



# Headmaster's Weekly Bulletin

9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

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## Introduction

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

## Euro Predictions



Winston correctly predicted all the results of the quarter-finals and semi-finals. He has informed us that England will be victorious on Sunday 11 July. I hope that he is correct.

## All Years – Summer Term 2021

### School Reports

After ensuring the integrity and accuracy of Teacher Assessed Grades for Years 11 and 13, we are grateful for the immense efforts of the teaching staff for marking and feeding back to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 students on their end of year examinations with short timescales.

These reports contain valuable advice on each individual student's next steps, and we hope every student will find their report useful. We are proud of the achievements of all of our students in what has been a challenging year. Reports will be published to parents via MCAS by the end of term.

### End of Term Arrangements

On Wednesday July 14<sup>th</sup> following Period 4, day boys will be dismissed when tutors are satisfied with the tidiness of their form rooms and the surrounding area. The format of the day on 14<sup>th</sup> July will be:

Period 1 – 4 as normal.

10.45am – Tutor time – clear up rooms and remove personal items.

11.00am – dismissal

11.00am – Boarders to clear rooms– boarding houses locked at 12.00pm

### Start of Term Arrangements

We are currently reviewing Government advice and will communicate start of term arrangements next week. It remains probable that in the first week of term there is some disruption for the completion of lateral flow tests, and that there may be adjustments to plans as late as the end of August.

### LRC Book Amnesty

There are currently 660 overdue LRC books. We still have time to reduce this number to zero by the end of term. Overdue notices were emailed to pupils this morning. Sometimes this email goes into the Junk folder, so it is a good idea to check there.

Pupils can also check what they have on loan by using our library management system, called [Oliver](#). To login, they need to use their computer username eg z00123 and the password is password. Alternatively they can visit the LRC to check their accounts. We are not charging fines at the moment, so there are no overdue charges for late books. If your son thinks he has lost a book, we are happy to accept a replacement copy (used good quality items are fine). If you son thinks he has returned the book or if he has any other query, he should email [lkeSTEVEN@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:lkeSTEVEN@reading-school.co.uk).

## Vacation Loans

Pupils are encouraged to keep reading over the summer. Books can be borrowed over the holidays. All pupils also have access to our ebook platform, VLeBooks. To access our ebook library, go to [www.vlebooks.com](http://www.vlebooks.com) and click Office 365 to login.

## Job Vacancy

Please find below link to job vacancy from September 2021. If you know of anyone who is interested then please forward on:

[Student Services Administrator](#)

**Mr AM Robson**  
**Headmaster**

# Excellence

## Year 11 and Year 13 only

### A Level and GCSE Results

We are pleased to share information regarding arrangements for this year's collection of A level and GCSE results:

**A level Results Day: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August, 8.30am-9.30am** Information regarding arrangements can be found [here](#)

**GCSE Results Day: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 8.30am-9.30am** Information regarding arrangements can be found [here](#).

### Summer 2021 Appeals Process

It is hoped that Year 11 and Year 13 students are enjoying some much needed rest and relaxation time. We are informing you of the appeals process relating to your grades this summer.

Please find below links to a document explaining the process, and the form you need to complete if you decide to embark on a Centre Review, or, thereafter an Awarding Body Appeal. Please read both attachments carefully.

[TAG Appeals Form](#)

[Reading School Summer 2021 Appeals Process](#)

As a summary, some key details are as follows:

#### 1. What may happen to your grade during the centre review and appeals process?

If you request a centre review or an awarding organisation appeal there are three possible outcomes:

- Your original grade is lowered, so your final grade will be lower than the original grade you received.
- Your original grade is confirmed, so there is no change to your grade.
- Your original grade is raised, so your final grade will be higher than the original grade you received.

Once a finding has been made you cannot withdraw your request for a centre review or appeal. If your grade has been lowered you will not be able to revert back to the original grade you received on results day.

#### 2. What will be checked during a centre review?

You can ask the centre to check whether it made:

- a procedural error,
- an administrative error,
- or both.

A procedural error means a failure to follow the process set out in the School's policy. An administrative error means an error in recording your grade or submitting your grade to the awarding organisation.

You must request a centre review before you can request an awarding organisation appeal. This is so the awarding organisation is certain that your grade is as the centre intended.

#### 3. What will be checked during an awarding organisation appeal?

You can ask the awarding organisation to check whether the centre made a procedural or administrative error - or whether the awarding organisation itself made an administrative error. You can also ask the awarding organisation to check whether the academic judgement of the centre was unreasonable, either in the selection of evidence or the determination of your grade.

**4. When do I need to submit my request?**

You must submit a request for a centre review by 16 August 2021 for a priority appeal.  
You must submit a request for a non-priority centre review by 3 September 2021.  
Once you receive the outcome of your centre review, you must request a priority awarding organisation appeal by 23 August 2021.  
A non-priority awarding organisation appeal must be submitted by 17 September 2021.

**5. What is a priority appeal?**

A priority appeal is only for students applying to higher education who did not attain their first choice and wish to appeal an A level result. You should inform your intended higher education provider that you have requested a centre review or appeal. Your UCAS personal ID is needed to confirm that your place is dependent on the outcome of the appeal.

**6. How do I apply for a Centre Review or an awarding organisation appeal?**

Complete the form which is attached to this email and return it to [cevans@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:cevans@reading-school.co.uk).  
You must use the subject line *Centre Review* or *Awarding Organisation Appeal* in your email.

**7. How do I get my folders, files or notes back after results day?**

All notes, folders and files will be retained for scrutiny for priority appeal purposes until 09:00 on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August. Students who wish to collect their files, folders or notes are welcome to do so between 09:00 on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August and 12:00 on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August. Folders, files or notes not collected by this point will be recycled.

Year 13 students can also collect their files, folders or notes on Tuesday August 10<sup>th</sup> between 09:30 and 15:00 if they complete the following [form](#) confirming that they do not wish to appeal.

Year 11 students can also collect their files, folders or notes on Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup> between 09:30 and 15:00 if they complete the following [form](#) confirming that they do not wish to appeal.

# Integrity

## Safeguarding and Wellbeing

### Online Safety

Are you aware of what your child is accessing online? Take some time to have open and honest conversations with your child about their online presence.

**WHAT CAN PARENTS AND CARERS DO?**

<b>T</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>K</b>
TALK to your child about online sexual abuse. Start the conversation – and listen to their concerns.	AGREE ground rules about the way you use technology as a family.	LEARN about the platforms and apps your child loves. Take an interest in their online life.	KNOW how to use tools, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online.
<a href="#">Start talking</a>	<a href="#">Agree rules</a>	<a href="#">Find out more</a>	<a href="#">Use settings</a>

[TALK Checklist by Internet Watch Foundation | Home \(iwf.org.uk\)](#)

[Online safety home activity worksheets \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](#)

We would encourage our parents to look at the devices and apps that their children are using, specifically Discord. This is a public chat room with public servers where your child could see comments or images which worry or upset them or speak to people they do not know. Please check [Discord: A guide for parents \(net-aware.org.uk\)](#) for more information. The site [Safety Principles and Policies | Discord](#) was created by Discord and is an essential read for parents whose children are using the servers.

### Talking to your child about wellbeing

As a parent or carer, it can certainly be tricky to get the balance right to allow your child to open up and talk about how they are feeling. Choosing the right time for your child, using open questions and approachable language is often key but there is no doubt that teenage transition is difficult to navigate for all involved! Mind has some great resources for parents to provide support [Parents guide to support A-Z \(youngminds.org.uk\)](#)

### Returning to normality

FutureLearn have a great blog about social anxiety and returning to social situation.

[Overcoming Social Anxiety | How to Socialise After Lockdown](#)

### Summer Holidays Support

It may be that your child needs support over the summer. Please see the attached safeguarding flowchart and safeguarding signposting for students.

[Safeguarding Flowchart](#)

[Safeguarding Signposting for Students](#)

## Wellbeing Wednesdays

Make sure you follow us on Twitter to get weekly updates and inspiration for a healthy dose of wellbeing, for students as well as parents.

## Additional Guidance and Useful links

- [Childline | Childline](#) Offers 1:1 support and a guide to staying safe online for adults and children.
- [www.refuge.org.uk](http://www.refuge.org.uk) Help for women & children – for support against domestic violence
- <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> Referring concerns over online communication including sexual abuse
- [Find help - for parents \(youngminds.org.uk\)](http://youngminds.org.uk) Guidance on how to support a young person's mental health

Students also have access to a safeguarding flowchart on the student channel on Microsoft Teams, to talk them through options for disclosures about themselves or a friend or classmate, and what the outcomes and support possibilities might be. If you are concerned about a young person, talk to their tutor, Head of House, Mr D McGall (Assistant Head) or Mrs L Ayres (Assistant Head)

## Nursing Newsletter for Secondary Schools

Please see link to the attached newsletter from Berkshire Healthcare: [Nursing Newsletter](#)

# Leadership

## The Reading Way 2021-2022:

Our approach to character education continues to develop and grow, and we are grateful to staff for the range of provision they make possible. The attached document pulls together the various strands of our program and captures our collective intent.

The journey of character, and our efforts as staff and parents to guide students is key.

We encourage all parents and students to take the time to familiarise themselves with this document which will be key to much of our co-curricular and character work in the years ahead.

### [Reading Way Document](#)

## Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Electives: Michaelmas Term 2021

We are delighted to share with you details of the elective programme that is an essential component of our curriculum design for 2021. The term elective is used to describe specific lessons that form a part of the formal school day, in which participation is mandatory but where students can choose their preferred activities.

Students in Year 7&8 have access to four elective slots per week, during their first two years at Reading School. This provides them access to the broadest possible range of activities as they start their journey at Reading School.

Year 9 have access to one elective weekly, and Year 10 one skills-based elective every other week.

Electives run during Period 7, from 2.40 daily. Students in Year 7&8 take part in one activity, during each of the four elective slots offered to them; crucially they take responsibility for making their choices from the list of available activities. This gives them autonomy, encourages responsibility and particularly in Year 8, supports the journey towards the options process and Key Stage 4.

### The Elective curriculum:

Year 7 choose from a range of electives on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 8 choose from the list of electives on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 9 choose from the list of electives on Wednesday,

Year 10 take part in skills-based rotation on Tuesday every other week.

We are working to offer the broadest possible list of activities in the Michaelmas term: Each activity runs for a term, and students will take new electives each term. This breadth is an important feature of our co-curricular design and enables students to develop a genuine breadth of knowledge, skills and understanding.

We will review the range of activities offered termly and look forward to working with you to review and develop this exciting aspect of our curriculum. Students in Year 7, 8 & 9 will be making choices by the 12<sup>th</sup> July: links to the forms are provided below for parents and students in Year 7, entering Year 8. Students in Year 8, entering Year 9 will receive their form directly, via email on the 9<sup>th</sup> July with choices due by the 14<sup>th</sup>.

We will endeavour to fulfil students' requests; however, students may not always be given their first choice of activities.

### [Reading Way Electives](#)

We are proud to be able to offer such a rich and stretching curriculum and hope that through this elective programme every student will find curriculum strands that encourages their curiosity and broadens their horizons.

## Future Stories Extended Day provision for Year 7&8 students:

Before May half term we piloted an 'extended day provision' to a group of Year 7 students, running weekly from 1530 – 1800, offering a range of team building, sporting, and enrichment activities. The guiding principle of the program was to create a safe and stimulating environment in which we extended additional opportunities to our students. Following overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and further dialogue we are now working towards making this extended day provision an ongoing part of the school day.

The provision is likely to run twice weekly, depending on final demand and staffing.

### [Extended Day Provision](#)

## Summer Camps for Year 5, 6 and 7 students.

This summer we are running a series of summer camps supported by DfE funding to support students in their transition and wellbeing and to enable and extend the broadest possible range of opportunities both to our own students, to those starting in September and to those in Year 5 sitting the entrance test next year.

75 students have been offered places from Year 7 and these students will be onsite from 15-21<sup>st</sup> July.

133 students in Year 6 are currently signed up for camps running from 31<sup>st</sup> August to 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

30 students from our Year 5 Future Stories cohort will also be on site from the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

### [Summer Camp Guide](#)

## House Reading Quiz 2021

The House Reading Quiz took place in the LRC this week, with pupils from y7-10 and Y12 competing as a House as they sat in year group bubbles. It was great to be able to run this as an in-person event, with plenty of House spirit. The quiz was organised, designed and hosted by Head Pupil Librarian, Matthew 12BSA with support from the rest of the Pupil Librarian Team including Sid 9L, Adam 12ANC, Archie 12VGG and Niran 12ANC. We would like to thank the House Captains for working so hard to secure their House Teams. Here are the results:

1. County
2. School
3. East
4. Laud
5. West



Congratulations to the County Team: Adam 10C, Michael 12MRC, Pranav 8C, William 7C, William 9C

The photo is of the winning County Team: Adam 10C, Michael 12MRC, Pranav 8C, William 7C, William 9C

# Community

## Reading School Parents' Association

### **RSPA 2nd Hand Uniform Shop Opening – Saturday 17th July 2021**

The RSPA Second-Hand Uniform Shop will be opening on **Saturday 17th July from 10am until 1pm, in the Walled Car Park**. We have lots of shirts, trousers (2 for £5), base layers, rugby boots, trainers, outdoor coats and more in the Shop. There are also some new School hoodies still in stock (sizes - XS, S, L, XL). Please come and take a look.

All money made from sales is utilised to purchase additional resources for the school and benefit all our boys.

**Note:** From September 2021, Years 7-9 will be expected to have the Macron PE Kit. Years 10 -11 will be allowed to wear the current PE kit but any replacement items should be purchased from Macron as outlined in the Uniform Policy.

### **Donations Drop Off Drive Through Area**

There will be an area at the top of the driveway for a Drive-Thru Drop-Off where Shop volunteers will collect your donations from you.

### **Urgent Uniform Donations Needed**

The shop relies on donations of good quality Uniform that your sons have outgrown during the year. Items can be daily school uniform (especially blazers and ties), as well as games and PE sports kits (old and new styles, particularly the Macron kit), trainers, football/rugby boots, cricket gear, outdoor wear, labcoats and goggles.

### **Revision guides and non school text books**

We will also happily take good quality English Literature books, personally purchased text books, GCSE and A Level Revision guides and Workbooks.

### **Returning School Sports Kit, Text Books & Library Books**

If you still need to return any School Sports Kit, Textbooks, Library Books to the school, we will happily take these on the 17th and make sure they are returned to the appropriate departments. Please bag separately to any donations and mark for return to school.

### **Covid Awareness**

All parents are asked to wear masks on the school's premises at all times and to maintain Social Distancing. Parking will be allowed on the school's grounds on this date.

### **Shop Helpers Needed**

We are also looking for more kind parents who would be willing to help at future openings during the school year which are held on either a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. If you would be happy to be contacted to see if you have availability to do so, please drop a message to Jacqui Follen via ClassList or email [shop@readingschoolparents.co.uk](mailto:shop@readingschoolparents.co.uk)

### **Reading School Community.**

Congratulations to:

Mr W who won £34.20 on the 19th June  
Ms DC won £33.30 on the 26th June  
Ms W won £33.30 on the 3rd July

Thanks to all our lottery supporters, we really appreciate you!!

After 22 draws, I am pleased to announce that our lottery has now raised a whopping £1,020.40 towards the refectory hot plate for our boys. This will enable all day hot food availability for our hungry teenagers!

We can get this purchased and ready for September but we need YOUR help. Please click here and buy a lottery ticket for just £1!!!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/reading-school>

### **BAG 2 SCHOOL COLLECTION 17TH JULY 2021.**

Hi Parents at long last your houses and garages can breathe a sigh of relief! Please drive up the drive and drop off at the Chapel times for drop off 10am - 2pm.

Acceptable:-

Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing  
Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)  
Handbags  
Hats  
Bags  
Scarves and ties  
Jewellery  
Lingerie  
Socks  
Belts  
Soft toys  
Household linen  
Household curtains  
Household towels  
Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

We DO NOT accept:

Duvets and blankets  
Pillows and cushions  
Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)  
Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing  
School uniforms with and without logo  
Corporate clothing and workwear  
Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material.

### **RSPA Executive roles available at the next AGM:**

Available roles on the Executive Team include, but are not limited to: Chair, Assistant Chair, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Membership Secretary, Assistant Membership Secretary, Digital Manager, Assistant Digital Manager.  
Please email [Contactus@readingschoolparents.co.uk](mailto:Contactus@readingschoolparents.co.uk)

If you ever have any questions, want to offer your support to the RSPA or have some new ideas for the RSPA please reach out to [Contactus@readingschoolparents.co.uk](mailto:Contactus@readingschoolparents.co.uk)

### **RSPA Face Mask Appreciation**

Face Masks – For Sale all profits to the RSPA

We wanted to remind you that Kerry Kingston, a Year 8 parent, has been making hundreds of face masks over the last year and has generously offered to make and sell them in support of the Reading School Parents Association.

These masks can be ordered in any of house colours or the Reading School Navy Blue. The reusable masks are made with 3 layers and a sewn in filter, a wire for close fit over the nose and have adjustable ear ties, they are all cotton and machine washable.

The cost is £4 per mask or 2 for £7. All profit from these is going to the RSPA to further support fundraising projects at the school.

Please e-mail Kerry at [kerryobrien2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kerryobrien2004@yahoo.co.uk) Payment would be by bank transfer or PayPal and the masks can be posted or it may be possible to arrange collection at the student reception. The RSPA thank Kerry for her wonderful support and for helping us drive a culture of sustainability within the school.

## Kendrick School Vacancy

Kendrick School has a vacancy for a Senior Technical Engineer/Technician to join the school in September 2021. The role is full time but the hours and holidays can be flexible for the right applicant.

For more information please see the advert on our website via this [link](#). Please pass this information onto friends and family who may be interested in applying.