



Highdown Bulletin

w/c 18 November 2024 Week A



Follow us

A MESSAGE FROM MR GRANTHAM

What a wonderful way to draw last week to a close with our Fireworks display! My special thanks to our PTA, Mr Lester (Associate Senior Leader) and Mr Jones (Estates Manager) for their support and organisation of the event. A huge thank you to families too for joining us. It was a great opportunity for our community to get together.



Sticking with the theme of community, our students have been asked to support our Christmas Fair raffle by dropping off donations, such as chocolates, sweet treats, smellies, etc. to our main reception. Tickets will be on sale at our event on the afternoon of 6th December. Please can I ask parents/carers to support their son/daughter with their donations.

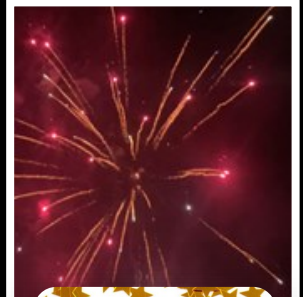
As you will know, our Trust are seeking your views about a range of educational issues via a survey which has been shared via Class Charts and email. This will help inform future planning for the Trust as a whole and for our school. Please can I encourage all parents/carers to complete this by 2nd December 2024.

It was a time for looking forward this week too. Thank you to Mrs Barnett and Mrs Robinson who led a group of students to the National School and College Leavers Festival in Birmingham. Year 8 students attended their second learning conference, this time focusing on 'the Science of Learning'. Thank you to Mrs Grantham for organising the conference and to Justin Barnett (Year 12) for leading the presentation. Following last week's hugely popular Sixth Form Subject Fair, we were delighted to welcome a number of young people and families to tour our sixth form open morning tours. We are now accepting applications to join our Sixth form in September 2025. The application form is [HERE](#). If you have any questions about our Sixth Form offer, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Prior, Head of Sixth Form, or Mr Flynn, Head of Achievement for Years 12 and 13.

I hope Year 7 parents/carers found our 'Meet the teacher' appointments helpful yesterday evening. We thought we'd try a different approach this year to help parents put faces to names and to hear about what their son/daughter will be learning about in the year ahead.

To get this term going, we have not one, but two Students of the Week! Congratulations to Daniel Job-Ujah (Year 7) for his fantastic contributions and leadership within his vertical mentor group and for helping with preparations for our forthcoming Christmas Fair. Also, congratulations to Destiny Knight (Year 8) who is about to be a published author in the Young Writers' 'Fright Night – Ghoulish Chronicles' book, released next month. Fantastic efforts from both students. Wishing all families a great weekend ahead.

Matthew Grantham
Headteacher (Acting)



STUDENT
OF THE
WEEK



STUDENT
OF THE
WEEK





THIS WEEK—Anti-bullying Week

Mon 18 Nov	Year 9 “Unacceptable” Performance Period 1
Weds 20 Nov	Year 9 –13 Duke of Edinburgh Parent Information Evening 6pm (virtual)
Thurs 21 Nov	Highdown Careers Fair for Years 9–13 in the Main Hall @ 6–8pm

COMING UP

Thurs 28 Nov	SATRO Construction Festival—by invitation Year 10/11
Mon 02 Dec	Year 11 Deadline for Sixth Form Applications
Fri 06 Dec	Christmas Fair 2:45–4:30pm
Fri 20 Dec	Last Day of Term



A reminder that our student Christmas Fair is coming up!

- Friday 06 December
- 2:45-4:30pm
- Walled Garden & Tithe Barn

There will be House stalls selling crafts, a Christmas choir, Father Christmas photo booth and refreshments on sale courtesy of the PTA.

House Leaders may ask for donations of craft materials so please keep an eye out for requests on Class Charts!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING NOVEMBER 20TH

Bronze Silver & Gold Awards are being offered at Highdown this year. Online event with School of Outdoors, our delivery partner.

6PM ONLINE EVENT

CONTACT MR COLVIN IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY SIGNED UP

HOUSE POINTS

Mapledurham	50,899
Grove	54,647
Rosehill	52,849
Caversham	53,381





HIGHDOWN CAREERS FAIR

Thursday 21 November 2024

6-8pm

FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IN YEARS 9 TO 13



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
NEW UNIVERSITY



University of
Reading



Sixth Form



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

University of
Hertfordshire

UH



The
HENLEY
College

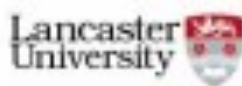


UNIVERSITY OF
SURREY

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF
WINCHESTER



Grant Thornton



wood.



CHILTERN NURSERY
& TRAINING COLLEGE



AND MORE!



FILM CLUB
[SNACKS PROVIDED]

03 OCT 3:15 PM

E6 Thursday after school with Miss Baker and Mr Hutchinson. This week we will be showing Spirited Away. Open to years 10/11/12/13

SHUFFLE LUNCH TIME CLUBS

WHEN
12.25PM - 1.00PM
YEAR 7+8
TUESDAYS
YEAR 9
WEDNESDAYS

WHERE
H18

ICEBREAKER CHALLENGES - FUN DISCUSSIONS
- SAFE SPACE TO HANG OUT
- ALL WELCOME



Highdown Quiz Club

Starting Friday 11th October at LUNCHTIME in M3

Year 7 - 10

This year we will start competing against other schools so will be selecting a Year 9/10 mixed team.

Laptops are useful. Wikipedia is king.

Mr Hutchinson and Mr Fasham

HUTCHINSON

FASHAM

MATHS SUPPORT

Spark Club
Tuesday After School
All Years - Room M5

Yr 11 Revision
Wednesday After School
Year 11 - Room M3/M4

A-Level Help Session
Thursday Lunchtime
Years 12 & 13 - Room M7

ASTROPHYSICS CLUB

Starting; Thursday 17th October and running for five weeks

Room: M5

Years: 9, 10 & 12

In a galaxy far far away, in the not too distant future, Mr Hutchinson & Mr Verebelyi are launching Astrophysics Club.

Y9 and Y10: Junior Astrophysics Challenge preparation

Yr 12: Astrophysics Challenge



Time/ Period	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School					
KS3 Break	Year 9 Book Club Mrs Robinson HIVE			Year 8 Book Club Mrs Robinson HIVE	Year 7 Book Club Mrs Robinson HIVE
Lunch	Barbershop Group Mr Santer Mu3	Reptile Club - Dr Love, S7	Funk & Soul Group Mr Santer Mu3		KS3 Women in Stem DT8 Maddie (From Oct)
	Ukulele Club Mr Parker Mu2		KS4 Photography GCSE Drop in Miss Woron- kowicz A4	KS4 Photography GCSE Drop in Miss Woronkowicz A4	Reptile Club - Dr Love, S7
	Computing Club with Maddie and Beni CR4		String Ensemble - all years Mrs Reid MU1	Reptile Club - Dr Love, S7	Quiz Club, Mr Hutchinson and Mr Fasham, M3
			Drama Club Y8 Week A Y7 Week B Dr1 Miss Holmes		Junior Choir KS3 Mrs Lester MU1
		Shuffle Club with Miss Druce, H18, space for Years 7 & 8 to hang out and play games	Shuffle Club with Miss Druce, H18, space for Year 9 to hang out and play games	Senior Choir Mrs Reid MU1	
	KS4 Art & Graphics GCSE Drop-in	KS4 Art & Graphics GCSE Drop-in	KS4 Art & Graphics GCSE Drop-in	KS4 Art & Graphics GCSE Drop-in	KS4 Art & Graphics GCSE Drop-in
After School - 4:15pm		KS4 GCSE Photography Drop-in Miss Woron- kowicz A4	KS4 GCSE Photography Drop-in Miss Woron- kowicz A4	KS4 GCSE Photog- raphy Drop-in Miss Woronkowicz A4	
		Whole School Produc- tion Mrs Lake - DR2	KS3 Art Club - (A3/A2)	KS4/KS5 Film Club Miss Baker Mr Hutchinson E6	
		Physics A Level Revi- sion and homework - S5	Orchestra - all years 3.10-3.50pm Mrs Reid MU1	Knit and Natter DT3 Miss Lobo	
		Excellence Club CR1 Lisa Pattison	Excellence Club CR1 Lisa Pattison	Excellence Club CR1 Lisa Pattison	
		Sparx Club M5 Miss McDowell and Mr Hutchinson	Y12 Music Technology coursework session Mr Santer Mu3	History Club H16 Mr Scobey, all KS3 wel- come - starting after Oct half term	
			KS3 Textiles Club Miss Brown DT4 Runs November and December only	Highdown Dance Company DR1 Mrs Hawkins (Jan-July)	
				Y13 Music Technol- ogy coursework session Mr Santer Mu3	



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School				8am – Running Club with Mr Colvin	
Lunch Time	Yr 9 Fitness Club with Mr Patten (Fitness Suite) Yr 7, 8 & 9 Boys Basketball Club with Mr Thompson (Gym)	Yr 9, 10 & 11 Girls Badminton Club with Mrs Sadler (Gym) Netball Shooting Club with Miss Clark (Netball Courts)	Yr 10 & 11 Fitness Club with Mr Colvin (Fitness Suite) Yr 10 & 11 Basketball Club with Miss Warne (Gym)	Yr 9, 10 & 11 Girls Fitness Club with Miss Clark (Fitness Suite) Yr 7, 8 & 9 Girls Basketball Club with Miss Boswell (Gym)	Yr 10 & 11 Badminton Club with Mr Colvin (Gym)
After School		Yr 7, 8 & 9 Hockey Club with Miss Clark Yr 11 Boys Rugby Club on the field with Mr Gordon All Years Cross Country Training with Miss Boswell	All Years Girls Football Club with Mrs Sadler and Miss Warne Yr 7 Boys Rugby with Mr Colvin Yr 8 Boys Rugby with Mr Thompson GCSE PE Badminton Club with Miss Clark	Yr 10 & 11 Hockey Club with Miss Clark Yr 7, 8 & 9 Girls Rugby with Miss Boswell Yr 9 Boys Rugby with Mr Patten Yr 10 Boys Rugby Club with Mr Colvin	
League Fixture Nights		Yr 7 Boys Rugby Fixtures Yr 9 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Girls Football Fixtures Yr 10 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Year 8 Boys Rugby Fixtures Yr 11 Boys Rugby Fixtures	



Please be aware that although we are unable to guarantee that we are a nut free school, we do have students in school with severe peanut allergies so being mindful of this when making packed lunches would be very helpful. A reminder that peanuts can be found in chocolate spreads, cereal bars, satay and curry sauces.



MAINS

From £2.75
Week Ones: 2nd Sept, 23rd Sept, 1st Oct, 11th Nov, 2nd Dec

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Cajun Spiced Chicken Enchiladas (G,Mu,Mk) Spicy Wedges (Mu) and Cheri's Salad Extras Cajun Corn on the Cob (Mu) Oven Baked Gnocchi with Tomato, Mozzarella and Pesto Green Beans Extras Garlic Bread (G,So,Mk) £0.50	WASALA MOMENTS Chicken Jalfrezi (G) Lentil and Cauliflower Dahl (G) Pilau Rice Raita (Mk) Mango Chutney Extra Naan bread (G) Onion Bhaji (G)	CARIBBEAN Sticky Jerk Chicken with Pineapple Salsa (Su) Caribbean Butternut Squash and Black Bean Stew Coconut Rice and Peas (Su) Papaya Coleswal (G,So)	Butchers Pork Sausages with Gravy (G,Su) Onion Chutney (Su,So,Mu,L) Carrots Broccoli Creamy Mashed Potato Vegetarian Sausages with Roast Gravy (G,Ce) Onion Chutney (Su,So,Mu,L) Carrots Broccoli Creamy Mashed Potato	FISH & CHIP SHOP Battered Fish Fillet (G,F) Cheese and Onion Paste (G,So,Mk) "Chip Butty" (G,Se,Mk) Jumbo Sausage (G,Su) Fish Fingers (G,F,E) Oven Baked Chips Garden Peas Baked Bean Chunky Tartare Sauce (Su,E) Ketchup and Lemon

Meal Deal

Check out what's on offer today, available for free school meals!

GLOBAL EATS

From £2.35

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Stir Fry Noodles with Teriyaki Chicken (G,Su,So,E)	Spicy, Sticky Korean Chicken Meatballs with Noodles (G,So,Se,E)	Flamin Fish Burger (G,So,Se,F,E)	Chicken Pad Thai with Sweet Chili Sauce (E)	Fish and Chip Shop

DESSERTS

Selection of home bakes, flapjacks, cookies, sponges, jelly and fruit pots

From £1.15

THEME BARS - PLUS DAILY - JACKET POTATOES & SALAD BAR

Daily Pasta Bar
Slow Cooked Beef Bolognaise (G)
Tomato and Basil (G)
Mac 'n' Cheese (G,Mk)
Served with
Home baked Garlic Bread (G,So,Mk)
Cheese (Mk)
From £2.35, extras from £0.55

ALLERGENS

we're allery aware!

Ce = Celery	Mo = Molluscs
Cr = Crustacean	Mu = Mustard
E = Eggs	N = Nuts
F = Fish	P = Peanuts
G = Cereals containing Gluten	Se = Sesame Seeds
L = Lupin	So = Soya
Mk = Milk	Su = Sulphur Dioxide

Speak to one of our chefs if you have any allergies.



WWI and WWII fiction recommendations from the Hive and ePlatform <https://www.highdown.reading.sch.uk/library>

The Runaways – Holly Webb

A powerful story, by bestselling author Holly Webb, catching the spirit of Great Britain during the Second World War.



Little Women – Louisa May Alcott

The classic novel that tells the story of four sisters as they make the transition to womanhood and struggle to conform to society's strict ideals of femininity in the midst of poverty.



eBook

My Name is Victoria – Lucy Worsley

This is the story of Queen Victoria's childhood as you've never heard it before



Robin Hood: Hacking Heists & Flaming Arrows – Robert Muchamore

A modern day Robin Hood action and adventure series with a link to historical fiction.



The Door of No Return – Kwame Alexander

Written in verse this book follows a boy growing up in Ghana in 1860, and it aims to help readers understand the wholeness of the lives and experiences of Africans before they walked through that "door of no return" – and were shipped to the Americas.



Audiobook

Anne Frank – Narrated by Helena Bonham Carter

One of the most famous accounts of living under the Nazi regime comes from the diary of a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl, Anne Frank.



COMPETITION TIME

Is it Food?

CREATE A HYPER-REALISTIC MODEL OF FOOD - AN INGREDIENT OR A FINISHED RECIPE - USING ANYTHING BUT FOOD!
Papier mache, clay, knitting, crochet, felted.... it's up to you!

DEADLINE - END OF TERM 2 (20.12.24)

Hand your entries to the D&T department for your chance to win food related prizes!

Raffle Prizes Needed

WE ARE COLLECTING RAFFLE ITEMS FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY DONATIONS.

IF YOU WISH TO DONATE, PLEASE LEAVE THEM IN SCHOOL RECEPTION



Stars of the Week

Year 8

- 8C Emelia Bartle
- 8D Carli Zinzani
- 8E Fletcher Jenkins
- 8F William Musker
- 8G Ethan Frew
- 8H Evie Titchener
- 8J Saida Rahman
- 8K Amelia Wilson
- 8L Oliver Murray

Year 9

- 9C Violet Ellis
- 9D George Hannan
- 9E Marley Ifilll
- 9F Millie Waterman
- 9G Libby Hasell
- 9H Florence Hastings
- 9J Dennis Bangura
- 9K Charlotte Mackie
- 9L Rachel Pine

Year 10

- 10C Tom Sanigar
- 10D Luke Bloxam
- 10E Nathan Salisbury
- 10F Alfie Brown
- 10G Mya Roy
- 10H Henry Greenfield
- 10J Darcey Ray
- 10K Faye Graham
- 10L Alexey Schipka





The PTA would like to thank the following people for all their assistance with the Fireworks Event which took place last Friday:

Many thanks to all our marshals who kept everyone safe: Joe Lester, Michael Jones, Chris Neal; Nick Heaven; Narcoil Barnett; David Frew; Katy Edwards; Sean Scott; Aline Cadeddu; Seth Hayhurst; Max Hartin; Theo Edwards; Pete Gibson; Anna Hayes; Lucy Archibald; and Will Dineley.

Thank you to all our helpers:

Jo Morris; Dave Morris; Paul W; Parveen R; Liz H; Keith H; Alex C; Amy; Caroline W; Kathryn Horsepool; Satty lally; Bana Hussain; Rebecca Sherbird; and Rachael Grenz.

A sincere word of thanks for the guidance and support shown by Mr Grantham; the Highdown Chair of Trustees - Arttu Rajantie; and PTA liaison Joe Lester.

We'd also like to make special mention of Highdown's estate manager, Michael Jones, who went above and beyond to assist us with everything from site visits, event layout, signage, electricity supplies, setup, and even clean up and breakdown! He was amazing!

Finally, a HUGE THANK YOU to every person who bought a ticket and came along to the Fireworks, thanks to your support, it was an incredibly successful event!

THANK
* YOU!



Keeping it local fundraising challenge



Can you help by fundraising for Spotlight UK throughout November and December to help us provide Christmas presents, and to help us to create new positive memories and friendships through free and low cost fun activities.

Visit www.spotlightuk.org or email admin@spotlightuk.org for our fundraising pack



Group PPP

Positive parenting programme

Thursday 16 January - Thursday 20 March 2025 9.30-11.30am
St Mary & All Saints C of E Primary School, Wensley Rd, Reading, RG1 6DU

- ★ Is your child aged 4-11 years old?
- ★ Do you want to support your child when they show distressing behaviour?
- ★ Do you need some help to manage their behaviour?

Join our evidence-based flexible parenting programme.

The group aims to strengthen the relationship between you and your child. It will help you to understand your child's development and equip you with strategies to help them.

The programme is delivered in nine two-hour weekly group sessions on Thursdays, term-time only.



To enquire or book your place, please contact:
parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org
or call 0118 937 4858



Registered Charity No. 1022144





Reading Family Aid's Toys and Teens

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL 2024

PLEASE DONATE NEW AND 'AS NEW' GIFTS FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-16

These will be given to disadvantaged children in Reading who otherwise may not receive a gift this Christmas.

Donate funds to the appeal via our GoFundMe: 

Bring your gift donations to one of our donation points.

Final date for donations: **Saturday 7 December**

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/christmas-toys-and-teens-appeal-2024>

See our website for more information and the full list of donation points:
www.readingfamilyaid.org

✉ info@readingfamilyaid.org ☎ 07930 033413

Thank you to our sponsors:









Teen PPP

Positive parenting programme

Tuesday 14 January - Tuesday 18 March 2025 9.30-11.30am
Fairview Community Centre, 90B Great Knollys Street, Reading RG1 7HL

- ★ Is your child aged 11-19 years old?
- ★ Do you want to support your child when they show distressing behaviour?
- ★ Do you want to help your teenager make positive choices?

Join our evidence-based flexible parenting programme.

The group aims to strengthen your relationship with your teenager, promote your teen's development and equip you to help them recognise and avoid risky situations.

The programme is delivered in nine two-hour weekly group sessions on Tuesdays, term-time only.

To enquire or book your place, please contact:
parenting.reading@brighterfuturesforchildren.org
or call 0118 937 4858

