



The weekly newsletter of
Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



EXCELLENCE

w/c 20 May 2024 Week B

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students are now in full swing with their examinations. I am sure you can imagine the level of planning required to organise exams for over 400 students!! My thanks to the Exams Team, invigilators, Inclusion Team, and the Estates Team for all your great work, helping ensure the exam venues are ready and the exam experience is as smooth and calm as it can be. Thank you also to our teaching staff for their exam warm-up sessions, which help to settle students so they arrive at the exam room door calm and ready to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding, and skills.

You may recall back in March, the theme of House Week 4 was the environment. In our assemblies this week we returned to the theme of sustainability, thinking about how to meet our needs today without preventing future generations from meeting their needs. Students considered two events – ‘Earth Day’ in April and ‘Earth Overshoot Day’, which this year is in July. At Highdown, we have a number of initiatives

already in place, with solar panels, rewilding projects, planting trees, and motion-activated lighting, to name a few. We are grateful too, for the ideas shared by our students for how we can further develop sustainability at school, and we will incorporate these into our sustainability action plan.

I hope families have a great weekend.

M A Grantham
 Head of School



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Mon 20 May	Beginning of Walk to School Week
Mon 20 May	Year 7 Mentor Reports Available
Weds 22 May	National Numeracy Day
Weds 22 May	Tennis Fixture (Selected Year 9)
Fri 24 May	Reading University Trip (Selected Year 10)



HOUSE POINTS

Mapledurham	134,602
Grove	134,194
Rosehill	134,922
Caversham	137,775



Follow us

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM DR CAPALDI RE SUMMER UNIFORM

During the warmer summer months, we do allow students to wear tailored shorts and will encourage them to remove jumpers and blazers in due course. However, we have not made any other adaptations and expect our students to wear correct skirts, trousers and shoes as outlined in the uniform policy on the website [HERE](#).

Parents are asked to support this and will be called to bring in correct uniform if the need arises.

If you are currently experiencing financial difficulties which are preventing your son/daughter from wearing correct uniform please contact your Head of Achievement, Mr Clawson, Assistant Head, or Dr Capaldi, Deputy Headteacher.

SECONDHAND UNIFORM

Did you know that our PTA runs a secondhand uniform “shop” selling Highdown uniform including blazers, jumpers and PE kit from as little as £3 for some items?

For any enquiries please email:

alinapetito@yahoo.co.uk

We will gladly accept donations of outgrown uniform at the school reception—all funds raised go to the school PTA!!!

INFORMATION

Problems with Class Charts

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



Absence Reporting

Please notify us if your son/daughter is unable to attend either online or onsite lessons due to illness or other reason.

Please report all absences using the Class Charts app rather than by telephone, email or ParentMail. We hope parents will find this route much more straightforward and efficient. You can find out more here:

<https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1803&type=pdf>.

Water Bottles / Pollen Season

Please ensure your students have a water bottle in school with them at all times.



Hay fever season is also underway. Please encourage your students to take their medication at home before they leave for school. We are not able to supply antihistamines at school.

[SEND Local Offer Newsletter Spring 2024](#)

Could you be entitled to Free School Meals? (FSM)

You can find more details about FSM and download an application form on our [website](#).

If you need any support with your application, please contact us at finance@highdown.reading.sch.uk or call 0118 9015 809.

When completed, please return your application to the email address above or to the school office for the attention of the Finance Department.



See what the Gallery are cooking up for us this term by viewing their menus on the school website [HERE](#)



GOOD LUCK YEAR 13!!



Another glorious afternoon in our beautiful walled garden where we celebrated Year 13's time here at Highdown.

There were awards, pizza and garden games...and lots of fun!

Wishing you all the very best of luck for your exams and life beyond Highdown—keep in touch, we cannot wait to hear all about your future successes!!

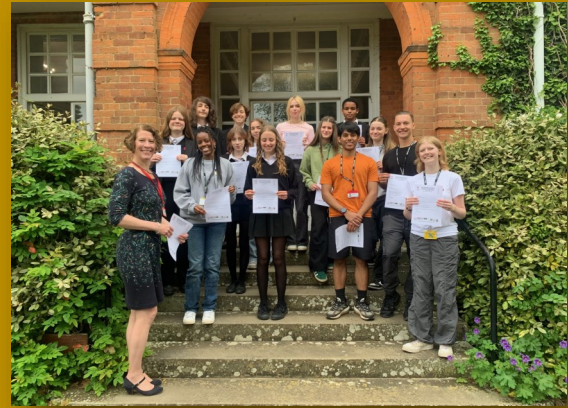


DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD AWARD

Huge congratulations to James Bridge who collected his Duke of Edinburgh Gold award last week from Buckingham Palace where the Duke was himself in attendance. James, we are very proud of you and what you have achieved, Gold award is no walk in the park!



YOUTH LEADERS



Our fantastic student leaders are pictured above having received a formal “thank you” from Rachel Cave for their enthusiastic and very positive contribution to the Highdown community. These students have been fantastic role models for the whole school.

21st June 2024

THE GREAT GET TOGETHER CULTURE DAY

Coming together to explore and celebrate Highdown's diverse community.

This year, The Great Get Together is a celebration of Highdown's diverse culture! During our Culture Day, students will have a culture themed celebration during the school day, followed by an after school event in our Walled Garden (friends and family welcome). To register your interest in having a stall at this event (for example to share cultural foods, clothing, crafts and more!), please complete the form [HERE](#) and a member of our Sixth Form will be in contact with you.

The after school event will run from 3:15pm - 4:30pm in the Barn and Walled Garden...see you there!



RETRIEVAL PRACTICE

Top tips for helping your child succeed in their learning

As the summer exam season has now started, you may be wondering what you can do to help your child succeed.

Last week's newsletter had links to advice and guidance about the benefits of retrieval practice and how quick low stake quizzes can help retain information for longer and even transfer information to the long-term memory.

This week I'd like to share the benefits of **knowing what NOT to do**.

In students' bid to find out what works best to maximise their learning and performance, it is also important to minimise the strategies that don't. These are the banana skins of learning, short term strategies that appear useful, but they are not. By becoming aware of the common mistakes children make, they can learn more efficiently and effectively, which means both less stress and better grades. We all want the best for our young people – so we need to be explicit about possible mistakes they could make without realising it. Further information if you would like it is here: https://blog.innerdrive.co.uk/10-common-student-mistakes?utm_campaign=Student%20Workshops&utm_content=272345168&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-85885295

THE 10 MOST COMMON MISTAKES STUDENTS MAKE
by @inner_drive | www.innerdrive.co.uk

- 01 SKIPPING BREAKFAST** This has a detrimental impact on attention and learning.
- 02 ONLY READING YOUR REVISION NOTES** Re-reading encourages you to skim read the text rather than properly processing it.
- 03 REVISING TO MUSIC** Listening to your favourite songs can distract you from revising. Study is usually best carried out in a quiet space.
- 04 MOBILE PHONES AND HOMEWORK** The mere presence of a phone has been found to cause a 20% decline in performance.
- 05 TAKING NOTES VERBATIM IN CLASS** Taking down word for word what your teachers says stops you from engaging with the material.
- 06 CRAMMING YOUR REVISION** Revising a little but often is much more effective than trying to learn a lot of information all at once.
- 07 NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP** Set up a consistent bedtime routine that ensures you get the needed 8-10 hours sleep a night.
- 08 LEAVING THE HARD TASK TO THE END** Start hard tasks early as they always take longer than you think.
- 09 NOT GETTING ENOUGH FRESH AIR** Getting sufficient fresh air and exercise can have a positive impact on your wellbeing.
- 10 TAKING PHOTOS OF LECTURE SLIDES** Interacting with the material and making notes in your own words at the time of learning is a much more effective strategy.

COMPETITION!!

NO PLACE LIKE HOME – ART AND POETRY COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS

LET'S BUILD EMPATHY

Sanctuary Foundation is proud to present an exciting new art and poetry competition that invites students from years 3-13 to reflect on what life is like for the 43.3 million children around the world who are displaced. Schools should digitally submit their top 3 pieces in each category.

Students can create either a piece of artwork or a piece of poetry illustrating their empathy with or experience of being separated from the place they call home. These creations will be judged by a fantastic panel of celebrities, refugees, and journalists with the top 30 entries going on display in The British Library during National Refugee Week (17th-21st June 2024). They will also be featured in a special national online assembly, in the press and elsewhere. The prize ceremony will be at the British Library on Friday 21st June 2024.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

elevate SUMMER CAREERS FAIR **Brighter Futures for YOUNG PEOPLE**
THURSDAY 18 JULY @ 11AM-3PM
New Meaning, 28 Portman Road, Reading RG30 1EA
Get help with the next step in your career or education
For young people living in Reading aged 16-19 years old (up to 25 years with a current EHCP)
To book your place call: 0118 937 3766 or email: elevate@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Routes into STEM Face-to-face

Routes into STEM is an experience that provides an amazing opportunity to help students understand the different routes to further STEM education and career pathways.

Who is it for?
Students in Year 9 and 10 / equivalent who are interested in finding out more about STEM careers.

What is involved?
• A three-day experience at STEM educational providers and STEM companies local to them
• Students will explore STEM careers, participate in interactive workshops, site tours and hear from young professionals

What are the outcomes?
• Gain first-hand information and experience hands on activities at STEM educational providers and companies to make informed decisions about their future
• Go on campus tours and get thinking about future studies in a mature and informed manner
• Speak with apprentices/graduates about their experiences
• Develop valuable skills such as presentation skills, team-building, and social skills, and see how they can be applied to their CV, Application Form or Personal Statement
• Become a Bronze Industrial Cadet

Oxford dates & locations - New Dates
• Tuesday 28th May 2024 - STEM Company Day - Vertex Pharmaceuticals - OX14 4RW
• Wednesday 29th May 2024 - STEM Company Day - UK Atomic Energy Authority - OX14 3DB
• Thursday 30th May 2024 - STEM University Day - University of Oxford - OX1 3PH

Cost
£175 for all 3 days
Fully funded places are available if cost is a barrier, please indicate your interest on the application form.

How to apply?
To apply, please visit our website [here](#) or scan the QR code
Limited places available, do not delay and apply today!

EDT Industrial Cadets www.etrust.org.uk

Emmer Green 5 & 10k & Mini Oak Challenge 2024

Sunday 30th June 2024 - 10am



5k



10k



Mini Oak

The 5 & 10k runs follow a multi-terrain course along quiet country lanes and footpaths with chip timing.

ENTRY
 10k: £20 (£23 on day)
 5k: £15 (£19 on day)
 Mini-Oak: £7.50
 Includes race t-shirt!



Mini-Oak Challenge
 Children run (or walk) the school playing field as many times as they like (up to 33 laps).

Scan the QR code for more information and to register or go to:

emmergreen10k.org.uk

Thank you to our proud sponsors

Raising funds for Emmer Green Primary School

WE NEED YOU!!





U14 Wargrave Girls are recruiting players for 2024/25 (U16) season. We play in the Berkshire County Girls Football League and train on Wednesday evening. We are a friendly club with qualified coaches that want players to have fun and develop their skills. If you are interested in attending our training sessions for a taster please contact Dominique or Andy

TEL: 07533 390543/07411 957774 

E: OLLY.POLLY@NTLWORLD.COM

Henley Rowing Club Rowing Taster Sessions Wed 29th May from 2pm






Come and try rowing for yourself:

- Free of charge
- No experience necessary

Applicants should ideally be:

- in Years 7-9 currently
- over 170cm (f) or 180cm (m)

For info or to apply, email ben.reed@britishrowing.org

Kayak on the River!

Come and try it out!



Taster Sessions

just £5 per child

Sessions times each day:
 10-11:15am
 11.45-1pm
 1.45-3pm

Ages 9-16 years

10 places per session
Booking essential

To book a place, scan the QR code below or go to reading-canoe.org.uk/ taster and fill in the form.



Reading Canoe Club

Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th May

reading-canoe.org.uk/taster



Reading

FREE!



Sport In Mind

Registered Charity 1161323

Youth Activities for Mental Wellbeing

Sport in Mind provides **free sport** and **physical activity** opportunities for children and young people to help build confidence and self esteem, meet new people and support low mood and other mental health challenges.

Day	Time	Activity	Age	Venue
Mon	5:00 - 6:00pm	Football	10-14 years	Palmer Park 3G pitch
Tue	4:15- 5:15pm	Tennis	10-14 years	Meadway Sports Centre (inside)
Tue	5:00 - 6:00pm	Sport & games	10-14 years	Bulmershe leisure centre
Wed	4:45 - 5:45pm	Football	10-14 years	Prospect Park 3G pitch
Thur	4:15 - 5:15pm	Sport & Games	10 - 14 years	South Reading Leisure Centre - Outside courts
Fri	4:30-5:30pm	Sport & Games	9-13 years	Morgan Centre, Queen Anne's School

Sessions restart from Monday 15th April and run weekly excluding school holidays


[@sportinmind](https://twitter.com/sportinmind)

info@sportinmind.org

www.sportinmind.org

 01189479762

Working in partnership with

Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and Families services



Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C - Mya Farrell
7D - Jobell Jobin
7E - Harry Macbeth
7F - Alice Loar
7G - Noah Clements
7H - Kian Waite-O'Leary
7J - Anabelle Sumner
7K - Freddie Eade
7L - Alfie Seymour

Year 8

8C - Andrea Caba
8D - Leo Turay
8E - Charlie Whiteway
8F - Vanessa Han
8G - Ava Smith
8H - Finn Hemmant
8J - Maisie Cox
8K - James Taylor
8L - Jagoda Brzezianska

Year 9

9C - Kobe Pattison
9D - Hazel Meggison
9E - Tabby Bradbury
9F - Ranveer Verma
9G - Rishwith Vipperla
9H - Louis Briggs
9J - Felicity Pohler
9K - Lincoln Lau
9L - Evie Rawlinson-Winder
Miss Robinson Bonus - Henley-Jayne Smith





Term 4 Attendance

Highest attended day of the week...

Monday

Highest attending year group rankings:

Year 7, Year 8, Year 10, Year 11, Year 9

House positions for highest term 4 attendance

1st

Mapledurham

2nd

Caversham

3rd

Grove

4th

Rosehill

Top two highest attending mentor groups in each year:

7H

7K

8E

8C

9F

9G

10D

10F

11L

11C

Most improved mentor groups in each year
comparing Term 3 to Term 4

7K, 8C, 9E, 10K, 11J

Thank you to all our students and families for your continued efforts in supporting attendance!

SEND WORKSHOPS

Understanding Autism & Anxiety Workshop – 19/06/24, 9.30 - 12.00pm. Free online session via MS Teams. For parents/carers of Reading pupils ages 6 -16.

A 2.5 hour workshop targeted towards parents/ carers of children with a diagnosis of autism or those who may be awaiting a diagnosis. It looks at common drivers for anxiety in those with autism, especially in relation to coping with uncertainty and not knowing what might happen. The workshop gives parents a chance to share their experiences and to learn strategies and approaches to manage anxious feelings.

To book or for more information email Wilma.Williams@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Helping your Child with Fears and Worries Workshop – 24/06/24. 9.30 – 12.00pm Free online session via MS Teams. Teaches parents and carers Cognitive Behavioural Strategies to help children to overcome their anxiety. The approaches in the workshop are designed to help with “irrational” fears, for example, specific phobias (dogs, school phobia etc...), separation anxiety, generalised anxiety. The workshop is not designed for children:

- With a diagnosis of autism or significant social communication difficulties
- Who are pre-verbal
- Whose anxiety is due to trauma (e.g.: domestic violence), PTSD, bereavement, sensory overload

To book or for more information email Wilma.Williams@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Details of all our courses across this academic year for parents/carers can be found here: <https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/educational-psychology-service-pc/>

SEND

MAY HALF TERM 2024

THINGS TO DO IN READING

READING ROCKS IS THE ULTIMATE WHAT'S ON GUIDE FOR FAMILIES TO FIND THINGS TO DO IN THE LOCAL AREA

WWW.READING-ROCKS.CO.UK



READING ROCKS™



FIND HALF TERM FUN AT THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON

HALF TERM FUN!

The Half Term holiday is just around the corner and the Reading Rocks website is full to the brim with things to do this half term.

- Hit the Half Term Fun button for lots of local family friendly events
- Find holiday clubs and sports camps
- Try new places to eat
- Explore our collection of parks and walks
- And find your next family day out!

READING CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Readings Children's Festival From sport and music workshops to fun days with art and craft sessions, take your pick from the many exciting events taking place at venues across Reading. This year's festival is celebrating everything sporty as we get ready for this year's Olympics and Euros with a vibrant mix of sport themed events across the borough



READING ROCKS RECOMMENDS

Prospect Park Railway public running day should see trains running from 12 noon until 3.45pm. Tickets on the day from the gazebo in the free car park. Train rides cost 60p per ride, or ten rides for £5. Light refreshments available from the club house.

FOLLOW US AND JOIN THE COMMUNITY!

There are thousands of local parents following us Social Media, and we'd love for you to join in! Just search Reading Rocks and like our page!

www.reading-rocks.co.uk  

SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

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. All content is delivered by National Cyber Safety, these guides have strict user rights and terms. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit www.thenationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rates of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.5% in 2016-18, to 22.5% in 2022-23.

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes understood as a mental health concern that one might consider. It could include something going on for the child or young person within the home or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for example, or a sibling with learning difficulties, bullying and friendship difficulties at school prevent the child from attending and a pattern of missing from primary school for secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children appearing distressed when they need to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home or school) or if a child has a pattern of irregular absences. There are some indicators to suggest there are more complex issues at school that may cause distress: such as changes in the environment, changes in routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a headache, feeling sick, getting tired, or all of which they don't appear to be the cause of. There should be an offer of help to rule out medical causes or illness.

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on irregular basis not only supports academic achievement but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be long-term and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. This may include reduced educational attainment, limited academic progress and reduced employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to increased school avoidance over time. A child's mental health may be affected by the long-term nature of the absence, which may lead to a cycle of absence. This cycle may be broken by making their absence less frequent, increasing their desire to go to school.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there is a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is a clear, shared plan and a consistent approach between the child's parents and school. This includes a plan of support or intervention. This requires a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed preparation and familiarity to return to school the next morning.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

There may be times you feel overwhelmed or angry. Try to stay calm, acknowledge the child's feelings, listen and avoid blaming or arguing. Avoidance may be a result of anxiety, fear, or a sense of being overwhelmed. Deep breathing or going for a walk and practicing the strategies in the WakeUpWednesday guide.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the pressure for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 20 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Barton has a superb understanding of what works in psychology, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

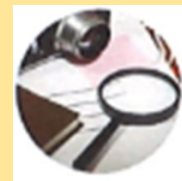
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LIBRARY RECOMMENDATIONS

To honour Sherlock Holmes Day which is actually Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's birthday, coming up on 22 May, we are looking at book recommendations from the Mystery & Crime section in the Hive.

Mystery & Crime books have this sticker on their spine



eBooks and Audiobooks are available to all Highdowners at:

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

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

Theodore Boone – John Grisham

In the small city of Stratzenburg, there are many lawyers, and though he's only thirteen years old, Theo Boone thinks he's one of them. Theo knows every judge, policeman, court clerk - and a lot about the law. He dreams of being a great trial lawyer, of a life in the courtroom. But Theo finds himself in court much sooner than he expected. Because he knows so much - maybe too much - he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. A cold-blooded killer is about to go free, and only Theo knows the truth.



Let's Play Murder – Kesia Lupo – YA

Five strangers trapped in a manor house in a snow storm with a dead body. It feels so real - but this is VR and this is THE Game; a rumoured Easter Egg hidden in other VR games that draws you into a competition for a prize beyond your wildest dreams. And there's no escaping the VR world until the Game is won. A player dies. Without warning, the game Veronica thought she was playing gets overshadowed by a much darker, real, mystery: who is killing us?' It may not be a game Veronica wanted to play, but it's one that she has to win - or die trying.



We Were Liars – E Lockhart – YA

A beautiful and distinguished family. A private island. A brilliant, damaged girl; a passionate, political boy. A group of four friends—the Liars—whose friendship turns destructive. A revolution. An accident. A secret. Lies upon lies. True love. The truth.

WE WERE LIARS is utterly unforgettable. We are beautiful, privileged and live a life of carefree luxury. We are cracked and broken. A story of love and romance. A tale of tragedy. Which are lies? Which is truth?



The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo – Stieg Larsson – 6th form rec. read

40 years ago, Harriet Vanger disappeared from a family gathering on the island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger clan. Her uncle is convinced it was murder and that the killer is a member of his own tightly knit but dysfunctional family. He employs disgraced financial journalist Mikael Blomkvist and the tattooed, truculent computer hacker Lisbeth Salander to investigate. When the pair link Harriet's disappearance to a number of grotesque murders from 40 years ago, they begin to unravel a dark and appalling family history.



A Murder Most Unladylike – Robin Stevens - eBook & audiobook

Full series is also available in the Hive

When Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong set up their very own secret detective agency at Deepdean School for Girls, they struggle to find any truly exciting mysteries. Little do they know that in the months that follow, mystery - and murder - will never be far away, and when Hazel discovers the Science Mistress, Miss Bell, lying dead in the Gym, the Detective Society is determined to get to the bottom of the crime.



300 Minutes Mystery – Jack Heath – eBook

10 stories. 10 mysterious situations. 10 brave kids. 30 minutes of clues. Mercer stole a secret message. What happens when the spies find out? Hamzi is trapped in a maze. Why is his brother trying to kill him? Charlene's room escape game suddenly turns deadly. Can she figure out why? Jack Heath's ten nail-biting and mysterious short stories will intrigue and terrify during each 30-minute countdown, as dangerous situations play out right down to the last crucial moment.



The Yoto Carnegie Awards 2024 shortlisted books have now arrived in the Hive. If you would like to read any of these please come and speak with Mrs Robinson in the library.

**HIGHDOWN SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE**

40 Book Challenge Years 7 - 11



Try to read 40 books within the academic year!

To complete this challenge students can read books at home as well as using the reading time provided at school, during Accelerated Reader lessons and English lessons.

Students are encouraged to read as it is well known that reading boosts your creativity, improves your writing skills, enhances your memory as well as expanding your vocabulary.

Once your child has read 40 books, they need to take a list of the books to Mrs Robinson in the Hive who will enter their name into a raffle to win a prize.

**HIGHDOWN SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE**

Sixth Form - 16 x 16 Challenge

<p>REFUGEE BOY Acclaimed performance poet and novelist Benjamin Zephaniah's honest, wry and poignant story of a young refugee left in London is of even more power and pertinence today than when it was first published.</p>		<p>THE BELL JAR Esther Greenwood is at college and is fighting two battles, one against her own desire for perfection in all things - grades, boyfriend, looks, career - and the other against remorseless mental illness.</p>		<p>WHEN HITLER STOLE PINK RABBIT Semi-autobiographical classic, written by the beloved Judith Kerr, tells the story of a Jewish family escaping Germany in the days before the Second World War</p>		<p>THE CATCHER IN THE RYE Written with the clarity of a boy leaving childhood behind, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> explores the world with disarming frankness and a warm, affecting charisma which has made this novel a universally loved classic of twentieth-century literature.</p>	
<p>WE WERE LIARS is a modern, sophisticated suspense novel from <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author, National Book Award finalist, and Printz Award honouree E. Lockhart.</p>		<p>YOU'VE REACHED SAM Seventeen-year-old Julie has her future all planned out—move out of her small town with her boyfriend Sam, attend college in the city, spend a summer in Japan. But then Sam dies. And everything changes.</p>		<p>KITE RUNNER 1970s Afghanistan: Twelve-year-old Amir is desperate to win the local kite-fighting tournament and his loyal friend Hassan promises to help him. But neither of the boys can foresee what would happen to Hassan that afternoon, an event that is to shatter their lives.</p>		<p>TOM SAWYER AND HUCKLEBERRY FINN Tom Sawyer, a shrewd and adventurous boy, is as much at home in the respectable world of his Aunt Polly as in the self-reliant and parentless world of his friend Huck Finn. The two enjoy a series of adventures.</p>	
<p>HIS DARK MATERIALS – NORTHERN LIGHTS Lyra's friend Roger disappears. She and her daemon, Pantalaimon, determine to find him. Their quest leads them to the bleak splendour of the North where a team of scientists are conducting unspeakably horrible experiments.</p>		<p>MAUS The Pulitzer Prize-winning Maus tells the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist coming to terms with his father's story.</p>		<p>THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years.</p>		<p>THE HUNGER GAMES Written in the perspective of 16 year old Katniss Everdeen who lives in the future, post-apocalyptic nation. The Hunger Games is an annual event in which 1 boy and 1 girl aged 12–18 are selected by lottery to compete in a televised battle royale to the death.</p>	
<p>LIFE OF PI The protagonist, Piscine Molitor "Pi" Patel, explores issues of spirituality and practicality from an early age. He survives 227 days after a shipwreck while stranded on a boat in the Pacific Ocean with a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker.</p>		<p>THE COLOUR OF MAGIC On a world supported on the back of a giant turtle, a gleeful, explosive, wickedly eccentric expedition sets out.</p>		<p>WHITE CROW It's summer. Rebecca is an unwilling visitor to Winterfold - taken from the buzz of London and her friends and what she thinks is the start of a promising romance. Ferelith already lives in Winterfold - it's a place that doesn't like to let you go, and she knows it inside out.</p>		<p>MY FAMILY AND OTHER ANIMALS When the unconventional Durrell family can no longer endure the damp, gray English climate, they do what any sensible family would do: sell their house and relocate to the sunny Greek isle of Corfu.</p>	

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