



The weekly newsletter of
Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre



ASPIRATION



RESPECT

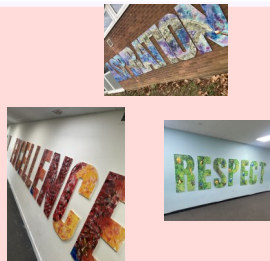


EXCELLENCE

w/c 4 March 2023 Week A

HOUSE POINTS

Mapledurham	100932
Grove	99571
Rosehill	102281
Caversham	102028



Thank you to all Year 8 parents and carers for your time attending yesterday's Learning Review Meetings. I hope you found the updates and feedback helpful. Year 8 has been leading the way this week with earning House Points, a total (so far!) of 5458 out of over 16,000 across all year groups. Congratulations Year 8!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Term dates can be found here: [2023/24](#)

Term 4

- All Week:** **Careers Week 4: National Careers Week**
 Y12 Geography Residential to Wales
- Tues 5 Mar:** Y11 Music Practical
 Numeracy Event 5.30pm
- Wed 6 Mar:** Y11 Learning Conference: Stress-Free Productivity
- Thurs 7 Mar:** World Book Day
 Y11 Music Practical
 Student Leadership Meeting
- Fri 8 Mar:** International Women's Day
 Whole School Production
 Rehearsal (all day)

This week, our Year 11 students have been sitting their second round of Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs) in English, Mathematics and Science. Their preparation for, and approach to, these has been fantastic. This experience, and the feedback our students will receive following these, will support them as they approach their final examinations.

Plenty more to follow next week as we have our fourth Careers Week of the academic year, as part of National Careers Week. Our Year 12 Geographers will be 'out in the field' with their residential fieldtrip to Pembrokeshire in Wales, collecting data for their coursework. And our cast and crew will be busy rehearsing for the forthcoming fabulous production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' – have you got your ticket yet?

Have a great weekend everyone.

M A Grantham
 Head of School

To book tickets for Little shop of Horrors click here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/highdown-school-and-sixth-form-centre>



Follow us



School Transport Policy Consultation

BfFC is seeking families' views on [proposed changes to its school transport policy](#). The consultation is open until **Sunday, 17 March 2024** and is related to the following proposals



- That free transport entitlement for pupils attending Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge School is removed.
- That travel assistance entitlement for eligible pupils is clarified and means an offer of a bus pass or school bus at a pickup point, with an expectation for active travel as part of a child's healthy development.
- That the policy clarifies the exceptional circumstances required to access any exceptional additional support in addition to travel assistance
- That the policy clarifies that parents are liable for costs incurred by Brighter Futures for Children on behalf of Reading Borough Council if children did not access travel assistance provided.
- That the policy clarifies that students are not entitled to travel assistance post-16 except in appropriately evidenced, exceptional circumstances.

A copy of the [proposed new policy and a summary of changes](#) can be found on the BfFC website, along with a [short series of consultation questions](#).

Problems with Class Charts

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



Community 'Safe Space'

Lucy Glover from the No5 Charity will be in school from next week. She will be around at break times to ask students about what they would like to have in a community 'Safe Space'. This is part of a wider project to create a community 'Safe Space' for young people to attend. Lucy is also visiting Emmer Green Primary so younger siblings may already know the name. Lucy will be wearing a Purple No5 hoodie so students can identify her. Please encourage your child to have a chat with her and share some of their ideas.



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.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DfE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying – so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

1. WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES

Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious; however, they may also act on the pain and anger that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more at all) or alluding to new friendships which seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be alert to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.



2. THINK THINGS THROUGH

Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Might your worries trigger strong feelings – perhaps from your own experiences – that could discourage your child from opening up to you? You could try discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.

3. BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING

Try to outline to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or tone of voice – and do so without sounding judgemental. Help them to describe what they're feeling – be it anger, sadness, fear or something else – as accurately as possible. If they say they're "angry", do they mean "enraged" or "frustrated"? This will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.

4. LET THEM SPEAK FREELY

Use open questions and a welcoming tone to encourage your child to talk. Listen closely and summarise what they've said at appropriate points (ideally without interrupting) to demonstrate that you're understanding clearly. Bullying may have undermined your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, overreact or impose consequences – so this conversation can reassure them being honest with you was the right decision.

5. CALL A TIME OUT

A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling distressed. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or even have a cathartic cry. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.

6. STAY INFORMED

Make sure you know your child's school's definition of, response to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information should be in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Class teachers or form tutors are usually the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.

7. PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE

Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're resolving disagreements and arguments, or addressing unintended verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to work out with your child whether any harm was intentional, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting concerns accurately will get the best outcome for your child more quickly.

8. SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE

When you contact the school, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced: what happened; when; where; and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.

9. LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL

Any school has a duty to ensure that the members of its community feel safe and included. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to restore these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to keep parents and carers informed of any action taken – and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

10. CHECK IN FREQUENTLY

Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to rebuild relationships or develop new ones. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any relevant information should be shared, so that further support can be planned if necessary.

Meet Our Expert

Bob Basley is the Director of Anti-Bullying Quality Mark-UK, which challenges and supports schools to develop sustainable whole-school approaches to prevent bullying, including working with parents and carers. More than 80 schools in England and Wales currently hold the quality mark.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/788040/survey_of_pupils_and_their_parents_or_carers_wave_5.pdf

<https://www.oeed.org/education/facts/foi2018/foi2018.htm> | https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621070/health_behaviour_in_school_age_children_cyberbullying.pdf



@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: 28.02.2024



March 2024

Newsletter

FACE it!



Available to book now!

Approved CPD training for anyone who works with children or teenagers.

National Standards CPD accredited with certificate

Thursday
21 March

19:00 - 20:00

FREE



FREE SESSION

Understanding Addictive Behaviour - Screens, gaming, drugs and more

Tuesday
19 March

19:00 - 21:00

£24



What is ACT?

An introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy

Thursday
28 March

19:00 - 21:00

£24



Supporting a child with ADHD
challenging the stereotypes and giving practical advice

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Are you or your children struggling to get a decent night's sleep?



Supporting Healthy Sleep

5th March 7-9pm £24

Jane Keyworth, Lead Facilitator at FACE giving a two hour online talk on what interferes with healthy sleep and how we can make small changes to reduce insomnia and sleep disturbances.

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Anxiety Explained

Do you, or your children (especially your teens) suffer from anxiety?
Would you like to know what anxiety is and gain some understanding on how to manage it?



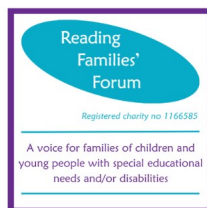
A two-hour online talk delivered by Jane Keyworth, Lead Facilitator at **FACE**

THURSDAY MARCH 7th. 7-9PM £24

Available to book now facefamilyadvice.co.uk



RFF's Annual SEND conference: children's social care



**Tuesday 5th March 9:30-14:30: The Pavilion, 143-145
Oxford Rd, Reading, RG1 7UY**

For parents and carers of children with additional needs and
service providers.

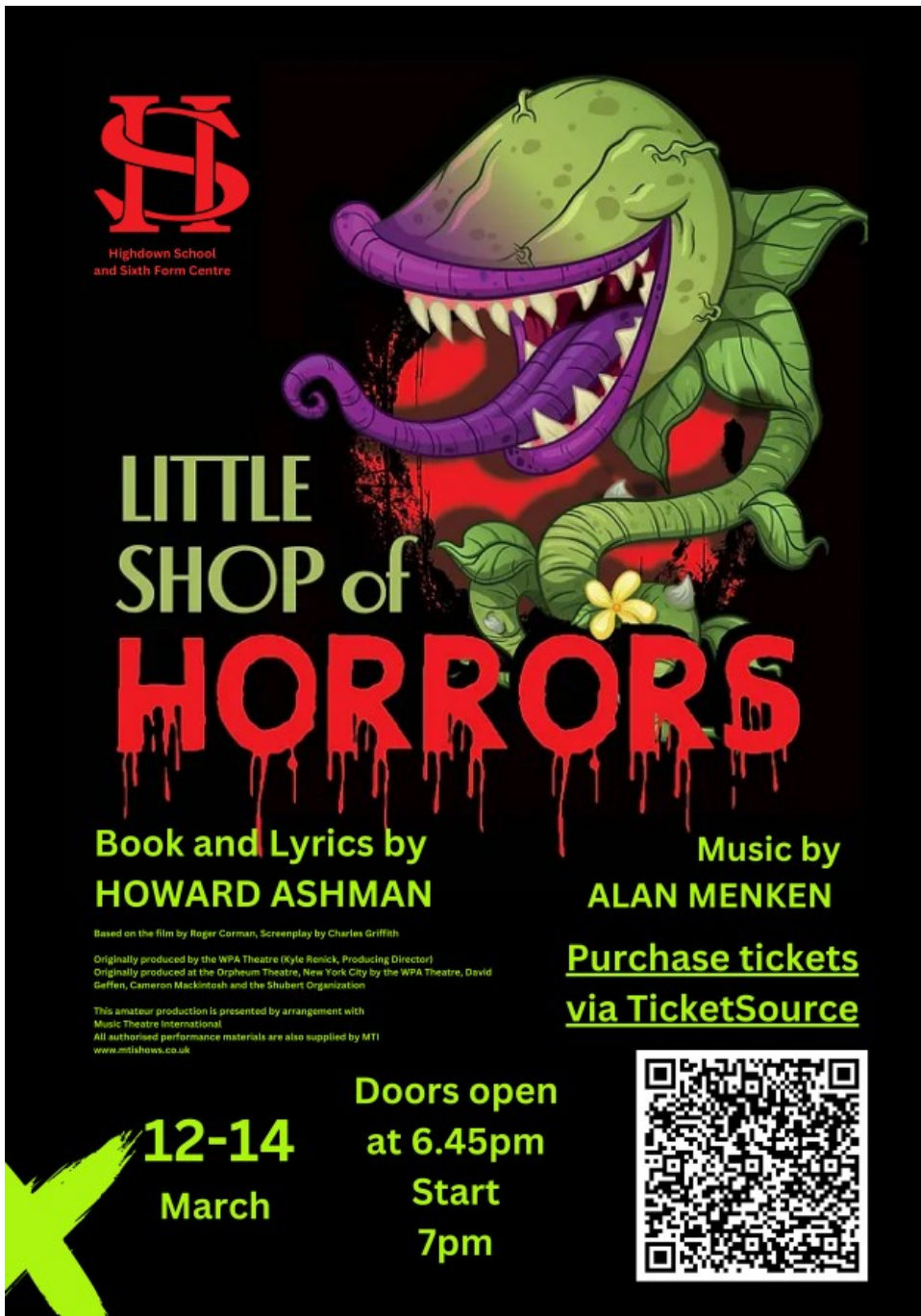
Guest speakers to be announced.

An opportunity to find out more about children's social care and
ask questions!

To book, please email kira@readingfamiliesforum.co.uk

Reading Families' Forum are pleased to announce that Sumbai Wasiq, the Service Manager for the Children and Young People's Disabilities Service will be speaking at the conference on **5 March** alongside the short breaks service, Cressingham, Occupational Health and Family Help.

The event is free and snacks will be provided. Please mention any dietary requirements you may have when emailing.



**Tickets are now on sale
for Little Shop of Horrors!**

Show dates:

Tuesday 12 March -7pm

Wednesday 13 March -7pm

Thursday 14 March -7pm

To purchase tickets click on the
following TicketSource link or
scan the QR code on the poster.

[https://
www.ticketsource.co.uk/
highdown-school-and-sixth-
form-centre](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/highdown-school-and-sixth-form-centre)

We can't wait to see you all
there!

The Performing Arts Team

We Are Looking For...

We are looking for the following props for our musical production of Little Shop of Horror, If you have any of the following please drop them off at main reception labelled FAO Mrs Lake - School Musical. Thank you so much in advance!



10x Plastic flower pots of different sizes



1 x Medium/large dentist/chef's jacket



Lots of fake flowers - all varieties



4 x retro rotary phones



3 x Watering mister or watering cans

Coat Hanger Donations

The Drama department would be grateful for any donations of coat hangers to assist with costumes for the school productions.

If you are able to help, please feel free to drop them off at the school reception.

Thank you in advance!

Biology Olympians

Pictured here are our Year 12 Biology Olympians who were a credit to themselves in the recent competition. **Congratulations** on this outstanding achievement. Awards were presented by Dr Caroline Foulkes from Reading University and Mrs Flynn our Assistant Headteacher.

Dr A Love



Tom R
Participation Award

Ollie E
Bronze Award

Darshan W
Commended Award

James B
Highly Commended Award

Elizabeth L
Highly Commended Award

Georgina W
Commended Award

Scarlett M
Silver Award

Kimberly T
Highly Commended Award

Maths Support Tutors

We are so proud of our first cohort of Year 12 Maths Support Tutors. These Year 12 students have volunteered their time each week to join Key Stage 3 and 4 maths lessons to help out our younger Highdown mathematicians. The feedback from the students they have been helping has been extremely touching. They exemplify our Highdown Values and are making a real difference in our community.

Thank you!

Mr W Dineley



Year 12

We are very proud of our Year 12 Biologists Scarlett M and Georgie W who have been highly commended by Cambridge University Homerton College in the Biology Challenge. They were tasked to write an essay entitled "Why don't animals have wheels" for the competition. With over 1400 entrants from across UK and beyond, Georgie and Scarlett were highly commended for their entry. The judges said it was "insightful, well-reasoned and based on outstanding understanding of the biology principles behind natural selection". Scarlett and Georgie were presented with copies of Charles Darwin's book "On the Origin of Species" by Mrs Flynn (Assistant Headteacher) and Dr Caroline Foulkes (Reading University) where the ideas of natural selection were evidenced, explained, and evaluated.....just like Georgie and Scarlett's essay. Well done both - we are all very proud of your achievement.

The essay can be read on the next page.

Dr A Love



Homerton College, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 8PH



Why don't animals have wheels?

To consider the question, we must first ask why would it be advantageous for animals to have wheels. Humans invented the wheel to aid transportation, agriculture, and craft industries; these uses were mostly limited to human civilisation and wouldn't be beneficial to the animal kingdom. The main reason animals could benefit from having wheels is the increased speed they would generate with less energy expenditure. For example, there are many stories and legends that depict animals having wheels or using the mechanism of rolling to gain speed, such as "Wheeler" from *Ozma of Oz*, which have four wheels instead of feet, allowing them to travel at great speeds as they live on mostly flat terrain. In addition, wheels could increase stamina by prolonging momentum, allowing animals to travel greater distances, using less energy: the cheetah can run up to 75mph, but can only maintain it for a short amount of time. Perhaps with wheels, this limitation would be reduced. However, there are also many drawbacks to real animals having wheels.

One issue with the possibility of wheeled animals is logistics: how would the wheels transfer nutrients and waste to and from the main body, how would they combat friction, and how would they gain momentum to begin moving? It's hard to imagine how the wheel itself could be connected to the animal's body as animal joints have a limited range of motion, whilst wheels would require continuous rotation in one direction without needing to be turned back. This would mean that the wheels couldn't be attached through any sort of animal tissue in the way that limbs are. As a result, the flow of nutrients and waste products between the wheels and the body would be prevented, meaning the wheels couldn't be alive. One idea is that the wheels could be composed of keratin (found in hair and nails) and be separate from the animal's body. However, this prompts the question: how would the wheels begin moving if they weren't alive? Perhaps the animal could have limbs in addition to its wheel, which allow it to push itself along when it wants to begin moving: this would also allow them to maintain the benefit of the versatility of limbs. Another possible approach of animals using wheels is if they had a symbiotic relationship with another organism: in Phillip Pullman's book *The Amber Spyglass*, he explores the concept of creatures that have a symbiotic relationship with trees that produce large, round seeds, which the animals then use as wheels, subsequently dispersing the trees' seeds and allowing it to effectively reproduce, through the process of zoochory.

The only known wheel used for propulsion in the biological world is the flagellum of single-celled organisms, such as bacteria, or individual cells within a larger organism, such as gametes. The bacterial flagellum works through a system in which a motor acts as an engine powered by the flow of hydrogen ions through the cell-surface membrane. However, this mechanism can only operate at a cellular level and so couldn't be applicable to animals.

Even if there was an effective system for animals to incorporate wheels into their anatomy, their habitats may not accommodate this method of travel. In order to fully utilise the wheel as a mode of transport, humans built infrastructure such as roads, allowing for smoother movement and avoiding natural obstacles. However, animals living in the wild won't have this benefit and their terrain may render the wheels ineffective. For example, soft ground, such as mud or soil, would prevent the wheels from properly functioning. Over half of all animals live in the tropical rainforest, either in the trees or on the forest floor, both of which provide no opportunity for wheels be beneficial to the animals. One scenario in which they could be favourable is in an urban area as the terrain is artificial and designed for wheels. However, evolving to have wheels would take millions of years and the first city was only built in 7500 BCE, providing little time for these adaptations to develop. In addition, domesticated animals would have no use for wheels as the concept of 'survival of the fittest' doesn't fully apply to them due to humans providing everything they need. Although, urban wildlife could benefit from having wheels because their survival still depends on some aspect of competition: perhaps in the distant future, this could be a possibility.

Animals develop specific characteristics through the process of evolution, in which favourable features give them a competitive advantage, allowing them to reach reproductive maturity and pass on the allele for the characteristic. If wheels were significantly beneficial to an animal's survival, would they not have already evolved in nature? Variation within species is what allows for survival in the event of a change in conditions, however, as discussed before, wheels are only suitable in specific environments so it's unlikely that animals with wheels would survive any sudden change in conditions and be able to pass on the allele. In addition, limbs give a considerable competitive advantage due to their huge versatility: they are used for eating, using tools, digging, fighting, and climbing. This has resulted in limbs being the surviving characteristic for most animals. Even in engineering, wheels are used because limbs are much more complex to design and control, not necessarily because wheels are better at the task. If the evolutionary pathway that was taken lead to animals developing limbs and not wheels, this must be the most beneficial to their survival.

In conclusion, although wheels could provide a speed advantage to animals, not many animals would benefit from this due to their terrain not being well-suited, and constraints imposed by the anatomical logistics of having wheels. If wheels were the best way for animals to thrive, they would have evolved to have wheels, not the limbs they do have. Limbs are a result of convergent evolution and already optimised to the environments animals live in, therefore animals have no need for wheels.

World Book Day Competition!

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

Reading has so many benefits and helps you to do well in school and in life in so many ways. Also...it's fun! It can be a chance to relax, to discover different places and imagine different lives.

Read a book of your choice (that you have never read before) and choose one of the projects below.

Winners in every mentor group!

Plan or write a sequel

Prepare a presentation for the class

Create a pop up book of the story

Win a P4 and an official World Book Day badge!

Design a costume or setting for a movie version of your book

Create a shoebox model of your favourite scene

Create a Booktok or YouTube review



Highdown Book Swap

4 March—8 March

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
7 MARCH 2024

To celebrate World Book Day (7 March) we will be running a book swap in the Hive during the week beginning 4 March.

We are asking students to bring in books that they would like to swap, from now until the 4 March when they will be able to choose a book to take home. So, if you have books that are gathering dust on the bookshelf and are thinking of having a clear-out over half term please consider donating them to our book swap — all we ask is that books are in a good, readable condition and suitable for ages 11 – 18.

Books can be dropped off at the school office (labelled with student name) between school hours or students can bring the books into the Hive between 8.30am and 4.00pm.

Any student bringing a book/s to swap before 4 March will have their name recorded on a list so that they can come during the book swap week to choose a book.

If you have any questions please email: librarian@highdown.reading.sch.uk

For March we are looking at
Real Life recommendations in the Hive



The Boy Who Steals Houses – C G Drew

Sam is only fifteen but he and his autistic older brother, Avery, have been abandoned by every relative he's ever known. Now Sam's trying to build a new life for them. He survives by breaking into empty houses when their owners are away, until one day he's caught out when a family returns home. To his amazement this large, chaotic family takes him under their wing - each teenager assuming Sam is a friend of another sibling. Sam finds himself inextricably caught up in their life and falling for the beautiful Moxie.



Dandelion Clocks – Rebecca Westcott

Liv takes us on a journey through her life from Thirteen Weeks Before to Six Months After. We discover Liv's passion for photography, her brother's obsession with sticking to the rules, the stupidity of Moronic Louise at school, and how the family copes as Mum's terminal illness takes hold...Guided by Mum's own childhood diaries, Liv finds a new way to live. This book is real, funny, utterly touching and absolutely heartwarming. Despite the sadness at the heart of the story, every reader will laugh and keep on turning the pages, charmed by Liv and her mum.



50 rules for teenagers – Manga YA

The desire for a normal teenage life haunts the overworked and under-appreciated Mi-Roo. While most girls her age are carefree and boy-crazy, she is bound to the gruelling gigs of student, home-maker, and full-time babysitter to her siblings.

With a mother who's mostly missing in action, and a twin brother who's best at doing nothing, Mi-Roo is trapped in a constant balancing act of housework and homework. But she's no superhero - it's going to take more than a little determination to stay in control of this whirlwind!



Never Far from Nowhere – Andrea Levy
6th form recommendation

The story of two sisters, Olive and Vivien, born in London to Jamaican parents and brought up on a council estate. They go to the same grammar school where their lives takes distinctly different paths.



eBooks and Audiobooks are available to all Highdowners at:

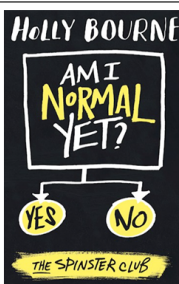
<https://highdown.eplatform.co/>

All you need is your Highdown log-in

eBook

Am I Normal Yet? – Holly Bourne

All Evie wants is to be normal. And now that she's almost off her meds and at a new college where no one knows her as the-girl-who-went-nuts, there's only one thing left to tick off her list...But relationships can mess with anyone's head - something Evie's new friends Amber and Lottie know only too well. The trouble is, if Evie won't tell them her secrets, how can they stop her making a huge mistake?



eBook

Boys Don't Cry – Malorie Blackman

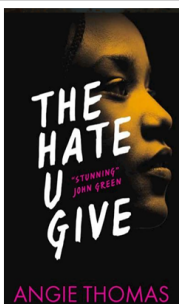
In Boys Don't Cry, bestselling author Malorie Blackman explores the uncharted territory of teenage fatherhood. You're waiting for the postman - he's bringing your A level results. University, a career as a journalist - a glittering future lies ahead. But when the doorbell rings it's your old girlfriend; and she's carrying a baby. Your baby. You're happy to look after it, just for an hour or two. But then she doesn't come back - and your future suddenly looks very different.



Audiobook – Young Adult

The Hate U Give – Angie Thomas

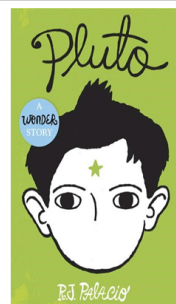
Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice.



eBook

Pluto – R J Palacio

WONDER told the story of August Pullman: an ordinary kid with an extraordinary face, whose first year at school changed the lives and the perspectives of everyone around him. PLUTO looks at Auggie's story through the eyes of his best and oldest friend, Christopher: who has been with Auggie right from the start, shares his love of space, Star Wars and the planets, and knows better than most that being part of Auggie's life comes with its challenges. Poignant, surprising and utterly heartwarming, this is a must-read for readers who loved WONDER.



HIGHDOWN PTA PRESENT



QUIZ NIGHT

IT'S BACK!! QUIZ & CURRY EVENING

FRIDAY, 22 MARCH, 2024
DOOR OPEN AT 7:00PM
FOR A 7.30PM START

£16 ENTRANCE INCLUDING MOMO HOUSE CURRY
£8 ENTRANCE ONLY

QUIZ HOSTS: THE BRILLIANT MR FASHAM & MR HUTCHINSON
(OF ONLY CONNECT/UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE/JEOPARDY FAME!!)

CASH/CARD BAR - PRE ORDER AVAILABLE

TEAMS OF UP TO 8 EMAIL HIGHDOWN_PTA@OUTLOOK.COM FOR HELP WITH FORMING A TEAM

BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW:

www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown
bookings close midnight on Sunday 17th of March

The PTA Quiz night is fast approaching!

Tickets are on sale now.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown/>



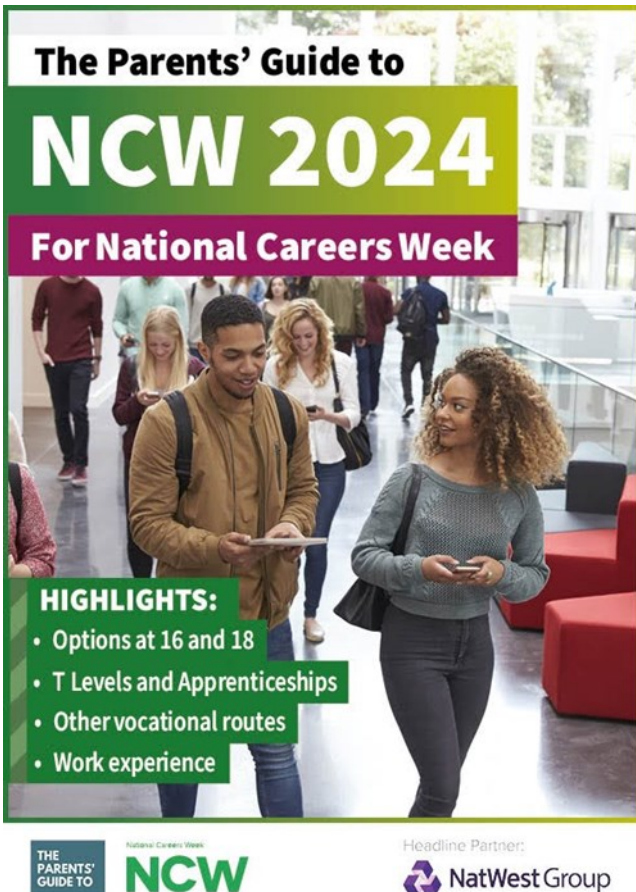
BOOK NOW!!
Quiz Night

22ND MARCH 7.30PM

GET YOUR TICKET:
www.pta-events.co.uk/highdown

It's National Careers Week 4-11 March 2024!

Download your free copy of The Parents' Guide to National Careers Week, created in partnership with National Careers Week, outlining all vocational options after GCSE and sixth form/college - [you can download your copy here](#).



Speakers coming into school from Monday to Friday, 4 - 8 March include:

Reading College

University of Hertfordshire

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Reading Buses

Visit from a Podiatric Surgeon to Science Department

We are excited to be hosting a talk from Steve Kriss on Podiatry and Podiatric Surgery as a career option in DT8 at 3.15pm on Friday, 15 March.

Steve will be joined by Julie who is a GP and Community Liaison for the hospital. The talk will be about 30 minutes allowing for questions.

Any interested students are free to join us.

Further information from Tania IJaz or Aisha Saidykhan in the medical society after school in S5 every Thursday.



Business & Economics Division - Tuesday 5th March 2024, from 5pm - 6pm! Sign up now!

Are you looking to enter the world of business & economics after you leave school? Perhaps you are looking for some business & economics work experience that would set you above the rest when it comes to applying for university or apprenticeships?

Well look no further, we have got an unmissable opportunity for you to hear from one of the world's biggest ever companies in Amazon, who will be hosting their Virtual Insight to Amazon Event with a Business & Economics twist! So, remember the date, Tuesday 5th March 2024, from 5pm - 6pm...

This virtual event will be delivered by key business leaders at Amazon as well as potential future employers, who will also share their secret tips and tricks on how to secure a business role at Amazon. So, with the opportunity to widen your knowledge, expand your network, and gain invaluable tips on how to secure yourself a future role, what is there to lose?

Application Link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TJCL7BX>



Where could Science lead you?

For students in Years 7 to 12 who are interested in learning more about Green Careers, come along to our webinar with the Royal Horticultural Society!

Take part in a Live Q&A and gain an insight into how you can get work experience, paid internships and volunteering opportunities in the RHS' world-class garden and Science teams. **Register here**

Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C Leila Negro-Halpin
7D Emily Zachariadis
7E James Prodger
7F Ethan Lunnon
7G Milena Janik
7H Jaide Thompson
7J Agamveer Chandhok
7K Makar Shapovalov
7L May Sunderland

Year 8

8C Lilian Moore
8D Rohan Skilling
8E Ranith Liyanage
8F Hagne Chiu
8G Adam Pazi
8H Hadi Syed
8J Amanda Lau
8K Faris Bushnaq
8L Ben Elsby

Year 9

9C Juho Rajantie
9D Jacob Payne
9E Bence Bardos
9F Merlin Critchfield
9G Ellie Chan
9H Callie Wenham
9J Ben Gibson
9K Emily Tanner
9L Violet Durkan

Miss Robinson's Bonus:

9C Maisy Hawkins

Year 10

10C Samantha Lill
10D Mohamed Idris
10E Maud Hawkins
10F Oscar Squires
10H Theo Baker
10J Saurav Joshi
10K Raphael Vilhena
10L Jack Winder

Year 11

11C Voke Orife
11D Olivia Mather
11E Elijah Charles
11F Nina Fargus
11G Prior O'Reilly
11H Alfie Smith
11J Zhun-On Ahmed
11K Alex Green
11L Savraj Gill
11M Ruby Bonnett

Work With Us

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](#).

Cleaners/Housekeeping Team

£11.79 per hour

Are you local and looking to earn some extra money?

Up to 15 hours per week, ideally 6.30 -8.30am and/or 3 - 6pm.

Flexibility around these hours will be considered.

We also offer an excellent pension scheme, a friendly team and training and equipment will be provided.

If you are conscientious, reliable, with a friendly pro-active attitude, then we would love to hear from you.

Closing date: Applications considered on receipt

For details and an application form, please visit 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 well-resourced 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 [website](#).

Teacher of Music - Temporary

Main Scale, Full / Part time Temporary role until July 2024

This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and well-qualified teacher of Music to join a lively and expanding music department, which forms part of the Performing Arts Department. The department benefits from excellent facilities. Music and Music Technology are popular options at GCSE. We welcome applications from ECTs, for whom we have a superb induction programme.

Full details and an application form can be accessed via our [website](#).

Examinations Invigilator

£11.79 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 [website](#).

STRETCH CLASS



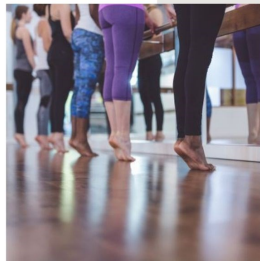
Wednesdays
7.30-8.30pm

Release tension
and Improve
flexibility

BARRE FIT

Wednesdays
6.15-7.15pm

Fun full body
workout
strengthening and
lengthening



Drop in £5 per class

Location: Highdown Sport and Leisure

Contact: emma.bingham@hotmail.co.uk

Artists & Makers Fair Saturday 9 March

Methodist Church
Ardler Road, Caversham, RG4 8EB



10 am - 4 pm

Quality Crafts

Kids Activities



Lobby Cafe
Homemade cakes



Charity Support
RBH League of Friends

Free Entry



Reading FC—4th And Final Schools and Grassroots Fixture of 2023-24 Season!

When?

Reading vs Cambridge United
Saturday 16 March, 3pm kick off

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

As part of the 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 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.

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.

Select your school [here](#) to cast your vote and be in with a chance of winning one of 6 great prizes.

Happy Weekend!