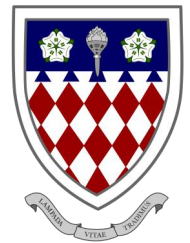


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

9th January 2025



Happy New Year!

I hope that your Christmas break was restful and enjoyable and that you were not troubled too much by the snowfall, heavy rain and flooding just before our return to school this week. The recent poor weather is a timely reminder that this term tends to be harshest weather wise and so please ensure that you are familiar with the severe weather arrangements that were published in the weekly bulletin on the 5th December. Whilst we will endeavour to open the School, we will only do so if the site is deemed safe, and that it is safe to travel. Students/parents who use Local Authority transport or private transport would be wise to join social media sites for their transport companies so they have up to date information regarding services. Should the School be closed at any point, students will move to online learning on Teams and follow their normal timetable. The 5th December newsletter is still available with more detailed information on the [School website](#) via 'News and Events' - Weekly Bulletin - 5th December. Hopefully this will also provide you with an opportunity to check out our new website if you have not already done so! Thank you to Mr Love who led the website process, and all the staff who contributed. We think it is brilliant and easy to use but we always welcome any feedback you may have.

As always, this week's bulletin has lots of important news and information and well done in particular to former student, Scarlet Denman and the whole of Y10 for their achievements in the Christmas Challenge 10 - Brilliant!

M K Anderson, Headmistress

Summer 2025 Examination Series

- ⇒ GCSE exams will take place from **Thursday 8/5/25** to Wednesday **19/6/25**
- ⇒ GCE (A Level) exams will take place from **Monday 12/5/25** to **Tuesday 24/6/25**

The Contingency Day is **Wednesday 25/6/25**, and there is a contingency afternoon on **Wednesday 11/06/25**.

These contingency days/afternoons will be used if a significant, unexpected event arises nationally or locally during the exam period such that no students (or a large number of them) are able to take an exam when planned. Students should be available to take examinations up until this date.

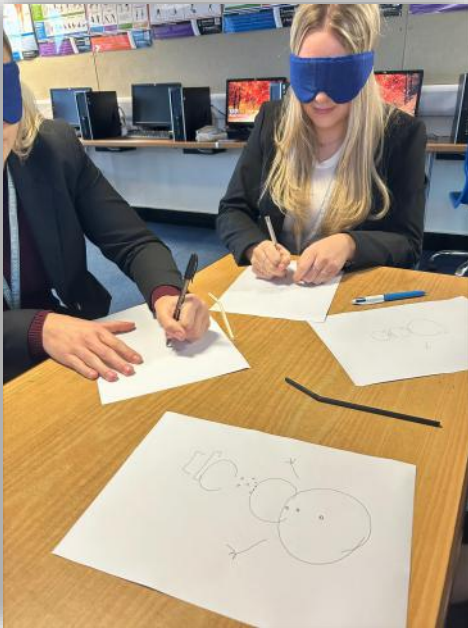
The generic timetables are available on the School website and individual student timetables will be issued in late February/early March 2025.

Mrs Smith, Exams Officer

Sports News

Sports Leadership Winter Olympics

During their last lessons before the Christmas break, the Y12 Sports Leaders took part in the 'Winter Olympics' which consisted of lots of different challenges to find an overall winner. As part of the Sports Leadership qualification, the Leaders must assist in planning and leading a sports/physical activity event, so this lesson was used to show students how to organise and officiate fair competitions. Some of the Winter Olympic events pictured are Blind Snowball Scoop, Blow off the Chimney and blind drawing a snowman, with some precision games of throwing and rolling the table tennis ball into different scoring zones. Well done to eventual overall winners Jess and Millie.



Miss Magnus, PE Department

History News

Winter Update from the History Department

As we head into the new year, there are lots of opportunities for students to take advantage of.

Enrichment

Across all year groups, but especially Y7-9, there are many enrichment opportunities. For example, local museums often relate to aspects of the curriculum such as Lincoln Castle and Cathedral (Y7) and the Imperial War Museum at Duxford (Y8 and Y9).

There are also extensive reading materials within the School library for historical topics in all year groups. Further detail on various topics from this term or from last term that goes beyond the core curriculum for History can also be found in TV documentaries such as:

- Year 7: Mysteries of the Bayeux Tapestry (BBC iPlayer)
- Year 8: A House Through Time series 4 (BBC iPlayer)
- Year 9: Britain's Nuclear Bomb scandal (BBC iPlayer) and The Evolution of Black British Music (My5)
- Year 10: Lincoln's Washington at War (My5) and The Great American Buffalo (BBC iPlayer)
- Year 11: The Black Death (My 5)

How can I help my child revise?

For parents with students in Years 10-13, it is common to want to help, but to not be sure how to do so. Effective revision/consolidation techniques you can try with your child include:

- Creating flashcards with them and testing them on these, or asking your child to use their Carousel study pack versions which are available for all units studied at GCSE and for A-Level papers 1 & 3
- 'Look-Cover-Write-Check' using their exercise book notes
- Asking them to summarise a unit of work, for example 'The Expansion of Slavery 1789-1838' (Y10 topic) in a single page
- For Y10 students, support videos for OCR Specification B can be found here:
<https://www.youtube.com/@lovingthelearning/featured>
- For Y11 students, support videos for Edexcel can be found here: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLi2AnyHYmfOXT3jLjsn6tpILDFKqOoCyx&si=4ehG3OUAUfbzFa0h>
- Parents of students in Years 12 and 13 can also consult the student 'walkthrough' books that have been provided for students to support independent learning and study skills

Details for Y13 revision sessions will be issued to students later this term.

For Y11 students, the arrangements are:



Still confusing Mary I and Mary, Queen of Scots?

Don't know your Stalin from your Khrushchev?

Facing a brick wall when revising what happened in Berlin?

Yr11
History
support:
Fridays,
1.30pm,
Rm16

Date	Session content
10 th January	Cold War- The origins of the Cold War, part 1 (1941-46)
17 th January	Cold War- The origins of the Cold War, part 2 (1947-56)
24 th January	Cold War- The Hungarian Uprising (1956) and second Berlin crisis (1958-61)
31 st January	Cold War- The Cuban Missile Crisis (1962) and Prague Spring (1968)
7 th February	Cold War- Détente in the 1970s and the 'Second Cold War' (1979-85)
14 th February	No session this week
28 th February	Cold War- The End of the Cold War (1985-91)
7 th March	Elizabeth- England in the 1550s: Society, Government & Elizabeth's immediate issues
14 th March	Elizabeth- The introduction of the Elizabethan Religious Settlement, 1559-69
21 st March	Elizabeth- Mary, Queen of Scots, the Northern Rebellion and Plots, 1568-86
28 th March	Elizabeth- Spain & the Netherlands, 1558-88
4 th April	Elizabeth- The 'Golden Age'? Education, Leisure & Poverty
25 th April	Elizabeth- Exploration & the Virginia Colony

For any further queries regarding supporting students with revision for GCSE and A-Level examinations, feel free to email robert.hempsall@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Ypres Trip 2025

Further to Mrs Webb's correspondence to parents shortly before Christmas, it is **imperative** that any student who is booked to attend this trip ensure they have a valid passport and GHIC, and that if they do not currently have these that this is rectified in good time. Both these documents must be in-date, in the case of passports this means an expiry date more than three months from the final day of the trip. **Students who do not provide both of these (valid) documents to staff on the morning of the trip will be refused permission to travel.**

Further logistical arrangements will be shared with parents and students closer to the time, we will be holding a meeting in-school to go through key arrangements around a month before the trip departs.

For any queries regarding the Ypres Trip, in the first instance please email Mrs Webb (trip leader) at laura.webb@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mr Hempsall, Head of History

Y10 News

Challenge 10 – Reverse Advent Calendar

Before Christmas Y10 were set a challenge of creating a Reverse Advent Calendar where they chose a worthy cause to donate items, presents or money to. I am so proud of how the group embraced the challenge and the report below shares how they managed to spread Christmas cheer to others less fortunate than themselves.

Mrs Neal – Head of Year 10

10C – Little Miracles Charity

For Challenge 10, 10C went to the giving tree in Holbeach created by the Little Miracles Charity and picked three children to give presents to this year. Little Miracles is a charity that supports families who have children with additional needs, disabilities and life-limiting conditions. The form room last week turned into a present wrapping production line, and we individually wrapped and filled up three big boxes. We hope our presents are enjoyed, and that everyone had a Merry Christmas.



10P – Southernwood House Care Home

Pupils from 10P delivering some Christmas cheer to residents at Southernwood House Care Home off Matmore Gate, Spalding. They handmade Christmas cards for the residents and delivered them in person on the last week of term.



10J – Holbeach Hospital

10J chose to donate to Holbeach Hospital which cares for a small number of local elderly patients.



10S – Great Ormond Street Hospital

10S chose a children's hospital – Great Ormond Street. Many children spend their Christmas sick and alone. We want to bring joy to those in hard times. A toy or a gift can spread joy to those young souls. That is why we chose to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. We had a bake sale to raise money and raised £32.

10N – Jerry Green Dog Rescue

10N raised a total of £56.51 and donated some treats to Jerry Green Dog Rescue near Boston. 'Charlie' was very pleased with his treats.



Classics News

Celebrating the Classics



Having studied Classical Civilisation and Latin at A Level, we are delighted to hear that Scarlet Denman (left 2020) has just graduated from Oxford with a degree in Literae Humaniores. Literae Humaniores, nicknamed 'Greats', is an undergraduate course focused on Classics (Ancient Rome, Ancient Greece, Latin, Ancient Greek, and Philosophy) at the University of Oxford and some other universities. Scarlet was also awarded the best thesis in Latin Literature prize for her study entitled "Blood, Guts, and the Gaze: Pleasure, Disgust, and the Aesthetics of Horror in Latin Epic Poetry". An incredible achievement and we await to see what she writes next!

Classical literature continues to inspire current actors and directors. Netflix recently released *Kaos*, featuring Jeff Goldblum as Zeus. Mark Strong (*Kingsman*) recently starred in *Oedipus* in the West End and Rami Malik is due to also undertake the legendary role of Oedipus on stage this month. Then there is the "The Return" (a take on Homer's *Odyssey*) which is due to come to cinemas soon featuring Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche, a look at the final chapter of *The Odyssey* and how king Odysseus retakes his throne whilst trying to come to terms with PTSD and "survivor's guilt". Not content with one *Odyssey*, Christopher Nolan (director of *Oppenheimer*) has also announced that his production of "The Odyssey" due to be released in July 2026. So far, Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Zendaya, Robert Pattinson, Lupita Nyong'o, Anne Hathaway and Charlize Theron have all been confirmed for the cast, although at this point, we are still awaiting details on who they will be playing. Which just goes to prove that although the stories are old, they are still great as long as a new generation can continue to offer fresh perspectives.

Miss Jones, Head of Classics

Careers Update

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

National Apprenticeship Week -10th-14th February

Unifrog is holding an online apprenticeship fair on Wednesday 12th February 4.00-6.30pm. Students and parents/carers can register to attend the sessions to have the opportunity to meet 40 employers, explore the latest opportunities, attend live sessions and chat one-to-one to get top tips on how to find apprenticeships and apply successfully. Here is the registration link. If any students take part, could they please let me know for tracking and monitoring purposes.

Unifrog

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

SEND News

Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum

LPCF Latest News for Professionals – January 2025

1. Publicity Library

A library of LPCF publicity in PDF format - flyers, posters and other key materials

In response to your feedback we have designed another page on our website that holds all of the publicity that we normally send to you attached to this email.

This page includes:-

- The generic Newsletter for parents who are not yet members of LPCF
- LPCF Flyer & other publicity
- Posters for our upcoming events
- Poster support material.

Here is the link to access it :- https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Info_Publicity.php

2. LPCF “Week of SEND” 2025

We have lots going on this month including the exciting 5th Annual “Week of SEND” taking place from:-
Monday 27th January to Friday 31st January 2025.

This is the time when you need to join our virtual sessions to find out what is available in Lincolnshire and beyond for the families you work with.

You don't have to actively participate, you can just be listening in whilst working, or you can be asking questions on the chat.

We only hold it once a year and it is totally FREE!

We would also be grateful if you could publicise it to any families you work with.

Add the dates to your diary so you don't miss out on this chance to see what is happening and what services and support you can access.

The organisations participating are on the Week of SEND page.

https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Info_WeekofSEND.php?YrFilter=25

There will be something for everyone!

We also have a packed week of workshops, speakers and Q&A sessions which will run throughout the whole week including into the evenings.

Places need to be booked for the workshops below on the Events page of the LPCF website and are open to parents and professionals.

All other sessions can be accessed through the links on the Week of SEND Page.

WORKSHOPS



Working with schools to support your child's learning
Monday 27th January 7pm – 8pm
LCC Specialist Teaching Team

Lpcf - What do we do?
Tuesday 28th January 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Thursday 30th January 4pm - 5pm

Transformation in SEND
Wednesday 29th January 10.30 – 12.30pm
LCC SEND Team

Anxiety
Wednesday 29th January 7pm
LPFT

The role of Liaise and SEN Support
Thursday 30th January -10.30am -12.30pm
Liaise

Promoting Positive Behaviour
Thursday 30th January -7pm -9pm
Aspens

LPCF State of SEND Survey 2025 - VERY IMPORTANT!

("The state of SEND in Lincolnshire from Parent Carers and SENCOs")

Our latest survey will be released on 6th January 2025

Please note that whilst we are using paper versions for some distribution we would encourage Parent Carers and SENCOs to use the E-Survey system if possible (*not available on some mobiles (landscape view helps) but designed for tablets and Desktops*)

The link to the electronic survey is here:- www.lincspcf.org.uk/Survey2025/Survey_Home.php

Why Complete it

For Parent Carers

1. It assists in measuring and evidencing the "State of SEND in Lincolnshire" with your own views and experiences of services.
1. Helps LPCF gather evidence, rating most services relating to SEND from your own experience.
2. An opportunity to receive a Max Card if you register with LPCF and are eligible (Similar to Student Union Cards but for Families with Children with SEND – some excellent discounts available) **N.B. LIMITED STOCKS!!!**

For SENCOs and schools

4. They will be assisting in measuring and evidencing the "State of SEND in Lincolnshire".
5. Ofsted are very interested in how education settings are "engaging with and participating" with parents of children with SEND – this could be used as evidence.
6. The views of SENCOs will be available to LCC and Education settings (anonymised) with analysis of what is working and what may need attention. Their Voice is important – make it heard!
7. It helps to highlight common trends SENCOs have e.g. being time poor

How can I help ?

8. Please complete the Survey yourself (only takes between 8-10 minutes).
9. Encourage other parents of children with additional needs to do the same.
10. Mention it to your SENCO or teacher, as it is also an opportunity for them to share their views too. (send them this email!)

PLEASE HELP US TO CAPTURE LOTS OF VIEWS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Thank you.

Juggling the Joys of parenting

Thursday 9th January at 11am – Effective Communication 1

These workshops have been developed with LPCF over a number of years and are a chance for parent carers to meet other parent carers and learn new strategies in a friendly easy to use style.

Our experienced presenter Hil Gibb has worked with children and young people, parents, teachers, and headteachers for over 30 years. Hil is great at helping groups of people to find the best way forward.

The 'Effective Communication' workshop is designed to enable you to:-

- feel more confident in a range of situations
- get your thoughts and feelings across effectively and more easily
- give and receive effective feedback
- handle potentially 'sticky' conversations well
- understand human behaviour and apply this understanding practically
- reduce stress and drains on time and energy

Everyone benefits from Effective Communication!

To find out more click here: https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/DocsPDF/pjtj_2024-25juggling_the_joys.pdf

Please book by clicking on this link: https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Events.php

New Pins Project

LPCF are working with schools and parents in primary schools in Boston and South Holland.

To see the confirmed list of schools taking part in the project see this link:-

https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_PINS_Home.php

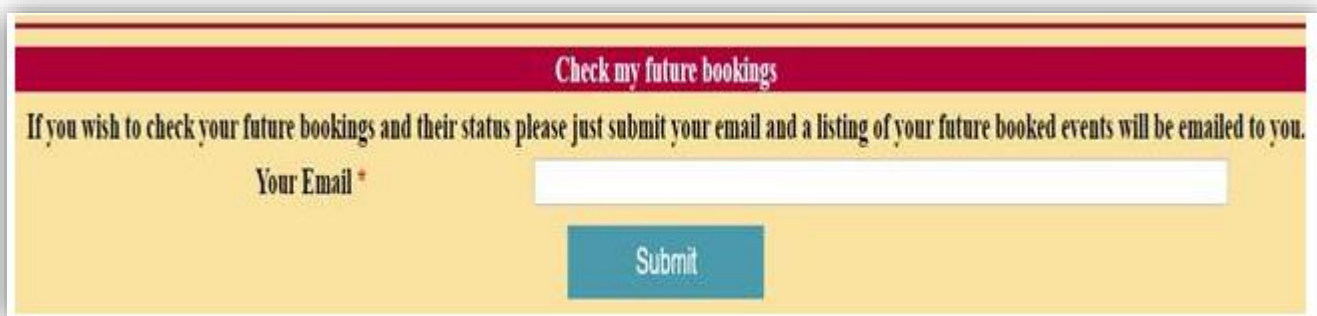
LPCF will also be visiting the confirmed schools along with the Working Together Team between September and March 25.

Please encourage parents in your setting to participate with LPCF and the Working Together Team.

You can find out more about the Pins project here: https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_PINS_Home.php

New facility for you

If you can't remember whether you have booked onto an event and want to check— our website designer has designed a new way to check your bookings. It's simple – you go into the Events page> E- booking and this is displayed at the top.



The screenshot shows a form with a dark red header containing the text "Check my future bookings". Below the header, there is a line of text: "If you wish to check your future bookings and their status please just submit your email and a listing of your future booked events will be emailed to you." Underneath this text, there is a label "Your Email *" followed by a white text input field. Below the input field is a blue button with the word "Submit" written on it.

Just insert your email and you will be emailed a list of your bookings. Simple!!

New Offer for parents on the LPCF membership - SEND Workforce Development Induction Tier

Free E-learning modules

If they want to know more about SEND? What is Inclusion? SEND Code of practice and lots more. Please direct them to this link to find out more https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Info_WorkforceDevt_Intro.php

LPCF Excellence awards

The next round of nominations have begun so please display the poster on the publicity page mentioned above at your setting and encourage parents to join our membership and nominate you for your excellence.

Feedback from professionals

LPCF have a new page on the website titled "Feedback from professionals".

Leading on from the new section in the Parents Voice Report we have dedicated a new page to the LPCF website named Feedback from professionals.

This page contains responses directly from the professionals in response to the feedback that we collect. By professionals providing a response directly to the LPCF membership, they are more aware of the memberships views and can react to them. The membership is therefore helping to drive change and improve services. Thank you to all the professionals who have taken the time to respond.

Additions to LPCF website (please see achievements page)

- Report on the Wellbeing sessions with Nicole -Sept – December.
- Report on the Promoting positive behaviour workshop (Nov 24)

Max Cards

Parents who join our membership and fulfil the criteria may be offered a free discount card. The Information page of the LPCF website contains more detail.

In response to LPCF needing feedback from the use of Max cards for our grant funders, our web designer has developed an easy to use system for recording feedback.

This is really helpful not only for LPCF as evidence that parents are using the cards and how they are finding them, but also to develop a repository of feedback so parents can quickly find ideas of where to use them.

LPCF have also added a scoring system so parents have a quick guide to the venues and whether they were SEND friendly.

If you want to find out more then please see the Max Card page > Max Card Repository on the Information portal. To apply for a max card please direct parents to the information page of the LPCF website https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Info_MaxCard.php

Please help our Charity – you don't have to be a parent!

Please help us by using Easy fundraising.

It doesn't cost you anything but it does help our Charity. Please see our funding page for more details.

Why not bookmark LPCF's website on your browser for easy access.

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