



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

w/c 8 May 2023 Week B

Planned Road Closure

Thames Water have advised of essential planned repair work in the vicinity of the school, beginning 9 May 2023 for 3 days.

Please be advised that this will involve the closure of Surley Row (to the left as you exit the school gates) to Tredegar Road.

MSE's Academy of Money - OpenLearn - Open University

This is a 12hr financial literacy course from the OU / Martin Lewis but it can be split up and each of the 6 (2hr) sections can be studied independently, so essentially the course can be 2hrs-12hrs. It is free and there is a certificate at the end.

Topics include type of spender / borrowing money (all relevant) - each section is 2hrs and users can pick and choose what they study.

Click [here](#) for further details.

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	122180
Grove	119424
Mapledurham	120597
Rosehill	119422

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Term 5

Mon 8 May:	Bank Holiday - Academy Closed Y10 PPEs (5 days)
Tues 9 May:	Y10 PPEs (4 days) Y11 MFL Speaking Exams (5 days) Y13 Art Exams (3 days)
Wed 10 May:	Y13 Photography Exam (3 days) Y13 Textiles Exam (3 days)
Fri 12 May:	Design and Make Challenge Final at BCA



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/>

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/carers. 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

[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 devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly on a technology panel on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly about Internet safety issues.



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: 03.05.2023



Hello and welcome

This newsletter aims to provide you with some useful information, hints and tips from the School Nursing team for keeping your child healthy.



In this issue

- Exams
- Getting your child to be active
- Avoiding ticks
- Eating disorders
- Hayfever
- Epilepsy
- Adrenalin pens
- Immunisations
- Low mood/depression
- Sleep
- Leaving school after exams
- How to contact a school nurse

Please see our website to read the latest parent newsletter from Berkshire Healthcare in full or click on the following link:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/parents/medical>

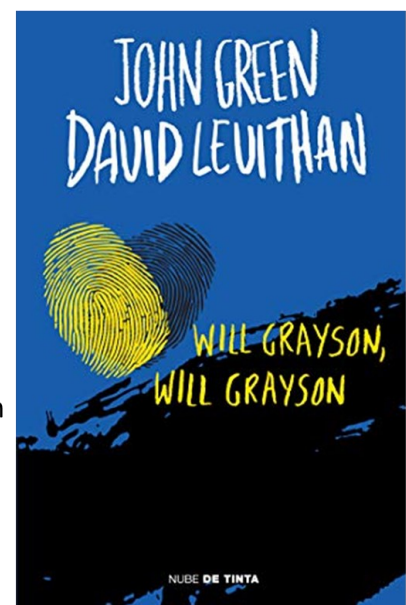
Book of the Week!

Subject: **Drama**

Summary:

One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, two strangers are about to cross paths. From that moment on, their world will collide and lives intertwine. It's not that far from Evanston to Naperville, but Chicago suburbanites Will Grayson and Will Grayson might as well live on different planets.

Age Rating: 15+



PERFORMING ARTS LEVEL 3 Showcase

**Annika
Ryan**

**Beau
Brown**

**Ella
Boswell**

**Ciara
Patrick**

19 MAY 2023

DONATIONS WELCOME

pahawkins@highdown.reading.sch.uk

**7PM
DR2**

Somewhere Over The Rainbow: A Concert for Charlie - Tickets now on sale!



The poster has a light blue background with a large rainbow arching across the top. At the top left is the 'Team Charlie' logo (a heart with a person inside) and the 'Reading Phoenix Choir' logo (a stylized 'R' with a phoenix). The title 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow: A Concert for Charlie' is written in a cursive font across the rainbow. Below the title, it says 'Reading Phoenix Choir featuring The Hill Primary School and Highdown School.' Further down, it states 'Raising money for Team Charlie in memory of Charlie Ilsley, providing gifts to children with brain tumours across Berkshire and Oxfordshire.' The event details are listed: 'Sat 24th June 2023 7:00PM', 'Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, Emmer Green', 'U16s £5 / Adults £10', and 'Family concessions available'. A website link 'www.teamcharlie.org.uk/events' and the text 'Get your tickets here' are provided, along with a QR code. A photograph of a young boy, Charlie, wearing a striped beanie and a dark jacket, is shown in the bottom right corner of the poster.

Team Charlie

READING PHOENIX CHOIR

*Somewhere Over the Rainbow:
A Concert for Charlie*

Reading Phoenix Choir featuring The Hill Primary School and Highdown School.

Raising money for Team Charlie in memory of Charlie Ilsley, providing gifts to children with brain tumours across Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

Sat 24th June 2023 7:00PM
Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, Emmer Green
U16s £5 / Adults £10
Family concessions available

www.teamcharlie.org.uk/events
Get your tickets here



Get your tickets now for this family-friendly concert starting at 7pm on 24 June, at Highdown School. Reading Phoenix Choir is an excellent Berkshire choir which sings a wide range of music, and they will be joined by pupils from the Hill Primary School and Highdown, Charlie's two schools, for a really special evening.

As many parents and students will know, Charlie Ilsley was a pupil at Highdown until he tragically died of a brain tumour in December 2020 at the age of 13. His family has recently set up a new charity, Team Charlie, set up in his memory. The charity is raising money for children in Berkshire and Oxfordshire who have brain tumours, giving grants for respite, providing gifts or treats, and making memories or a last wish come true.

As Charlie died in the midst of lockdowns and Covid it was difficult for the community to come together in his memory. This concert is an opportunity to do this as well as raise money for this amazing charity and support Charlie's family.

It will be a really special event, remembering Charlie's life through music. We would love to have lots of students, parents and members of the community there for an uplifting evening of great music, raising money for an even greater cause.

Below is a link to Charlie's Story from Stand Up To Cancer, last shown on Channel 4 on Easter Sunday.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hZDwzaKi0M>

See you there - book your tickets now!

Stars of the Week

7C Andreea Caba

7D Lucas Huynh

7E Adarsh George

7F Jack Curtayne

7G Sam Campbell

7H Tristan Melton

7J Soraya Hyman-Straker

7K Amelia Rogers

7L Oliver Butcher

8C Ueja Rukoro

8D Brooke Elton

8E Madison Elton

8F Isla Tiplady

8G Joseph Haylock

8H John Vasilakos

8J Zach Cross

8K Yazan Chadli

8L Isabelle Heaven

9C Edward Bennett

9D Cara Fothergill

9E Ayman Adam

9G Aniss Ghomari

9H Theo Baker

9J Alex McAndrew

9K Cloe Harvey

9L Jack Winder

10C Luke Seaman

10D Sulav Nepali

10E Digby Cresswell

10F Will Scott

10G Faye Fargus

10H Alfie Smith

10J Kiranpreet Lally

10K Marina Vellani

10L Benjamin Gander

10M Nicole Maslin

11C Rowan Linthwaite-Fone

11D Ella Wignall

11E Georgie Wilson

11F George Fatus

11G Gracie Coleman

11H Natalie Benham

11J David Fiddes

11K Jessica Mullally

11L William Casey

Literacy and Numeracy Challenge

Can you think of ten
words containing
the letters
GEO
in that order?



Geo was the Greek word for world.

Can you spot the missing number?

Solve the Number Puzzle?

2	6	18
4	20	100
??	21	147

Sawaal.com

☐ A) 3

☐ B) 6

☐ C) Both A & B

☐ D) None of the above

Our online Library catalogue has had a special makeover to celebrate the Coronation!

There is a wordsearch and information about the Royal Family, King Charles III, the Crown Jewels, and more.

Click on the link to take a look:

<https://uk.accessit.online/hgh05/#!/dashboard>



Here are some simple steps to access our **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

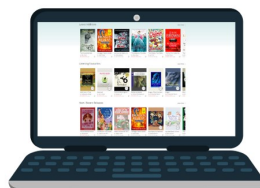
Sign in using the Username and Password that your school has provided you. Note: You may be directed to an external log in page like Microsoft, google etc. Simply Sign in to get started.

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!



WINDSOR
FOREST
TRAINING



Apprenticeship Recruitment Fair

**Meet Employers and find your Apprenticeship
at our Recruitment Fair.**

Grab the chance to connect with businesses who are looking for an Apprentice to join their team. Talk to local businesses and experts about where an Apprenticeship can take **YOU**.

May 31, 2023 | 10.30-2.00pm
nibbles in Zest 12-12.45pm

REGISTER NOW

bit.ly/40GhyUh
or scan code



training@windsor-forest.ac.uk | windsor-forest.ac.uk

Langley College is putting on an apprenticeship recruitment fair, aimed at connecting local employers with students who may be thinking about doing an apprenticeship post -16.

The event is taking place during half-term week on Wednesday, 31 May, from 10:30am -2pm and anyone who is interested in attending can register via the QR code on the flier attached.

Free Revision Masterclass!

Have you got your A-level and GCSE exams on the horizon?

Come to our online Revision Masterclass with Liverpool John Moores University and:

- Create a personalised revision timetable
- Learn the most effective revision techniques
- Enhance your study skills.

On: 10 May 2023 at 6.30 - 7.30pm

For: Students and parents of those in Years 10 to 13

Register here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Alternative Training Provision for Students Interested in a Career in Mechanical Engineering

Fast Forward Vocational Training and TeamSport Indoor Karting have teamed up to offer an alternative training provision in your local area.

The provision will be based at your local TeamSport indoor karting track (Cradock Rd, Reading RG2 0EE).

This STEM course aims to provide a line of sight to a future career in mechanical engineering and give the students experience in an active workplace, alongside TeamSport staff, whilst **gaining a nationally recognised qualification in motor vehicle studies.**

We currently operate the provision in 20 cities and have seen great success engaging young people from mainstream schools and PRU's, as well as helping to build the confidence and skills of students from SEN schools.

Should you wish to contact a member of the team for further information or to book a visit or meeting with an instructor in your area, please use the following contact details:

To book a visit or for student enrolment please contact:

Bronwyn Holmes 07704096928

admin@racewaytraining.co.uk

For information on the curriculum and course content please contact:

Samuel Izatt: 07857795491

office@racewaytraining.co.uk

Callum Thompson: 07753328926

callumthompson@racewaytraining.co.uk

InvestIN Free Summer Webinar—Get career ready this summer!

The summer holidays are a great chance for students to unwind but can also be a very useful time for them to upskill and prepare for their future careers.

Both parents and students can join us for an evening webinar as we provide advice and guidance on how to succeed over the summer holidays, including:

- What the job market looks like today and the key skills employers are looking for
- Practical tips on what students can be doing over summer to get ahead in their career development
- How InvestIN can support students in their careers over the summer holidays

This event will take place via Zoom at 18:00 UK time on Tuesday, 16 May. Recordings will be sent to all registrants, so interested parents and students should sign up even if they are unable to attend.

Register here: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

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.

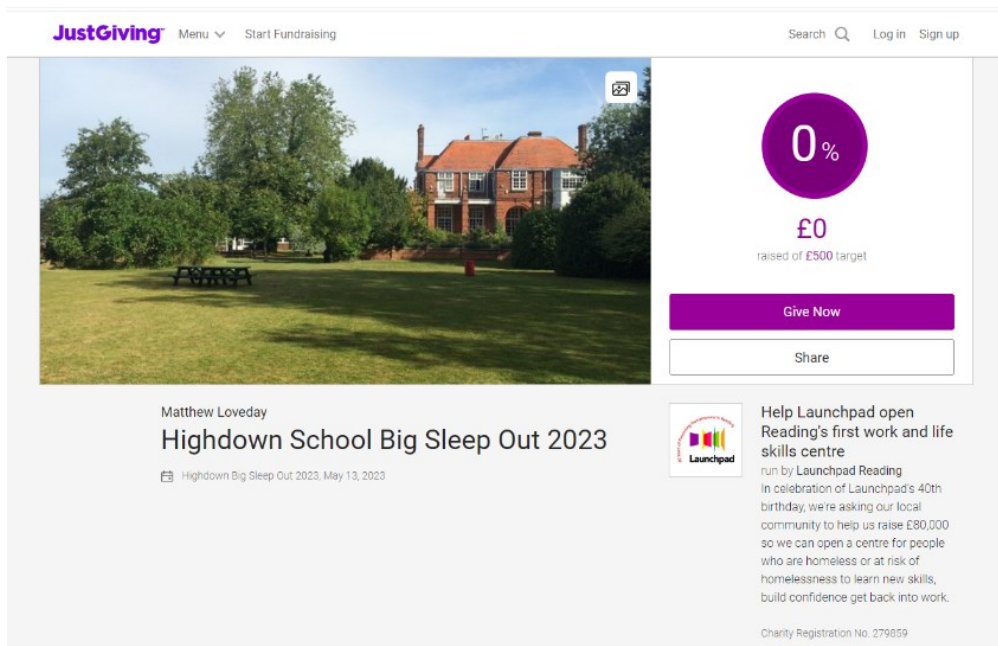
Funding is available for further training to obtain Qualified Teacher Status.

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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Highdown School Big Sleep Out 2023



JustGiving Menu Start Fundraising Search Q Log in Sign up

Matthew Loveday
Highdown School Big Sleep Out 2023
Highdown Big Sleep Out 2023, May 13, 2023

0%
£0
raised of £500 target

Give Now
Share

Help Launchpad open Reading's first work and life skills centre
run by Launchpad Reading
In celebration of Launchpad's 40th birthday, we're asking our local community to help us raise £80,000 so we can open a centre for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to learn new skills, build confidence get back into work.
Charity Registration No. 279059

Some of Highdown's Year 12 students are taking part in the Big Sleep Out on Saturday, 13 May, where they will spend a night sleeping on the school fields in order to raise awareness of what the homeless go through on a daily basis.

If you would like to donate, the link to the Just Giving page for donations can be found here:

www.justgiving.com/page/highdown

All money raised will go to the charity, Launchpad.

Answer to Numeracy Puzzle

C) Both A & B

Explanation:

The given number puzzle can be solved in two ways.

Logic 1:

Row 1 - $2 \times 3 = 6$, $6 \times 3 = 18$

Row 2 - $4 \times 5 = 20$, $20 \times 5 = 100$

Row 3 - $3 \times 7 = 21$, $21 \times 7 = 147$

Hence, the missing number could be 3.

Logic 2:

Row 1 - $6 \times (2+1) = 18$

Row 2 - $20 \times (4+1) = 100$

Row 3 - $21 \times (6+1) = 147$

Hence, the missing number could be 6.