



The weekly newsletter of

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 19 September 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.



HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	6810
Grove	6744
Mapledurham	6948
Rosehill	6906

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.

From Monday 19 September 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.

Highdown Herald

Please [click here](#) to read the new Highdown Herald, a student newspaper released once a term.

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2022/23](#)

Careers Spotlight Week

19 Sept - Bank Holiday/School Closed

20 Sept - YR10 Course Information

Evening

YR11 Geography Fieldwork

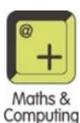
21 Sept - YR11 Geography Fieldwork

22 Sept - YR13 Pathways Evening

(virtual)

YR11 Geography Fieldwork

Follow us



Class Charts update

Parents/carers of Year 7 and 12 students should have received their access codes for their parent/carer account with Class Charts. The Parent App can be downloaded for free from the Apple Store or Google Play, as well as accounts being accessible online. If you have not received your code or any parent would like a reminder, please contact the school office. Class Charts enables students to access their home learning and House Points. For parents/carers, it enables you to track your child's behaviour, detentions and home learning. It is also an important means for sharing announcements with both students and parents/carers.

Students can now access their timetables in Class Charts and parents can also view these.

From Monday 19th September, parents/carers will also be asked to report their child's absence 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?>



National online Safety

All parents/carers of students at Highdown can register for free access to a wide range of guides, webinars and information about risks their child may face online at the National Online Safety website. You can also complete online courses to keep up to date in this rapidly changing world. Please use this link to register:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/highdown-school-and-sixth-form-centre>.

We hope you find this resource informative and useful.



Careers corner

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 or simply fill in this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/G1v11YcYrX>

CAREERS



Young Professionals

On Tuesday 4th October 5pm – 7:30pm, Young Professionals are teaming up with some of the world's biggest companies to host a one-of-a-kind careers conference for students across the region. We're bringing along 2 international law firms Charles Russell Speechlys and Clifford Chance, 2 accounting giants PwC & Mazars, a FTSE-100 property developer Berkeley Group, BT & more!

This is a fantastic opportunity to hear from and meet with some top business professionals as well as gaining incredible industry insights, picking up some great employability skills and securing either an apprenticeship or work experience opportunity. You'll also get the chance to network with all the employers during the evening and have 1-1 conversations with key decision-makers within these firms.

If you're interested in learning about a variety of different career paths and would like to know about the student and work experience and apprenticeship opportunities at these global companies involved, then this event is for you!

For us to run this event and to ensure students are committed to attending (as places are limited), there is a small cost for a ticket. This is to help cover the costs of the venue hire, staffing, technology and refreshments.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Tuesday 4 October 2022

Time: 5pm-7.30pm (prompt 5.30pm start)

Venue: Reading Town Hall, Blagrove Street, Reading, RG1 1QH

Employers: PwC, Mazars, Clifford Chance, Charles Russell Speechlys, Berkeley Group, BT & more to be announced!

Ticket Cost: £24.00

To purchase your ticket, click on the link below!

<https://young-professionals.uk/events/young-professionals-conference---reading-/62cac8aec719ac100b4b4ead/>

Students will receive a Certificate of Completion to add to their CV and talk about in UCAS applications /future job interviews. A reference will also be provided.

InvestIN is delighted to share with you autumn term career opportunities, which are available in 19 cutting-edge industries. Students will learn directly from some of the world's best professionals - **doctors, lawyers, engineers, investment bankers and more** - through a series of live, interactive simulations which provide tailor-made professional experience to ages 12-18.

All programmes take place on Sundays at UCL; students can also attend live online if they prefer. We expect to be fully-booked for our most popular programmes by 30th September so students should register [here](#) as soon as possible.

Girls' Extra Curricular Clubs

All girls' extra-curricular clubs began on Monday 12th September. Clubs are open to all. There is no need to sign up in advance, just have your kit with you on the day of the club you want to go to, come down to girls PE promptly at the end of the day, get changed and take part. PE clubs normally finish around 4.00 to 4.15. We look forward to seeing lots of you next week.

Tuesday After School	Wednesday After School	Thursday Afternoon
Year 10, 11 & 6th Form Hockey Club	All years Girls Football	Year 7, 8 & 9 Hockey Club
All years Girls Cross Country		

'The Hive' is now.....OPEN!

Over the summer break Highdown's library moved to a new location within the school - The Hive. The Hive is a combined space for library and careers and it is looking fantastic; for which we must thank the Estates Team for their hard work in getting this space ready.

Students are invited to come and browse for books to borrow or collect books that they have reserved using the Click and Collect service. The Hive is open for students to visit during mentor period, breaktimes and lunchtimes.

We have already seen a number of visitors to The Hive over the first few days of term, some regular users and some new, and I look forward to seeing many more book borrowers over the coming year. Mrs Robinson



The library will be open to students during mentor times and lunchtimes.

Monday	8.30am-9.05am	12.25pm-1.05pm	and	1.25pm-2.05pm
Tuesday	8.45am-9.05am	12.25pm-1.05pm	and	1.25pm-2.05pm
Wednesday	8.30am-9.05am	12.25pm-1.05pm	and	1.25pm-2.05pm
Thursday	8.45am-9.05am	12.25pm-1.05pm	and	1.25pm-2.05pm

Ho to access books

- 1) The opening times include break and lunchtimes for students to come in to browse and borrow books.
- 2) The click and collect service will continue as some students may prefer to use that.
<https://uk.accessit.online/hgh05/#!landingPage>
- 3) eBooks: As a reminder, I have included below the link for the eBook system. Students should be able to log in using their Highdown login. If they have any problems please tell them to come and see Mrs Robinson in the library.

<https://highdown.eplatform.co/>

DofE—The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

For the hundreds of thousands of young people who take part each year, the benefits of achieving a DofE award at any level are endless. DofE is about helping you along the path to a productive and prosperous future.

Achieving an award will give you the skills, confidence and an edge over others when you apply for college, university or a job...it is the most respected non-academic qualification by universities and employers alike. Beyond your academic achievements, universities want to see evidence of so called 'soft skills' that you have developed through extra-curricular activities, such as communication, commitment, leadership and teamwork. Your DofE Award is a fantastic way to demonstrate and evidence these skills in practice.

You'll also make a difference to other people's lives and your community, be fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last you a lifetime.

Our participants also tell us that doing their DofE gives them character traits like confidence and resilience that can boost their mental health and wellbeing and help them face and overcome personal challenges.

We are aiming to offer all levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Highdown students in Year 9+ (Bronze), Year 11+ (Silver) and Year 12+ (Gold). To make this happen we are partnering with Path Hill Outdoors to run the expeditions. If your children are interested in completing the award, then please complete the expression of interest form at:

<https://forms.office.com/r/G5BBiVNXDF>

So far we have over 100 expressions of interest, we expect there to be many more

English Trip to 'An Inspector Calls'

This week, we went to the New Wimbledon Theatre to see a production of 'An Inspector Calls'. As we have only recently started studying it, it was brilliant to see the written word brought to life with interesting staging, dramatic lighting, and nuanced acting, which emphasised the themes and symbols of the play. It had a strong political message, that, despite being written in 1945, remains relevant today, exploring issues such as: the divide between the rich and the poor and the prioritisation of profits over people. Overall, it was an eye-opening performance, especially to the economic and social deprivation in early 20th century England.

Review by Georgie Wilson, 11E



8G Sustainability Workshop—End of Summer Term 2022

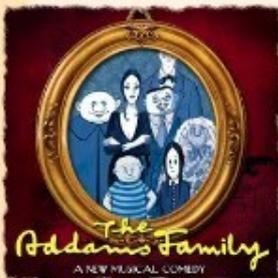
In the last week of the summer term, class 8G took part in a workshop, run in conjunction with Newbury Building Society, all about sustainability. The students enjoyed thinking about what they could do to promote sustainability as well as going on to design their own sustainable town. Everyone enjoyed the day and there will be opportunities for follow up projects in the future.



SHOW BAND AUDITIONS

Tuesday 20th Sept 3:15pm in MU1

BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT AND A PREPARED
SONG TO PLAY!



Weekly Rehearsals to
perform music from Musicals

Performing for 'The Addams
Family' Show in March 2023

Looking for orchestral instruments
as well as Piano, Bass, Guitar, Drums
If you have any questions please speak to
Miss Jefferies

GOOD LUCK!

Stars of the Week

YEAR 7

7C	Alfie Smith
7D	Lucas Huynh
7E	Marley Ifil
7F	Charlie Chislet
7G	Annabelle Bryant
7H	Emlyn Sandrey
7J	Leo Diamond
7K	Brooklyn Brothers
7L	Dylan Crook

YEAR 8

8C	Tom Sanigar
8D	Noah Smith
8E	Ayan Asgarova
8F	Alex Igov
8G	Sara Anton
8H	Asha Chowdhury
8J	Harry Lotery
8K	Lincoln Lau
8L	Samuel Franklin

YEAR 9

9C	Max McEwan
9D	Mohamed Idris
9E	Kathleen Gordon
9F	Alvin Karki
9G	Ed Waters
9H	Freyja Baldursdottir
9J	Cleona Mason
9K	Max Hunter
9L	Inigo Wrottesley

YEAR 10

10C	Joshua Smith
10D	Max Elsby
10E	Rhys Bull
10F	Ava Sherfield
10G	Ellie Perkins
10H	Jemima Harmsworth
10J	Dexter Jeynes
10K	Katelyn Broadley
10L	Felix Bartle
10M	Jacob Pett

YEAR 11

11C	Darcy Calvin
11D	Maisie Smith
11E	Ollie Collins
11F	Shaun Gallantry
11H	Benedek Nagy
11J	Mark Ngailo
11K	Bea Howes
11L	Matthew Callow

Thank you Year 8 Buddies!

Since the start of term, the Year 8 Buddies have been supporting the new Year 7's. They have been helping them find their way around school and been a friendly older face for them to ask any questions to that they may have. The Year 8's have been an excellent role model to the younger students and we are so proud of the way they have conducted themselves. They have simple been amazing.

Many thanks to all of you.

Abbie Teles	Edward Hackett
Archie Howes	Emma Kelsall
Asha Chowdhury	Erin King
Ayan Asgarova	Euan Miller
Bessie Riches	Evie Johnson
Casper Lomas	Fletcher Bramley

George Cantele	Jordan Jobin
Harry Davies	Kobe Pattison
Hugo Foster	Lily Morgan
Isabelle Heaven	Louis Briggs
Isla Routledge	Luke Bloxam
Isla Tiplady	Madison Elton

Matteo Bellofatto	Samuel Crisford
Olivia Brown	Scarlett Hepwood
Patrick Brazil	Sian Shannon
Primrose Crawford	Thomas Talbot
Ranveer Verma	Tyler May
Raphael McKenna	Violet Durkan
Zach Cross	

Maths Stars of the Week

Congratulations to all of our amazing Maths Stars of the Week from the academic year 2021-22. These names will be coming down from the board this week ready to be filled up all over again. Will your name be up there this



Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy Task

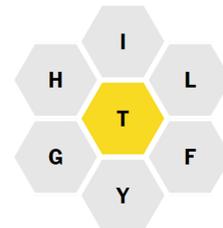
Task – Spelling Bee

Try and make many words as you can only using the given letters. You can complete the daily challenge properly by following the link here:

Or keep a list and use these letters:

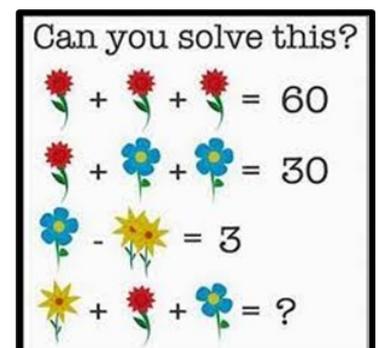
https://www.nytimes.com/puzzles/spelling-bee?smtp=cur&smid=fb-ny-times&fbclid=IwAR1fWd0vu9YYoRV9_GIAWC9HepQWe7skX5IKWM5_u3ZXTp7J3o5nvpfILAA

<https://www.nytimes.com/games/wordle/index.html>



Numeracy Challenge – Can you solve this?

See Page 10 for the answer!



Community Events

Roll up for the



READING
CYCLE FESTIVAL

Everything cycling. Cycling for everyone.

- Stunt displays
- Try out bikes
- Learn to ride a unicycle
- Ride an obstacle course
- Face painting
- Free bike checks
- Smoothie bike
- Ice cream

Sunday 25th September 11- 4pm
Christchurch Meadows

FREE ENTRY AND BIKE PARKING

avanticycling

supported by
 Reading
Borough Council
Working better with you

www.readingcyclefestival.co.uk

Scan me



Reading cycle festival is sponsored by Avanti Cycling and supported by Reading Borough Council and will be held on Sunday 25th September in Christchurch Meadows between 11am and 4pm.

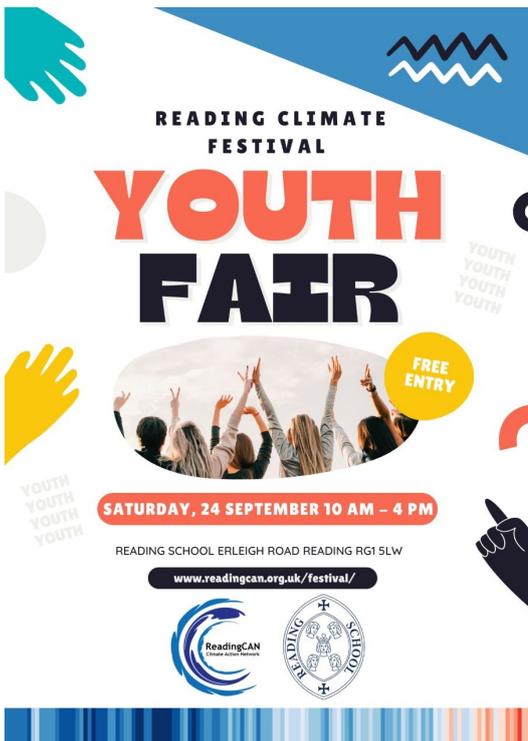
It is designed to promote the enjoyment and benefits of cycling and is aimed at non-cyclists as well as existing riders.

There are more than 20 activities, shows and information stalls celebrating cycling.

These include stunt displays, opportunities to try out different cycles, an obstacle course and free bike checks.

The impressive line-up is listed here:
(<https://readingcyclefestival.co.uk/>)

We hope that this family day out will inspire children who have done Bikeability to do more



READING CLIMATE
FESTIVAL

**YOUTH
FAIR**

FREE ENTRY

SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 10 AM - 4 PM

READING SCHOOL ERLEIGH ROAD READING RG1 5LW

www.readingcan.org.uk/festival/



Family Information Day - British Dyslexia Association

You might be aware already, but the British Dyslexia Association have a family day in Bracknell on
Sat 24 September (£5 for adults, free for children).

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/events/family-information-day>



Answer to Numeracy puzzle

27

HAPPY WEEKEND