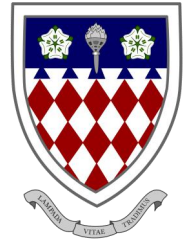


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

19th December 2024



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas – or so the song lyrics go – and it certainly has felt that way at the High School for the last couple of weeks at least. And finally here we are, the last day of the Autumn term! This week the Christmassy feel certainly went up a notch or two as we had the most amazing Christmas Concert and the Church Carol Service. Mr Garbett and the Music Department certainly put on brilliant performances at both events so thank you and well done to all who performed. Thank you also to the families who came along to support the Concert and made it a sell-out event. There were also a number of musical items, and not just the congregation singing carols, in Church this week and we all especially enjoyed signing along to Mr Pitts' musical Christmas recessional melody at the end of the service.

This week also marked the A Level Presentation afternoon and it was wonderful to see so many returning Year 13s in school to collect their A Level certificates, prizes and awards. Students may only have been gone from the High for a very short period of time but have already grown up so quickly and look so different.

The end of long terms often means that we say goodbye to staff leaving the High School and this term we sadly have to say farewell to Mrs Read and Mrs O'Brien.

Mrs O'Brien started work at Spalding High School on 1st September 2011.

During her time here in the careers department, she has worked on so many projects. She oversees Year 10 and Year 12 work experience which is a huge undertaking from planning, to liaising with students, parents and employers, being on call during the work experience week and sending out 'thank you' letters to all the employers.

She has also planned and written so many of the PSHCE careers lessons.

Her biggest challenge has been to train as our careers adviser which took her two years to achieve her qualification in Careers Guidance and Development. She did this as a degree apprenticeship at Bishop Grosseteste University in Lincoln, alongside her job at school. Conducting the one-to-one guidance appointments with students has been something Mrs O'Brien has excelled in and the students she has seen have really appreciated her guidance.

Mrs O'Brien, you are a truly kind, professional colleague who really cares about students. You will be missed but hopefully the procedures you have established in school will be your legacy.

We wish you happiness and every success in your new role as an Information, Advice, Guidance and Progression Officer working with adults for Lincolnshire County Council.

Mrs Read joined us on 9th May 2022 as our Senior Teaching Assistant in the SEND Department, and from the very beginning, she became an integral part of our school community. With her calm and understanding approach, Mrs Read quickly built strong relationships with staff, pupils, and parents, earning their trust and respect.

Over the past two years, Mrs Read and Mrs Hickman, our SENDCo, have worked closely together, sharing a vision for how we can best support our pupils with additional needs. Their collaboration has been at the heart of the SEND provision here, and Mrs Read's role has been essential in shaping the support we offer to our pupils.

One of the many things Mrs Read has excelled at is leading and managing our team of Teaching Assistants. She has been the steady hand behind the scenes, providing guidance and support to her colleagues through the constant changes and challenges that come with this role. Mrs Read has been the person everyone has turned to for support. Her dedication has ensured that the team runs smoothly and that everyone feels valued.

In her role, Mrs Read has also worked closely with Mrs Lees and Mrs Chandler during Guided Reading sessions. She has also supported Mrs Smith in managing the Access Arrangements for exams.

As our school's Emotional Literacy Support Assistant, Mrs Read has been a tireless advocate for our pupils. Pupils are naturally drawn to Mrs Read, not just because of her kindness and patience, but because she truly believes in them.

Mrs Read, we are all going to miss you more than you probably realise. We all wish you the very best of luck in your next role, and we have no doubt that you will bring the same calm, determination, and sense of humour to wherever you go next.

Thank you to both Mrs Read and Mrs O'Brien for their service to the School.

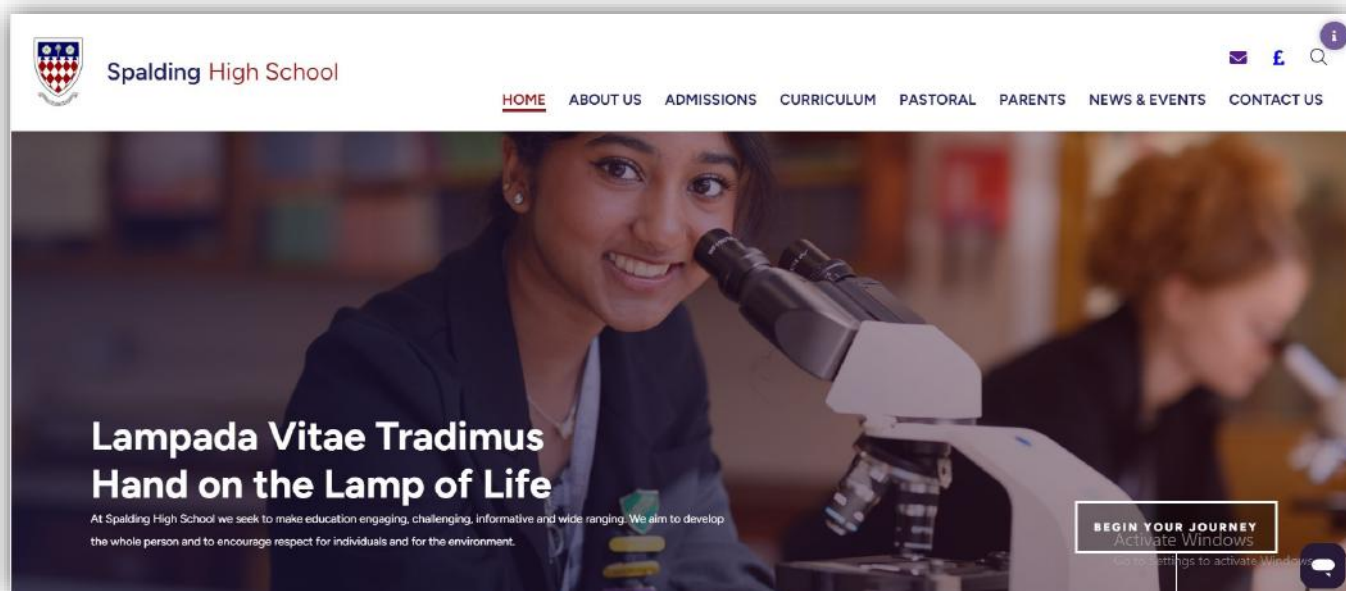
Whatever your plans for the Christmas holiday have a restful break and a happy and healthy 2025.

Merry Christmas.

M K Anderson, Headmistress

[SHS Website](#)

We are thrilled to announce that our brand-new School website has gone live! The updated website is designed to be more user-friendly, visually engaging, and packed with important information to keep you connected with all things happening at school. From event updates to important notices, it will be easier than ever to stay informed. We encourage you to explore the new site, and we look forward to hearing your feedback.



Mr Love, Assistant Headteacher

Student of The Week - Week Commencing 2nd December 2024

Please find below the latest 'Student of the Week' nominations. Nominations can be made by both teaching and support staff and can be subject related or community focused.

Form	Student	Staff	Reason
7C	Eva Steele	Miss Magnus	Community
7P	Lillie Smith	Mr Fovargue	Computer Science
7S	Iness Korcz	Mr Ganger	Mathematics
8J	Calleigh-Louise Carter	Ms Busby	Food and Nutrition
8N	Lacey Bourne	Mrs Spies	Community
8N	Lucy Kitchen	Miss Magnus	Physical Education
9C	Zofia Hemmant	Mr Garbett	Music
9C	Angel Kuveya	Mrs Knowles	German
9J	Prisha Rajesh	Mrs Neal	Art
9J	Aliyah Mohamed	Mrs J Lord	English
9J	Amber Wardill	Mrs Gregory	Physics
9J	Emily Webster	Mrs Lees	Library
9J	Emily Venclovaite	Mrs Martindale	Biology
9J	Connie Angus	Mr Murphy	Latin
9S	Ruby Mantle	Mr McAlinden	History
10C	Charlotte Smith	Mrs Nowak	Mathematics
10J	Sophie Callow	Mrs Aurikko	Community
10J	Melody Busveids	Mrs T Waldron	Biology
10N	Sasha Pretorius	Miss White	Chemistry
10N	Charlotte Codling	Mrs Tanner	Art
10N	Lola McAllister	Mrs Bushell	German
10P	Tilly Buck	Mr Hemsall	History
10P	Charlotte Shepherd	Mrs H Waldron	Religious Studies
10P	Charlotte Shepherd	Mrs Aurikko	Chemistry
10S	Freya Willerton	Mrs Rogers	Geography
10S	Isabella Wilkinson	Mrs Busfield	Biology
11P	Poppy Carr	Mrs Busfield	Community
11S	Libby Machin	Miss Bailey	German
6AF	Bella Li	Miss Ashley	Mathematics
6GD	Eleanor Lloyd	Mrs Cave	Classical Civilisation
6JL	Evie Ahearn	Mrs Lees	Community
6LM	Amelia Derewonko	Mrs C Lord	Mathematics
6NG	Cordi Mansfield	Mrs Gregory	Community
6NG	Katie Lorenz	Mrs Gregory	Community
6NG	Scarlett Phillips	Mrs Wilkins	Photography
6NG	Eloise Hodson	Miss Pettefar	English

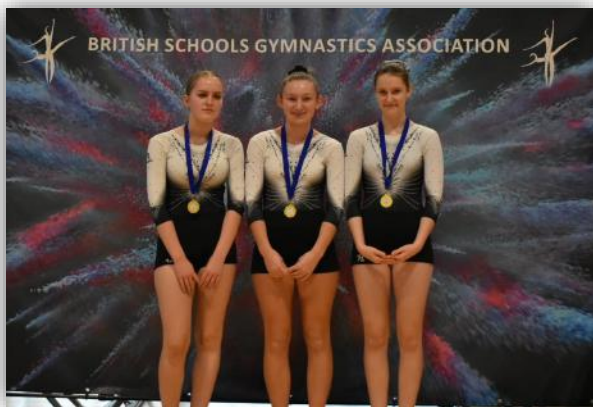
Sports News

East Midlands Regional Schools' Trampoline Championships 2024 – Sunday 1st December

Yr10-14 Girls Novice

- Laura Young-Hardy – Regional Champion & Zonal Qualifier – great performance from Laura with great control & execution for a deserved champion title.
- Karolina Gren – 10th – for Karolina to finish in the top ten of such a large group is some achievement and a great contribution to the team.
- Emma Bayes – 12th – such a good showing in a strong and large group is great for Emma who has stepped up her height and performances recently.

Spalding High Team – Laura, Emma, Karolina – Regional Champions & Zonal Qualifiers



Yr10-14 Girls' Elite

- Isla Saterlay – second & Zonal Qualifier – having pushed her time of flight on considerably recently Isla had the highest time of flight but did not quite execute her routines like she could but it is no stretch to say had she done so she would have walked this group and for her to still finish second and so close to the very strong performer in first is proof of that.
- Maisie Doyle – sixth – two excellent routines and great control with excellent contribution to her team.
- Karina Zokaite – seventh – did not manage to complete her set but had she done so, looking at her vol, she could have pushed herself into a qualifying place.

Spalding High Team – Isla, Maisie, Karina – Regional Champions & Zonal Qualifiers

Those finishing in the top three individually (Laura & Isla) and the top two teams (10-14 Girls' Novice & 10-14 Girls' Elite), have qualified to the Central Zonal Schools' Championships in Hinckley on 26th January 2025.

Isla judged execution all day at the competition and Karina acted as computer marshal.

Write up kindly provided by Kirsty and Andy Ringsell at Abbey High Fliers Trampoline & DMT Club



U14 Football

On Wednesday 4th December, the U14 football team travelled to West Bridgford near Nottingham to play in Round four of the ESFA National Cup. Despite a lot of early goalmouth scrambles, we were unable to find the back of the net until some excellent footwork led to a fantastic finish in the bottom corner from Lexi. West Bridgford grew into the game and tested goalkeeper Katie a few times before half time, but we were able to go into the break 1-0 up.

The second half saw an excellent hard-fought defensive performance, regaining possession from the opposition all over the pitch. Some last-ditch tackles and vital recovery runs saw us secure the 1-0 win and our place in Round five of the National Cup. Player of The Match goes to goalkeeper Katie who made numerous impressive saves to protect our 1-0 lead.



U14 Football County Cup

On Tuesday 10th December the U14 football team faced Deeping in the County Cup. With some injuries and illnesses in the team it was vital the present members played to their best. Despite dominating possession, we were unable to score in the first half of the game, with the Deeping goalkeeper making some good saves to prevent us taking the upper hand. However, an excellent individual performance from Annie saw her slot two tidy finishes into the back of the net in the second half, to secure our place in the next round. Congratulations also to Olivia for an excellent defensive performance and acting as real leader and inspiration to the younger teammates for her communication and positivity.



U15 Football

On Wednesday 11th December the U15 football team travelled to Hinchingsbrooke School, Huntingdon, for their ESFA fourth round fixture.

We started the game very well and looked like a real threat when attacking but were unable to convert the possession into any real goal scoring opportunities. We were defensively very strong with all four members of defense dominating their opponents and regaining possession of the ball to send us back on the attack. Freya and Ruby worked well in midfield to close down any Hinchingsbrooke attacks. Our Player of The Match was definitely Annabel, who despite feeling unwell, played the best game we have seen for the School teams. Annabel was coming out of every tackle, she went into with possession of the ball and dribbled quickly down the wide areas of the pitch to try and create chances. In the second half, Annabel's efforts were rewarded with what ended up being the game deciding goal.

The team will now go into round five of the National Cup in January to play Thorpe St Andrew School and VI Form, Norwich.



Miss Magnus, PE Department



Celebrating The Individual - Mia Clark-Atkins 8N

Mia competed in the finals of her Trampolining competition. She competed two routines improving on her score from last time and winning gold!

An amazing achievement Mia, well done! Keep up the hard work and I hope this will help you to continue growing in confidence with your Trampolining ability.

Miss Pascoe, Head of Y8



7C Dance Choreography

7C have worked hard this term on choreographing Charleston routines to 'Fat Sams Grand Slam' from Bugsy Malone.

Students were given key movements at the start of term and had to use a range of choreographic devices to develop the movements into a routine. They had to work on an engaging start and develop their performance qualities throughout to create an aesthetically pleasing performance.

I was really impressed with 7C's performances, well done!

Miss Pascoe, PE Department



Year 8 - Spread Christmas Cheer Challenge

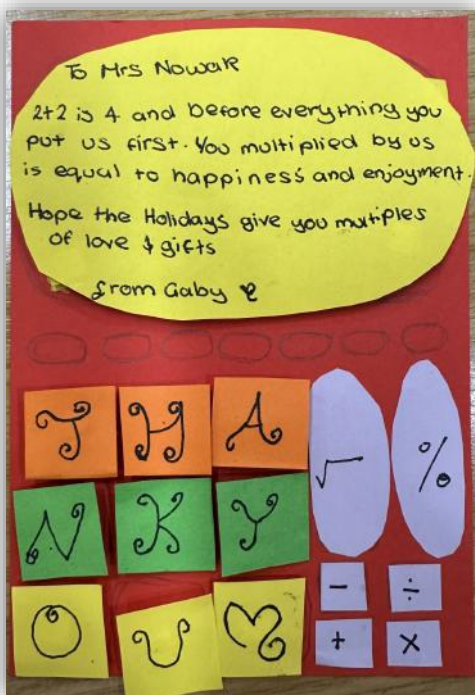
Last week, Y8 were set the challenge to spread Christmas cheer to the staff at Spalding High School! All students were given a piece of red card and asked to create a Christmassy design on one side and to write a cheerful message to a member of staff on the other side.

There were prizes for the best design and cheeriest message which was decided by the form tutors.

I was really impressed with Year 8's creativity, there were so many great designs from a crochet card and beads spelling Merry Christmas to beautifully drawn Christmas scenes. It was so hard to choose an overall winner, but given the intricacy of the design and the warm Christmassy feel to the image, the winner is Sakina in 8J. Well done.

Miss Pascoe, Head of Y8

Winning Design by Sakina, 8J



Maths News

We are delighted to announce that thirteen of our talented sixth form learners took part in the prestigious UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Maths Olympiad for Girls. This highly competitive event provides an excellent opportunity to showcase their mathematical abilities and gain valuable experience in problem-solving at a national level.

Our students have not only embraced the challenge but have also demonstrated their dedication and passion for mathematics.

- ◆ Four of them scored over 60% and were awarded Certificate of Distinction
- ◆ Briony Sweeting (Y12) was announced the best in School

"The Mathematical Olympiad for girls is all about solving five challenging mathematical problems with several parts to them. Unlike other UKMT Challenges, these questions required full written solutions to gain marks, which meant coming up with complete, mathematically sound methods to solve the given problems, and presenting them in such a way that they were cohesive and thorough, leaving no room for doubt! It ended up being an incredibly fun paper that exposed us to a different side of mathematical thinking, stretched our reasoning as we looked for patterns, and ultimately made us scratch our heads in confusion towards the end of the paper! Despite this, it was immensely satisfying to take part in, and I can't wait for next year's paper!"

Briony Sweeting, 6NG

We hope this experience motivates more students, particularly girls, to take part in future maths challenges and competitions. As a school, we remain dedicated to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where all learners can thrive in their mathematical studies.

Mrs Nowak, Maths Department



Alumni - Ava Smith

Ava completed her GCSE's this Summer and decided to join the Royal Navy for her post-16 pathway. She completed her application in March and had to take a Defence Aptitude Test entrance exam which included sections like reasoning, Maths, spatial awareness, electrical and mechanical. Ava then had to attend a formal interview which she had to do lots of research for. Following her successful interview, Ava was invited to complete a four day residential aptitude test in Portsmouth, which was both mentally and physically demanding.

Ava has now completed her Part 1 training at HMS Raleigh this month. She is now a member of the Royal Navy and has been presented her epaulettes. Ava was one of the youngest recruits there and sailed through basic training without any fails, re-sits or disciplinary marks. She recently arrived at HMS Sultan in Portsmouth for her Part 2A apprenticeship to become an Air Engineer Technician. Ava will be based here for six months before joining her new squadron for her Part 2B training on her chosen aircraft, which could be a Merlin helicopter, Wildcat Rotary Aircraft or F35B fighter jet.

After only a few days at HMS Sultan, Ava was offered a two day football camp and friendly match for the Royal Navy Ladies' First Team, and following this has been offered a place on the team. At only 16, she is the youngest member, the next youngest is aged 20!

We are so proud of how Ava is excelling in her chosen post-16 pathway, and we know how important it is to her that she is still able to play football. She is displaying aspiration and determination, and this is a fantastic example for younger students to see an alternative post-16 pathway.

Miss Jones, Head of Y9



Sixth Form News

Christmas Concert for Charity

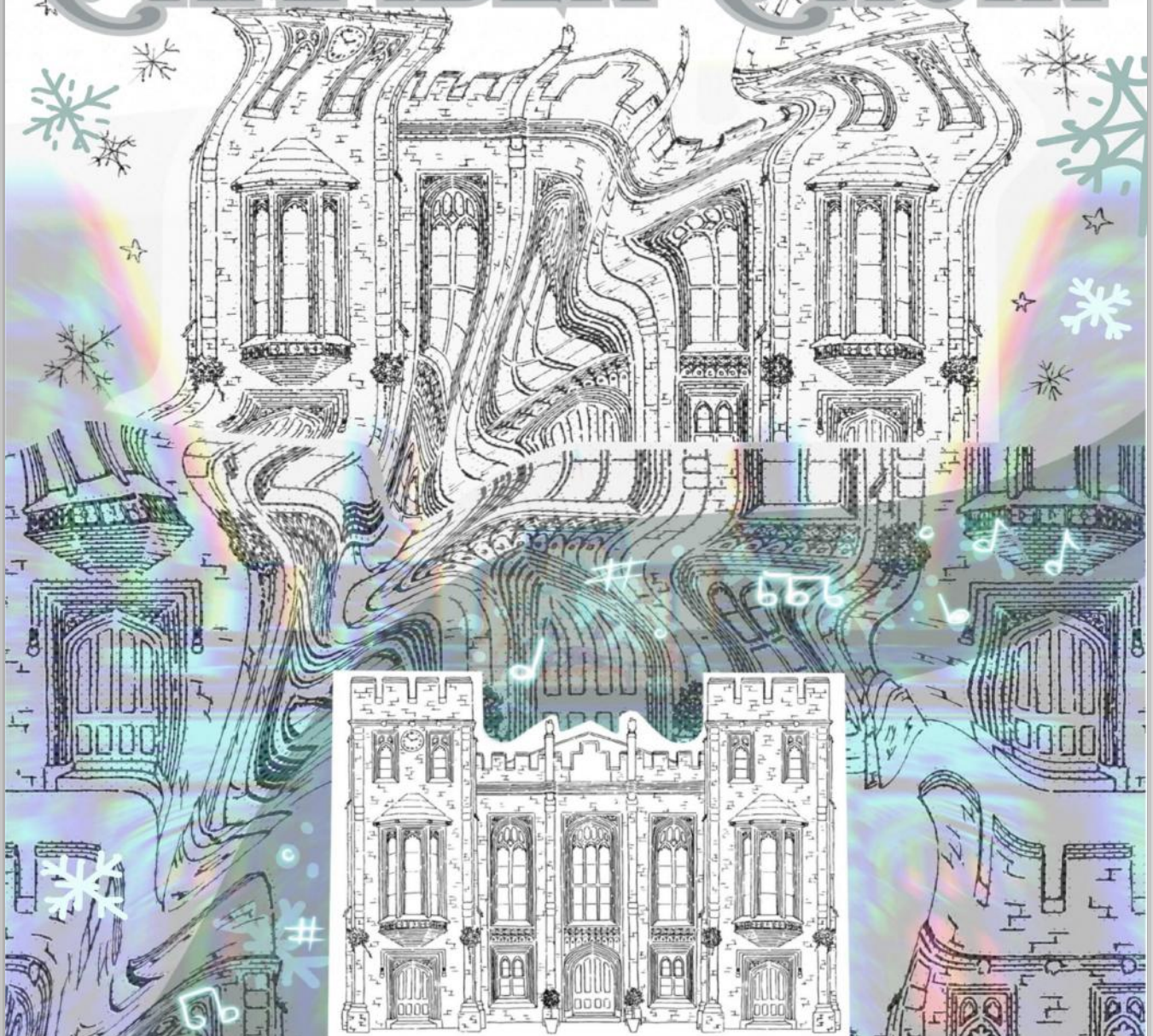
This Saturday, 21st December, the SHS Chamber Choir are involved in a Christmas concert to raise funds for Alzheimer's Society, which will take place at Broad Street Methodist Church in Spalding. This concert has been organised by my family and I, and everybody performing is a member of the SHS community; teachers, past students and current students. The concert will take place at 3pm, with tickets being £5 on the door (cash only!). There will be plenty of cake and mince pies available alongside refreshments. All donations that are made will go towards Alzheimer's Society, a charity close to our hearts. No matter your age, everybody is welcome to join us in some Christmas cheer!

Olivia Brown, 6GD



Spalding High School

Chamber Choir



RUN ON DONATIONS

THE *sessionhouse*

doors open 19:00 *spalding*

concert starts 19:30

DECEMBER 20TH

Careers Update

Y7 – Employer Encounter

On 12th December, Major Julie Downing from the Army came into school to talk to Y7 students about the wide variety of job roles in the armed forces, apprenticeships and STEM careers. As always, the students asked many questions and Major Downing answered them with plenty of examples and insight. Well done to Y7 students who participated so confidently. The form captains from each of the five Y 7 tutor groups are shown in the picture with Major Downing.



Aspiring Mental Health Careers – Online Event – 23rd January 2025

The Lincolnshire Talent Academy is hosting an online insight event on 23rd January at 5.30pm for students aged 15-20 who are interested in the following careers:

- ◆ Nursing
- ◆ Occupational Therapy
- ◆ Psychological Services
- ◆ Social work

The registration details can be found [here](#). If any students take part, could they please let me know for tracking and monitoring purposes.

[Aspiring Mental Health Careers – January 2025 | Lincolnshire Talent Academy](#)

Choices Magazine

Please find below a link to the November edition of the Choices Magazine from Amazing Apprenticeships which contains useful information and updates relating to apprenticeships and technical education.

[Choices Magazine – November Parent & Carers Guide - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

Support:

As always, I can be contacted by email if parents or students in any year group have any queries:

Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader