

w/c 18 December 2023 Week A

HOUSE POINTS

Mapledurham	66747
Grove	65425
Rosehill	68787
Caversham	66768

Earlier this week, I was proud to present Mrs Elliot, Miss Lobo and Mr Dineley their well-deserved awards for the 2023 Princes Teaching Institute (PTI) Subject Leadership Mark. This is to acknowledge their commitment to promoting challenge within the curriculum, enthusing our students, enhancing teachers' subject knowledge, and raising the profile of their subjects. Over the last year, they have shared their expertise and innovative ideas across the Princes Teaching Institute. Go Team Highdown!





Leadership

Programme





Follow us





THE PRINCE'S TEACHING INSTITUTE Art



Here we are almost at the end of the Autumn Term, and what a term it has been! There's been drama with our senior school production and theatre visits, sporting highlights, Careers events and Fairs, Learning Conferences, concerts and music recitals, House Weeks, curriculum visits and fieldwork, the Great Litter Pick, disco, open evenings, school tours, Maths challenges, and Pre-public examinations! Not to mention all the fabulous experiences and learning in the classroom! We are also looking forward to celebrating our former Year 11 and Year 13 successes at our Annual Presentation Evening next week. Thank you to staff, students and families for all your support this term.

Wishing everyone a fabulous break over the festive period!

M A Grantham Head of School

Information

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term dates can be found here: 2023/24 Term 2

Mon 18 Dec:	Y11 PPEs
Tue 19 Dec:	Y11 PPEs
	Presentation Evening
Wed 20 Dec:	Y11 PPEs
	End of Term 2
	(Academy closes to students at
	12.25pm)
<u>Term 3</u>	
Wed 3 Jan:	Professional Learning Day 3:
	Academy closed to students
Thurs 4 Jan:	Start of Term 3

Problems with Class Charts

If you are experiencing issues with accessing your Class Charts account, please contact office@highdown.reading.sch.uk



The Highdown Herald

The latest edition of our student led newspaper, The Highdown Herald is now available to view of our <u>website</u>.

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.

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.

LOST PROPERTY

There are many items of lost property on display in student reception. Please encourage your students to look for any missing items before the end of term, after which they will be donated.

Supporting a Child with ADHD The extra session you asked for!



Challenge the stereotypes and get the facts with Jane Keyworth Monday 18th December (7pm to 9pm) £24 Available to book now via the website facefamilyadvice.co.uk **Highdown Dance Company**



7-13

THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024 - 3.15-4.30PM

Location: DR1 - Bring PE Kit/dance kit to change into. Any questions see or email Mrs Hawkins.

Safeguarding and National Online Safety

nal Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to h it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware o vith their children, should they fe s, hints and tips for adults.

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it 6 sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

t out the paper, glue and ssors and have a go at nd-making cards or gift tags. I could also create your own corations to add a uniquely sonal touch to the Christmas

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in th garden or your local park yourself and your family to natural treasures that are of this time of year – like to pinecomes say

CAROL KARAOKE

ng your hearts out with a rristmas carol karaoke nigh ck out your favourite tunes ijoy a musical celebration w and friends

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

w about making a scrapb ed with your favourite emories from Christmases ine by? Unleash your creat sh you ing th

TRY REFLECTIVE

ook or diary – you could also me of your main goals for the

WRAP IT UP

e to get in

Meet Our Expert

rsonnel is prioritised 🤟 @natonlinesafety

f /NationalOnlineSafety

N

O @nationalonlinesafety Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.12.2023

@national_online_safety

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

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

light in the great outdoors v me gentle walks over the ho le family can all wrap up wa u add to your step count an u adt to your step count ar

.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choo a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

· ELARCAR

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and parkling stories. Get cosy and se yourself in a brilliant book om Dickens to Dr Seuss or a I s. Get cosy and a brilliant book, favourite by Chris vo or Tom Fletcher

SNOWY SCULPTURES

we're fortunate enough to get hite Christmas this year, ake the most of the oportunity by having a ...

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and rd games have st he for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

u and your family could sp y volunteering – perhaps a d bank or helping a local c er all, kindness and thinkin nda

National Online Safety°

The National College #WakeUpWednesday

Accelerated Reader

A huge congratulations to the top three readers for Accelerated Reader since September - and all three are in Year 7!

Well done to **Alex Chinn, Charlie Potter** and **Alex Stannard** - these students have read more than anyone else this term, indeed they are 'word millionaires' and have been awarded a certificate and a free book as a well done.

We hope everyone continues to enjoy their reading over the Christmas season.



Year 9

It has been lovely in the last few weeks to be involved in a review of Year 9 lessons in Science and finding out how the students are approaching the introduction to GCSE Science. All of the classes visited showed a fantastic working environment and a determination to do their best in these lessons.

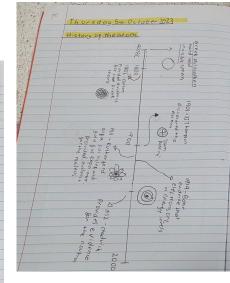
We saw groups working together on **GCSE Required Practicals and asking** probing questions when trying to get to grips with the concept of different stores of energy.

So many students taking a pride in their work.

Well done Year 9 and Team Science.

Mrs Elliot

	wednesday 13th December
	kinetic and elastic portinition - apphal energy
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10	State the equation to calculate height
	- GPE - MICIOO - 0 0
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10	state the equation to calculation
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	ion to find the distance
V (i)	Rearrange the equation to find the distance
	ischieled.
-	- work done = distance (wd + F=d)
-	Force
Ŧ	calculate the distance traveled by an
	object when a fore of 23N
-	
	1
T	he energy an object has become because
0	F its motion is called the kinetic energy.
T	he kinetic energy depends on the objects
w	icles and its speed avelocity).
11	MOD CITIN ITS Specific Versenigs.
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	per second, m/s)



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periodic table and ele ctronicstructure An a tomis the smallest part of an elem-

An a contract a substance made up og one type og atom. A compound is a substance mide og 2 or m ore diggerents, chemically bonded toget.

her. A mixture is a Substance made up 08,2 or more elements or compound not chemically bonded together. An isotope is a charged particle produced by the gain or loss of electrons. An isotope is an atom with the Same n-umber of protons, but a disg erent number, neutrons (same atom: C number, disg ere ptmass number)

the 3 noble gases - helium, argon, neon.

Wednesday 11th October 2023

solid liquid gas H I All the group н

The modern periodic table is arrange order of atomic number.
 The group number tells us how manyels as are in the outermost shell.
 The period number tells us how manyer levels on atom has

Tuesday 10th October 2023

development of the periodic table

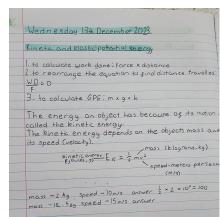
Dalton Thompson Ruthergord 1907 Atom electron Nucleus und dation

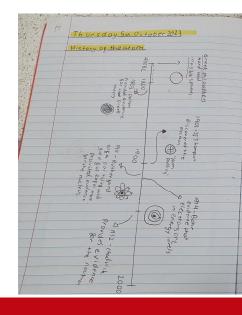
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Tuesday 10th October 2023

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Every eight control when the assumed that all of the res. But he made a mistake He assumed that all of the completely. It was noticed that the pattern in proper the was consistent any until column (20) then the pattern broke down - his ideas were dismissed by the Sven her community.

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Mendeleev gound a problem - The positions of indiae s Hendeleev gound a problem - The positions of indiae s ellurium by atomic weight were correct, but they the wrong properties gon the groups they were the simply swapped their properties as it was more im tant that the properties were similar than atom

Year 11

It has been lovely to see how well the whole year group has conducted themselves during this busy PPE period. They have been a real credit to themselves, and I have been very proud of them.

All students will receive their PPE results in a special assembly on Monday, 15 January and I hope that all their hard work will be reflected in their results.

Student reports will then be sent home the following day on Tuesday, 16 January and the booking system to make appointments for the Year 11 virtual Learning Review Evening opens on Thursday, 18 January.

I hope all Year 11s have a restful and relaxing festive period and recuperate from this intense PPE period.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2024. Miss Clark

Year 12



Year 11 and Year 13

Top tips for helping your child succeed in their learning

During this series of tips and advice there have been many strategies that you can use to help engage your child with, both in their PPE revision, as well as during their studies, as they go into the new year.

Over the Christmas season, whilst we await the results, they may be feeling nervous and need to relax. Now is the ideal opportunity for us to help nurture their growth mindset instead of a fixed one. Studies have proven that if students are **praised for their effort**, rather than attainment alone, they will achieve higher marks overall.

The growth mindset is all about effort, the idea of trying again instead of giving up and knowing that this is a stage designed to help them achieve in the future. See the images for ideas about how to develop that mindset even further.





Girls' Football

Reading Schools Girls' Football League Terms 1 and 2, 2023

U16 Girls' Squad

A strong team who had a great start to the season, having played 6 out of 8 matches and winning 4, drawing 1 and losing 1. Unfortunately, the team ended up in 6th place out of 12 teams as they were not able to replay 2 cancelled matches, so had to miss out on vital points which would have definitely meant they could have reached the semis. Great team play and determination, the following players should be congratulated on superb effort and skilful play.

Well done to Katelyn Broadley, Anabelle Gratrix, Alice Jolley, Ellie Perkins, Maddie Chandler, Charlotte Smith, Ava Sherfield, Maisie Kirk, Esme Hasell, Demi Urquhart, Ruby Bonnett, Ella Matthews, Eva McCarthy, Ruby Riddington, Riley Chandler and Chloe Gritten.

U14 Girls' Squad

A very successful season from this team, not dropping a single game in the league, winning 7 matches and drawing 1 match in the last game of the league to final winners Denefield School, in torrential, sheet rain. This still brought us to the top of the U14 league with the semis and final still to play. We won on penalties in the 1st semi against Bohunt School and then through to the final against Denefield School. A very even, nail biting match which again ended in a draw, then going to extra time and finished in penalties. Unfortunately, the end result was again close, but Highdown conceded a goal to Denefield 2-3, coming an excellent 2nd place overall.

The squad must be applauded for their resilience, fine attacking and defensive play and excellent goal scoring. Well done to Imogen Acteson, Georgie Barnbrook, Tabby Bradbury, Aishah Brown, Brooke Elton, Ava Friday, Erin King, Anubhuti Vancheeswar, Sonia Vetsko, Lola Wilde, Margot Smith, Charlotte Mackie, Cressida King and Lara Giboire-Snell.

Mrs Sadler

Chef Manager of the Year Award



A big congratulations to Hubert, who won the Chef Manager of the year award!

A big achievement and well done on behalf of everyone at Highdown.

Inspiring Young Minds Through Outdoor Adventures

Running the Rhos-Y-Gwaliau trip is always hard work, but I strongly believe it (along with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award) provides our students with an incredible opportunity to experience the great outdoors and grow as an individual. I've witnessed firsthand the profound impact that outdoor adventures can have on shaping confident, well-rounded individuals. Participants develop invaluable skills like teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and resilience – core values that we hold dear at Highdown.

Driven by my personal passion for running and a desire to give back, I've decided to embark on an exhilarating challenge: running the 2024 TCS London Marathon in support of The Outward Bound Trust. This incredible charity aligns with my deep-seated belief that every child deserves the opportunity to experience the transformative power of outdoor adventures.

The Outward Bound Trust is an educational beacon, dedicated to unlocking the potential of young people aged 9-25 through immersive learning experiences in the wild. They instil in their participants the unwavering spirit to persevere, the resilience to adapt, and the unwavering belief in their own capabilities – lessons that resonate far beyond the trails and mountains.

Their residential courses empower young people with a stronger sense of self-belief, equipping them with the tools to navigate challenges, build positive relationships, and make meaningful contributions to their communities. These experiences foster the attitudes, skills, and behaviours that young people need to thrive in an ever-changing world.

With a fundraising goal of £2500, my mission is to support disadvantaged young people in accessing these lifechanging programs. Your generous donations will directly impact the lives of those who need it most, creating ripples of positive change that extend far beyond the finish line.

Join me in empowering young people to discover their true potential. Together, let's make a lasting impact on the lives of future generations. To contribute to my fundraising journey, please visit: <u>https://shorturl.at/csBEO</u>

Mr D Stephenson Curriculum Leader for Computing and ICT Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Stars of the Week

7D	Isabella Parlour	8C	Jack Chambers
7F	Charis Salisbury	8D	Jacob Scott
7G	Jack Perona	8E	Isabelle Bonnett
7H	Betsy Bramley	8F	Chloe Bennett
7J	William Barden	8G	Ellie Ford
7K	Mya Monovskaya	8H	Adam Wood
7L	Logan Wadsworth	8J	Riley Stace
		8К	Joe Aspin
		8L	Dylan Crook
10C	Ryan Chung	11C	Holly Williams
10D	Amir Karimi	11D	Harry Ellis
10E	Noah Hinchmore	11E	Josh Horn
10F	Oscar Squires	11F	Annabel Moore
10G	Eva McCarthy	11G	Prior O'Reilly
10H	Saba Prins-Mills	11H	Gemma Owen
10J	Oisin Thorne	11J	Luke Gough
10K	Luca McDonald	11K	Erin Roberts
10L	Alicia Trott	11L	Ruby Drew
		11M	Alfie Gill

9D	Jordan Jobin
9E	Isaac Higham
9F	Betty Nowicki-Wallace
9G	Karisa Ip
9Н	William Fuller
9J	Zach Cross/Samuel Musker
9К	Aaditya Dasari

Maisy Hawkins

9L Nik Wong

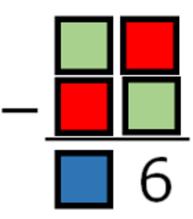
9C

Miss Robinson's Bonus:

9K Lily Gander

Numeracy Puzzle

- Behind the boxes are numbers.
- Same colour boxes have the same number behind.
- What is the blue number?



The answer can be found on the back page.

Library / The Hive

CALL THE

Show is falling. To coincide with Winter Solace December 21 is National Short Story Day so, this week in the Hive we are celebrating short stories



PROUD

Science Fiction - Stories by Arthur C. Clarke, H. G. Wells and Jules Verne, Ray Bradbury and **Ursula Le Guin**

Travel through time, tackle alien invaders, explore distant galaxies and go beyond the possible in this incredible collection.

Stunning, imaginative illustrations make the far-fetched become reality. This collection will broaden your horizons.



Proud – Stories by Juno Dawson, caroline Bird, Saffa Khan, Dean Atta, Alice Oseman and lots more

A stirring, bold and moving anthology of stories and poetry by top LGBTQ+ YA authors and new talent, giving their unique responses to the broad theme of pride. Each story has an illustration by an artist identifying as part of the LGBTQ+ community.

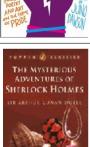
Score! - Sports stories by Tom Tully, Enid Bagnold, Thomas J. Dygard, P. G. Wodehouse, Will Weaver, John Branfield, Malorie Blackman, Alan Durant and more.

From swimmers to cyclists, soccer strikers to slamdunk stars, all kinds of athletes strive for victory in this fastpaced collection. Sure to get the adrenaline racing, these exhilarating stories take readers through all the highs and lows of competition. Sports fans will be hooked until the final whistle



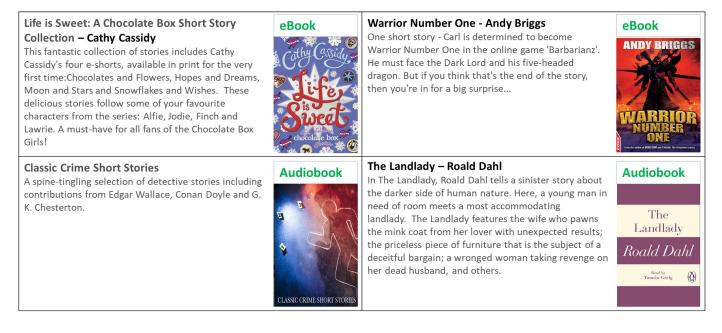
Mysterious Adventures of Sherlock Holmes -Arthur Conan Doyle

Eight classic adventures from the world's most famous private detective. Through the foggy streets of Victorian London to the deepest countryside, Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson embark on eight thrilling investigations. In some of his best-known cases, including 'The Speckled Band' and 'The Reigate Puzzle', Holmes brings his unique powers of deduction to bear on the most challenging mysteries .



Below is a small selection of the short stories available as eBooks and Audiobooks through https://highdown.eplatform.co/

.....All you need is your Highdown log-in!



Teacher of English

Main Scale, Full and Part time positions for September 2024 start

We are looking for an outstanding, passionate and dynamic practitioner to join our highly successful and wellresourced English department of 12 staff. This post would be suitable for either an ECT or an experienced teacher. A willingness to teach across all years and abilities is essential.

You should be a highly motivated and successful individual who is willing to contribute to all aspects of the school vision and the many enrichment activities that the department offers.

Full details and an application form can be accessed via our <u>website</u>

Teacher of Physical Education

Main Scale Full time/part-time.

Required for January 2024

This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and well-qualified teacher of Physical Education to join a successful department with excellent resources and facilities. A willingness to teach across all years and abilities is essential. We welcome applications from ECTs, for whom we have a superb induction programme.

The successful candidate should be a highly motivated and successful practitioner who is willing to contribute to all aspects of the school vision and the many extracurricular activities that the department offers.

Full details and an application form can be accessed via our <u>website</u>.

Examinations Invigilator

£10.79 per hour, Flexible hours

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

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

Full details and an application form can be accessed via our <u>website</u>.

Senior Leisure Attendant

Part-time position, evenings and weekends

Up to £11.50ph dependent on experience and qualifications.

We are seeking to appoint a Senior Leisure Attendant to join our dedicated team. You will have level 2 fitness instructing or preferably level 3 personal training, working mainly weekends and some evenings during the week.

You will have responsibility for supervising the use of the sports centre facilities whilst maintaining high standards of cleanliness and customer service. No previous experience is necessary as training will be provided, but an interest in fitness is an advantage.

Full details can be accessed on our website.

Teacher of Maths

Main Scale, Full and Part time positions for September 2024 start

We are looking for an outstanding, passionate and dynamic practitioner to join our highly successful and wellresourced Maths department of 12 staff. A willingness to teach across all years and abilities is essential. Maths and Further Maths are very popular subjects at A level. We welcome applications from ECTs, for whom we have a superb induction programme.

Full details and an application form can be accessed via our <u>website</u>

Springpod

Free Work Experience Programmes

Students can apply for Springpod's upcoming February programmes and many On-Demand programmes.

Springpod have many great programmes with industry-leading employers such as:

- JLR: Drive Your Future
- Vodafone Innovators
- Siemens Energy
- The World of The British Library
- Routes into Rail
- Hospitality Virtual Work Experience with Pret
- Aerospace Work Experience
- Early Careers with Wagamama
- Business & Professional Careers
- Construction with Inspiring Worcestershire

You can view all of Springpod's programmes here.

As always, each programme is free, involves around 10 hours of commitment, and rewards students with a certificate for CV's and Personal Statements upon completion.

University Experience (Subject Spotlights)

If you're not aware of our Subject Spotlights - they're mini lecture series delivered by top academic professors on a certain topic designed to give your students a chance to experience realistic university-style learning before they have to apply for courses.

It forms another stage of their exploratory journey with Springpod in an engaging, episodic Netflix-style format. This makes them ideal for exploring during school holidays!

We have some great Spotlight's available for students to explore, in a complete range of subject areas:

- Law with the University of Sunderland
- Computer Science with Anglia Ruskin University
- Psychology with the University of Bradford
- Medicine with the University of Sunderland
- Sports Science with Anglia Ruskin University
- Criminology with Canterbury Christ Church University

You can access all of our Spotlights here.

Explore careers across unexpected dimensions

CBRE



Our apprenticeship applications for 2024 are now open!

Why join CBRE?

Property makes up the building blocks of where we live, work, and have fun. Every building you enter has been directly affected by someone working in the property industry. There are a wide range of career paths and opportunities that await students in this industry, which is focused on people above everything else.

Courses For Students Aged 14-18 Considering Careers In Healthcare

Online Medicine Work Experience Week

18 – 22 December, 7.30pm each day Monday - Friday

Students can gain certification for 10 hours of medical work experience all delivered by doctors online.

https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/virtual-medicine-work-experience-week

Inside The Dissection Room

Saturday, 16 December, 10am at Kings College London

In person course where students are able to enter the dissection room to gain work experience and learn all about the human body.

https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/course/medicine-work-experience-day-event

Invitation to Reading Football Club's 3rd Schools and Grassroots fixture of 2023-24

When?

Where?

Reading vs Leyton Orient

Select Car Leasing Stadium

Saturday 27 January, 3pm

As part of the invitation, we would like to offer the following discounted prices:

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £3

18 to 24: £5

65 and over: £5

Adult: £10

To redeem, please visit <u>https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk</u> and enter the unique coupon code: #HighdownSchool in the basket, once you have logged in and selected your tickets. There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code. 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. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.

Answer to the Numeracy Puzzle

There are lots of possibilities for red and blue. 51-15. 62-26. 73-37.

They all give 36 as answers.

So the blue box is 3



Happy Holidays!