

HEATHNOTES

Encourage - Challenge - Succeed



ISSUE 124
9th January 2026

☎ 020 8498 5110 ✉ heathcoteschool@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk

🌐 www.heathcoteschool.com Facebook/Twitter @heathcotee4

CONTENTS

- 2 Notices/Reminders
- 5 Heathcote Reading
- 6 Year 7 News
- 7 Year 8 News
- 8 Year 9 News
- 9 Year 10 News
- 10 Year 11 News
- 11 Year 12 News
- 12 Year 13 News
- 13 Lunch Menu

**NEXT WEEK IS
TIMETABLE...**

A

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all.



We have had a strong start to the term. Pupils have returned focused, ready to learn, and engaged in lessons. It has been particularly pleasing to see them settle so quickly back into routines. I would also like to congratulate those pupils who resat their English and Maths exams in November and passed a fantastic achievement. Well done also to all pupils taking exams this week; we know the effort you have put in is significant, and we wish you every success.

Firstly, I would like to thank all parents for supporting us in ensuring that pupils' uniform is presentable and in line with our expectations, particularly with regards to tights. Your support has made a noticeable difference to the school environment, and we are very appreciative of your help in maintaining these high standards.

Thank you to Year 8 parents for attending the recent parents' evening this week. Your engagement and support are invaluable in helping pupils achieve their best.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind **Year 9 parents of the upcoming Parents' Evening/ Options fair** which is an important opportunity to speak with teachers about how your child is progressing and whether they are well suited to particular subjects as they move into the next stage of their education. There will also be a series of talks throughout the evening, designed to provide further information about the options process and to help you and your child make informed choices. Each department will be holding a stall where you can ask questions about the subjects on offer and speak directly with staff to gain a better understanding of course content and expectations.

Our **Sixth Form Open Evening** will take place on **14th January 5 - 7.30pm**, providing families with an opportunity to explore pathways for post-16 study. We welcome pupils in Year 10 and 11 from across the borough, to attend, so please share with other families.

I would also like to encourage all families to engage with the end of term reports to discuss your child's progress. Please remember to check your junk mail or the Arbor app to ensure you receive these reports, as they are an important tool for supporting learning at home.

Thank you again for your continued support. Together, we can help pupils maintain their focus and continue to achieve their best this term.

Warmest regards,

Sonia Close

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 14th January

Sixth Form Open Evening (5pm-7.30pm)

Friday 23rd January

Headteacher's Lunch Awards

Thursday 29th January

Year 9 Parents Evening & Option Fair

REMINDERS

- Breakfast Club pupils are expected to arrive and sign in via the main school reception before 8:15am - they will not be able to attend if they arrive after this time.
- Please ensure you download the Arbor App if you have not already done so. More information can be found here; <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/sections/201716749-Using-Parent-Portal-and-the-Arbor-App-as-a-parent>

Heathcote School & Science College, 96 Normanton Park, Chingford, London, E4 6ES

School Notices

Heathcote School & Science College Sixth Form Open Evening



Wednesday 14th January 2026

Book Now Using This QR Code

- Meet our teachers and pupils
- Explore our courses and pathways
- Tour our bespoke Sixth Form building
- Discover how we prepare you for success

5.00pm
to
7.30pm



For more information, please visit our website at;

<https://heathcoteschool.com/sixth-form/admissions/>

We look forward to seeing you!

Closing Date For Applications: Friday 6th March 2026

Heathcote School & Science College Sixth Form, 96 Normanton Park, Chingford, London, E4 6ES
Telephone: 020 8498 5110 Email: heathcote.sixthform@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk

School Notices

Heathcote School & Science College Sixth Form



Top Sixth Form in Waltham Forest for progress and attainment

**ALPS 3 rating
2025**

**Top 25% of
Sixth Forms
nationally**

**Scan the QR
Code To Apply**

Vocational Success
Majority of BTECs at
**Distinction /
Distinction***,
opening doors to top
destinations



**A Level Excellence
(2025):**

28% at A–A*

55% at A–B*

77% at A–C*

**Closing Date For
Applications:
Friday 6th March
2026**

For more information, please visit our website at;

<https://heathcoteschool.com/sixth-form/admissions/>

We look forward to seeing you!

Closing Date For Applications: Friday 6th March 2026

Heathcote School & Science College Sixth Form, 96 Normanton Park, Chingford, London, E4 6ES
Telephone: 020 8498 5110 Email: heathcote.sixthform@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk

School Notices

Trips & Enrichment

Upcoming trips for January and February are listed below—if your child has been invited, please ensure permission is given ASAP.

Date	Trip	Year Group
21st January	Introduction to Oxbridge	Yrs 9/10/11
15th/16th/19th January	Robo Workshops	Yr 7
13 th February	Epping Forest	Yr 7
13 th February	Paradox/Twist Museum	Yr 8
13 th February	Art and MFL Enrichment Day	Yr 10

After School Enrichment and Breakfast Club

All enrichment activities have restarted. Please encourage your child to attend breakfast club - we will be offering hot chocolate as a warm drink to help start the day on a positive note. Breakfast Club starts at **8.00am**.

Year 10/12 Work Experience

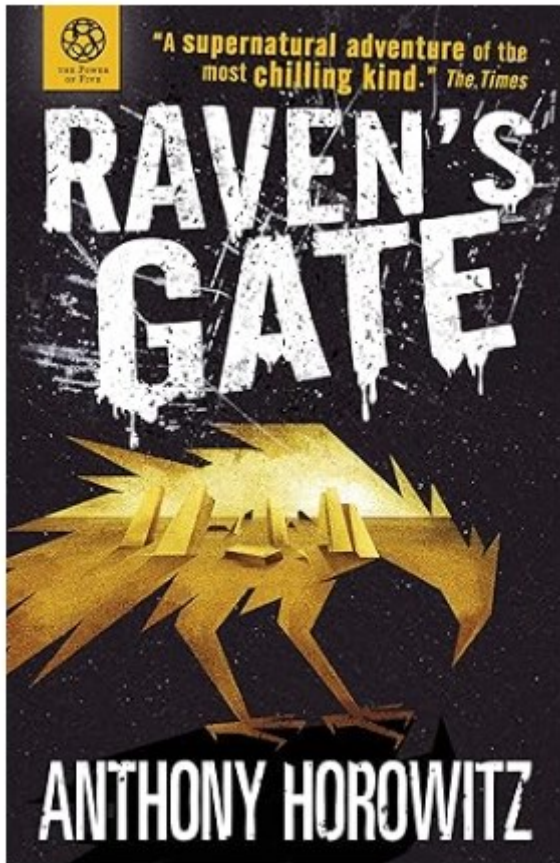
I sent parents a reminder that we are still in stage 1 of the work experience process where students find their own placements. The deadline is fast approaching so please reach out to friends and family to see if they can accommodate your child during the week of 29th June. The completed form needs to be returned to me asap. Once stage 1 deadline has passed, I will contact you to update you on the next stage - stage 2.

Ms Bashal



Reading at Heathcote

Heathcote's Book Of The Fortnight



Raven's Gate

By Anthony Horowitz

The first book in the bestselling fantasy series **The Power of Five** by Anthony Horowitz.

The first episode in **The Power of Five** series by the author of the bestselling **Alex Rider** series, Anthony Horowitz.

Matt has always known he has unusual powers. Raised in foster care, he is sent to Yorkshire on a rehabilitation programme, only to find himself in the midst of sinister goings-on.

Matt investigates and uncovers a terrible secret – eight guardians are protecting the world from the Old Ones,

beings banished long ago by five children. But devil worshippers want to let the Old Ones back in...

Raven's Gate is one of five books in the **Power of Five** series. If you enjoyed it, why not try **Evil Star**, **Nightrise**, **Necropolis** and the final book **Oblivion**...

Ms Nash

Librarian



Year 7 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
7.1	76	94.3%
7.2	74	95.7%
7.3	137	94.8%
7.4	102	93.4%
7.5	219	97.6%
7.6	187	95.2%

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break.

Firstly, a huge well done to all pupils who received awards last term during our reward assemblies. These achievements reflect the hard work and positive attitudes shown by our Year 7 cohort, I look forward to our next one on the 9th February.

Pupil reports were sent home at the end of last term. Please take time to discuss these with your child, celebrating successes and identifying areas for improvement. If you have any concerns or queries, I encourage you to contact your child's subject teacher directly in the first instance, as they are best suited to help with subject specific queries.

Year 7 pupils have returned in exceptional uniform this term, so thank you for your continued support with this. However, I have noticed a small number of pupils arriving at school without coats. As social times are spent outside, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and has warm clothing for break and lunchtime. If you need any support with this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Next week sees the launch of our **100% Club**, which celebrates pupils who have achieved 100% attendance and punctuality. Members of the club will be rewarded with priority entry to the lunch queue, as well as reward events later on in the year. I am pleased to say that the vast majority of Year 7 have excellent attendance and punctuality so far so please do keep this up! This resets every term so all pupils have the chance to join.

This week in tutor time, pupils have been focusing on creating New Year resolutions. Each pupil selected a personal focus area, such as attendance, punctuality, behaviour, or improving specific subject grades. They have also created a list of actions they will take to help them achieve their goal. Please do take some time to discuss their chosen resolution with them at home.

I would also like to remind parents about trip payments. For those pupils signed up for the **Gilwell Park trip**, the next instalment is due on **Friday 23rd January**. We deliberately avoided scheduling any payments during December due to Christmas and therefore did not want to place additional pressure on families at that time. However, there are still some payments outstanding from November. Please be aware that your child's place on the trip may be at risk if payments are not brought up to date, as we are unable to pay the external provider without receiving these instalments.

Finally, Year 7 **PrepareRobo workshops** will be taking place during the week beginning **14th January**. This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils, and the cost is **£4.60**. If you would like your child to participate, please ensure payment is made by **Friday 16th January** through Arbor.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Ms Clancey

Year 7 Lead



Year 8 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
8.1	59	90.9%
8.2	157	89.8%
8.3	62	91.7%
8.4	39	89.2%
8.5	136	93.8%
8.6	89	95.3%

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you everyone for your attendance at parents evening this week. It was a good opportunity to look at the pupil reports sent home at the end of last term. Please take time to discuss these with your child, celebrating successes and identifying areas for improvement. If you have any concerns or queries, I encourage you to contact your child's subject teacher directly in the first instance, as they are best suited to help with subject specific queries.

Year 8 pupils have returned in exceptional uniform this term, so thank you for your continued support with this. However, I have noticed a small number of pupils arriving at school without coats. As social times are spent outside, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and has warm clothing for break and lunchtime. If you need any support with this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Next week sees the launch of our **100% Club**, which celebrates pupils who have achieved 100% attendance and punctuality. Members of the club will be rewarded with priority entry to the lunch queue, as well as reward events later on in the year. I am pleased to say that the vast majority of Year 8 have excellent attendance and punctuality so far so please do keep this up! This resets every term so all pupils have the chance to join.

Ms Gasper
Year 8 Lead



Year 9 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
9.1	178	93.8%
9.2	141	97.1%
9.3	72	95.7%
9.4	74	87.8%
9.5	179	86.4%
9.6	169	91.2%
9.7	190	96.2%

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 9 Parents evening and option Fair. 29th January 2026

The Options and Parents' Evening is an important opportunity to speak with teachers about how your child is progressing and whether they are well suited to particular subjects as they move into the next stage of their education.

There will also be a series of talks throughout the evening, designed to provide further information about the options process and to help you and your child make informed choices.

Each department will be holding a stall where you can ask questions about the subjects on offer and speak directly with staff to gain a better understanding of course content and expectations.

We strongly encourage families to attend and take full advantage of the guidance available.

Thank you: Year 9 pupils have returned in exceptional uniform this term, so thank you for your continued support with this. However, I have noticed a small number of pupils arriving at school without coats. As social times are spent outside, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and has warm clothing for break and lunchtime. If you need any support with this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Pupil reports sent home at the end of last term. Please take time to discuss these with your child, celebrating successes and identifying areas for improvement. If you have any concerns or queries, I encourage you to contact your child's subject teacher directly in the first instance, as they are best suited to help with subject specific queries.

Next week sees the launch of our **100% Club**, which celebrates pupils who have achieved 100% attendance and punctuality. Members of the club will be rewarded with priority entry to the lunch queue, as well as reward events later on in the year. I am pleased to say that the vast majority of Year 9 have excellent attendance and punctuality so far so please do keep this up! This resets every term so all pupils have the chance to join.

Ms Apperley

Year 9 Lead



Year 10 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
10.1	166	87.0%
10.2	102	88.0%
10.3	162	92.9%
10.4	90	90.2%
10.5	250	96.6%
10.6	71	96.6%

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back – A Positive Start to the New Term

Welcome back, and happy new year to all our Year 10 students and their families. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and were able to spend some valuable time together. As we begin this new term, we are encouraging students to return with a positive mindset and a readiness to engage fully with their learning.

Some students may have felt disappointed with their recent exam results. While this is completely understandable, we hope these outcomes will serve as motivation rather than discouragement. Year 10 is an important year for developing effective study habits, resilience, and confidence. This term provides a fresh opportunity for students to refocus and commit to working to the very best of their ability.

To support students in achieving their potential, a range of additional support sessions are in place. If your child is on the list for **Science or Geography Intervention**, attendance is **compulsory** unless there is a genuine reason otherwise. Similarly, students invited to attend **Homework Club, Sparx Club, or Maths Mentoring** are expected to attend. If there are clashes with other activities (for example, Art Club), students should consider alternating between **Week A and Week B** where possible. We are offering this support now to ensure Year 10 students achieve the best possible GCSE grades. These extra sessions can make a significant difference and help keep post-16 options as wide as possible. Please encourage your child to attend.

A reminder regarding **work experience**: thank you to those who have already submitted their work experience forms. We continue to encourage pupils to find their own placements, which may include a family business or a parent's place of work where appropriate. Placements are most beneficial when they are tailored to a pupil's interests or potential future career goals.

Finally, a reminder about **uniform expectations**. As Ms Close has communicated, **thick black tights are now compulsory when wearing skirts**. Alternatively, students may wear **loose-fitting black trousers or black flares**. Thank you for your continued support in maintaining high standards.

Ms Page
Year 10 Lead



Year 11 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
11.1	94	83.9%
11.2	59	97.3%
11.3	70	93.3%
11.4	65	91.7%
11.5	118	85.4%
11.6	73	86.5%

Dear Parents/Carers,

We welcomed back year 11 after what we hope was a good opportunity for rest and recuperation and time to catch up on any outstanding work.

This term is their last full term at school, with the final units and topics being taught by staff and coursework submissions due. The term also includes the second challenge week for year 11 (23rd Jan- 5th Feb 2026), which will be their last formal assessments before the official exams. We therefore, encourage pupils to continue to attend booster sessions as directed and utilise the exam preparation support offered.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Just a gentle reminder, our sixth form opening evening is on Wednesday 14th January, 5pm-7.30pm. We would love to see you there.

Uniform Update

Just in case you missed the message from Ms Close; Tights must be worn if your child is wearing a skirt. The updated uniform list can be found at <https://heathcoteschool.com/parents/uniform/>

Leavers Hoodie

Please note, information will follow shortly regarding the option of purchasing a year 11 leavers hoodie.

Kind regards

Ms Lewis

Year 11 Lead



Year 12 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
12.1	1	91.3%
12.2	11	96.6%
12.3	10	99.4%
12.4	7	94.1%
12.5	27	91.3%

Dear Parents & Carers of Year 12,

Happy New Year. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable winter break.

As we begin a new term, pupils should be returning refreshed and ready for what will be a very busy period, packed with exciting opportunities.

Firstly, we would like to congratulate **Buse, Narin and Deniz** for attending an additional Turkish booster. They are working towards an additional qualification in Community Languages alongside other pupils, which is a fantastic achievement. Well done to each of you for your commitment.

Additionally, well done to **Nikola**, who has completed pharmacy work experience. It is excellent to see you taking such proactive and purposeful steps towards your future.

Key upcoming activities:

Upcoming Dates / Deadlines

Wednesday 14th January 2026: The Sixth Form Open Evening 5-7.30pm

Wednesday 21 January: Realising Opportunities - Welcome Launch Event on their campus (14 pupils)

Thursday 22nd January 2026 The Academy of Real Assets Year 12 Speed Networking Event 6:00–8:00 pm at Goodwin Law Office, Newgate Street, London. (5 pupils)

Thursday 22nd January - Academy of Real Assets in school workshop 9am-10.30 (25-30 pupils)

Monday 26th Jan at 12:45pm: In-school visit from Sidrah Zubair, London Outreach Officer, Gonville & Caius College

Tuesday 27th of January Academy of Real Assets trip visit to Tower 42.

Thursday 29th January 2026: Envision Mentoring Session 3.30-5.00pm (18 pupils)

Tuesday 3rd February 2026: Bancroft's annual Competitive Futures Options day for Year 12 students (10 pupils)

Tuesday 10th February: Cambridge University visit (10 pupils)

Please ensure you regularly check the calendar for upcoming trips and opportunities.

We also have the **Sixth Form Open Evening on 14th January**. All Year 12 pupils will be volunteering—thank you in advance for your support. It will be great to see you representing the school.

Challenge Week:

Overall, we have seen some strong outcomes this Challenge Week. However, there are a number of pupils who could have achieved more. This is a reminder that your timetable includes both independent and supervised study time, which should be used effectively. If this time is not used appropriately, it will be replaced with compulsory boosters and interventions.

General notices:

Attendance: As the weather gets colder, attendance remains a priority. A minimum of 95% attendance is expected.

Dress code: There has been a slip in uniform standards. Please ensure this is corrected; otherwise, lost property may be issued or pupils may be sent home. If you are unsure about uniform requirements, please refer to the student handbook.

Lanyards: Please remember to wear your lanyard at all times for safety reasons.

Thank you, and we wish you a successful and positive term ahead.

Ms Singh/Ms Ismail

Joint Year 12 Lead



Year 13 News

Form	Praise Points	Attendance
13.1	2	92.6%
13.2	14	85.9%
13.3	12	92.8%
13.4	14	98.2%
13.5	13	93.9%

Key Messages

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 13,

We would like to warmly welcome our Year 13 students and their families back after the half term break. This half term is an important one as students move firmly into the final phase of their A Level and vocational course.

University offers

Many pupils will start to receive their university offers in the coming weeks and months. It is important that pupils do not accept or reject any offers until they have received responses from all of their universities. Once pupils have received their offers, they will be required to pick a firm and insurance choice for their universities. The **firm choice** is the pupil's first choice university and course. This is the offer they most want to accept and the one they will attend if they meet the entry requirements on results day.

The **insurance choice** acts as a back-up. This should typically be a course with lower entry requirements than the firm choice. If a student does not meet the conditions of their firm offer but does meet those of their insurance offer, they will automatically be placed at their insurance university.

Upcoming exams in January

There are upcoming exams in January for various courses and pupils have already been informed of these if they are taking part in them. Additionally, challenge week exams will take place over a 2-week period from the week beginning the 26th of January. These assessments are an essential part of their preparation for the summer exams, helping teachers identify areas for further support. Students should use part of their break to revise steadily, balancing study with rest.

Contact Details

If you'd like to contact me via e-mail the address is: pmiltiadou@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk

Mr Miltiadou

Year 13 Lead



Lunch Menu

Week Beginning 12th January

WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN MEAL 1	Spicy Meatballs in a Tangy Tomato Sauce with Mixed Rice	Jerk Chicken with Italian Diced Potatoes	Lamb Rogan Josh with Mixed Rice & Naan Bread	Roast Chicken Chicken with Mash Potatoes & Gravy	MSC Fish Fingers or Bubble Crumb Salmon with Chipped Potatoes
Main Meal 2	Mexican Style Quorn Loaded Burrito (v)	Impossible Fillet Burger in a Floured Bun (ve)	Vegetable, Ginger & Garlic Stir Fry with Egg Noodles (v)	Quorn Chilli Dog with Tomato Salsa (ve)	Firecracker Pizza with Garlic Bread (v)
JACKET POTATO	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (v)(ve)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (v)(ve)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (v)(ve)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (v)(ve)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (v)(ve)
PASTA POT	Pasta King (ve) (v)	Pasta King (ve) (v)	Pasta King (ve)(v)	Pasta King (ve)(v)	Pasta King (ve) (v)
UNLIMITED VEGETABLES	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables & Baked Beans
UNLIMITED SEASONAL SALADS	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads
DESSERTS	Iced Sponge (v)	Apple Crumble (v) served with Custard (ve)(v)	Lemon Cheesecake (v)	Eton Mess (v)	Chocolate Sponge (v) with Chocolate Sauce (ve) (v)
Selection of Freshly Prepared Sandwiches/ Baguettes/ Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches. Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches. Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches. Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches. Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches. Baguettes & Wraps
FRESH FRUIT / YOGURT	Fresh Fruit/ Fruit Pots/ Organic Fruit Yogurt/Ice Cream tub	Fresh Fruit/ Fruit Pots/ Organic Fruit Yogurt/ Ice Cream tub	Fresh Fruit/ Fruit Pots/ Organic Fruit Yogurt/ Ice Cream tub	Fresh Fruit/ Fruit Pots/ Organic Fruit Yogurt/ Ice Cream tub	Fresh Fruit/ Fruit Pots/ Organic Fruit Yogurt/ Ice Cream tub
WATER AND FRUIT DRINKS	A selection of natural fruit drinks /milk shake / bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks /milk shake /bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks /milk shake /bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks /milk shake /bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks /milk shake /bottled water

Week Beginning 19th January

WEEK 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Curry Day	Thursday	FRIDAY
Main Meal	Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Spaghetti	Peri Peri Chicken with Jacket Wedges	Chicken Curry and Mixed Rice with Naan Bread	Cottage Pie with Gravy	MSC Deep Fried Fish or Fish Fingers with Chipped Potatoes
Main Meal	Vegetable Bolognese with Wholewheat Spaghetti (ve)	Jollof Rice (ve)	Mac n Cheese (v)	Impossible Chicken Noodles (v)	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Slice with Garlic Bread (v)
JACKET POTATO	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (ve)(v)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (ve)(v)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (ve)(v)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (ve)(v)	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings (ve)(v)
PASTA POTS	Pasta King (ve)(v)	Pasta King (ve)(v)	Pasta King (ve) (v)	Pasta King (ve) (v)	Pasta King (ve) (v)
VEGETABLES	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables
SEASONAL SALADS	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads	A variety of mixed salads
DESSERTS	Apple Pie (v) & Custard(v)(ve)	Banana Cake (v) & Custard (ve)(v)	Lemon Drizzle Cake (v)	Chocolate Cracknel (v)	Fruity Flapjack (ve)
FRESH FRUIT / YOGURT	Fresh Fruit (ve) / Fruit Pots (ve) /Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) /Ice Cream tub (v)	Fresh Fruit (ve) / Fruit Pots (ve) /Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) /Ice Cream tub (v)	Fresh Fruit (ve) / Fruit Pots (ve) /Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) /Ice Cream tub (v)	Fresh Fruit (ve) / Fruit Pots (ve) /Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) /Ice Cream tub (v)	Fresh Fruit (ve) / Fruit Pots (ve) /Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) /Ice Cream tub (v)
Selection of Freshly Prepared Sandwiches/ Baguettes/ Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps	Selection of Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps
WATER AND FRUIT DRINKS	A selection of natural fruit drinks/milk shake /bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks/milk shake /bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks/milk shake / bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks/milk shake / bottled water	A selection of natural fruit drinks/milk shake /bottled water