott  
7E Felix Laver  
7F Sohail Sekajja  
7G Hayden Barker  
7H Alfie Prouse  
7J Dylan Fallon  
7K Lara Giboire-Snell  
7L Isla Neal

8C Malo Finet  
8D Maverick Chiu  
8E Nathan Salisbury  
8F Alfie Brown  
8G Daisy Davies  
8H Thomas Ellwood  
8J Bessie Riches  
8K Hugo Foster  
8L Eadie Hackett

9C Griffin Barnett Ward  
9D Aisha Alizada  
9E Aubin Smith  
9F Chloe Gritten  
9G Rio Robinson  
9H Roshni Taylor  
9J Callum Potter  
9K Dylan Cripps  
9L Emma Eighteen

10C Harry Singh  
10D Serene Wong  
10E Lily Mayo  
10F Annabel Moore  
10G Amelie Greenfield  
10H Michael Foulkes  
10J Koustubh Manchili  
10K Hannah Chandler  
10L Oscar Butler  
10M Bethia Miller

11C Freya MacBeth  
11D Emran Haidari  
11E Ari Keep  
11F Sophie Cleave  
11G Gracie Coleman  
11H Eva Riddington  
11J Mark Ngailo  
11K Dan Barrs  
11L Renee Robinson

## The Quiz is tonight!

Online sales have closed but there are still a few spaces left for entry at the door; unfortunately you will not have ordered food, so please sup before you come. We are not allowing food or drinks to be brought in.

**Tickets at the door are £7.**

Please support your School Lottery by clicking the link below and buying a ticket! Fabulous prizes to be won at only £1 per ticket!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/highdown-school-and-sixth-form-centre>

**HIGHDOWN SCHOOL PTA**

**Momo House**  
AUTHENTIC NEPALESE CUISINE

**QUIZ NIGHT**

School Hall  
11<sup>th</sup> November  
Doors open 7:30 Quiz starts 7:45

**£16 entrance including Momo House curry**  
(meat/veg curry, rice, naan)  
[www.facebook.com/momohouseareading](http://www.facebook.com/momohouseareading)

**£7 entrance only**

**Ticket sales close midnight 6<sup>th</sup> Nov**  
110 tickets available, then we will be operating a waiting list  
**Bring cash for bar**

**Teams of up to 8**  
Email [highdown\\_pta@outlook.com](mailto:highdown_pta@outlook.com)  
if you'd like help forming a team

**Parenikind**  
Member Association



### Medic Mentor are inviting all aspiring Doctors in years 10-12 to attend a FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get into Medicine Conference on:

- Sunday 13th November 10am - 3pm
- Saturday 26th November 10am - 3pm

Students can register using this link: <https://airtable.com/shr66li3bqG3ZpkPM>

This is a rare and exciting opportunity for students to hear from Doctors and Medical Students on how to build their best possible application to Medical School.

Medic Mentor have also created a Get into Medicine leaflet for students, they just need to scan the QR code to register: <https://medicmentor.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/GIM-brochure-compressed.pdf>

Once students have attended, they will be awarded a Highly Commended Reference from the Presidents at Medic Mentor to add to their UCAS application.

The Get into Medicine Conference is a comprehensive guide to the medical application process. Dr Siva and Dr Kennedy will cover:

- Application Timelines
- How to Tactically Choose Medical Schools
- CV Building
- Personal Statements
- Interview Schools
- Medical Leadership and Awards Programmes
- Accessing Work Experience
- UCAT and BMAT - Entrance Exams to Medical School
- Accessing Scholarships

We strongly encourage all students to make the most out of this free opportunity.

Spaces are competitive and limited, so students should register as soon as they can using the link above. For this reason, we kindly request that students only book one conference.

Please note that all students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian for safeguarding purposes.

Getting into Medicine may seem impossible to many students, but we are here to break down the entire process into actionable steps.

Dr Siva and Dr Kennedy are excited to meet Highdown students at their conference!

Discover everything you need to know about **Lloyds Banking Group** during our interactive event

On: 13th December 2022 at 6.30 - 7.15 pm

For: Students and parents of those in years 10 to 13. Career leaders and teachers are encouraged to join.

#### Join us to learn about apprenticeships at Lloyds Banking Group

- Hear from current apprentices - a day in the life of an audit and data apprenticeship
- Organisation insights including what skill sets Lloyds are looking for, their culture and values, how they want to build the bank of the future and where an apprenticeship with Lloyds could take you
- Discover apprenticeship opportunities
- PLUS a Q&A session, where you'll be able to ask questions directly to their recruitment teams

Book your place here: [Lloyds Banking Group Apprenticeships webinar Tickets, Tue 13 Dec 2022 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)

### Opportunities at HSBC

#### Degree Apprenticeships 2023 – Applications open now!

Our degree apprenticeships offer an alternative to the full-time university route providing you with full-time employment alongside studying towards a BSc (Hons) in Financial Services Management, fully funded by HSBC.

Positions are available now, with full-time, permanent opportunities across various locations in England, Wales and Scotland. These positions are within Wealth and Personal Banking, Commercial Banking, Asset Management, and Private Banking.

These positions will be starting in October 2023 so if you are deciding on your next stage after College, this could be your next step!

To find out more and to apply, please visit our website on [UK Apprenticeships](#) by the closing date of **18 December 2022**.

#### Degree apprenticeship launch events

To find out more about our Asset Management and Private Banking Programme, and to meet colleagues, please join us at our HSBC Degree Apprenticeship virtual launch event:

Asset Management and Private Banking Launch Event.

**Thursday 17 November 2022: 17:00-18:00pm.**

[Please register here](#) to attend this event.

#### Foundation/Modern Apprenticeships – Applications open now!

Our branch network is at the heart of a local market acting as a financial partner and community hub. Positions are now open within our branch network with full-time, permanent apprenticeship opportunities across various locations in England, Wales and Scotland.

We also have opportunities for Financial Support Manager Apprentices within Commercial Banking, based in Leicester. Throughout the programme, you will get to know our product and services and be part of a team to deliver exceptional service to our customers.

**Applications are open NOW and close on 13 November 2022.**

The projected start date for these positions is 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

To find out more and to apply, please visit our website: [UK Apprenticeships](#)

#### Live Webinar: When I grow up I'm going to be...

During this session, we will look at the career opportunities open to you and how you could find out which pathway to take.

**Tuesday 15 November 2022 from 17:30pm-18:30pm.**

[Click here to register](#) for this webinar.

#### Live Webinar: Planning your future

This event is suited to students in year 9, 10 & 11 and will discuss the different options available after high school, career routes & pathways, as well as case studies and stories from panelists from a variety of different backgrounds.

**Wednesday 30 November 2022 from 17:00-18:30pm.**

[Click here to register](#) for this webinar.

### Taster Lectures with St George's, University of London

Below you can see the subjects and topics of this autumn's series of Taster Lectures at St George's, University of London. All are hosted online in after-school hours, meaning you can enjoy this level of insight and expertise from the comfort of your own home!

#### **Clinical Pharmacology BSc: How clinical pharmacology transformed HIV infection from death sentence to liveable condition**

**Date:** Wednesday 16 November, 5-6pm

**Register here:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2031968283462843664?source=Cat+D>

**Details:** In this talk you will look back in time to the 1980s, when the first people in the UK were diagnosed with HIV and AIDS, and the diagnosis was effectively a death sentence. You will learn how treatments for HIV infection were discovered and developed and how, with today's array of 'anti-retroviral' medicines, people with HIV can have a normal life expectancy. We will finish by reflecting on inequalities in access to HIV medicines around the world and how where you live affects your chances of beating HIV disease.

#### **Biomedical Science MSci: How Science Works**

**Date:** Wednesday 23 November, 5-6pm

**Register here:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3085144292331417359?source=Cat+D>

**Details:** The Biomedical Science MSci degree places a strong emphasis on the development of critical thinking and scientific skills. This lecture, taken from the third year Biomedical Research Techniques for Drug Development module, provides a light-hearted, yet accurate introduction to how scientific research is carried out in both university labs and the pharmaceutical sector.

#### **Biomedical Science BSc: Poisoning and overdose - what drug-induced asphyxia tells us about the respiratory system**

**Date:** Wednesday 7 December, 5-6pm

**Register here:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4608525349196525072?source=Cat+D>

**Details:** Join us on Wednesday 7 December as Dr James Buckley, a senior lecturer in physiology here at St George's, University of London, delivers a taster lecture on poisoning, overdose and the respiratory system.

#### **Preparing for your Medicine Interview**

**Date:** Tuesday 15 November, 5-6pm

**Register here:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3396772270062814732?source=Cat+D>

**Details:** This session is designed for aspiring medics who have applied to study Medicine starting their studies in 2023. This webinar workshop will look to explore the purpose of medicine interviews, types of interviews and what universities are looking for in prospective candidates. This webinar will also give you useful insight and preparation tips, including exploring key skills and unpacking some practice questions. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions at the end of the session.

#### **School and College Liaison Team**

St George's, University of London | Cranmer Terrace | Tooting | London | SW17 0RE

[www.sgul.ac.uk](http://www.sgul.ac.uk)





Are you ready to take your career to new heights? From Pilots to Cabin Crew, Project Management or Business, to Engineering and Digital careers. British Airways, one of the U.K's most iconic brands, has the right career waiting just for you!

On Monday 14th November from 5:00pm - 6:00pm Young Professionals will be hosting an exclusive event with British Airways to showcase the huge range of career opportunities that are available to you after school!

British Airways are the UK's largest international scheduled airline, flying to nearly 600 destinations around the world!

It's an exciting time to be at British Airways. They are growing their global route network, investing in their fleet, and transforming the experience they offer their customers. From Customer Service to Aircraft Engineering, you needn't know everything about the world, or even be well-travelled! Provided you are curious and open to new experiences, you can make a real impact from day one.

Their Apprenticeship opportunities appeal to the adventurous and those who want to start earning right away, whilst getting a head start in their careers. Whether you aspire to work in their global head office, be face to face with customers at Heathrow Airport, or behind the scenes in their engineering and operations teams, there is an opportunity for you.

Discover where a career with British Airways could take you. Click the link below to register yourself for our upcoming online event. This event will be held virtually via Zoom, so you can tune in from anywhere in the country!

Registration Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BA-Insight-Evening>

Highdown  
School and  
Sixth Form  
Centre

Careers  
Fair 2022

Thursday  
17th  
November  
6- 8 p.m.

We are delighted to announce the return of our annual Careers Fair for students in Years 9-13 and their families. This is a key event in our careers development programme and we are extremely grateful to all the employers and organisations for all their support.

A wide range of organisations will be available to talk to students about their careers, qualifications and pathways.

There will be something for everyone including advice and guidance on progressing to university, further education, apprenticeships and traineeships. There will also be presentations on volunteering and gap years.

If you or your organisation would like to book a stand at this event, please contact the team at:  
[careers@highdown.reading.sch.uk](mailto:careers@highdown.reading.sch.uk) or simply fill in this form:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/G1v11YcYrX>

# CAREERS



### Reading Football Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> School and Grassroots Fixture of 2022-23!



You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> School and Grassroots fixture of 2022-23! As part of our special invitation, we would like to offer discounted prices, as shown below:

#### When?

Reading vs Coventry City  
Saturday 10 December, 3pm

#### Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

#### Ticket prices:

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £3

18 to 24: £5

65 and over: £5

Adult: £10

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: **#HighdownSchool** in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

#### How many tickets can we purchase?

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code. For every ticket which is purchased you will receive one entry in a prize draw for a chance to win a series of 'money can't buy experience' prizes!

**Important!** This offer applies to tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand blocks and Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off and availability is limited, so please act quickly to avoid disappointment.

If you have any questions about this offer, please email [sales@readingfc.co.uk](mailto:sales@readingfc.co.uk) or call 0118 968 1313.

We hope to see you all on Saturday 10 December 2022!

Come on URRRZZZ!



The poster features a night scene of Reading Minster with its facade illuminated in red, yellow, and blue lights. The sky is dark blue with white stars and snowflakes. The text is primarily in gold and white. The Royal Berks Charity logo is in the top right, and a QR code is in the bottom right of the image area.

**The Christmas Appeal**

**rbc**  
Royal Berks Charity  
supporting your local hospital

**CHRISTMAS**  
**AT READING MINSTER**  
**THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER 2022**  
**supporting your local hospital**

SCAN TO BOOK

Join your local NHS charity this Christmas for festive singing and performances.

General ticket: £7.50 | Group ticket (4 people): £25.00

Doors open at 6.00pm for a prompt 7.00pm start

[www.royalberkscharity.co.uk/christmas](http://www.royalberkscharity.co.uk/christmas)

The Royal Berks Charity is the working name of the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation trust Charity. Registered Charity number 1052720  
Phone: 0118 322 8860 | Email: [charity@royalberkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:charity@royalberkshire.nhs.uk) | Royal Berks Charity, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AN

**HAPPY WEEKEND**