

Mystery trophy hunter strikes again

Silver trophies thought to be worth around £1000 have been stolen from Heythorpe School in Middle Bracton. This is the fourth school in the county to have been broken into and to lose its precious sports trophies.

“It’s heart-breaking,” headteacher Ms Humberstone said. “Some of the trophies are 50 years old but the children are more upset about our newest trophies. Last term, the football team won the local schools’ tournament for the first time in the school’s history and we were all especially proud of this cup.”

Police believed they had caught

the culprits on arrival at the scene but the suspects turned out to be two Year 7 children who had decided to begin the investigation themselves. They hid themselves away when the real detectives arrived.

“It’s very important that the public don’t try to do our job,” Detective Rachel Shelley said. “As it was, we were still able to collect the evidence we needed- but the children’s cocoa powder did not help.”

Fingerprints taken at the scene correspond with those at three other schools but unfortunately, they match none on police files.

2. Underline the words on the left in the text then match them to their meaning. (Remember to use the text to help you to understand it)

scene

people responsible for a crime

culprit

Person who might be responsible for a crime

suspects

match exactly or closely

correspond

The place where something has happened

3. Re-read the news report and answer the questions.

a) How much are the stolen trophies worth?

b) How old are the oldest trophies?

c) Who were the suspects and what were they actually doing?

d) Why is it important that the public do not try to investigate the crimes themselves?

e) How do we know that the same thieves are responsible for all the trophy thefts?

f) Why can’t the police use the fingerprints from the crime scene to find the criminals?

g) How many schools, in total, do we know have lost trophies to these thieves?

4. Think back to the information about the fingerprints and the detective story.

a) Where was one of the suspects hiding?

b) What were the suspects doing with cocoa powder?
