



The weekly newsletter of

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre

w/c 17 May 2021 Week B

Latest News

Please download our mobile website app to ensure you receive all the latest news. Click this [link](#) for further information.



Recording Lateral Flow Test Results

We have made it easier for to record your child's lateral flow test results with school. This can now be done on Class Charts (parents only).

From the dashboard select the student you wish to record a test for and then on the top banner scroll across to COVID test. Please can you record all future results via Class Charts.

Face Masks

As of the 17th May, students will not be required to wear a face covering in school. If you're child does not feel comfortable with these changes, it is absolutely fine to carry on using a mask. Keep in mind that if your student comes to school using public transport, they will still need to bring their mask with them.

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, preferably via [ParentMail](#) or by telephoning the absence line.

SEND

Please follow this [link to the school website](#) to find out about any SEND information.

Follow us



School Website Survey

We are currently reviewing our school website and would welcome your views. Please [click here](#) to complete our short survey. We would really appreciate your feedback as it will help us determine the best possible service for you. Please complete by the 28th May.

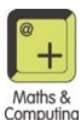
HOUSE POINTS

Caversham	114817
Grove	111352
Mapledurham	112672
Rosehill	121126

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Term dates can be found here:

[2020/21](#)



Careers Corner

University & Apprenticeship Virtual Fair

The UK University & Apprenticeship Search virtual fair is taking place on Wednesday 26th May. Students, parents and teachers can register. To sign up for the event or to find out more please [click here](#).

Virtual University Information evening

As part of our ongoing programme to educate and inspire the next generation of university students, we will be hosting our Virtual University Information Evening on Thursday 27 May between 5pm-6pm aimed at KS4 / KS5 students and their parents. To register, please [click here](#).

Literacy & Numeracy

Literacy:

Word of the week:

Dynasty: A family line of rulers of a country.

Can you think of other words that contain the word root "Dyna"?

Suggestions: Dynamo, Dynamite, Aerodynamic, Thermodynamics.

What do these words all have in common? Can you work out what "Dyno" usually means?

It comes from Greek and means "Power".

Puzzle:

What letter can you put somewhere into each of these words to make a new word?

BAR NIGHT LIE MASS SPARS WIN TAN
ART

Numeracy:

Welcome to my fairground game. You have to pay to play my game, but there are prizes!

In the game I flip a coin

If the coin is heads on the first throw, then you win £2

If it takes 2 goes for it to land on heads, then you win £4

If it takes 3 goes for it to land on heads, then you win £8

If it takes 4 goes, you win £16

If it takes 5 goes, you win £32

The prizes look good!

How much do you think you would win on average?

How much would you be willing to pay me to play?

Answers at the bottom of Page 4

All Years

Year 10 EAL

Miss Maybanks' Year 10 EAL class have read the first part of The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas and have written from different points of view about equal rights. Please click the link to the [school website](#) to read the pieces of work done by the students.

Captain Tom 100 Challenge

Erin Bonsall (8E) read the article and decided to paint daisies on 100 pebbles because the charity supported Daisy's Dream. She set up the fundraising page herself and raised £250. She hid some of the pebbles along a local road, which brightened up a wet Bank Holiday Monday for some of the people who found them. A link to her fundraising page is [here](#).



All Years Continued

Collection of Textiles Work

This message is for the attention of students who studied **Textiles** at GCSE/A level from **2018 to 2020**. Miss Probert has organised your work to be collected. Please collect your work from the Main School Foyer between **Friday 14 May and Friday 21 May, during school hours only. Please note NO WEEKENDS.** You **MUST** bring heavy duty bags to collect your work as we will not be able to supply anything for you to carry it home. Any work that has not been **collected by Friday 21 May** will unfortunately have to be put into refuge as we simply do not have the space to keep hold of it. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea the D&T technician on: anshelbourne@highdown.reading.sch.uk

School Uniform

Our school uniform supplier, SWI, is suffering from delays due to global shortages and the closure of the Suez Canal. See [school website](#) for more information.

Upgrade your Vocabulary

This week students have continued to *upgrade their vocabulary* during mentor time by focusing on a range of tier 2 words. Tier 2 words are words which are more complex/sophisticated than every day words and are often written rather than spoken. They occur in different subjects and are essential to reading comprehension.

Year 7 and 8 students:

After their individual reading during Mentor Period, students share and discuss tier 2 words they have read but do not know or understand and/or choose their favourite Tier 2 words. Some of the words from this week include: **mesmerised, prolific, victorious, optimistic, penultimate, exasperated** and **parameter**.

Year 9 students:

Each week students are learning 5 new tier 2 words and their meanings (and will have a quick quiz on these the following week). This week's words include are from the Greek root 'auto' which means 'self': **autobiography, autocracy, autodidact, autonomous** and **autochthonous**.

Why not ask your son or daughter about the words above – what do they mean? What other words are they linked to? Can they use these words in a sentence?

Year 10 students:

Students are exploring a new idiom each week to develop their understanding of common expressions used within the spoken English language. This week, students have been learning about the idiom **'Firing on all cylinders'**. Why not ask your son/daughter what this expression means, where it originates from, and the context it might be used in?

Please encourage your son or daughter to read widely at home to build their *word hoard* and *upgrade their vocabulary*.

Year 10

Last week I said that Year 10 PPEs are scheduled for the week beginning June 12th. Apologies for the error. They are scheduled to start on the 16th June. Lots more time for students to prepare. The graphic outlines questions students can ask themselves to improve revision. Please go through them together at home as this will support them to be successful.

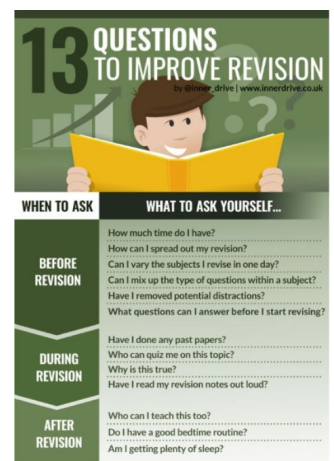
"The biggest determinant of our success is the effort we are willing to commit to it"

"Celebrating Achievement Rewarding Success"

This week we will be sending 9 achievement notifications home to our year 10 students who have received 25 or more praise points in a week. Please talk to your children about their success and celebrate it with them too.

Well Done

Well done to Abigail Brown 10L and Charley Ledger 10K for gaining the most amount of praise points in a week (38). Well done 10E for being awarded the most praise points in a week in our year group (339).



Year 11

Year 11 continue to work hard during their APTs and apply themselves really well. It is a busy time with revision but don't forget the importance of looking after yourself. Take breaks from your study to make your revision more effective and make sure you leave some of your evening to relax. Working late into the night can affect your sleep and a good night's sleep is important as it helps to process what you've learnt each day. Remember to keep yourself hydrated and to make sure you are eating healthily. It is also important to get up and move around as exercise reduces the body's stress hormones and stimulates the production of endorphins which is a chemical in the brain that helps you feel good. Below is the timetable for next week. As always it is worth checking with teachers in case of any changes.

Monday 17th May	Band X Unseen Poetry Section A		Option C History, Geography	Band Y Unseen Poetry Section A	Option A Geography, Computing, i- media
Tuesday 18th May			Option B Geography, Design & Technology, Food Studies, Drama	X & Y Band Chemistry	
Wednesday 19th May	Option B Business Studies	X Band Set 1 only Physics	Y Band Set 1 only Physics	Option A History, Spanish, French, Chinese	
Thursday 20th May	Option B History, Spanish, Music			Option C Business Studies Music	
Friday 21st May	X Band A Christmas Carol	Band Y Maths	Y Band A Christmas Carol Band X Maths	X & Y Band Biology	

Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C Jasrah Msalali
7D Hollie Martin
7E Imogen Herbert
7F Rosalind Ong
7G Harjoen Mattu
7H Imogen Rosewell
7J Tom Neal
7K Felix Taylor
7L George Chapman, Lucas
Wavell, Grace Hemsworth-Fowler

Year 8

8C Tommy Elson
8D Matti Edland
8E Erin Bosnell
8F Julius Hormingo
8G Charlie Deasy
8H Jack Hogarth
8J Katie Ma
8K Irfan Idris
8L Ben Gander
8M Harry Johnson

Year 9

9C Savannah Bacon
9D Hazel Gedney
9E Jessica Keep
9F Tommy West
9G Ben Fraser
9H Jake Prentice
9J Mark Ngailo
9K Bianca Zinzani
9L Leif Williams

Year 10

10C Charlie Partlow
10D Sam Calane
10E Olivia Littlewood
10F Ed Kelsall
10G Sofia Mehmet
10H Elliot Newman
10J Demi Taylor
10K Maddie Shand
10L Shemella Kamatari

Year 11

11C Sean Amieiro
11D Oliver Bailey
11E Ziggy Tah
11F Emily Neville
11G Ben Schofield
11H Karam Foad
11J Keanu Utomo
11K Alicia Schultz

HOA Stars of the Week

7F Rosalind Ong
7G Harjoen Mattu

Answers for the Literacy & Numeracy

Answer: K

Bonus: Can you make another puzzle like this one?

Answer:

It is a strange game, half the time it will land on heads first, and you will win £2.

Then a quarter of the time it will take 2 goes, and you will win £4.

An eighth of the time you will win £8

A sixteenth of the time you will win £16.

It's a very strange game, because if you add up all the prizes, multiplied by how likely they are to happen, you can say that the "expected amount" you would win is an infinite amount of money!