

Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

1st May 2025



Welcome to the Summer Term! I hope you had a lovely Easter Holiday and enjoyed what seemed to be a very long break.

Term 5 is remarkably short but as always of course, it will be jam-packed with events and activities. Not least of all, it is the final term in lessons for our current Year 11 and Year 13. Exams have already started in some subjects and students are getting into the swing of it but the main exam timetable will be starting soon. So good luck to all of the students about to face their GCSE and A Levels. You have worked hard for the last five and seven years so heads down and go for it!

Our students always impress me in their determination and achievements outside of school and Lexie is no exception there. Well done Lexie.

As the summer has now arrived we are starting to see the end of many of the sporting seasons. The High School teams continue to do the School proud as these results start to come in. Tremendous congratulations to the U16 football team, U15 futsal team, Y10 netball team and Y11 rounders team. You have all done brilliantly! Thank you and well done to Mr Farrell and the PE department too.

M K Anderson, Headmistress



Image source - spaldingflowerparade.org.uk

On Saturday 10th May, the High School will be opening its car parks for spectators of the Spalding Flower Parade. The car parks will open from 8am and cost £5 (cash only) per car. All money raised will go towards equipment for the School.

Sports News

U16 football

On Thursday 24th April, the Spalding High School U16 football team travelled to Sleaford Town Football Club to play against Priory Ruskin in the Lincolnshire County Final. Having played against Priory Ruskin last season in another competition we were expecting a very close game which could go either way, having only beaten them 4-3 with a nail-biting finish to the game last season.

We started the game very well, dominating possession but not really converting this possession into clear goal scoring opportunities. We broke the deadlock midway through the first half with Nancy capitalising on the goalkeeper's save of Annabel's shot. For the rest of the first half, we limited the Priory Ruskin attacks very well and looked defensively solid but were unable to increase our lead. We went into half-time 1-0 up but in a very strong position, calm and confident but aware Priory were capable of a comeback as they had last time.

The Priory hope of getting back into the game went soon into the second half with another Nancy goal, tapping the ball into the net from close range. Minutes later Nancy was rewarded for an outstanding performance, having worked incredibly hard to pressurise the Ruskin defence, by securing herself a hat trick in the County Final to put us 3-0 up!

Although we were leading 3-0, we did not stop there, we continued to apply pressure and maintain possession to create further opportunities. The next goal was scored by Lily, who alongside Nancy had caused problems for the opposition's defence all game. Katie had a great game on the right wing, dribbling past multiple defenders in each run and scored with a fantastic finish from a wide area of the 18-yard box. Our 6th goal of the game was a sublime finish and the icing on the cake of an outstanding team performance; Darcey took a corner from the left-hand side and whipped it directly into the side netting of the far post.

Winning any County Final is an achievement but to do so with a 6-0 score line is incredible and a deserving reward for the team's talent, effort and desire. There is no Player of The Match as there were too many notable performances to only recognise one!

History was made at the match as the occasion marked nine years since Miss Magnus captained the Spalding High School U16 football team to the same title in her last game of Y11. Now winning her first County accolade as a teacher at Spalding High School, with her teacher at the time Mr Farrell watching on. A full circle moment for both Miss Magnus and Mr Farrell which was a great way to finish what has been another great year of football.

The PE department



U15 Futsal

On Thursday 3rd April, the U15 Futsal team travelled to Lincoln University Sports Centre for the Lincolnshire County Futsal Finals. Upon arriving at the event, the six qualified schools were split into two groups.

Our two group games were against Louth Academy and Queen Elizabeth Grammar, Alford. The team played very well in both games, looking confident in possession and creating lots of chances. We won the first game 3-0 and the second 3-1 with Darcey scoring five out of six and Lily scoring the other. This meant we progressed comfortably through the group stage as winners to face Bourne Grammar School in the final.

The final was set to be a close encounter, as it always is between this age group, and it proved to be no different. Despite going 1-0 down we were the better team and created a few very good chances to score but just could not quite make the right connection to convert them, until Darcey scored an excellent goal to bring us back level. With minutes to go we looked in control of the game and as though we could score any minute but suffered a sucker punch with the last kick of the game whereby a Bourne shot from the middle of the court caught everyone off guard and trickled over the line.

A disappointing end to what had been a day of excellent play from all our players. To finish County Runners Up is an excellent achievement and the team should be incredibly proud of their efforts.

Miss Magnus, PE Department



Y10 Netball

Congratulations to the Y10 Netball team for winning the South Lincolnshire South Division unbeaten, scoring 112 goals and conceding just 17 across the season of six matches. Very impressive statistics which is testament to the team's hard work, the fantastic defensive performances and incredibly accurate and consistent shooting shown in every match.

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Spalding High	6	6	0	0	112	17	95	18
UAHolbeach	6	5	0	1	129	28	101	15
Bourne Grammar	6	4	0	2	77	69	8	12
Bourne Academy	5	2	0	3	60	78	-18	6
Deeping	4	0	0	4	8	29	-21	0
Spalding Academy	3	0	0	3	2	57	-55	0
UALong Sutton	4	0	0	4	12	122	-110	0

The team will now play Boston High School on 30th April to determine the Superzone winner. Good luck!!

Miss Magnus, PE Department



Y11 Rounders Champions!

On Tuesday evening, the Y11 rounders team became South Lincolnshire Champions once again! The group that has been together since Y7 have never lost a competitive rounders fixture and the team's 100% record has remained intact to the end. The team beat local opposition from Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Haven High, Cowley Academy and Boston High School in the group stage of the tournament. In a 'fitting end' to a very successful rounders story, the final against University Academy Holbeach was won eight and a half rounders to seven and a half rounders. It has been a pleasure to be involved in their rounders journey throughout their time at the School. I am so proud of you all!

Mr Farrell, Head of PE



Celebrating the Individual in Y11 - Lexie King

At the end of March, I took part in a swimathon to raise money for Cancer Research and Marie Curie. I swam a triple 5k over three days, so I swam 15km in total at three different pools. I organised a team of twelve people, who also joined the challenge to swim a range of distances, in remembrance of my uncle, who died last year of cancer. We raised £2450 in total, which ended up being the 12th amount highest raised in the country!

Lexie King 11S



SHS Field Trip To Croatia

From the 4th-8th of April we went on an unforgettable school trip to Croatia. We began our journey at 2:30am at Spalding bus station, regardless of the incredibly early hours everyone was very excited and looking forward to the trip ahead. We arrived at Stansted airport, endured the stresses of airport security and stuffed our bags with goods from Duty Free before getting on the flight to Zagreb. Despite a two hour flight delay we finally arrived in Zagreb where we met our tour guide for the trip, Sonya. We then had a short tour around the beautiful City of Zagreb, where Sonya showed us many significant statues, churches and buildings and taught us lots about its rich history. That evening, we drove to the seaside town of Opatija and settled into our first hotel which had stunning sea views.

On the second day, we awoke bright and early and went for a hike. We hiked through woodlands, keeping an eye out for bears and stopped for lunch at the top where we enjoyed the views of the Croatian countryside. As we stopped for lunch we were accompanied by a dog which we appropriately named 'Bear'! Bear was clearly a local as he guided us all the way back to the bus. Despite our best efforts to convince the teachers to let Bear come home with us, we were unsuccessful, so we all said our goodbyes and he ran back into the woods as we all got on the bus back to Opatija. For the rest of the day we had a guided tour around Opatija and then enjoyed some free time to explore the shops and pick up some souvenirs. Some were lucky enough to spot Dolphins out at sea!

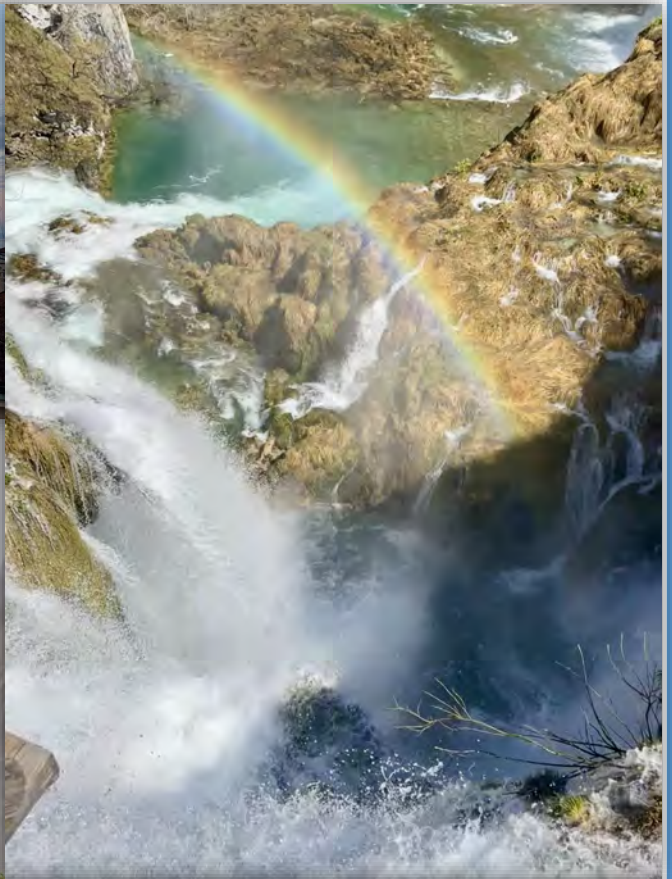
Day three took us to the breath-taking Plitvice Lakes National Park. The vastness and incredible turquoise of the lakes and waterfalls were absolutely magnificent, and it was definitely a highlight for us. We took a boat across one of the lakes where we really got a good perspective of how huge they were. Once we had all got enough pictures of the astounding scenery we got back on the bus and headed to our second hotel in Zadar.

The fourth day included a boat trip along the remarkable Dalmatian coastline. After a long trip we stopped on a small island which we explored. A group of us headed down to a tiny bit of beach we had spotted. We sunbathed and skimmed stones for 15 minutes then headed back to the boat where we were provided with a delicious lunch and sailed back. We stopped at another, more inhabited island, on the way back where we raided the corner shop as our snack supply had got quite low. We spent the rest of the day exploring Zadar with Sonya, followed by a quiz after our evening meal.

On our final day, we visited the Museum of Illusions in Zadar. For our final hours in Croatia we were allowed free time, many of us took this as an excuse to spend as many euros as possible, mostly on ice cream!

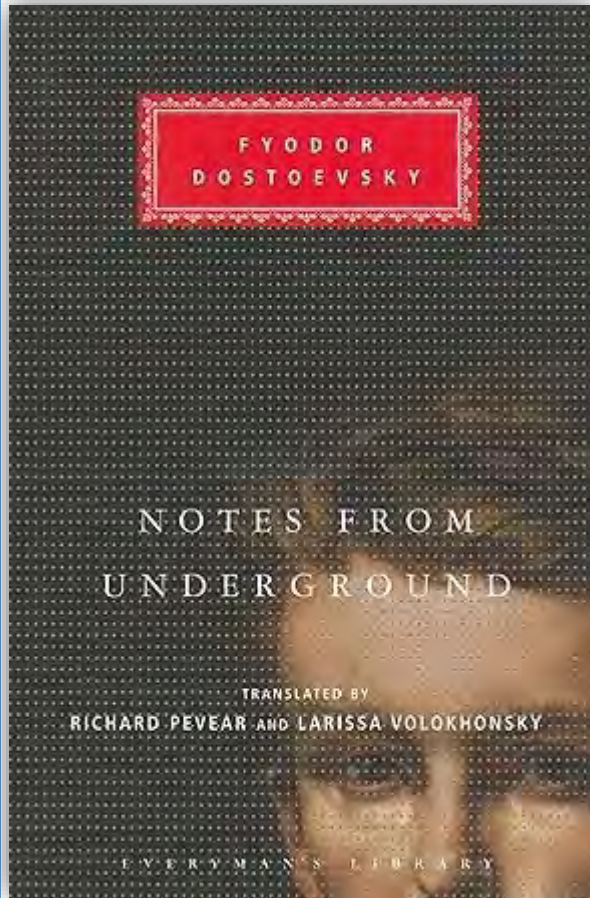
We returned to Spalding at 1:30am, tired but full of amazing memories from a fantastic trip! We would like to thank all the teachers who made this trip possible, in particular the trip leader Mrs Rogers.

Florence Perowne and Katie Blake Y11



Bookworm Bulletin

Notes from Underground by Fyodor Dostoevsky

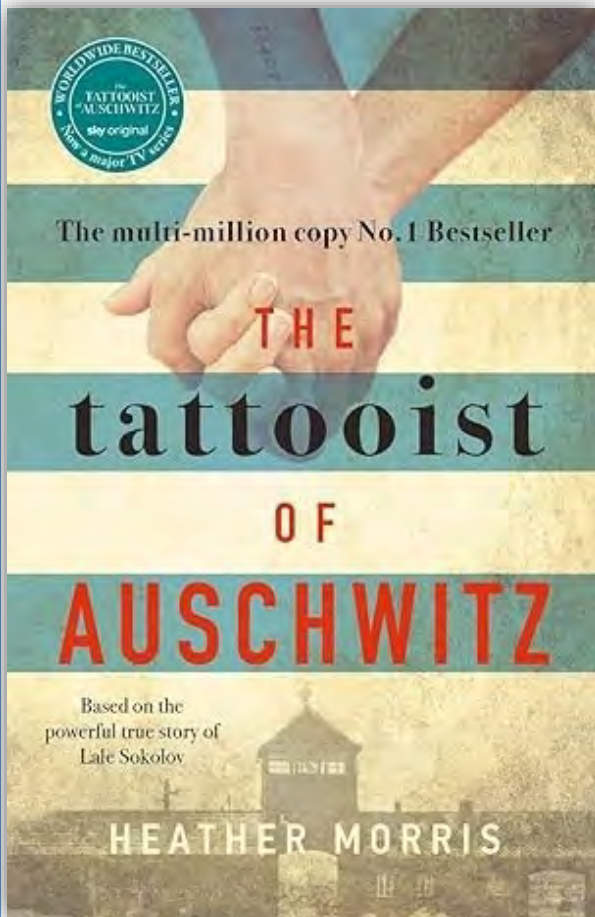


This philosophical novel delves into the conflicted mind of an unnamed narrator, known as the Underground Man through the first-person narrative in the form of a "confession". It is split into two sections: the first part serves as a monologue filled with bitter reflections on human nature, society, and personal contradictions, while the second part presents a series of events that expose his troubled interactions with others. The novel explores themes around the protected characteristic of mental health, with self-destruction, free will and existential struggle. I really enjoy this because Dostoevsky uses this character to question rationality, morality, and the limitations of human logic by using the man's thoughts to portray a contradicting and deeply complex individual.

Leila 9P

Image sources - Amazon.com

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris



This is based on the true story of a prisoner of Auschwitz, Lale Sokolov. His job, as the book title states, is to tattoo the numbers on all the prisoners. Lale hates this role but is able to use his position to get hold of extras, including food, for the other prisoners to help them survive. This is very risky and if caught he would be punished and killed. During his time he meets Gita, another prisoner, and they fall in love. Their survival to build a life after the war becomes their only focus and motivates Lale to do everything he can.

This was a book I wanted to read and not read at the same time. Knowing of the horrors that happened at Auschwitz I wasn't sure I really wanted to read a book which gave an account of what it was like to experience this. By the end I can actually say I enjoyed the book, as throughout it is a real testament to the strength of the human spirit. It shows strength and resilience and how even when it would be easy to think all is lost and give up, you can fight for your life, the life of others and fall in love. It never ceases to amaze me what we as humans can accomplish, when humanity seems to have lost its way.

Mrs Gregory, Head of Science & Physics

Carnegie Update



Carnegie Book Group Every Tuesday 1.25pm in the Library

We launched our annual Carnegie Book Group just before Easter, giving everyone a chance to get started reading one of the eight books shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal for Writing 2025. It was wonderful to see many returning Carnegie readers from previous years and to welcome new Y7's to the annual group. The shortlisted books were met with interest and anticipation, with everyone borrowing something for the holidays.

Subsequent meetings will focus on book covers, opening lines and then discussion book by book. We celebrate with a big balloon debate at the end of the summer term.

Whether you have lots of opinions to share, or would like to meet fellow book worms, this welcoming book group is open to all ... we'd love to see you there.

Miss O'Sullivan, English Department & Mrs Lees, Learning Resource Manager

Pastoral News

Free Online Safety Q&A events for Parents

The Stay Safe Partnership deliver Online Safety workshops in Primary and Secondary schools across Lincolnshire every day. In the below events we will give you the most up to date information and tools around what your children are experiencing online, so you can feel confident in keeping them safe from online harm whilst still allowing them to explore the online world. Whether you want to know more about age-appropriate apps, online trends, parental controls, social media or any other burning questions this is the event for you! Sign up is required.

Stay Safe Partnerships Online Safety Q+A for Parents of Secondary Aged Children 7th May 2025 6-7:30 pm FREE TEAMS event sign up required: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/1651098>

Stay Safe Partnerships Online Safety Q+A for Parents of Primary Aged Children 14th May 2025 6-7:30pm FREE TEAMS event sign up required: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/1651088>

English News

The Henry Williamson Society

Please see below a flyer for The Henry Williamson Society Schools' Writing Competition for Y8 and 9 students.

Mrs Lord, Head of English



The Henry Williamson Society

SCHOOLS' WRITING COMPETITION 2025

For the attention of the Head of English

Theme: Nature-themed writing reporting for a school magazine, newspaper article, digital blog or holiday brochure

Entrants to choose *one* of these titles:

'A Favourite Nature Walk'

'A Gull's Life'

Age Group: Years 8 and 9

Closing date: 27 June 2025

Prize money:

To the school of the winning entrant – £500

To the winner – £100

To the two runners-up – £50 each

**Details and source materials available from our website
www.henrywilliamson.co.uk**

Entries by post only, sent to the address below

The Henry Williamson Society
c/o Louise McGlone
5 Framfield Place
Hammonds Green
Framfield
Uckfield
TN22 5QH

Enquiries to the above address, or email: competition@henrywilliamson.co.uk

Careers News

Year 13 – Student Finance applications

Students hoping to go to university in autumn 2025 need to apply for student finance if they wish to do so. Students are able to apply for loans to cover university tuition fees and for maintenance loans:

[Apply online for student finance - GOV.UK](#)

Work Experience in Year 10

We have been extremely impressed with the positive feedback received so far from employers and students about work experience. We will continue to collate the feedback and complete reflection activities with students over the coming weeks and then we will share some of the student reports.

Year 10 Career Guidance Appointments

During terms 5 and 6, all students in Year 10 will have a one-to-one careers guidance appointment with an independent careers adviser. This is the opportunity for students to talk about their strengths, interests and future plans in education, employment and training.

Volunteer Police Cadets

Students between the ages of 13 and 16 have the chance to sign up for the Volunteer Police Cadets to learn about policing and supporting their community. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter.

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

CADET RECRUITMENT IS OPEN FROM 2ND APRIL TO 14TH MAY



Apply to join the cadet programme at Lincolnshire Police to learn new skills, meet new people, learn about policing, and support your local community.

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY ON OUR WEBSITE.

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE
POLICE CADETS

www.twitter.com/LPVolunteers
www.facebook.com/LincsPoliceVolunteers/

For more information and to download an application form visit:
www.lincs.police.uk/police-forces/lincolnshire-police/areas/careers/join-us/volunteers/cadets/



Lincolnshire
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
SAFER TOGETHER



Volunteer
Police
Cadets

We are recruiting for cadets in:

- Boston
- Lincoln
- Bourne
- Skegness
- Grantham
- Spalding



Please scan for
more information