



The weekly newsletter of
Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 17 April 2023 Week A

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	112140	YoungMinds
Grove	109966	Daisy's Dream
Mapledurham	110317	Refugee Support Group
Rosehill	109407	Berkshire Vision

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term dates can be found here: [2022/23](#)

Term 4

Mon 17 Apr:	Professional Learning Day: Academy closed to students
Tues 18 Apr:	Start of Term 5 Y12 PPEs
Wed 19 Apr:	Y12 PPEs Orchestra trip to Barbican
Thurs 20 Apr:	Y12 PPEs
Fri 21 Apr:	Y12 PPEs Ramadan ends

**PERFORMING
ARTS
LEVEL 3
Showcase**

Annika Ryan Beau Brown Ella Boswell Ciara Patrick

19 MAY 2023

DONATIONS WELCOME **7PM**

pahawkins@highdown.reading.sch.uk **DR2**



Follow us



Information

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 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>.

ParentMail Accounts

We respectfully request all parents and carers regularly check their student's dinner money balances to ensure they are in credit.

At peak times, around mid-morning, it can take up to 2 hours for the monies to show on the account.

Therefore, if you need to top them up, please allow time for these to be processed, we have found topping up in the evenings to be the quickest way to add monies to the account.

Leave of Absence

Applications for leave of absence during term time **must** be made in advance by the parent/carer. Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and parents will be made aware that taking unauthorised leave of absence could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or prosecution.

Holiday will not be authorised in term time.

Application for Leave of Absence forms can be found here:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/absence>.

Please complete and return to the school office.

Safeguarding: National Online Safety Courses for Parents and Carers

We would like to encourage parents/carers to complete one of the following parent courses in National Online Safety, presented by Myleene Klass:

The course takes about 40 minutes and leads you on a journey through a child's digital habits, exploring the type of online world they are experiencing now, what risks they might be exposed to, and looks at what you can do to support them.

[Annual Award in Online Safety for Parents and Carers of Children aged 11-14](#)

[Annual Award in Online Safety for Parents and Carers of Children aged 14-18](#)

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Helping children and young people with MANAGING DEVICE STRESS AND ANXIETY

The internet and advances in the capability of digital devices have afforded us arguably the fastest period of technological and social evolution in living memory: creating opportunities for us to interact with people anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. It's also, however, blurred safety boundaries and added new stresses for young people, who are often less aware of the hidden hazards. With almost half of 10-15-year-olds experiencing bullying online and algorithms pushing content in front of our children every day, it's important to know how to address some of these challenges.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LIVING ONLINE

The internet is awash with sophisticated algorithms that learn from our online behaviour and try to predict our wants and needs. That's very helpful in some respects, but it can make the online world difficult for children and young people to negotiate. Content can be brought to them at any time – it may not always be appropriate, and children may not have the ability or the support to deal with it.

PUSHY NOTIFICATIONS

Content is also directed at us through notifications from our apps: letting us know we have a new message or social post to read, for example. While that's useful in some circumstances, it conditions us to keep going back online (and is designed to do so) and can be a near-constant demand on your child's attention. As such alerts become more common, are we experiencing an 'attack of the pings'?

BLURRED BOUNDARIES

There are now so many ways we can communicate online in real time (like instant messaging apps) or with a delay (such as on social media) that it's possible to be constantly in conversation. Young people often prefer quickfire exchanges of text – but using fewer words can cause distressing miscommunications through the lack of non-verbal cues like facial expressions or tone of voice.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY

As devices allow access to immediate external help in challenging situations, it's a concern that children may not be developing the inner confidence to work things out for themselves. Likewise, group membership is hugely important to young people – both in digital and 'real' life – and being excluded from online conversations can cause damaging feelings of loneliness and isolation.

DISGUISED DISTRESS

Children often haven't yet developed the emotional resources to deal with many of the setbacks of everyday life, so identifying when it's specifically something online that's worried them can be tricky. A certain level of stress is a normal response to a problem: it spurs us into action to keep ourselves safe. If the stress is excessive, though, it can feel overwhelming and potentially lead to anxiety or depression.

ANTI-SOCIAL SOCIALS

Social media can bring people together in hugely positive ways. Sadly, it does also have a darker side, including 'flame war' arguments which can escalate quickly and have hurtful consequences. With so many people looking on, 'group shaming' situations are also common – while there are continual opportunities for young people to compare themselves negatively with other social media users.

Advice for Parents & Carers

LEARN THE BASICS

It's impossible to keep up with every online change or every new app. The best option is to make yourself aware of the fundamentals of how the internet operates, so you can help your child to grasp how – and why – content reaches them. Devices and the digital world can be confusing, so learning to understand them better will give you the confidence to talk to your child about them.

PUSH DISTRACTIONS AWAY

Notifications to our phones and tablets can be helpful, but they sometimes make one wonder: who's really in charge: the person or the device? Checking our phone as soon as it goes off is an easy habit to fall into – especially for young people. Try switching off non-essential alerts on your devices and encourage your child to do the same: you should both feel less triggered and more in control.

KEEP CHECKING IN

Healthy emotional regulation balances three systems: threat, drive and grounding. Down the various rabbit holes of the internet, however, that balance can easily slip away – so it's important to help your child manage their emotions when they're online. Check in with them regularly when they're on their device, and remember that 'distraction' and 'relaxation' aren't always the same thing.

TALK IT OUT

If a child mentions a comment that's been directed at them in a text chat or on social media, it may sound minor but can actually have a much bigger effect than we realise. In our evolved brains, any perceived threat can get internalised while our body reacts as if we were in physical danger – raising stress levels. It's always worth encouraging your child to get any concerns out in the open.

LOOK FOR THE SIGNS

This is tricky – and may depend on the child's age – but any sudden change in behaviour is worth looking out for. If your child seems to be checking their phone or tablet more, doesn't want to be parted from them, or appears unusually secretive, anxious or withdrawn, it could be a sign that something is amiss in relation to their device – and, possibly, that they're in need of extra support.

BE KIND: UNWIND

Be kind to yourselves as parents and carers. Remember that we're all in the same boat, trying to safely guide our children through this complex, fast-moving digital environment. Getting into the habit of having natural, relaxed conversations with your child about their online life (and yours) can level the playing field and make it far easier for them to open up to you about any concerns.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with and offers bespoke training to businesses and organisations, supporting positive and effective online communications – often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the various mediums.



Source: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/the-big-ask-big-answers/>
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/childrensonlinebehaviourinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2020>

NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 29.03.2023

This is just one of the guides provided for parents/carers at <https://nationalonlinesafety.com> which is free to register with as a member of the Highdown community.

Join Us

We currently have the following support staff vacancies. Please follow the link [here](#) to the school website to find out more information.



1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

EXAMINATIONS INVIGILATOR

- £10.79 per hour
- Flexible hours

We are looking to expand our team of Invigilators to support the running of external and internal examinations at Highdown.

You should enjoy working as part of a team and an interest in working in a school environment is essential. This will ideally suit responsible, punctual, calm, organised and approachable individuals.

Full training will be provided.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, in the post or by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Highdown School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. We are also trained in safer recruitment and the successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and a 'Prohibition from Teaching' check.



1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

CLEANER/HOUSEKEEPING TEAM

- £10.79 per hour.
- 15 hours per week. Monday to Friday 3pm to 6pm. Morning shifts also available.

Come and join our Housekeeping team. Duties include; cleaning classrooms and offices, toilets, emptying bins, vacuuming, mopping floors helping to create a safe and welcoming environment to promote learning for our students

The successful candidate will be conscientious and reliable with a friendly and pro-active attitude. Experience is desirable, but training will be provided.

Applications considered on receipt.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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1560 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

COVER SUPERVISOR

Salary: £17,622 - £18,618pa (NJC P14-P17).

30 hours per week, Term time plus 5 staff training days. Part time position considered.

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre is a very popular, oversubscribed and successful school set in 32 acres of parkland in Caversham to the north of Reading.

We are seeking to appoint a Cover Supervisor to cover lessons for absent teaching staff. Applicants should be confident, supportive and possess good interpersonal and communication skills.

We are keen to appoint a proactive and passionate individual with a strong classroom presence with excellent classroom and behaviour management skills. The ideal candidate will have experience of working in a similar environment.

You will be linked with a curriculum area and will undertake administrative tasks when you are not required for cover.

Why Highdown School?

- We are committed to staff professional learning and leadership development for all staff, at all levels
- We are conveniently located for quick and easy access to London, the rest of Berkshire and Oxfordshire
- Staff have subsidised access to Highdown Sport and Leisure facilities
- Staff have free access to Westfield Health advice and support service

Closing date: Applications considered on receipt.

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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1650 on roll
11-18 mixed comprehensive
Headteacher: Ms Rachel Cave, BSc, NPQH

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Full time, term time only plus 2 staff training days (NJC P3-4) Actual Salary: £14,968pa.

8.30am to 3.15pm.

We require enthusiastic and committed candidates, who have experience working with children, to join our hardworking and successful team. You will need a high level of interpersonal skills, be well motivated and enthusiastic about working alongside young people. You will also have an excellent standard of literacy and numeracy.

Funding is available for further training to obtain Qualified Teacher Status.

Closing date: Applications considered on receipt

For details and an application form visit our website: www.highdown.reading.sch.uk. Please return your completed application form to Miss Nicci Burns, Headteacher's PA, by email on hnb@highdown.reading.sch.uk

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Work with us

Accent Catering Services Ltd.

Catering Assistant

Highdown School, Reading

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE? ARE YOU HARD-WORKING? PASSIONATE ABOUT FOOD? If this sounds like you then we want to hear from you!

Salary: £10.42 per hour

Job type: Full time, Permanent

35 hours per week, 7am-2.30pm, Monday to Friday, term time only.

Please click on the link for further details:

[Uk.indeed.com/job/catering-assistant-ref-124-4907ab08321fa87b](https://uk.indeed.com/job/catering-assistant-ref-124-4907ab08321fa87b)

Extra Curricular Clubs



Excellence Club



This club is a friendly and supportive environment where KS3 students can work through their academic concerns and achieve excellence in their studies. Help will be available with homework, subject content and test revision.

Thank you to all those students who attended the club during term 4!

During this term we have had some lovely regular attendees, who are really beginning to see the benefits of attending the club and enjoying receiving praise from their class teachers for work completed during Excellence Club sessions.

We were also joined by some amazing sixth formers and year 11 students, who have volunteered to give up some of their free time to support our younger students – displaying true Highdown spirit.

The club will run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school in CR1 until 4pm.

If you would like your child to attend, please email Miss Pattison hpa@highdown.reading.sch.uk with your child's full name and mentor group.



Knit and Natter

Do you love knitting or crochet, or want to learn?

Come to Knit and Natter

Thursdays in DT3

3.15 - 4.30pm

Everyone Welcome



Please complete the Microsoft Form to confirm attendance:

<https://forms.office.com/e/DNcihUprRB>

Year 7 & 8

SCIENCE CLUB!

Every Wednesday (starting from Wednesday 19th April)

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm
Science Block

To register your interest, please sign up here:

or email Miss Gunn at:
angunn@highdown.reading.sch.uk

A large QR code with a teal border, located at the bottom right of the Science Club poster.

The poster features a background image of laboratory glassware including a beaker with purple liquid, a graduated cylinder, and a flask. Various science icons are scattered around: a microscope, a magnifying glass over a bug, a petri dish with bacteria, a chemical flask with bubbles, a microorganism, a horseshoe magnet, and an atomic symbol.

Extra Curricular Clubs



Create an exciting display board for D&T and a key ring made from bottle tops.

When: Tuesdays 3:15pm – 4:15pm, starting **Tuesday 18th April**

Year 8 D&T Club Recycled bottle top project!



Join Y8 DT club! We will be focusing on a **recycling project**, learning about **careers** and developing **new skills**!

Sign up here:

<https://forms.office.com>



Any questions, please talk to Miss Brown & Miss Lobo

Highdown Junior Choir

Highdown's Junior Choir applied to the Let's Sing 2023 Competition and got through to the Live Final event at the Hexagon on Friday 24 March. We beat over a hundred applicants to get to the final 14 choirs! What an achievement. After competing against 14 choirs of people aged between 6 and 80 across the county of Berkshire, there were three winners from each category: Junior (under 13), Senior (under 18) and Community (18+).

Unfortunately, we didn't make it to the final round but what a fantastic experience we had. We thoroughly enjoyed watching all of the choirs until the end of the evening and we look forward to competing again next year!

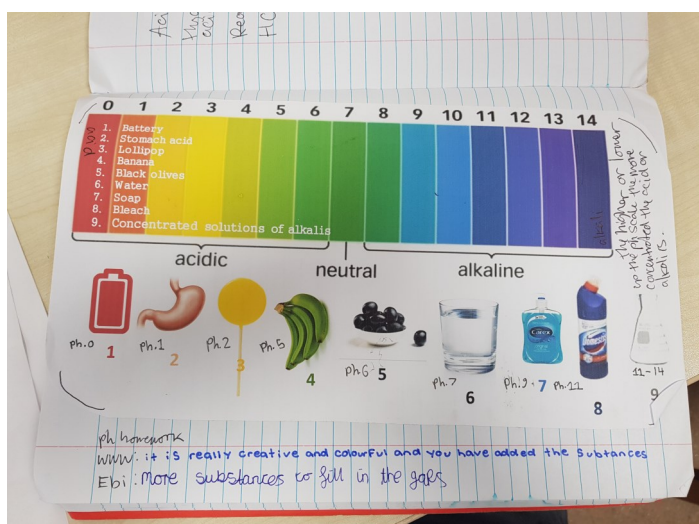
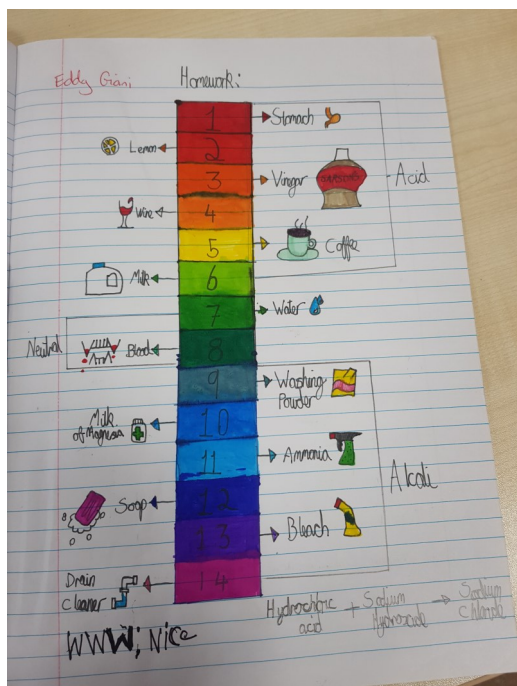
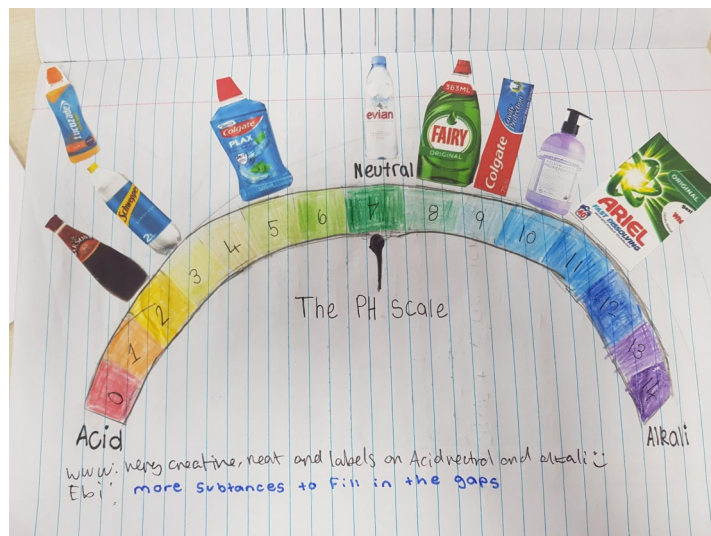
Well done to all involved and a big 'thank you' to Mrs Hawkins and all family and friends who came to the event to support our wonderful Junior Choir!

Miss Beale



7F have been working hard on acids and alkalis. They have been carrying out experiments to identify common acids and alkalis, and how these are shown on the pH scale. Well done to 7F on these super creative pieces of home learning, you really took pride in your work!

Mr Loveday



Year 7 and 8

Year 7 and 8 Accelerated Reader

A huge congratulations to all Year 7 and 8 for some amazing reading this term, and a special celebration to the following students who have read so much since September that they are now 'word millionaires' and even better – 'word multi-millionaires'! Congratulations all - your teachers will be issuing you with certificates soon.

If you want to gain a certificate like this or even join the few 'word multi-millionaires' - remember to complete your quizzes on Accelerated Reader – you can even do this at home over Easter!



Well done to:

Jakub MISKUF – 2,275,488 words

Theo KNIEP – 2,189,723 words

Freya WILLIAMS – 1,974,181 words

George HANNAN – 1,864,214 words

Vedant JAIMAN -1,838,516 words

Finn SCOTT– 1,640,215 words

Chris CALLANDER – 1,527,305 words

Ellie CHAN – 1,504,244 words

Jan PALLASIGUE – 1,435,782 words

Adarsh GEORGE – 1,370,271 words

Liam TIETEMA – 1,365,239 words

Alex KENYON – 1,359,667 words

Imogen COYNE – 1,349,387 words

Vihaan SABLE – 1,335,142 words

Ariyah AJAZ-MOIR – 1,116,263 words

Ranith LIYANAGE – 1,106,230 words

Nathan SALISBURY – 1,039,793 words

Elsa FERGUSON – 1,009,978 words

Junior Maths Challenge

Junior Maths Challenge practice sessions have been taking place in preparation for the Junior Maths Challenge, scheduled for Wednesday, 26 April. Last week, there was an incredible forty-one Year 7 and 8's attending along with four Year 10's providing support. It was wonderful watching the maths unfold. More after-school practice sessions will be scheduled for after the Easter holidays. This is non-compulsory and you can still complete the challenge without attending any practice sessions.

If you would like to sign up to the Junior Maths Challenge please remember to email Mr Arnold at: paarnold@highdown.reading.sch.uk, to be registered.

The challenge itself takes place on: Wednesday, 26 April 2023 during Period 1.



Year 7 Sporting News

U12 Girls' Reading Netball League

Last Tuesday our Year 7 girls played in the Final of the Netball league and finished in 4th place. We did play against Maiden Erlegh School, Wokingham and lost, the team who finished in 1st place.

The girls played two excellent games and we learnt great lessons during that time. It is worthy to mention that the league was divided into South and West, and every league consisted of 8 teams and in our league we were undefeated with 6 wins and 1 draw.

I am very proud of every single one of them for the ethos and determination they showed throughout the whole League. They were great examples and ambassadors of Highdown.

The team consisted of:

- Sophie Ashworth
- Leah Fothergill
- Libby Hasell
- Evie Sills
- Isabelle Lee
- Lucy Mitchell
- Ava Smith
- Margot Smith

Well done girls, I am very proud of you!

Mrs Adam

Year 9 Sporting News




Year 9 emphatically beat Little Heath 4-0 yesterday with goals from Luca, Jamie, an absolute 'worldie' from Archie and Lucas.

Man of the Match was given to Archie for an outstanding performance and showing great leadership on the pitch. Earlier on in the week the Year 9s also comfortably beat the league favourites in Blessed Hugh Faringdon thanks to two goals from Aubin and a Man of the Match in Goal from Tommy who made some outstanding saves.

Mr Gordon

Highdown Football were winners all round yesterday with Year 11 also beating Little Heath and Year 8 beating Blessed Hugh Faringdon.

Year 10







CENTURY
challenge

What you need to do

1. Visit Century.tech
2. Sign in using Office 365 (use your Highdown email and school password)
3. Attempt the content on My Path each week


Every week, there will be a new content for you to revise on Century Tech. Everyone in Year 10 will have access to the content. Each week, there will be a new focus on content **you need to know for your PPE's**

The 10 students with the highest number of questions answered by the PPE's will win a prize!



Year 10 students have been making great progress in their science revision for their upcoming PPE's. The following 10 students are leading the way on questions answered on Century Tech, and are in line for the prizes after half term! Remember, there is still plenty of time to catch up, so get logged on and kick start your revision the smart way!

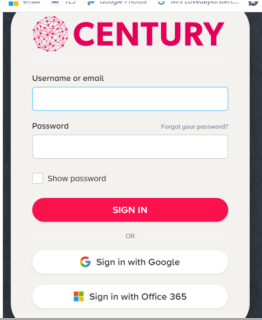
Mr Loveday



CENTURY
challenge

1. Visit century.tech
2. Click Account login
3. Click "login in with office 365"
4. Use your school email address and password to login in.
5. All the topics you need to revise will be in "my path" on your home page.

www.century.tech/login/



Top 10 students in Year 10 on Century Tech:

Parham Taghizadeh
Ellie Bloxam
Theo Turay
Laura Gabriadze
Olivia Yearwood
Phoebe Callaghan
Max Elsby
Mohamedy Missanga
Ella Martin
Arisa Adlem

Year 11

Year 11 Springboard to Success Challenge

As we reach the end of Term 4, as part of our Springboard to Success celebration, we focussed on attendance, praise points and revision session attendance.

Last week, the year 11 students were awarded 2,221 praise points in total and attended 117 revision sessions. We currently have 119 students with attendance above 95%, with 60 of those having 100% attendance.

We would like to congratulate the following students:

- Holly Long for attending the most revision sessions last week.
- Toby King for receiving the most praise points last week.
- Luke Watts for winning the 100% attendance raffle.
- Aisha Millett for most improved attendance.

Well done to everyone in Year 11 for their continued commitment to learning this term! Enjoy the break.

Year 11 Pastoral Team

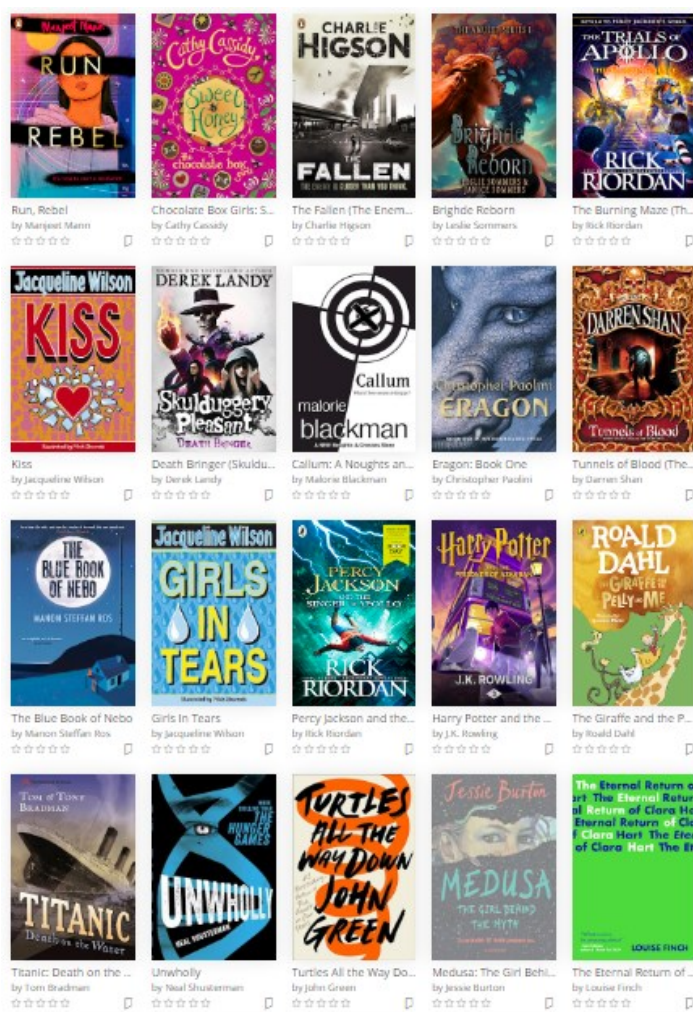
Stars of the Week

7C Usher Sandhu
7D Elsa Ferguson
7E Sam Childs
7F Oscar Williams
7G Conor Allen
7H Kaylee Walker-Knott
7J Sophie Ashworth
7K Tula Matthews
7L Lewis Smith

8C Alex Davies
8D Arthur Parkes
8E Katy He
8F Joshua Packer
8G Elliot Lawrence
8H Ronnie Holt
8J Finlay McDaid
8K Olivia Belcher
8L Hannah Redrup-Kempen

9C Jemima West
9D Holly Zhang
9E Monica Morrison
9F Darby Buck
9G Aniss Ghomari
9H Lilac Ivey-Michie
9J Alex McAndrew
9K Luca McDonald
9L Holly Curtayne

11C Rohan Janjuha
11D Freddie Chapman
11E Miriam White
11F Ollie Williams
11G Max Hartin
11H Bethany Davidson
11J George Boulton
11K Madeleine Round
11L Martha Robinson



New books on eplatform

Please click on the following link to access all recently added books to **eplatform**, our ebook and audiobook service.

<https://highdown.eplatform.co/browse?sort=added>

Here are some simple steps to access ePlatform.

WEB/TABLET/SMARTPHONE

ePlatform is accessible via desktop on the web or our user friendly app. Download the ePlatform app from your preferred app store.

SEARCH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Search for your School's name via the search tool in the App.

SIGN IN

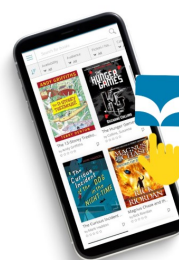
Sign in using the Username and Password that your school has provided you. Note: You may be directed to an external log in page like Microsoft, google etc. Simply Sign in to get started.

BROWSE

Now you can browse eBooks and/or Audiobooks that you wish to read and listen to.

SHARE THE LOVE

Why not do something nice for your friends? Show them the way! Share these ePlatform access instructions so that they never have to worry about how to access their digital library ever again!





Book Donations

Thank you to parents and staff who have recently donated books to the library. Some of the donated books are now on the system ready for students to read!

If you are having a clear out of books at home, please consider donating them to Highdown. We are happy to accept teen and young adult fiction books that are in a good condition.

Feel free to email a list of the books to me, if you would like to check if they are suitable before dropping them into school:

librarian@highdown.reading.sch.uk

The Hive is open at breaktimes and lunchtimes and we are still running the click and collect service. You can search the library catalogue via the Highdown Website:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/library>

Library Book Returns

We currently have about 250 books that are overdue by more than 30 days. Please can all parents, carers and students keep an eye out for any Highdown Library books they have on their shelves at home, and return them to school should they find any.

There are no fines or penalties for the return of these overdue books, we would just be grateful to have them back for other students to read.



Deutsche Bank Apprenticeship Programme- Technology, Data and Innovation-London 2023

For students interested in Software Development

At Deutsche Bank, we're designing the digital bank of the future and we're looking for curious and creative school leavers to help shape it.

Our Technology Apprenticeship Programme is your opportunity to work at the heart of a global bank rapidly transforming the way we work, and our industry works. Your time will be split between hands-on experience in the teams driving that change and technical learning that will give you the skills to become a stand-out Software Developer within 18 months.

In the classroom, you'll learn everything from the essentials of software development to the latest innovations in big data and AI. In your day-to-day work, you will get the chance to turn learning into impact as

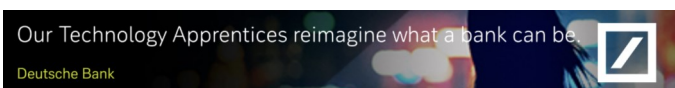
Medical Projects 2023 Medicine Summer Camp

This Summer, Medical Projects will be using their brand new multi-million pound simulation centre. Students will be gaining their work experience with some of the world's most advanced medical technology, patient simulators, medical actors, VR and AR equipment. This summer students will experience 25% more medical cases than ever before!

you work alongside industry experts on real projects and managers who will coach and mentor you to achieve your potential. You will also experience our inclusive culture, where everyone, regardless of background, brings their own perspective and is both heard and valued. If you are excited about the potential of technology, this is the place for you. The future is yours to shape.

Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis, so early applications are encouraged!

[Click to apply for our Technology Apprenticeship](#)



Details of the Summer Camp:

Course: Aspiring Medics Programme (Summer 2023)

Dates: 16 July, 23 July or 30 July

Spaces: 24

Link: <https://educationprojects.co.uk/courses/uk-medical-work-experience-course/>

Medical Projects are offering a 15% off for Highdown students with the code: PARTNERSCHOOL15.

For further support please contact Mark Williams at mark@medicalprojects.co.uk

Are you interested in a career in the legal profession?

Young Professionals are thrilled to be hosting a full day of work experience for students looking to learn more about the legal industry and pursue a career in law! This event will be taking place virtually (live on Zoom) on **Tuesday, 4 April between 10am-4pm** and you will be joined by some of the biggest global law firms, such as Freeths, Charles Russells Speechlys, Fragomen, and the University of Law!

With offices all over the country (and globally!) between the firms they range from international corporate immigration law specialists, leading education providers, to multidisciplinary business law specialists, so you are bound to find out about your dream sector of law (or 'seat') during this work experience!

Throughout the day, you will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of exciting workshops as well as hear all about the fantastic apprenticeship programmes and alternative routes into a career that is available with these huge firms! This is an exciting chance to interact with some of the most successful and respected employers in the law sector, who will be able to share their knowledge, experience and expertise with you.

In addition to learning more about the industry, attending this work experience will also provide you with a rare and unique experience to add to your CV! You will gain a better understanding of the skills and attributes required for a career in law, as well as a certificate of attendance and the opportunity to make valuable connections with professionals in the field.

Application link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GTZXCBC>

Urgency: 3 2 1



CRIME PREVENTION

ALERT: WhatsApp account takeover scam

Criminals are targeting WhatsApp users by posing as a friend and asking for a security code. Action Fraud has received over 60 reports relating to this scam.

The scam begins when a criminal gets access to another WhatsApp account which has you listed as a contact.

The criminal, posing as your friend or someone that's a member of a WhatsApp group you're in, will then send you seemingly normal messages to try and start a conversation with you. However, around the same time you will receive a text message from WhatsApp with a six-digit code. This is because the criminal has been trying to login to WhatsApp using your mobile number. The criminal will claim that they sent you their code by accident and ask you to help them by sending it to them. Once the criminal has this code, they can login to your WhatsApp account and lock you out.

The criminal will then use the same tactic with your WhatsApp contacts in an effort to steal more accounts and use them to perpetrate fraud.

What you need to do:

- **Set up two-step verification to give an extra layer of protection to your account: Tap Settings > Account > Two-step verification > Enable.**
- **THINK. CALL. If a family member or friend makes an unusual request on WhatsApp, always call the person to confirm their identity.**
- **Never share your account's activation code (that's the 6 digit code you receive via SMS)**
- **You can report spam messages or block a sender within WhatsApp. Press and hold on the message bubble, select 'Report' and then follow the instructions.**

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to [Action Fraud](#) or 0300 123 2040.



Teen PPP 
Positive parenting programme

 **Tuesday 25 April - Tuesday 27 June 2023**  **9.30-11.30am**
 **Berkshire Record Office, 9 Coley Avenue, Reading RG1 6AF**

- ★ Is your child aged 11-19 years old?
- ★ Do you want to support your child when they show distressing behaviour?
- ★ Do you want to help your teenager make positive choices?

Join our evidence-based flexible parenting programme.

The group aims to strengthen your relationship with your teenager, promote your teen's development and equip you to help them recognise and avoid risky situations.

The programme is delivered in nine two-hour weekly group sessions on Tuesdays, term-time only.

To enquire or book your place, please contact:
parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org
07812 462799



Parenting at Brighter Futures for Children will be delivering parenting programmes which start after Easter.

There are still places available on the Teen PPP programme.

Teen PPP programme is for parents/carers whose child is aged between 11-19 years

Starting Tuesday 25 April until Tuesday 27 June from 9am-12am for 9 weeks.

The programme supports parents to deal with their teenager's risky behaviours, promotes their teen's development and equips parents with evidenced based strategies to manage escalating behaviours.

Easter Activities For Families

The Family Information Service has published details of universal Easter activities, events etc. on its website, which you can find at:

[Reading Directory/Activities Easter 2023—Holiday Clubs and Activities](#)



Reminder: Reading vs Burnley, Saturday 15 April, 3pm

Thank you to all the young supporters, their friends and family, their teachers and teammates who have taken part in our Schools and Grassroots Ticketing initiative so far this season.

Reading Football Club's 4th and final School and Grassroots fixture of 2022-23 is **Reading vs Burnley** on **Saturday 15th April at 3pm**, at the Select Car Leasing Stadium.

As part of our special invitation, we would like to offer the below discounted 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.

Your code is also active for Reading Women v Everton Women on Sunday, 23 April so all your children, friends, family and staff can cheer on our Women's team as well as our men.

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code. And, 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 Stand. If these sell out, please contact our ticket office for further availability. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.



WE NEED YOU!!



WARGRAVE WOMEN & GIRLS FC

U13 Wargrave Girls Harriers are recruiting players for 2023/4 season. We currently play in Division 1 Berkshire County Girls Football League and train at Waingels 3G on Wednesday evening. We are a friendly club with qualified coaches that want our players to have fun and develop their skills. If you are interested in attending our training sessions for a taster please contact Dominique or Andy

TEL: 07533 390543/07411 957774 

Save the date!

Somewhere over the Rainbow: A Concert for Charlie

Saturday 24 June, 7pm in Highdown School Hall

A concert in memory of Charlie Ilsley by Reading Phoenix Choir, The Hill Primary School and Highdown School to raise money for Team Charlie, a charity providing gifts and wishes to children with brain tumours across Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

More details to follow!

