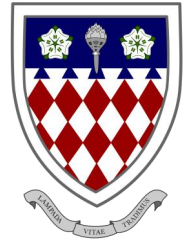


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

15th May 2025



Exams are now underway for Year 11 and Year 13 and I think that this has helped settle nerves a little. Students have quickly established a routine which has also helped. I also know that the Y11 revision sessions and masterclasses have helped and students (and staff) have been very positive about the impact they are having. It has helped build confidence that some of the topics covered in the sessions have then appeared in the papers students have sat this week. Well done to all, for their engagement, contribution and hard work. This year, the exams have started so much earlier but students in both year groups are coping very well. Half term will give the opportunity for a bit of a break and a breather in what can be a very stressful time. Good luck!

Great news this week on the sporting front, as you will see when you read this week's bulletin. Our Y7-Y10 athletes have done very well, as have individuals such as Darcey and Joellyn. Celebrating the Individual also extends this week into both the academic and the arts, so congratulations to Olivia and Florence too!

M K Anderson, Headmistress

Parental Survey – We Value Your Feedback

We would be very grateful if parents and carers could take a few minutes (20 questions) to complete our **parental survey**, which covers many aspects of school life including Parents' Evenings. Your feedback is extremely important to us and helps shape our ongoing development.

[Click here to take survey](#)

Thank you for your time and support.

Mr Blackburn, Assistant Headteacher

Student of The Week - Week Commencing 6th May 2025

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
7J	Katie Preston	Mrs C Lord	Mathematics
7N	Lois Howman	Mrs Nowak	Mathematics
7S	Safa Nadeem	Mrs Wilkins	Technology
8N	Sophia Whatford	Mrs Spinks	Mathematics
8P	Dibyanshi Muduli	Mrs Knowles	German
9C	Isla Stockdale	Miss Chalcraft	Mathematics
9J	Lily Tomlinson	Mrs Martin	Mathematics
9N	Florence Numa	Mr Garbett	Music
9P	Leila Petraite	Mrs Clay	Latin
9S	Lana Conway	Mrs Jones	Latin
9S	Sarah Jones	Mrs Bennett	Community
9S	Antonia Nowak	Mrs Barats	French
10C	Phoebe Read	Mr Murphy	Chemistry
10J	Holly Bignell	Miss Jones	Physical Education
10N	Samantha Matthew	Mrs H Waldron	Religious Studies
10P	Jodie Mister	Mr Ganger	Mathematics
11S	Vivien Kudla	Miss Bailey	German
11S	Alesha Rix	Mrs J Lord	English Literature
6AB	James Hawley	Mrs Bennett	Geography
6AF	Alice Marston	Mrs Cave	Classical Civilisation
6GD	Phoebe Spires	Mrs C Aurikko	Biology
6KM	Matthew Kirk	Mr Hemsall	History
6LH	Sophie McGuire	Mrs Fisk	Drama
6LH	Alexa Shogy	Mrs Martindale	Biology

Sports News

Athletics

On Wednesday 7th May, athletes from Years 7-10 competed at the South Lincolnshire Athletics Trials at Princess Royal Sports Arena. If athletes finish in the top two (sometimes three) places in their event, it is likely they will be asked to represent South Lincolnshire in the Lincolnshire Athletics Championships on 3rd June.

Well done to all our athletes that competed and thank you for your help with raking the long jump pit. Some notable individual performances below:

Izzy - 1st 800m, 2nd 300m
Iris - 2nd 100m, 1st 200m
Alex - 1st Javelin
Katie - 1st Shot put
Freya - 1st Discus
Karina - 2nd Shot put
Amelia - 2nd Long Jump



Celebrating The Individual in Y9 - Lily Spridgen 9C



On Thursday 8th May, I participated in a U15s Lincolnshire County Cricket match at Retford Cricket club against Nottinghamshire. We lost the toss and the other team decided to bat first. They scored 200 runs. It was then our turn to bat, but sadly we only got 136 runs. So Nottinghamshire won the match.

Celebrating The Individual in Y10 - Darcey Grundy, 10J



Last week I had the amazing opportunity to spend the day at the home of England football, St George's Park.

I had been invited by the Football Association, through my club Leicester City, to spend the day filming for their next season's Physical Performance framework. Mum and I arrived the night before and stayed in the Hilton Hotel that is on the St George's Park site. All the England teams stay there for camps and matches. The whole environment is so inspirational. Just walking to breakfast all the silverware that has been won is on display.

At 9.30 the following morning I met with the other 29 girls selected from three age groups, U12/U14/U16 and we were given our filming schedule and special kit to wear for the day. My morning was filled with warm up futsal with our Leicester coaches. In the afternoon, our filming began on the indoor 3G.

England pathway physical performance coaches gave us sets of exercises or drills to do in pairs or groups. These were filmed and will be given to emerging talent centres across the country next year for coaches to use to train their players.

Our day ended with thanks from the coaches and being gifted the kit that Nike had supplied for the day!

I am so grateful for the opportunity to play on the same pitches that my idols regularly train on.

I hope to be back soon!



Maths News

Grey Kangaroo

Olivia Ward from 9N recently qualified for the Intermediate Maths Challenge follow up round: Grey Kangaroo. Olivia is the only student at SHS to do so. She completed this challenge last month and we would like to congratulate her on her amazing result: she received Silver Certificate!

Amazing achievement, well done Olivia!

Mrs Nowak, Maths Department

Although it was very challenging to do, and the questions were hard, I found the challenge fun. It made me think outside the box and try hard. I definitely feel as if my problem-solving skills have improved and that my understanding of maths is better.

I am very proud to have got Silver!

Olivia Ward, 9N



Y7 Bottle Tops for Charity Local Community Group

Following their Climate Whispers workshop, Miss Magnus challenged Y7 to each do their bit towards helping the planet by recycling bottle tops via the Bottle Tops for Charity Local Community Group.

Y7 were asked to collect as many bottle lids as they could, cleaned and ready to be donated to the local sorters. The lids are sorted locally and then transported to the recycling company who process the amount of plastic and donate funds directly to the chosen six charities: British Heart Foundation, Dementia UK, Cancer Research UK, Parkinson's UK, Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance and Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

Well done to Year 7 for their incredible collective effort as shown by the picture of their filled boxes and bags! It was very close between the forms but 7C and 7J collected the most, well done to both forms!

DONATE

COLLECT FOR US

BOTTLE TOPS FOR CHARITY COMMUNITY GROUP

ABOUT US

We collect all clean type 2, 4 and 5 plastic lids to raise funds for charity. Checkout our facebook page for more information and find your local drop off points.

CHARITIES WE SUPPORT

- British Heart Foundation
- Dementia UK
- Cancer research UK
- Parkinsons UK
- Lincs and Notts air ambulance
- Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital

WHAT HAPPENS

- 1-The clean lids are sorted into polymer types and colours , then weighed and bagged up.
- 2- They are transported to the recycling company.
- 3- After processing the company transfers the funds raised directly to our chosen charities

CLEAN LIDS ONLY PLEASE

CONTACT US

bottle.tops.for.charity@gmail.com



History News

On Tuesday 13th May, Year 10 History students visited Lincoln Castle as part of the 'History Around Us' study that forms GCSE paper two. The trip consisted partly of a tour of the Medieval walls and partly of a visit to the Victorian Prison. Students were able to see the physical features of the site, and examples of how its use and layout have changed over the last c.950 years.

Unexpectedly, there was a team from Reclaim Heritage completing a site survey of the castle when we visited. That morning, they had discovered a probable location for the old jail (demolished in the 1790s) and also evidence of a Saxon house. Whilst well known that over 160 houses were demolished when the castle was built by the Normans, precise locations and original street layout had been lost to history, so it was great to see archaeological research taking place in real time.

Student behaviour was excellent and hopefully this fieldwork will give them a range of great evidence to use in future examinations.

Mr Hemsall - Head of History and PSHE



Music News

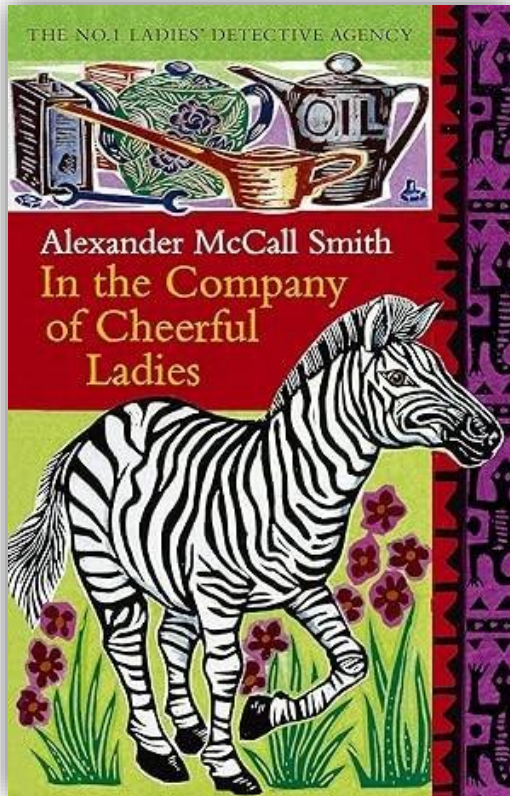
During the Easter half-term, the Lincolnshire Youth Symphony Orchestra embarked on a week-long residential trip filled with intensive rehearsals and music making. At the end of the week, they held a concert at Botolph's Church in Boston, showcasing their hard work. Pieces ranged from xylophone solos and the Wicked soundtrack to classical symphonies and concertos. Representing Spalding High School was Joellyn Numa (6KM) playing the violin. After months of intensive practice, individually and during rehearsals at Lincoln, the concert was a lovely demonstration of dedication and showcased some incredibly talented musicians!

Florence Numa, 9N



Bookworm Bulletin

In the Company of Cheerful Ladies by Alexander McCall Smith

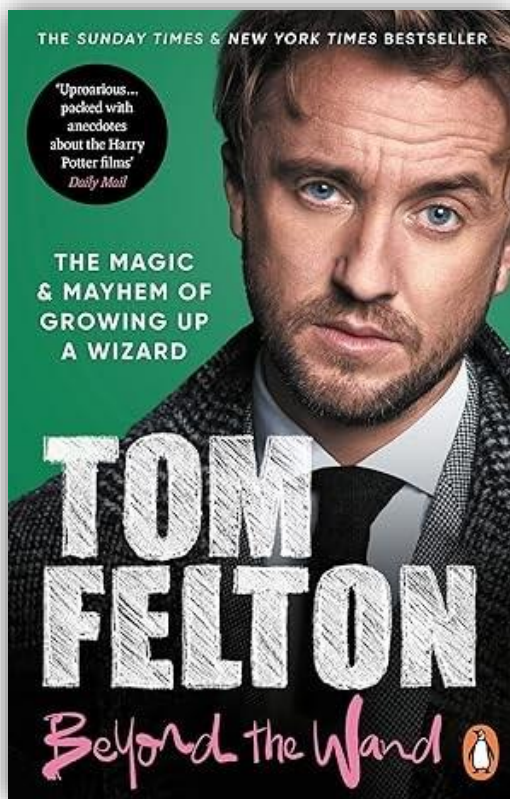


In the Company of Cheerful Ladies is one of the many great books in the No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency series. This book is a slow paced read, yet it was still able to keep me hooked as it carefully introduced the plot. I would class this as a mystery book.

It is set in the beautiful Botswana, with the main character, Mma Precious Ramotswe, and her new husband, Mr JLB Matekoni. The book begins in the Detective Agency, where more cases are coming in, but when Mma Ramotswe arrives home, she finds her own mystery to solve. There are a few plot twists as you go through, and Mma Ramotswe encounters many problems, some coming from her troubled past. I really enjoyed this book, as I found it relaxing and engaging and I found myself rooting for certain characters! I would recommend it for anyone looking a nice comfort read.

Poppy 9N

Beyond the Wand: the Magic and Mayhem of Growing Up a Wizard by Tom Felton



Ok so I am a bit of a Potterhead, but you don't need to be a Harry Potter fan to be completely engaged in this funny, entertaining and at times heartbreakingly honest memoir. Tom's narrative is warm and beguiling as he chronicles his naughty antics both on and off set as Draco Malfoy, Harry Potter's schoolboy nemesis. Anecdotes about Alan Rickman, Maggie Smith and Michael Gambon litter the book and their camaraderie and mentorship is delightful. Tom chronicles not only his younger career, but also his very normal family life with three, sometimes disreputable, older brothers. In the latter half of the book he lays bare his adult struggles with both addiction and rehabilitation, along with the challenges of maintaining an acting career. All of this is described in a self-deprecating, unpretentious and very genuine voice.

This really is a unique and memorable read, enjoy!

Happy Reading!

Mrs Lees

Carnegie Shadowing Book Club

This year's Carnegie Shadowing Book Club is now well underway!

On 29th April, the group assembled to judge the shortlist by their covers. Each cover was printed and students were free to add any ideas or questions that they had. There were lots of predictions, suggestions and strong opinions on the design choices. This helped lots of the group decide which book they were going to read next and lots left with something new to read.

In the second meeting of this half term, we delved into the first pages of each book. There were a variety of openings and different characters up for discussion. Some of the openings caught the group's interest immediately and some left us with lots of questions.

Our next meetings will focus on the books themselves. We are always spoiler free and there is no pressure to have read the books. We are a welcoming group and students are free to join at any time.

Miss O'Sullivan, English Department



Front Cover Competition

Could you be the artist of the front cover for Edition 9 of the High Quarterly?

We are launching a competition to design the front cover of the Summer '25 Edition of HQ. Entries can use a variety of media or photographic techniques and will be judged by the High School Art Department.

Your entry must be your own personal work and can be colour or black and white but must be A4 in size and portrait orientation. Your entry should have your name and form on the reverse.

Hand your entry in to the School Reception, no later than **Friday 27th June 2025**.

Judging will take place in the week of Monday 30th June, and the winner will receive not just the prestige of having their artwork adorn the next edition, but also a wonderful prize!

Runners up will also receive prizes and their artwork will be published in the summer edition of the HQ.

M K Anderson, Headmistress



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. To guarantee they get their money for the start of their university course, students need to apply by 16th May. If students apply after this date, they are not guaranteed to receive any payments by the start of term. 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 Years 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. Here are some of the positive comments students have shared so far:

- ◆ *Most of all I enjoyed talking to the students and helping them with their work because I felt purposeful and I liked to see that I could help pupils understand things.*
- ◆ *I have gained some communication skills as before I wasn't very confident talking to new people or adults, but now I am a lot more confident with it and can easily speak to them. I have also gained some independence, as when I saw things needed to be done, I got on with them.*
- ◆ *I really enjoyed meeting and talking to different people at the workplace, being able to talk to them for around an hour or two each. I found it interesting to get an insight about what they think of the industry and the guidance they were ready to give.*
- ◆ *I enjoyed working in the dispensary and operating in different sectors of it (e.g. sorting through prescriptions, allocating them, ordering supplies). I was always able to ask questions about career paths and different requirements needed for the different jobs in the sector.*
- ◆ *I enjoyed serving the customers and interacting with people.*
- ◆ *I most enjoyed doing administrative work and sending documents to clients and also scanning documents.*
- ◆ *I enjoyed learning what a physiotherapist does in their day-to-day job role and seeing new exciting equipment.*
- ◆ *I developed my people skills even further and learnt how to formally interact with customers.*
- ◆ *I learnt how a school operates from a staff perspective, not a pupil perspective.*
- ◆ *I learnt how to use Excel properly and use formulas. I gained an understanding of how taxes and accountancy work. I chatted with some of the employees, so I found out about their work lifestyle.*
- ◆ *I learnt how to become confident when coaching others and that there are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes which are not usually seen.*
- ◆ *I learnt to be more patient with people. It taught me that some people take more time to process things and that being patient with them can help them a lot more as they do not feel rushed.*
- ◆ *I developed communication, teamwork and independence. I learnt that I am confident in a workplace.*
- ◆ *I learnt that I am good at resolving conflicts. Often the children would have little arguments with each other regarding the toys they were playing with and I was able to help them make a compromise.*
- ◆ *I learnt to be more extroverted around new people and am not afraid to start conversations with others now.*
- ◆ *I enjoyed being able to watch surgeries and being with animals for most of the time.*
- ◆ *I learnt IT skills and was able to develop my time management, teamwork, reliability and customer service skills.*

University Applications for Year 12 students

Thank you to parents/carers and students who attended our UCAS Information Evening last week. The presentations from the evening can be found on the right-hand side of this page in the careers section of our School website: [Spalding High School - Information for Parents/Carers](#)

Additionally, we will be attending the UCAS Discovery Event at the University of Lincoln on 26th June where students will be able to meet representatives from a range of universities and employers:

[UCAS Discovery Lincoln 2025 | UCAS](#)

I will be assisting students who wish to apply to university with their online applications in the coming weeks and students have already started work on personal statement writing which is recommended for all students, not just those applying to university. We hope that parents/carers will support students with applications and personal statement writing. Guidance on the new-style personal statement can be found here:

[The new personal statement for 2026 entry | UCAS](#)

Unifrog is hosting a virtual university fair on 4th June from 3.20-5.10pm with sessions on finance, personal statement writing, studying in the UK and abroad, choosing the right university and course and many more. The link to register is here: [Unifrog](#)

Here are the institutions involved:



As shared at the UCAS event in School last week, it is a good idea to sign up to the parents/carers UCAS newsletter: [Sign up for our parent newsletter | UCAS](#)

Aspiring Theatre Careers

The NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy is running two events in June to give students aged 15-19 an opportunity to gain an insight into the high-pressure working environment in a hospital theatre. Students will learn about various career routes such as Anaesthetists, Healthcare Support Workers (HCSW), Nurses, Nurse Associates (NAs), Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs), Orderlies, Surgeons, Theatre Managers and Theatre Support Workers (TSW).

Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for details. If students apply and gain a place, could they please let me know.

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



Aspiring Theatre Careers



Explore the careers that deliver skilled care before,
during and after a patient's surgical procedure

Open to individuals aged 15 to 19 years. This event provides an opportunity to explore the various roles and specialisms within Theatres through interactive workshops and informative talks led by industry experts.

Thursday 19th June - Lincoln County Hospital
Wednesday 25th June - Pilgrim Hospital, Boston

6.00 pm - 8:30 pm

Registration closes at 4 pm on 17th June



TALENT ACADEMY

Inspiring Futures : Informing Careers

Register Today!

lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events