



Headteacher's Half Term Round-Up

Miss Concannon

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of this half-term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy and productive few weeks here at Hamilton School.

This term has been full of exciting activities, academic progress, and community-building. We have had many exciting new regular events at Hamilton, including workshops with Make Sense Theatre and Year 7 Resilience Workshops, along with many other things. We have also enjoyed a reptile visit which went down a storm with staff and students alike.

Looking ahead, next half-term will be just as eventful, with Year 10 work experience, Year 11 Mock exams along with the school supporting World Book Day and Comic Relief.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 24 February, refreshed and ready for the exciting challenges ahead.

Personal Development

Ms Biddiss

This term, Year 8 have been focusing on friendships and relationships, understanding what makes a good friend and what constitutes a healthy friendship. They have been engaged in useful discussion, asking and answering sensible questions

Years 9 and 10 have also been looking at relationships, going into more detail about healthy and unhealthy relationships, including friendships and romantic relationships. We have also looked at why people argue, and conflict resolution. I have been very impressed with their insightful contributions to discussion, and how their listening and turn-taking skills are improving.

Year 11 have been focusing on crime, looking at the different types of crime, including knife crime and gang culture. The students have shown a keen interest in the content of the sessions and we have had very interesting discussions.

Physical Education

Mrs Burford

Year 7 students have been looking at positive approaches to PE. Students are gaining an understanding of positive approaches to PE to ensure they get the most from their curriculum. Year 7 have been playing lots of badminton and even held a badminton tournament this week!

Year 8 students have all developed their knowledge of health and wellbeing focusing on warming up. Students are starting to understand the importance of a sufficient warm up before participating in physical activity. Students have been leading the warm up themselves which is great and is also allowing them to develop their leadership skills.

Year 9 students have focused on attitudes and behaviour in lessons and understanding the meaning of attitudes and behaviours and the difference between them. We have discussed how our behaviour and attitude can affect the sports we play.

Year 10 students are working well on their BTEC Sport coursework and are starting to finish their assignments within unit 2: Practical sports.

Year 11 students are finishing off their final unit for coursework and working on the information for their exam.

Science

Mr Woolford

Key Stage 3

This half term we have been looking at Circuits, learning how to build them and draw diagrams to represent them and trying to predict what would happen if the power was increased.

One of the other topics we have studied is forces and how we are effected by them. We have looked at contact and non-contact forces and what the difference is.



Key Stage

Year 10

This half term we have started the Physics GCSE. We have looked at energy, the different types and how to calculate how much energy is used or wasted. This has been followed by looking at some of the Physics of space including the formation and life cycle of stars.

Year 11

This half term we have been looking at the way organisms are organized from cells, tissues, organs and organ systems. We have looked at how the digestion system works, lungs and heart.

We have now moved onto Ecology and looking at how organisms interact with each other in natural environments and how organisms have adapted to exist there.



Life Skills

Ms Biddiss

This term, Years 8 and 9 started the term off looking at recycling all the different ways it's sorted. They learned about what happens to waste after it is collected from home, and we have discussed the ideas of 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink'. We then went on to look at how to do the laundry and recognise washing symbols. Students have really impressed me with their knowledge and I too have learnt what many of these symbols mean!

Years 10 and 11 have focused on Employability Skills and next steps. Not only have students been researching college courses and the necessary qualifications, but they have also been looking at their own interpersonal and intrapersonal skills, showing real insight and introspection. They have a clearer idea of the necessary skills for interviews, whether they are in person, online or over the phone.

Maths

Mr Ramsamy

Year 9

The focus for year 9 this term was number.

Key areas included:

- Order of operations (BIDMAS)
- The four operations involving fractions and decimals
- The equivalence of fractions, decimals and percentages

Pupils developed greater confidence in performing complex calculations and demonstrated an improved understanding of numerical relationships

Year 10

Year 10 tackled a variety of challenging yet essential topics, including:

- Linear equations
- Angles and bearings: Reading, interpreting and drawing bearings accurately
- Circle geometry: Understanding parts of a circle and applying formulae to calculate area, circumference and fractional parts of circles

Year 11

Year 11 worked diligently this half term, focusing on topics critical for their upcoming GCSE exams:

- Multiplicative reasoning: Including ratio and proportion, pressure density and volume
- Angle rules
- Vectors

Pupils displayed increased confidence in tackling multi-step problems.



Food Technology

Mr Bartenbach

Our students have been on a mouth-watering adventure over the past few weeks, whipping up some seriously delicious dishes!

We started off with fluffy American pancakes with ice cream, flipping them to perfection (with only a few landing on the floor!). Then, we turned up the heat with a fragrant Caribbean curry, packed with bold spices and flavours and smell from the Caribbean.

The students showed off their skills with a classic pie and banana bread, filling the kitchen with the most amazing smells. Things got even heartier with a proper cottage pie, and we wrapped up in style by making homemade pizzas, complete with all the toppings you can imagine.

From sweet treats to savoury feasts, our students have been cooking up a storm - watch out, future chefs in the making!





Ms Ejike joined Hamilton School on a part-time basis in September. Since January, Ms Ejike has been working full-time with us teaching English.

"I recently joined Hamilton School as an English teacher and am excited to work with the SEMH students here. I bring over a decade of experience in mainstream and SEN schools, helping students improve their literacy, communication skills, and confidence. My goal is to create a supportive learning environment where every child can achieve their potential."

This half term, most of our KS3 and KS4 students have explored a diverse range of non-fiction extracts and articles from the Victorian era, as well as 19th- and 20th-century texts. They have engaged with some thought-provoking topics such as immigration, royalty, and slavery, analysing how writers use language, structure, and persuasive techniques to engage readers. They developed some analytical, evaluative, and comparative writing skills.

Our **Villains in Literature** unit introduced students to infamous characters from *Frankenstein*, *Boy*, *Great Expectations*, and *Dr. Kalmenius*. They particularly enjoyed crafting their own horror stories, creating memorable villains, and explaining their character choices.

We are currently using extracts from around the world to explore different cultures, promote diversity and inclusion, and enhance comprehension and writing skills. As part of this, students recently created holiday adverts for a country of their choice, with some producing outstanding work.

Below are some extracts of the works produced.




CHINA

Come to China! It is the best Asian country to visit. China has it all from vibrant cities to masses of history, culture and immaculate sites to see.

Places to visit are: Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Guilin, Tay Ho, Phuong Hoang, the great wall of China, Beijing's forbidden city and Lijiang. There are many things you can do in China like eating good food, walking across the great wall, visit temples, see the terracotta army, see adorable pandas in Chengdu and visit the Guilin Lijiang national park. Now you know many amazing reasons to visit China so get to booking your flight NOW!


If you don't you will be missing out on some breathtaking experiences that you will remember for the rest of your life.



STORY

IT WAS A DARK, RAINY NIGHT IN GLASGOW AND THERE WAS A STORM. IT WAS VERY WINDY AND THE SOME TREES WERE BLOWING DOWN. THERE WAS A MEGA MANSION WHERE AN EVIL VILLAIN LIVED. THE MANSION WAS OLD BUT VERY LUXURIOUS. THE VILLAIN WAS GOING TO MONACO THE NEXT DAY TO DO SOME BUSINESS. THE VILLAINS ENEMY LIVED IN LONDON AND HE WAS GOING TO MONACO THE NEXT DAY AS WELL. THE VILLAIN IS A RETIRED ATHLETE WHO IS NOW A BUSINESS OWNER WHO MAKES HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS A YEAR. THE VILLAIN WANTED TO GO TO MONACO TO SPY ON HIS ENEMY. THE VILLAINS PRIVATE JET FLIGHT LEAVES AT 07:00 AND HIS ENEMY LEAVES LONDON AT 10:00.

THE VILLAIN WOKE UP THE NEXT DAY AND WENT STRAIGHT TO GLASGOW AIRPORT TO GET ON HIS PRIVATE JET. HE WENT TO MONACO AND WAITED IN THE AIRPORT FOR HIS ENEMY TO LAND AND DE BORED THE PLANE SO HE COULD SEE WHO HIS ENEMY IS WITH. WHEN HIS ENEMY ARRIVED HE CHECKED INTO A 5 STAR HOTEL AND WENT INTO THE PENTHOUSE SUITE. HIS ENEMY HAPPENED TO BOOK THE SAME HOTEL BUT THERE WAS ONLY ONE PENTHOUSE SUITE AND THE VILLAIN GOT IT. THEY BOTH TRANSPORTED THEIR YACHTS TO MONACO HARBOUR. THE VILLAINS ENEMY DIDN'T KNOW THE VILLAIN WAS THERE BUT THE VILLAIN KNEW THAT HIS ENEMY WAS THERE. THE VILLAINS YACHT CAN GO INTO SUBMARINE MODE AND IT HAS WEAPONS. THE VILLAIN WAS WAITING FOR HIS ENEMY TO GO ON HIS YACHT SO THE VILLAIN COULD FIRE MISSILES FROM HIS YACHT. BOTH OF THE PEOPLE WERE WEARING FANCY SUITES AND EXPENSIVE DIAMOND WATCHES.



Outdoor Education

Mr Russell

It's been a typically cold start to the year, but we've been keeping ourselves warm in outdoor learning in a variety of ways, from cosying up in hammocks, active climbing and play on our expanding multipurpose outdoor equipment to hot food, including pasta, pizza, chocolate brownie and burgers (all cooked on the fire of course!).

I've challenged the students to be resourceful with wet wood, cutting into it in order to get to the dry parts that will burn. We've done some more tool work and have made multiple shelters, including a particularly large one on an afternoon when the rain poured; we had a fantastic time rigging up a shelter and cooking under it, with all the boys joining in to get it set up quickly!



Art

Mr Woolford

In Art we have been exploring different elements of art including colours, shading and drawing. We have experimented using cardboard as material. Using the artwork of Eduardo Paolozzi we have designed and created some heads from cardboard.

In Key Stage 4 we have been working on individual projects such as the canvas pictured, using bold colours and geometric shapes.



Year 7

Ms Whalley

This term, Year 7 have continued to work on learning how to deal with their own emotions and building relationships in their classes and the school; it has been lovely to see the students interacting positively with each other.

In English we have been looking at different types of poetry and having a go at writing our own, while in Maths we have continued to consolidate our knowledge of number bonds and times tables, and trying out strategies for multiplication and division.

We have been egg-sperimenting in Science, with the students planning the best way to protect an egg from the effects of gravity, as part of our forces topic. There was bubble wrap, fabric, newspaper, kitchen towel, balloons and even a couple of parachutes involved, before the eggs were thrown up in the air and left to their fate.

In Personal Development, our focus has been on dreams and goals for the future, and how to achieve them, while in Life Skills we have looked at finances, specifically banking and that all-important budgeting, of course accompanied by a cup of tea.



Buddie Gru had the flu,
He sneezed and then the crowd grew,
He found out that the so-called flu,
Was not true.



*Minecraft is the best game
Other games are really lame,
You could never get bored of playing,
By the end of it you'll be slaying.*

*Ronaldo is the best football player
Over running his opponent
Nobody can ever run him
And scoring again
Left winger prodigy
Dives into the box for headers
Overlapping his opponent*





Reward Trips & Events

Miss Millward



A massive well done to all of our students for working so hard towards their reward points this half term!

Thursday 13 February was Reward Day and a great day was had by all.

We had a Dropzone Gaming's bus come to school for the Gold reward, followed by a McDonalds. It was a hit - our students had a great time!

Silver reward students went to the crucible to play pool, and our Bronze reward students played games on the XBox at school.

Please encourage your children to keep working towards their points. The more points they earn, the higher the level of trip they will go on at the end of next half term!



Reptile Visit

Miss Millward

We loved our visit from Kennedy Reptiles this half term! All of our students engaged so respectfully and positively with a range of snakes, lizards, and other small animals and their handlers.



Transition to Hamilton School

Miss Ward & Mr Versace

On 30th January, we were thrilled to welcome families to our Open Evening who were either looking to attend Hamilton this coming September, or have been offered a place This included representatives of our first cohort to include girls.

It was lovely to meet some prospective students, along with their families, and the perfect occasion to showcase the hard work of our staff and students, as well as proudly presenting the opportunities, options, and activities available to students.

The parents and students themselves were shown around the school and introduced to various members of staff who were keen to greet them. Our visitors expressed how satisfied and impressed they were with the staff and the facilities that the school provides.

Transition to Hamilton is a carefully considered approach and we look forward to the process that will take place over the next few months to prepare our new Year 7 students for their start in September.

For any enquiries relating to Year 7 placements for September or the Transition process in general, please contact Miss Hayley Ward, our Office Manager, on h.ward@maidenerlegtrust.org

Attendance & Absence

Reducing student absence at Hamilton is our priority. Missing school damages a pupils attainment and disrupts school routines. Attending Hamilton helps students to develop their social skills, helps them to learn and grow, and gives our students a sense of belonging.

As parents and carers, we would like to encourage you to work together with us, as part of a team, to reduce absence and encourage attendance.

Overall attendance this term has been **61.8%**. During this time, a total of **312** days of learning have been lost to unauthorised absence: absence that has not been agreed by the school and is not related to illness or alternative educational activities.

If you provide transport for your child, or they make their own way to school, please ensure that they arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am to prevent a late mark.

For medical or dental appointments, please note that we will require proof of appointments.

If your child is unwell, please email hamadmin@maidenerleghtrust.org before 9am.

**Figures as of 13 February 2025*

Careers & Work Experience

Mr Versace

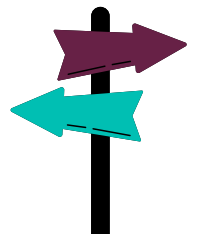
Visits to local colleges are currently taking place with small groups of Year 10 students, getting a taste of what college life is like. On Tuesday 4th of February, two students went with Mr Versace to Reading College, had a tour of the facilities to see the specific areas for courses of interest, and interacted with various staff members of the college. Visits to Bracknell & Wokingham College and Berkshire College of Agriculture are also planned for the near future for those students who've shown an interest in having a tour of those colleges.

We then have our careers advisor, Mrs Anna Finlason, coming in to school after the half-term holiday to meet with each Year 10 student to discuss their post-16 pathway and narrow down what their next steps may be. These discussions are hugely beneficial to help prepare students for the decisions they have to make in Year 11 when preparing for life after Hamilton.

The week beginning 10th of March will also see a group of Year 10 students going out to their work placements for the week to experience the world of work in industries that they've chosen to investigate ahead of post-16 decisions. Year 11 had this opportunity in November and those who participated found the experience invaluable in clarifying which college courses they wanted to apply for. The placements for Year 10 are currently being sought by the Education Business Partnership and students who are able will be visiting their placements in coming weeks to familiarise themselves with the placement before their work experience begins.

Finally, the week beginning the 10th of February sees National Apprenticeship Week being celebrated at school with a range of tutor activities and a wealth of information being made available to students who may be interested in pursuing an apprenticeship as their post-16 option.

For any Careers enquiries, please feel free to get in touch with Mr Scott Versace on s.versace@maidenerleghtrust.org

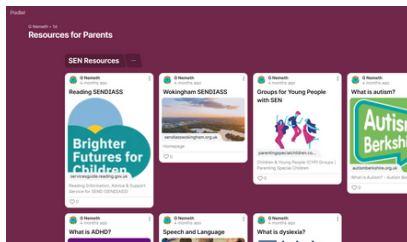


Parent Padlet

Mrs Nemeth

We would like to introduce you to [Parent Padlet](#).

Parent Padlet is an exciting new **free** resource base for all Hamilton parents and carers. It is packed with links to a wide range of resources, ranging from SENDIASS information, CAMHS resources, local information, parenting support groups and even food bank information.



We know that parenting, and life, can be challenging - so we hope that all our parents and carers will find this helpful as we support you.

We are, of course, always available by telephone and email during school hours also.

Please see the new class timetables, effective after half term



7SV	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon	Breakfast	Tutor MR VERSACE T1	English MR VERSACE T1	Maths MR VERSACE T1	Break	Reading MR VERSACE T1	Art Art Room	Lunch	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Zones of Regulation MR VERSACE T1
Tues	Breakfast	Tutor MR VERSACE T1	English MR VERSACE T1	Maths MR VERSACE T1	Break	Reading MR VERSACE T1	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Lunch	Science MR VERSACE T1	Life Skills MR VERSACE T1
Wed	Breakfast	Tutor MR VERSACE T2	English MR VERSACE T2	Maths MR VERSACE T2	Break	Reading MR VERSACE T2	Art Art Room	Lunch	Personal Development MR VERSACE T2	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Thurs	Breakfast	Tutor MR VERSACE T1	English MR VERSACE T1	Maths MR VERSACE T1	Break	Reading MR VERSACE T1	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Lunch	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room
Fri	Breakfast	Tutor MR VERSACE T2	Science MR VERSACE T2	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Break	Reading MR VERSACE T2	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Lunch	ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

FEB 2025

7SW	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon	Breakfast	Tutor MS WHALLEY T2	English MS WHALLEY T2	Maths MS WHALLEY T2	Break	Reading MS WHALLEY T2	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Lunch	Science MS WHALLEY T2	Zones of Regulation MS WHALLEY T2
Tues	Breakfast	Tutor MS WHALLEY T2	English MS WHALLEY T2	Maths MS WHALLEY T2	Break	Reading MS WHALLEY T2	Life Skills MS WHALLEY T2	Lunch	Art Art Room	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Wed	Breakfast	Tutor MS WHALLEY T2	English MS WHALLEY T2	Maths MS WHALLEY T2	Break	Reading MS WHALLEY T2	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Science	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room
Thurs	Breakfast	Tutor MS WHALLEY T2	English MS WHALLEY T2	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Break	Reading MS WHALLEY T2	Art Art Room	Lunch	Personal Development MS WHALLEY T2	Science MS WHALLEY T2
Fri	Breakfast	Tutor MS WHALLEY T2	Science MS WHALLEY T2	Maths MS WHALLEY T2	Break	Reading MS WHALLEY T2	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Lunch	ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

FEB 2025

8YR	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00– 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon	Breakfast MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Tutor Mrs Burford Lower 2	Science Mrs Burford Science 2	Art Art Room	Break	Reading MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	English Dr Corfield Upper 2	Lunch	Maths Miss Concannon Lower 4	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Tues	Breakfast MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Tutor MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Life Skills Ms Bidiss Lower 1	Art Art Room	Break	Reading MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Maths Miss Concannon Lower 4	Lunch	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room
Wed	Breakfast MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Tutor MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	English Dr Corfield Upper 2	Science Mrs Burford Science 2	Break	Reading MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1	Lunch	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3
Thurs	Breakfast MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Tutor MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Science Mrs Burford Upper 2	Computing Ms Whalley Upper 2	Break	Reading MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	English Dr Corfield Upper 2	Lunch	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Maths Miss Concannon Lower 4
Fri	Breakfast MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Tutor MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1	Maths Miss Concannon Lower 4	Break	Reading MR RAMSAMY LOWER 2	English Dr Corfield Upper 2	Lunch	Enrichment ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

FEB 2025

9SB	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00– 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon	Breakfast MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Tutor MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Break	Reading MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1	Lunch	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2
Tues	Breakfast MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Tutor MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Art Art Room	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1	Break	Reading MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	English Ms Ejke Lower 3	Lunch	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 3
Wed	Breakfast MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Tutor MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 3	Life Skills Ms Bidiss Life Skills Room	Break	Reading MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Lunch	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1
Thurs	Breakfast MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Tutor MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Break	Reading MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1	Lunch	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1
Fri	Breakfast MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Tutor MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Art Art Room	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Break	Reading MR BARTENBACH LOWER 4	Computing Miss Concannon Upper 2	Lunch	Enrichment ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

FEB 2025

9ST	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00– 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon	Breakfast MS TYRER UPPER 2	Tutor MS TYRER UPPER 2	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1	Break	Reading MS TYRER UPPER 2	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2	Lunch	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3	Outdoor Education Mr Russell Lower 3
Tues	Breakfast MS TYRER UPPER 2	Tutor MS TYRER UPPER 2	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Break	Reading MS TYRER UPPER 2	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1	Lunch	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1	Art Art Room
Wed	Breakfast MS TYRER UPPER 2	Tutor MS TYRER UPPER 2	Life Skills Ms Bidiss Life Skills Room	Science Mrs Anchan Science 1	Break	Reading MS TYRER UPPER 2	Computing Ms Whalley Upper 2	Lunch	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2	English Ms Ejke Upper 3
Thurs	Breakfast MS TYRER UPPER 2	Tutor MS TYRER UPPER 2	Personal Development Ms Bidiss Lower 1	PE Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Break	Reading MS TYRER UPPER 2	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Lunch	Art Art Room	Maths Mr Ramsamy Lower 2
Fri	Breakfast MS TYRER UPPER 2	Tutor MS TYRER UPPER 2	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Food Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Break	Reading MS TYRER UPPER 2	English Ms Ejke Upper 3	Lunch	Enrichment ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

FEB 2025

10RR	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon										
	Breakfast	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Break	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Lunch	Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Mr Bartenbach Food Room
Tues										
	Breakfast	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Break	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mr Woodford or Mrs Burford	Lunch	Mr Russell Lower 3	Mr Russell Lower 3
Wed										
	Breakfast	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Break	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Lunch	Mr Woodford Art Room	Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Thurs										
	Breakfast	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Mrs Biddiss Lower 1	Break	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Lunch	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Mrs Anchan Science 1
Fri										
	Breakfast	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Ms Biddiss Life Skills Room	Break	MR RUSSELL LOWER 3	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Lunch	ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

10CB	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon										
	Breakfast	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Break	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Mrs Burford Sports Hall	Lunch	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Ms Biddiss Lower 1
Tues										
	Breakfast	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Break	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Mr Woodford or Mrs Burford	Lunch	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Mrs Anchan Science 1
Wed										
	Breakfast	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Break	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Lunch	Mr Woodford Art Room	Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Thurs										
	Breakfast	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Break	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Lunch	Mr Russell Lower 3	Mr Russell Lower 3
Fri										
	Breakfast	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Ms Ejike Lower 3	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Break	MS BIDDISS LOWER 1	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Lunch	ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	

10AE is now 10CB,
with Ms Biddiss as Tutor

Y11	Breakfast	Tutor	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Break	Reading	Lesson 3	Lunch	Lesson 4	Lesson 5
	8:30 – 8:45	8:45 – 9:15	9:15 – 10:00	10:00 – 10:45	10:45 – 11:05	11:05 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:10	12:15 – 12:55	12:55 – 13:40	13:40 – 14:25
Mon										
	Breakfast	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Break	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Lunch	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3
Tues										
	Breakfast	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Break	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mr Woodford or Mrs Burford	Lunch	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Ms Biddiss Lower 1
Wed										
	Breakfast	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Mr Bartenbach Food Room	Break	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Lunch	Mr Woodford Art Room	Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Thurs										
	Breakfast	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mrs Anchan Science 1	Ms Ejike Upper 3	Break	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mr Ramsay Lower 2	Lunch	Ms Biddiss Life Skills	Mrs Burford Sports Hall
Fri										
	Breakfast	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Mr Russell Lower 3	Mr Russell Lower 3	Break	MRS ANCHAN SCIENCE 1	Ms Biddiss Lower 1	Lunch	ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES	




All class timetables can be found on our website, [here](#). If you need to contact your child's tutor at any time, please contact the office on 0118 937 5524 or email hamadmin@maidenerleghtrust.org.



Information, support and services for Reading's children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families.



Contact

-  0118 937 3777 (option 2)
-  localoffer@reading.gov.uk
-  @ReadingLocalOffer

Visit www.readingsendlocaloffer.org

Mental Health Support Team Workshop

RAISING YOUR CHILD'S SELF-ESTEEM




Is your child struggling with feelings of low self-worth?

DO THEY:

- not recognise their strengths?
- compare themselves to others?
- lack self-confidence?

Parents/carers/professionals, join us for advice on how to support your child, or children you work with.

 **Thursday, 13 March 2025**

 **9.30-11am**

 **Online via MS Teams**

Scan the QR code to book or register your interest for future dates.

Or, email MHST@brighterfuturesforchildren.org



Visit our site for more information about the service www.brighterfuturesforchildren.org/YPMHST



Brighter Futures for Children have created a **February Half Term holiday activities** page on the Family Information Service (FIS) website. Please use the following link to view [Reading Directory | Activities in Reading during February Half Term 2025](#)

General Holiday Activities can be found on the following search list: [Search Results | Reading Services Guide](#)

Childcare: for parent carers who need information on childcare, holiday clubs, childminders etc for the school holiday – www.readingfis.org/childcare

Early Help: <https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/early-help/>



SEND support group for parent-carers and families of children with additional needs

No diagnosis, EHCP or documents needed.
No age, gender, religious, sexuality or disability restrictions



www.fifisvision.co.uk



Sport In Mind

Sport in Mind® is an award winning mental health charity... with a simple mission:

"To improve the lives of people experiencing mental health problems through sport and physical activity"

Sport in Mind run **FREE** sessions across Berkshire every week for young people and also adults.



SCAN HERE

Reading

FREE!



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.

Reading Sessions (Spring term)

Day	Time	Activity	Age	Venue
Mon	5:00 - 6:00pm	Football	10-14 years	Palmer Park 3G pitch
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 - 5:35pm	Tennis & games	10-14 years	Meadway Sports Centre (inside)
Thur	4:00 - 5:00pm	Yoga, Dance & Movement	12-16 years	Loddon Valley Leisure Centre (studio)
Fri	4:30-5:30pm	Sport & Games	9-13 years	Morgan Centre, Queen Anne's School

Sessions restart from Monday 6th January and run weekly excluding school holidays

@sportinmind | youth@sportinmind.org | www.sportinmind.org | 01189479762



Working in partnership with



February 2025

Reading & Wokingham

"We are Sport in Mind - the charity that uses sport and physical activity to improve the lives of people experiencing mental health problems". Our sessions take place every week, all year around. To find out more about sessions near you, check out our Activity Map on sportinmind.org or contact Claire on 0118 947 9762!

Reading Sessions

Day	Time	Activity	Instructor	Venue
Mon	11-12PM	Walk	Christine	Meet in the middle of Christchurch Foot Bridge, Caversham, Reading RG4 8BY
Mon	2-3PM	Yoga	Julie	Meadway Sports Centre, Conwy CL, Reading RG30 4BZ
Tues	2-3:30PM	Football	Ashley	Football Courts, Prospect Park, Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2ND
Weds	12-1PM	Badminton & Table Tennis	Vikkie	Sports Hall, Rivermead Leisure Centre, Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ
Weds	3:30-4:30PM	Tai Chi	Steve	Museum of English Rural Life, 6 Redlands Road, RG1 5EX
Thurs	1-2PM	Tennis	Nick / Alison	Tennis Dome (indoor tennis courts), Reading University, Shinfield Rd, RG2 7BW
Thurs	6:30-7:15PM	log & Walk	Sally / Izzy	Meet near statue, Palmer Park, RG6 1LF

Wokingham Sessions

Day	Time	Activity	Instructor	Venue
Mon	12-1PM	Badminton & Table Tennis	Mano	Woodford Park Leisure Centre, Haddon Drive, Woodley, RG5 4LY
Fri	2-3PM	Badminton & Table Tennis	Mano	Wokingham Leisure Centre, Wellington Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AF

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Attendee Sign-Up



To view **Sport in Mind's** monthly programmes for other areas, please click [here](#) for youth, and [here](#) for adults.

WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

New drop-in group to:

Connect with other parents, talk about mental health challenges & feel supported

Parents of any age children welcome

24th February & 24th March - 10am to 11.30am
Weller Centre, 110 Amersham Road, Caversham

Email us: compassopportunities@reading.gov.uk





A new type of Food Bank in your area!

When you become a member of a Pantry, in exchange for a small weekly subscription (£5) you will have access to food that you choose, including fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and store cupboard favourites, which will be worth on average £21 more than your 'pay as you shop' membership payment.

There are several pantries in the Reading area. Membership is open to those on benefits or low incomes who live in each catchment area. Proof of benefits / income is required to become a member, along with proof of address. For a Pantry in your area, please click on the areas below:

- [Reading Coley Park](#)
- [Reading Norcot](#)
- [Reading Pavilion](#)
- [Reading Southcote](#)
- [Reading Wesley](#)
- [Reading Whitley Wood](#)



Include Me2 Group for Young People with Additional Needs

Do you want to make a difference to mental health support in Wokingham and Reading?

Me2 Club help young people become mental health champions. We support you to look after your own mental health and support others.

Open to Reading and Wokingham young people with additional needs aged 10 - 20 years.

Enjoy takeaways & £10 vouchers for pieces of work the group do.



Proudly supporting youth social action

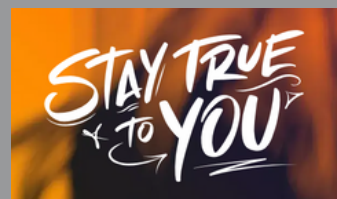


WOKINGHAM, READING & BRACKNELL ROCKS™

For details of half term events taking place in and around your area, please take a look at the 'ROCKS' sites below.

- Wokingham:** www.wokinghamrocks.co.uk
- Reading:** www.reading-rocks.co.uk
- Bracknell:** www.bracknellrocks.co.uk
- Windsor:** www.windsorrocks.co.uk

Many of these events are FREE!



Stay True to You is a website with information and resources that have been developed by Thames Valley Violence Prevention Partnership.

We know parents want to keep their children safe, and that at the same time conversations about safety can be difficult. We also know that with the right support and advice from the adults they trust, young people want to, and do, make the right choices.

You can help them stay true to themselves, and build their confidence about the right thing to do – so they can trust their instincts and make their own positive decisions, knowing that there is always someone they can turn to.

We're not here to tell you how to parent. Just to share the approaches young people and youth workers have told us work best when having difficult conversations.

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97
DAYS

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger *does* connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

@wake_up_weds

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.11.2024

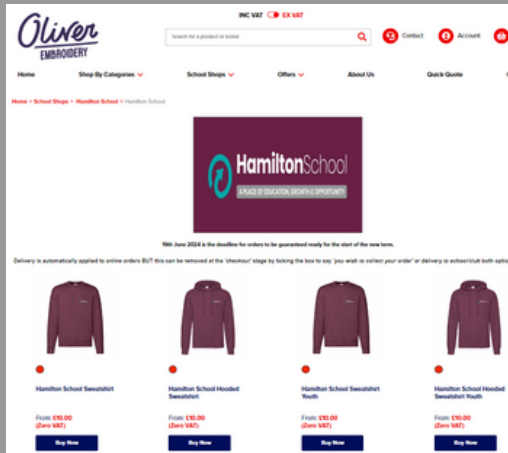
School Uniform

Every child was supplied with a new school jumper in September.

If your child has lost their jumper, or would like a hoody instead, these may be purchased at a heavily subsidised rate of £10 per item, including delivery either directly to school or to your home address.

If your child arrives at school without the correct uniform, they will be loaned a jumper for the day. These jumpers are 'pre-loved' from our store and are not brand new.

We will expect these to be returned to school and only used until a student's own jumper is found or purchased.



Please click [here](#) to access the online shop. If you have any issues with this, please contact the school office.

Dates for Next Half Term:

Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February	Half Term - school closed to all students
Monday 24 February	All students return to school
Thursday 27 February	Year 10 Post-16 destination interviews with Mrs Finlason, Maiden Erlegh Trust Careers Advisor
Friday 28 February	Inset Day - School closed to all students
Week commencing 10 March	Year 11 Mock Exams
Wednesday 13 March	NHS Berkshire School Team visiting - Year 9 Immunisations and catch-up session
Wednesday 26 March	Parents' Evening - 3-6pm
Friday 4 April	Inset Day - school closed to all students
Monday 7 April - Monday 21 April	Easter Holidays - school closed to all students
Tuesday 22 April	All students return to school

Wishing all our families a happy and healthy Half Term break.

We look forward to welcoming all students back with us on Monday 24 February.

Our News Feed: [Latest News](#)

Term Dates: [Hamilton School Term Dates](#)

School Timings: [Our School Day](#)

Parent Help & Support: [Information](#)

Class Timetables: [Timetables](#)

Letters for Parents: [Letters](#)

Maiden Erlegh Trust Vacancies: [Vacancies](#)

About Hamilton School: [About Us](#)

We would love to hear your views on Hamilton School. Please click below to highlight anything you feel our school has done particularly well recently, or areas you feel we need to improve, as well as a chance to nominate a member of staff you feel has exceeded your expectations. Click on the links below to submit your feedback:

