

### w/c 31 October 2022 Week B

#### **Latest News**

Please download our mobile website app to ensure you receive all the latest news. Click this <u>link</u> for further information.



#### **HOUSE POINTS**

Caversham 29762 Grove 28469 Mapledurham 28764 Rosehill 28722

#### **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 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.

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

#### Term dates can be found here:

#### 2022/23

Tues 1 Nov Sixth Form Subject Fair

Thurs 3 Nov Y10 Christmas Carol

Performance

Fri 4 Nov Y7 Learning Conference:

**Becoming Independent** 

#### **SEND**

Please follow this <u>link to the school website</u> 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.

#### Follow us

























#### **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.

#### **Lost Property**

We have collected several coats, PE kit bags/carrier bags and water bottles that students need to claim from lost property.

If your child has lost something, please encourage them to come to reception and the office team will help reunite them with their property.

#### Poppy Appeal

We will be selling poppies and other items for remembrance after half term. Year 11 students will be visiting mentors.



#### **Health and Safety**

#### **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: <a href="https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/medical">https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/medical</a>

#### Non-Uniform Day Charity Fundraiser

The funds from the recent non-uniform day have been counted by our Finance Department. A grand total of £1098.89 was raised and will make its way shortly to YoungMinds, on top of the funds raised last year by Caversham House, whose charity was also YoungMinds. Thank you for your kind support.

#### Year 7

#### Author of the term

Year 7 are studying 'Interesting Lives' this term.

Although he is probably most renowned for his works of Children's fiction such as Matilda, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Fantastic Mr Fox, Roald Dahl was also a spy, an ace fighter pilot, a chocolate historian and a medical inventor. Having led such an interesting life, his experiences have left their mark on his writing — both fiction and non-fiction — and has led to some of the most macabre short stories ever written. This term year 7 are looking at Roald Dahl's autobiography *Going Solo* where he shares with us what it was like getting to fly a fighter plane. Why not check out some of his other books such as *Over to You: Ten Stories of Flyers and Flying* and *The Roald Dahl Omnibus: Perfect Bedtime Stories for Sleepless Nights*.

#### Year 8

#### Author of the term

This term year 8 students are studying the World of Work where they will look at careers linked to English and the skills you develop through studying it in school. One of the jobs students will look at is the job of journalism. Mark Haddon is probably most famous for his book *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nightime*, but he also writes articles which frequently appear in The Guardian. Why not take a look at some of these: *Mark Haddon on the magic of audiobooks; My Writing Day / Mark Haddon: I'm not a terribly good writer, but I'm a persistent editor; I've read too many beige stories in my life; I'm going to keep giving to Oxfam, and so should you.* 

#### Year 9

Year 9 have been studying 'The Gender Unit' this half term. In this unit, students got to listen to a podcast by Robert Webb titled 'How not to be a boy' where he discusses not living by the rules of masculinity. Webb is a comedian, actor, writer and presenter. He is known for being half of the double act *Mitchell and Webb*, beside David Mitchell, who he starred in the Channel 4 sitcom *Peep Show* with and in the comedy sketch programme *That Mitchell and Webb Look*. Why not have a look at his memoir 'How Not To Be a Boy or his debut novel 'Come Again' this half term?





# Year 11

#### Sixth Form Subject Fair

To find out more about the subjects offered in our Sixth Form, please visit us at our Sixth Form Subject Fair that will take place on **Tuesday 1 November 2022**, **between 17.30pm and 19.45pm**.

The fair will be a chance to ask questions about the courses we offer with our Sixth Form teaching staff.

As it is a popular event, please book on one of the three available sessions here:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/highdown-sixth-form-subject-fair-2022-tickets-424140093437

#### **Geography Trip**



Year 11 GCSE Geography students recently went out into the 'field' to collect data for their human geography geographical investigation.

Students were investigating the impact of urban sprawl on Reading's rural-urban fringe.

We went to Pangbourne and Woodcote to compare these two villages on the fringe of town and countryside. Students collected primary data on service provision, types of shops, housing characteristics and age and conducted environmental quality assessments.

The weather was fantastic, which meant some time out from all the hard work was achievable on the banks of the river Thames – 'Wind in the Willows' country. This helped students gain a 'sense of place' and understand the reason why places like Pangbourne are growing. Our Geographers were brilliantly behaved and were a credit to the department, school and their families. Well done year 11 – all 149 of them!

### **Year 12 Psychology**

On Thursday 20 October, Year 12 A-Level Psychology students made the short trip down the road to Queen Anne's School for a series of lectures on the brain. Dr Guy Sutton, an expert in neuroscience from the University of Nottingham, provided students with an insight into what they will study within their 'biopsychology' module later this year, including the function of different brain areas and what happens when these areas get damaged. Dr Sutton even performed a live dissection of a lamb's brain on stage! Altogether, this was a fantastic day with lots of interesting learning taking place.

Harriet and Charles holding a lamb's brain prior to dissection!





## **English Department**

On Thursday 3 November 2022, Quantum Theatre will be coming into school to put on a performance of 'A Christmas Carol' for all year 10 and 11 students.

# A Christmas Carol



It's a cold, bleak, biting Christmas Eve and old miser Scrooge is not full of the Christmas spirit. In fact he hates Christmas...("humbug!" he calls it.) But on returning home he suddenly finds himself visited by four ghostly apparitions come to teach him a lesson; his old partner Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet To Come.

But as Christmas day dawns are these apparitions and their dire warnings enough to make Scrooge see the error of his ways?

Michael Whitmore's faithful new adaptation is taken exclusively from the original text, capturing the spirit and style of this Dickens classic whilst reinforcing the key quotations from the book.







https://www.quantumtheatre.co.uk/secondary-productions

# School Production of 'The Boy Who Fell into a Book'

From all the cast and crew involved in our junior production of 'The Boy Who Fell into a Book' we would like to say a big thank you to all of those who came to see our show last week! We appreciate your support!











#### The Hive - Audio Books

As part of the Library service we are pleased to announce that as well as eBooks we have now subscribed to Audio books through the e. Platform system.



Audio books can be found by going to **The Hive (Library and Careers)** page on the school website and clicking on the links as you would for eBooks. <a href="https://highdown.eplatform.co/">https://highdown.eplatform.co/</a>

If you have any questions about any of the library services please speak to Mrs Robinson in The Hive or send an email to <a href="mailto:librarian@highdown.reading.sch.uk">librarian@highdown.reading.sch.uk</a>

Suggested eBook reads and audio book listens for Half Term to get you in the mood for Halloween.

#### eBook suggestions



## Gap Year in Ghost Town by Michael Pryor - 'Filled with ghostly intrigue and de-

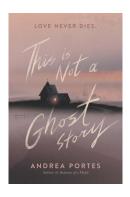
ghostly intrigue and delightful characters, Michael Pryor's Novel is pure entertainment'



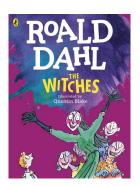
#### The Witch's Kiss by sisters Katharine and Elizabeth Corr - 'Electrifying dark magic novel'.

Merry used to dabble in witchcraft and her gran runs the local coven – but, apart from that, she and her brother Leo are normal teenagers..... or are they???

#### **Audio books**



This is Not a Ghost Story: Nothing is as it seems in this chilling, twisting tale by bestselling author Andrea Portes. 'I am not welcome. Somehow I know that. Something doesn't want me here. Daffodil Franklin has plans for a quiet summer before her freshman year at college, and luckily, she's found the job that can give her just that: housesitting a mansion for a wealthy couple. But as the summer progresses and shadows lengthen, Daffodil comes to realize the house is more than it appears.'



# Roald Dahl's classic The Witches, read by actor Miranda Richardson

'The Witches have a motto: One child a week is fifty-two a year. Squish them and squiggle them and make them disappear.' Interest Age: 7-11

A great book to listen to on those long journeys in the car!

## The Hive continued

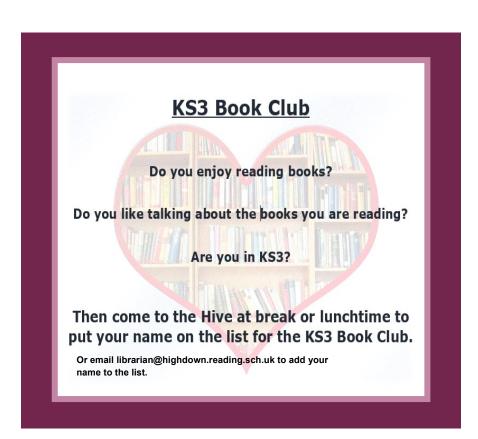
#### Can you help?

We are looking to connect with people who have careers linked to books, i.e. authors, publishers, illustrators, proofreaders, editors, journalists etc.

If you or someone you know are in this line of work and would be willing to come and talk to Highdown students about your job, then we would love to hear from you.

Please email <u>librarian@highdown.reading.sch.uk</u> if you are able to help.

Many thanks in advance!



#### **Careers Corner**

#### Young Professionals Technology Work Experience for Year 11-13

The October half-term is fast approaching, and so is one of our most exciting opportunities! Are you interested in a career in the fast-paced industry of Technology? If you would love an insight into what life at a FTSE100 multinational telecommunications company is like or want insider tips from a top professional at a billion-pound global IT consulting firm, this is the opportunity for you!

We are hosting a multi-employer work experience day on **Wednesday 26 October** from 9am-4pm, virtually via Zoom.

We have some global tech giants joining us, including: World Wide Technology - one of the USA's largest minority owned Tech firms, who boast some of the best diversity and inclusion projects; BT the FTSE 100 telecommunications company; global IT consulting firm Cappemini, Big 4 professional services firm PwC and \$9billion turnover insurance firm WTW.

If you're interested in hearing more about the different careers in the digital and technology industry and want to engage with some top businesses during interactive workshops, be sure to sign up.

Click the link here: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TechTheFuture-WEX

#### **Key Details:**

Half-term work experience day on Wednesday 26 October 9am-4pm
Join us from anywhere in the country via Zoom
Fast track opportunities to further in-person events this year
Certificate of attendance for your CV

Insider tips from some of the UK's greatest Business, Finance and Accounting firms

Exciting prize giveaways on the day

Technology is without a doubt one of the fastest growing and most lucrative industries in the world with new advancements and innovation constantly occurring. With that comes plenty of exciting career opportunities!

#### Young Professionals Engineering Work Experience for Year 11-13

We have such an exciting opportunity to share with you today! Are you thinking about pursuing a career in Engineering? Are you looking for work experience during half-term? Fancy working on real world engineering problems like reducing city congestion, helping NASA land a rover on Mars, or creating software to help produce offshore wind energy? A career in Engineering with a billion-pound technology company, this event could get you there. Make sure you don't miss out on this amazing work experience day on Tuesday 25 October from 9am-5pm (virtually via Zoom). Huge employers will be joining us this half-term to tell you all about their career opportunities and give you some hands-on experience during interactive workshops.

We have some of the country's TOP engineering firms joining us, to give you real insight into working on the frontline of modern engineering advances, including: the UK's largest airline British Airways, FTSE 100 property developer Berkeley, Global defence engineering specialists Babcock, Global Civil engineering firm Mott Macdonald, and Spectris the precision instrumentation and controls specialists.

It doesn't matter if you're interested in civil, electrical, software, defence or any other branch of engineering, all will be discussed throughout the course of the day!

This event will give you direct access to some of the companies at the forefront of the ever-evolving engineering world. Not only will we hear from some of the UK's leading professionals sharing insider tips on how to begin your career, but there will also be opportunity to ask them your burning questions.

This event will be hugely popular, so please don't delay signing up! Click this link to sign up now: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Engineering-WEX">https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Engineering-WEX</a>

#### **Key details:**

- Half-term work experience day on Tuesday 25 October 9am-5pm
- Join us from anywhere in the country via Zoom
- Certificate of attendance for your CV
- Insider tips from some of the UK's greatest Engineering firms
- Exciting prize giveaways on the day!

#### Careers Corner continued

<u>RateMyApprenticeship.co.uk</u> invites you to a FREE virtual careers event on Tuesday 22 November, from 5pm. This information-packed virtual event is perfect for students in years 10-13, teachers and parents who want to learn more about options outside of university.

By joining, your students will hear from current apprentices about a life free of university debt and filled with incredible career prospects. They'll also interact with 15 of the UK's best employers, including Sage, KPMG, and AstraZeneca!

The event includes three interactive discussions with a panel of current apprentices discussing their journey of discovering, applying for and gaining an apprenticeship.

Students also get to attend an exclusive CV and Interview workshop with The University of Law and will receive a certificate of attendance for their record of achievements, CV or LinkedIn profile.

Sign up before 4 November and they will be in with the chance to WIN £50! Plus, anyone that attends will get a £5 Deliveroo voucher!

Get your free ticket

For Year 13 students considering a structured and paid gap year to enhance their university or apprenticeship applications.

What's YINI? EDT's, The Year in Industry (YINI) Placement scheme, helps place students into paid 12-month long placements into all areas of engineering, science (particularly physics), technology/electronics, business, marketing and finance across the UK.

Register for the YINI scheme here

**To find out more:** Year 13 Students are invited to join our next YINI Open Day webinar on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October – please see below for details and links;

Webinar: EDT Year in Industry (YINI) Placements Open Day

**Content:** YINI offers Yr 13 students a free resource when searching for a year-out paid placement and has been helping students for over 35 years. Find out how the scheme can help you in searching for a paid placement, as well as how we support each student during their placement. Plus, hear from our YINI Team and currently/former placed YINI students talk about their placement experiences.

**Date/Time:** Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 4pm - 5pm.

Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_I9O149g7TdmT8ZO0LBuAiw

#### Webinar Timetable:

We will be running this webinar once a month. To access the webinar timetable and see other available dates, please click **here**.

FREE ONLINE EVENT

# The Young Marine Biologist Summit 2022 den Oceans

Saturday 26th November 10:00-16:00 GMT



It has given me lots of opportunities to learn and it's great that the scientists are so friendly and willing to welcome and share

- Participant YMB Summit 2021



#### The Summit

The Marine Biological Association organises this annual event as an opportunity for young people with an interest in Marine Biology to meet professional marine scientists and science communicators to learn more about our ocean.

· Presentations are aimed at 13-18 year olds, but we welcome everyone to come along



#### The Theme

This year's theme will be 'Hidden Ocean' where we will be showcasing microscopic marine life-forms and the processes that underpin all life on our planet. Join us to find out the fascinating science behind these tiny organisms and the processes they are involved in, meet the people who study them and find out how you can get involved!



With 14 speakers from across the globe, here's a taste of what to expect:



Why are plankton different shapes?

Fantastic Marine Yeasts and Where to Find Them







https://www.mba.ac.uk/ learn-with-us/



MBA.AC.UK 0 0 f 6

For further details and a link to booking please click here:

https://mymba.mba.ac.uk/member-homepage/events/events-calendar/young-marine-biologistsummit-hidden-ocean.html





# Higher Education Webinar: Criminology

Are you fascinated by crime? Do you have a desire to solve puzzles and mysteries? Come and discover more about the study of criminology and the careers that it can lead to.

Presented by Natalie Booth, Senior Lecturer at Bath Spa University

# Wednesday 23rd November 2022

6 - 7PM

Please book via the Adviza Portal under 'Events'
Cost: FREE | Suitable for all ages

For more information please email careersguidance@adviza.org.uk



0118 402 7050 | www.adviza.org.uk





Congratulations to Year 7 who have helped Highdown become a Careerpilot Super User this month. All students in year 7 have created their accounts and begun exploring the platform as they begin their careers development journey. The website also has a handy section for parents to support conversations at home about future pathways and option choices.

http://www.careerpilot.org.uk/

If you would like further information about careers advice and guidance, please contact us via careers@highdown.reading.sch.uk



#### Careers Corner continued





# Kick-start your career with a Network Rail Apprenticeship!

#### **About the roles**

**Roles available:** Level 3 Engineering Apprenticeship, Level 6 IT and Business Services Level 6 Degree Apprenticeship Scheme.

#### Locations:

Engineering - Reading, Romford, Shenfield, Shipley, Shrewsbury, Slough, Westbourne Park, West Ealing, Stratford, Swindon, Cornwall, Wakefield, Bristol, York, Ely, Llandudno, Lowestoft, Exeter, Norwich, Pitsea, Port Talbot, Paddington, Mirfield, Newport, Westbury, Machynlleth, Gloucester, Hereford, Hull, Knottingley, Leeds, Liverpool, Ipswich, Cambridge, Bletchley, Cheshunt, Colchester

#### IT and Business services - Milton Keynes

#### **Entry requirements:**

Engineering - You'll need at least GCSEs in English Language and Science at Grades 9-4, Maths at Grade 9-5, and one other subject at Grades 9-4. Or you'll hold an NVQ or BTEC Level 2 or above in an Engineering subject or equivalents.

IT and Business Services - You'll need to have achieved 5 GCSEs Grade 9-5 (including Mathematics and English) and 3 A Levels which should include 1 STEM subject. (BCC or 104 UCAS points equivalent). BTEC equivalent qualifications at Distinction\* are also acceptable. General Studies A Level is not accepted for this opportunity.

#### **Search Engineering Apprenticeships**

**IT and Business services - Milton** 

#### If experiencing projects and possibilities matters to you. You matter to us.

We offer all the structure, support, and experience you need to grow and develop with us. And we offer more career paths than you might think.

**Apply now** 

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.s ch.uk or simply fill in this form: https://forms.office.com/r/G

1v11YcYrX



# Stars of week

7C	Yonatan Girdler
7D	Neki Sharipova
7E	Alice Gomm
7F	Amiyah Sanford
7G	Leo Pennycott
7H	Florence Hastings
<b>7</b> J	Riley Stace
7K	James Barrett
7L	Elyon Eghdamian

8C	Eddy Leach
8D	Furqan Khan
8E	Imogen Acteson
8F	Sam Smith
8G	Katla Baldursdottir
8H	Mehreen Ali
8J	Ben Gibson
8K	Harry Davies
8L	Samuel Boughton

9C	Sydney Grant
9D	Liam Taylor
9E	David Sarkodie
9F	Gabe Bell
9G	Ruby Cook
9H	Saba Prins Mills
9J	Alex McAndrew
9K	Max Negro-Halpin
9L	Afonso Basto De Lima

10C	Yan Ho Chu
10D	Jaida Wallace
10E	Esme Hasell
10F	Rose Weakley
10G	Hannah Redhead
10H	Issac Lawrence
10J	Tonia Ng
10K	Petra Bartusz
10L	Farzan Moin
10M	Ruby Bonnett



#### The Year 7/8 Disco is tonight!

6.30 - 8.30pm in the school hall Tickets are £5 at the door

## **Upcoming Events**

The Big PTA November Quiz Tickets are now on sale!

Friday 11 November 2022

To book your tickets click here:

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown/ #.Y05VQvzMJD8

Once all tickets are sold, we will be operating a waiting list so don't delay!



# **Literacy and Numeracy Challenge**

# **Literacy Task**

A lot of our words come from **Latin** and **Greek**. The letter pattern "cent" comes from Latin and means One Hundred. Write as many words as you can that use "cent" and are related to the idea of One Hundred.

Origin
FRENCH
cent
ITALIAN
cento cent
a hundred
LATIN
Late Middle English
centum
hundred
late Middle English (in the sense 'a hundred'): from French cent, Italian cento, or Latin centum 'hundred'.

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

# **Numeracy Challenge**

4 people are at a party, everyone shakes hands with each other once. How many handshakes were there?

Bonus: In another party there were 104 handshakes. How many people were there?

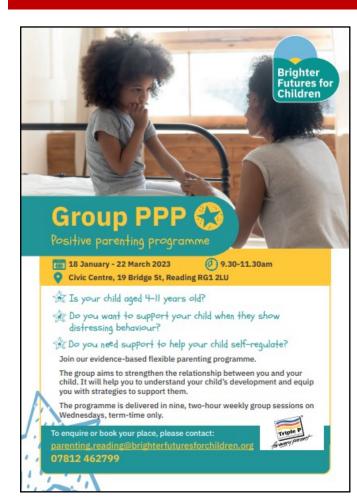
Is there a quick way to work out the number of handshakes for any number of people?

# **Community Events**

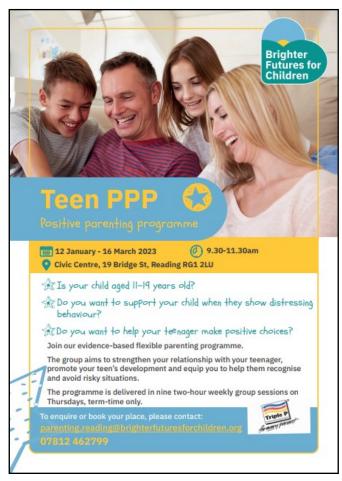


These are the courses that the Community Trust are running throughout October Half Term for boys & girls in School years 1 to 9.

#### Community Events continued







#### Community events continued





Answer to literacy challenge:

Cent, Century, Centipede, Centurion, Centilitre, Centimetre, Percent, Centenary Answer to numeracy challenge:

6 handshakes. 14 people. Quick way: Multiply the number of people by the number that is one smaller, then half your answer.

