



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

w/c 22 May 2023 Week B

HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	130256
Grove	126980
Mapledurham	128959
Rosehill	127254

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Term 5

Mon 22 May:	Y10 Art PPE (2 days) Y13 Public Exams Start
Wed 24 May:	Y10 Photography PPE (2 days) Y12 Politics: Houses of Parliament visit
Thurs 25 May:	Y12 History Trip to Tower of London
Fri 26 May:	Y10 Drama Practical Assessment End of Term 5

Parent Literacy Survey

Please click on the attached link to complete our parent survey on literacy support at Highdown.

We would be grateful for your feedback.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ayU9EVqymUaKdjDv2tH8N-yuYslz-GlJl57p5nRCyrZUNFVWVvk5UNTdBQ1VUTEIKSUhsMEdIOFNPQS4u>

Chess Club

Due to the success of our lunchtime chess club, we would be very grateful for any further donations of chess boards.

If you are able to help, please contact the school reception at: office@highdown.reading.sch.uk

Thank you in advance!



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](#)



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.

Design and Technology Competition

On Friday, 12 May, nine Highdown students from Year 9 represented the school in a Design and Make competition at the Berkshire Agricultural College. They were against five other teams from schools in the area, to design and make a prototype for an agricultural or horticultural product.

We started the day with our three Highdown teams setting up in the stunning venue at BAC, where the panel of judges came round to hear about the designs and prototypes. The teams enjoyed the morning and met with the other school teams to talk about their projects.



Once the judges had spoken to everyone, each team proudly presented their work to everyone at the competition. Highdown Team A designed a self-watering plant pot. Team B created a garden rake which hoovered up leaves as you use it. However, it was our Team C who took **3rd place** with their board game, designed to raise awareness and educate children on the importance of bees!

Well done!

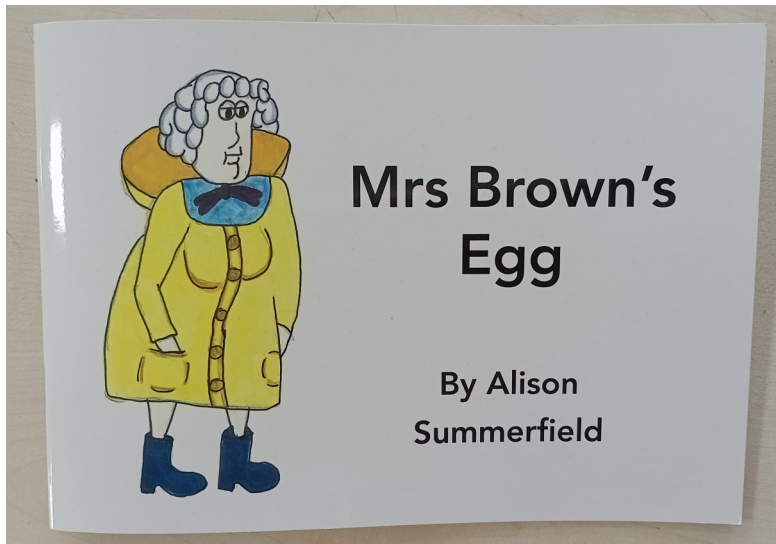


Annabel Bryant Year 7—published illustrator!

Annabel was asked by Alison Summerfield to illustrate a new book called 'Mrs Brown's Egg'.

Alison Summerfield has published a number of similar books and was looking for a new illustrator for her latest book. Annabel got to work; take a look at some of her gorgeous illustrations.

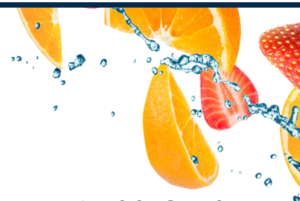
We are very proud of Annabel, well done!
Ms Garner



Check it out on Alison Summerfield's website here:

<https://www.alisonsummerfield.com/news>

Aldi Design a Lorry Competition



Your challenge is to design a lorry to inspire people to enjoy healthy, sustainable food.

- Entries should include designs for both the **side and back** of the lorry.
- The winning designs will be featured on Aldi's **13.6 metre long lorries**. These lorries deliver fresh, healthy food from Aldi's warehouses to shops around the country.

The judging panel are looking for designs that:

- are the most **creative** and **exciting**
- **inspire people** to not just eat **healthy, sustainable food**, but to **enjoy it**
- are **eye-catching**, and will stand out on an Aldi lorry.



To Enter:



Download an entry form, or see Miss Lobo for a printed copy. Entries must be handed in by **Wednesday 21st June** for your chance to enter



<https://www.getseteatfresh.co.uk/designalorry/designalorry>

Book of the Week!

Subject: Science

Summary:

Forever Ends On Friday by Justin A Reynolds is the story of former best friends Jamal and Q and their reconciliation after Q, who dies in a tragic accident, is brought back to life and has only a few weeks left to live.

Age Rating: 12+



Literacy and Numeracy Challenge

Literacy

One prefix will make the following into complete words. What is it?

_____ social

_____ bacterial

_____ dote

_____ biotic

_____ clockwise

_____ septic



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

Numeracy

Q: Find the Missing Numbers in the given Number Puzzle ?

Guess the missing number?

44	25	36
64	49	81
100	??	??

Sawaal.com

☐ A) 169 & 81

☐ B) 67 & 121

☐ C) 64 & 115

☐ D) 70 & 110

Literacy Festival

Highdown Literary Festival

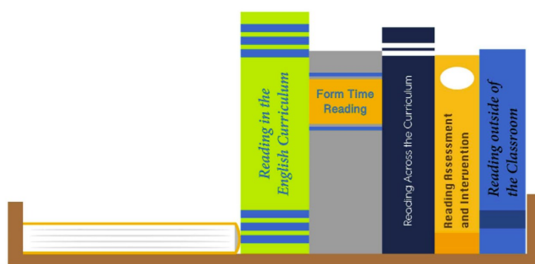
We are absolutely delighted to announce that our annual **Highdown Literary Festival** will be held on Monday 17 July.

We are planning already and are very excited about having two authors visiting this year - they are Iszi Lawrence and Dean Atta! We can't wait to hear them talk about their writing with our fantastic students.



HIGHDOWN SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Highdown School's Reading Strategy *The Five Strands of 'Read and Succeed'*



Reading Excellence Across the School

It is also a fitting time to highlight the ways we are promoting reading at Highdown, as you may have noticed our continual drive for reading excellence!

If you would like to know more about our reading strategy and our five strands of 'Read and Succeed', learn how to help support your child reading at home, or you would like to read a book together with your child, please see our website here for ideas and suggestions: <https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/literacy>

Stars of the Week

7C Serdar Baydu
7D Verdant Jermain
7E Liam Tietema
7F Emily Mackie
7G Oliver Pearce
7H Fletcher McConnell
7J Sam Escott
7K George Sheppard
7L Maya Birru

8C Kobe Pattison
8D Maverick Chiu
8E Ethan James
8F Sam Smith
8G Karisa Ip
8H Erin King
8J Harry Lotery
8K Lincoln Lau
8L Edward Hackett

9C Kara Taylor
9D Charlie Green
9E Azaan Hussain
9F Alan Sesay
9G Harry Jenkins
9H Jennifer He
9J Benjamin Amos
9K Finn Emmett
9L Conrad Packer

10C Alexander Coomber
10D Jaida Wallace
10E Bejan Suhrobi
10F Kai Booker
10G Charlie Deasy
10H Oscar Mann
10J Dexter Jeynes
10K Parham Taghizadeh
10L Ariseen Miah
10M Jacob Pett

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.

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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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RESILIENCE RUCKSACK

Help us design wellbeing tools for young people!

What is the 'Resilience Rucksack' initiative?

Early adolescence (10-14 years) can be a time of vulnerability to mental health difficulties. Our new and exciting initiative, the 'Resilience Rucksack', aims to promote mental health and wellbeing in young people transitioning from primary to secondary school. At a Resilience Fair, young people will receive a rucksack and have the opportunity to choose items that research has identified as beneficial for adolescents' mental health (e.g., sleep, physical activity, self-compassion, social support & relationships). We are currently recruiting young people to help us design specific items/products to go in the rucksack based on a range of research themes, in a series of co-production workshops.



What will the co-production workshops involve?

You will be asked to help design specific items based on the research theme(s) you choose: 1) Health sleep practices, 2) Physical activity, 3) Self-compassion, 4) Social support & relationships. A member of our research team will be present to give a brief evidence-based talk and help support the discussion. You will be asked to attend a 1 hour virtual group session per week for a maximum of four weeks (i.e., a maximum of x4 1 hour virtual workshop sessions over a given month). You will receive a £10 Amazon gift voucher (per session) for your help.

How do I apply?

If you are in Year 7 or above and interested in the resilience rucksack project and eager to contribute your ideas, please email clea desebrock (c.desebrock@reading.ac.uk) with the following: name, year group, and the research theme(s) you're interested in helping with. You can list more than one research theme of interest.



If you have any queries about the workshops or the project in general, please contact Clea Desebrock (c.desebrock@reading.ac.uk)

Parents and Students, please have a look at this information about the 'Resilience Rucksacks Project' being run by the University of Reading. They are looking for young people who can contribute ideas for items that would be suitable to include in this toolkit. To get involved please email the contact at the bottom of the flyer - remember, for each session attended, students can receive a £10 Amazon voucher so it really is well worth your time and input. Spaces are limited so please act fast if you are interested in supporting a very worthwhile Mental Health project.



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



Answer to Literacy Puzzle

Anti

Answer to Numeracy Puzzle

A) 169 & 81