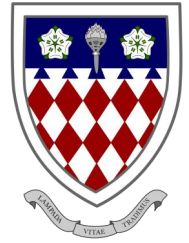


# Spalding High School

## Weekly Bulletin

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025



We know that sometimes the things that happen at the High School are a bit special and probably wouldn't happen anywhere else. Even Ofsted noted the student campaign to introduce an Ancient Greek Club and the HQ Magazine sharing recipes and humorous stories! The Behaviour Review conducted last month commented on the picnic blankets for students to sit on at lunch time...and the fact that students were not only using them, but were sitting around chatting and not on their phones.

Today was another example of the special relationship we have between staff and students as today at lunchtime we held the annual Y11 Leavers' Vs Staff rounders match. This is a great event and even though the staff usually win, I know they were anxious this year as Mr Farrell was not on site to play. The pressure on the colleagues left on site was palpable! But staff did indeed, turn out by the score and not just the PE staff; Mrs Hoodless, Mrs Fox, Mrs Jones, Messrs Ganger, Wright, Skinner, Cook and Blackburn to name but a few. As I approached the field, I truly did think, is that really Mrs Dowson out in the fielding area? There was an elegant looking figure, in a long flowing dress and scarf, with neatly arranged hair...could it be...was it really....Surely not? No, it wasn't. As I drew closer and my (old) eyes got a better view, I realised that the elegant looking fielder was actually a Y11 *dressed up* as Mrs Dowson! Then the penny dropped – Year 11 were not only taking on the staff team, they were taking them on *dressed up* as them! As I scanned the field and took in the players, yes there was Mr Farrell, Mrs Fox in her smart jacket, Mr Wright in a body building suit, the Geography department in their fieldwork ware – what a hoot – bravo and well done to Year 11 – you may not have won the match but you certainly won on style! Good luck with the exams and I will see you tomorrow at the leavers' assembly!

The other thing that was so special about this afternoon's match? The hundreds of students from other year groups sitting along the field line eating lunch, watching on, cheering both sides and enjoying the entertainment. Beautiful behaviour and a lovely way to spend lunch time. Thank you!

Enjoy Half Term everyone – may the sun shine for the whole week!

**M K Anderson, Headmistress**



## Student of The Week - Week Commencing 12<sup>th</sup> 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	Wiktorija Gren	Mrs J Lord	English
7J	Esmee Lovett	Mr Blackburn	Computer Science
7J	Mary Atolagbe	Mrs Fisk	English
7P	Lillie Smith	Mr Fovargue	Computer Science
7S	Holly Woolsey	Mrs Wilkins	Technology
8C	Aimee Kierman	Mrs C Lord	Mathematics
8N	Uthra Chandramohan	Miss Bailey	German
8N	Dina Mulambo	Mrs Chandler	Library
8P	Florence Carlson	Ms Busby	Food and Nutrition
8P	Evie Waterhouse	Mrs Knowles	German
8P	Ellenor Small	Mrs Neal	Art
9C	Alex Baker	Miss Magnus	Physical Education
9J	Olivia Duff	Mrs Cave	Religious Studies
9N	Yasmin Ahmed	Miss Magnus	Community
9P	Daisy Young-Smith	Miss Chalcraft	Mathematics
9S	Lily-May Davies	Mr Garbett	Music
9S	Avie-Mae Whiteway	Mrs Tanner	Art
10C	Chloe Matthews	Miss Ashley	Further Mathematics
10C	Jasmine Copping	Mrs Bennett	Geography
10C	Chloe Matthews	Mrs Aurikko	Chemistry
10C	Paige Goddard	Mrs Spinks	Mathematics
10J	Izzy Herring	Mr Hemsall	History
10J	Claire Kiock	Mrs H Waldron	Religious Studies
10N	Lola McAllister	Mrs Rogers	Geography
6AB	Kaytie Lawson	Miss Dunbar	Sociology
6AF	Ruby Smith	Mrs Busfield	Biology
6LM	Gabriella Best	Mrs Bennett	Community
6TD	Karolis Bledis	Miss White	Chemistry

### 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**

## Sports News

### Athletics

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, the High School junior girls' athletics team participated in the English Schools' Track & Field Cup. The competition involves each athlete taking part in one track event and field event, with each performance obtaining a score. The faster, longer, and higher the athlete performs the greater the score. On another great day for school athletics the team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall with a total points score of **239**.

Notable performances on the day included:

1. **Mbali Mlalazi - 100m = 20pts**
2. **Diana Zamura - 800m = 17pts**
3. **Megan Hogan - 800m = 16pts**
4. **Iris Thomas - 1500m = 18pts**
5. **Darcey Gunter - 1500m = 16pts**
6. **Maya Fraszczak - High jump = 15pts**

Well done to all involved.

### **PE Department**



## Y9 Rugby

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, the newly formed Y9 Spalding Grammar/High School mixed rugby team competed in the T1 Rugby event held at Spalding Rugby Club. This competition's philosophy is Inclusivity, Enjoyment and Participation. The emphasis is upon taking part, equal playing time and having fun rather than who wins/loses. The idea behind the event is to provide a fun and engaging first experience of rugby to try and increase participation.

The Y9s have worked really hard to improve their skills, tactical understanding and team cohesion through attending a number of after-school training sessions. It has been fantastic to have so many students eager to play and learn. I couldn't have facilitated the after-school sessions without the support of Mr Wright (SHS), Mr Crane (SGS) and Millie (SHS Y12 Sports Leader) so thank you all for your support (and parents for picking students up).

We had two teams enter which the organiser named SHS/SGS 1 and SHS/SGS A, they both spent the morning doing some progressive drills led by SGS Sports Leaders before starting the tournament which was organised into two pools of four teams.

SHS/SGS 1 won 5-0 against Boston High/Grammar in their first game playing some really nice rugby. Although they started well, there was a lack of concentration and tactical awareness when defending and they lost their next two games 4-2 against Spalding Academy and 3-0 against Bourne Grammar. The team should be proud of their efforts and on another day could have been serious contenders as each player made significant progress through the training sessions and tournament. They finished 5th overall. We would like to give a special mention to both Alex and Trish who have grasped this opportunity, and taken information on board really well, which gave them the skills and understanding to produce outstanding performances at the tournament.



SHS/SGS A also started the tournament with a strong 5-2 win against Boston High/Grammar, followed by another really impressive and dominant performance to win 6-1 against Spalding Academy. They unfortunately lost their last game 4-0 to eventual tournament winners Sir William Robertson which was a much more experienced rugby playing school. The team finished 4th overall and should be really pleased with their performances. A special mention must go to Yasmin who has thrown herself into this rugby opportunity (literally on some occasions) and made really pleasing progress.

Well done to all of you, I hope you have enjoyed your first experiences of playing Rugby.



Miss Magnus, PE Department

## Y7 News

### Climate Whispers

A lady called Beth, from Climate Whispers, came into school to deliver a workshop to each Y7 form. The workshop was about climate change awareness. Beth explained all about climate change and told us about the Philippines and the monsoons that greatly affect their lives. It made me feel thankful that we aren't in a place greatly affected by natural disasters. However, it also made me realise how privileged we are to not be in the situations we learned about. The video she showed us was extremely interesting and focused in the very rural areas across the world that are not causing the climate change but are highly affected by the problems we are causing. This made me think about how we are contributing to the problem as we are one of the places that cause the climate change but don't get affected by it.

Lily Jessop 7N



### Y7 Assembly - Guest Speaker

A few weeks ago, Y7 had an assembly led by author and former teacher Tana Macpherson-Smith. She spoke about her book, others struggling with mental health and even her own struggles. Tana spoke about her book and how it talks about the impact mental health can have on you, portraying it as a monkey sitting on your shoulder which is telling you how to act.

Tana's assembly was truly inspirational. It showed us how brave someone can be and how amazing we can all be, despite suffering. I feel as though her words alone about mental health have moved me. It shows us how much mental health and old traumas from our pasts can change someone, making them a whole new person.

I think that how Tana has coped with everything and become such an amazing and wonderful person is very influential. Tana's words in the assembly were so well thought out and thought provoking that I decided to order her book online. I believe she has a very good grasp and perspective of how mental struggles can be and how best to overcome them. I think that the 'monkey on your shoulder' is a very good and considerate way of portraying how some struggles can make you act and feel.

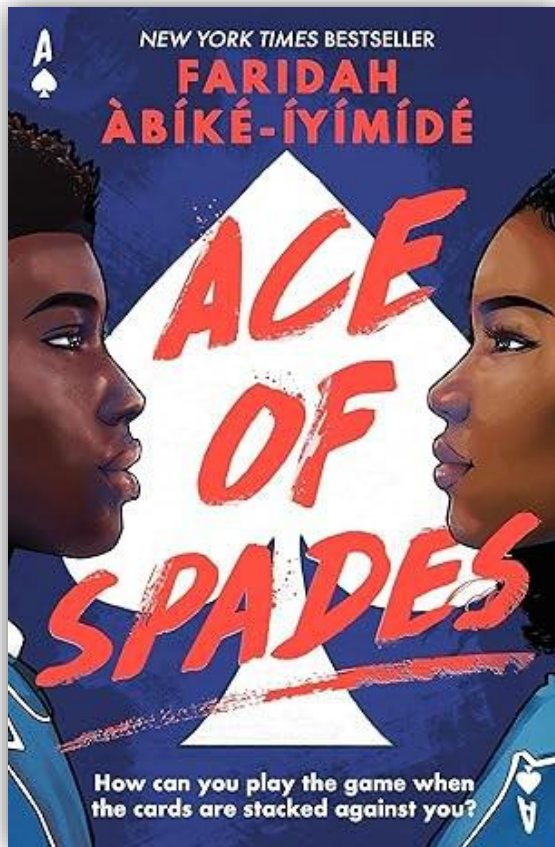
I would like to thank Tana for talking to us about her book, 'A Monkey on your Shoulder', and for being brave enough to tell us about her own experiences. I look forward to reading the book.

**Eva Steele 7C**



## Bookworm Bulletin

### Ace of Spades by Faridah Abike-Iyimide



Ace of Spades is a mystery/thriller novel, which explores themes of discovering identity as a teenager. Devon Richards, and Chiamaka Adebayo, are polar opposites, but they are both the only two black students at their predominantly white private school - Niveus Academy.

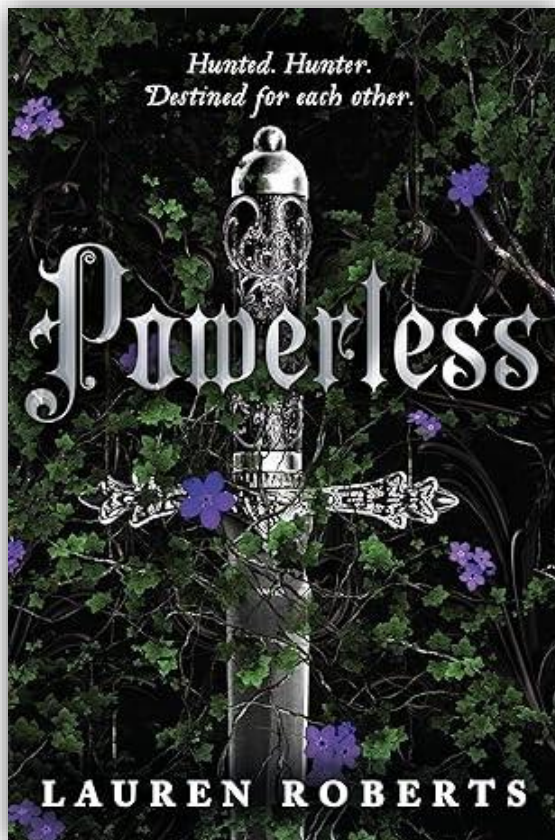
Suddenly, an anonymous person, who goes by the name Aces, starts spreading rumours about members of Niveus, trying to sabotage them, and it's working. The school seems to be turning against anyone involved, and ruining their lives. However, Devon and Chiamaka will not let this happen without a fight.

I would recommend this book to teens and young adults, as it contains some mature topics, which may not be appropriate for younger readers. It provides an insight into how toxic society can be, in terms of gender identity and race. This novel seems quite large, but I found it extremely quick and easy to read, and couldn't put it down. I really enjoyed this novel, and I'm sure fans of thrillers will too.

**Prisha 9J**

*Image source: Amazon.com*

### Powerless by Lauren Roberts



Inspired by The Hunger Games, Powerless is the tale of an ordinary 19 year old girl, Paedyn, living in a world where it is a crime to not have superpowers. When she saves the life of a prince, Paedyn ends up enlisted to participate in the Purging Trials, a gruelling series of tests used to challenge and show off only the most powerful individuals in all the kingdom.

Roberts has created an intriguing story, full of secrets, twists, and turns, which made for a thrilling read. I particularly liked learning about each of the competitors' abilities, and how that affected their approach to each trial. Each character felt unique and had clear motivations, which added to the emotional weight as they struggled through each event.

If you are a fan of The Hunger Games, or fantasy and romance novels, I would recommend giving this book a try!

**Miss Hammond, Drama Department**

*Image source: Amazon.com*

[All That It Ever Meant by Blessing Musariri](#)



In last week's book club we discussed our first book 'All That it Ever Meant', which is a touching story about family trauma and going on a journey to understand your identity and heritage. We also shared our views on the many subtopics this novel covers, including grief, road trips and character identity. 'All That it Ever Meant' features a startling plot twist and we suggested other books that also feature this, such as the Harry Potter books, Five Survive and A Good Girl's Guide to Murder.

Next meeting will be about two more Carnegie books 'Play' and 'Little Bang', which I am looking forward to.

Ava 8P

Image source: Amazon.com

## Sixth Form News

### Welcoming The New Prefect Team

This term welcomes the new senior prefect team:



Briony Sweeting as Head Student and Lexi Withers and Abbie Rowbottom as Deputy Head Students, lead the prefect team and help organise School events. They aim to be the voice of the student body and encourage student participation in schoolwide events in order to develop and maintain our sense of community.

Evie Daly is the new Wellbeing and Mental Health Prefect. Together with the Welfare Committee, which she is responsible for, they advocate for wellbeing in School, running sessions on Thursday lunchtimes where students can take part in fun activities to improve their mental health.

Matthew Harper, as the new Creative Arts Prefect, works with the Art, Drama and Music Prefects to create the Creative Arts Committee. They aim to promote these subjects throughout all year groups and encourage more students to participate in the arts.

The Common Room Prefect this year is Eden Isaac. She works with the Common Room Committee to ensure that the Sixth Form Common Room remains a clean and suitable working environment. They aim to develop the Common Room into a more comfortable place for Sixth Form students.

Jasmine Macasaddu is the new Library Prefect. She works with the Library Committee to maintain the library whilst also running a weekly book club and aims to inspire more students to read for entertainment through promoting the benefits of reading and encourage the exploration of different genres and styles.

The new Social Media Prefect this year is Callie Madden. Callie leads and manages the School's Instagram page with the support of the Social Media Committee. They hope to champion for and represent the School online through potentially expanding to other platforms and gain more engagement from students.

This year, there are two Charity Prefects: Cordi Mansfield and Ruby Smith. They work with the Charity Committee to plan and prepare events to help raise money for charities such as AGAPE. Both hope to make a meaningful impact both within and beyond the School community by leading fundraising events and supporting important causes.

Caspian Szczygiel, as Environment Prefect, works with the Environment Committee to keep an eco-friendly school environment. This year, they hope to reduce waste disposal and encourage recycling throughout the School.

Finally, I, Liz Mukama, am the new Bulletin and Communications Prefect. This is a new role within the Senior Prefect team, replacing the previous HQ Prefect – although not the same. My role is to publicise the achievements of the Sixth Form whilst encouraging all students to engage with the weekly Bulletin. Together with the Bulletin and Communications Committee, we aim to rejuvenate the previous excitement surrounding the Bulletin, celebrate school, religious and cultural events and ensure that everyone's achievements are acknowledged and celebrated.

As always, the Senior Prefect team are ambassadors for the School whilst being role models for all year groups, therefore, when you see the yellow badge or the prefect tie, please do not hesitate to engage with us, as we're always happy to help.

#### **Liz Mukama 6SC**

As Term 5 comes to an end, the new Senior Prefects are well settled into their new roles. The new team has already completed one event, providing car parking for those attending the Tulip Parade on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Whilst it was not as busy as previous years, we have gained valuable experience on how to run and plan an event which will help us with our future plans. For our first ever event as the new team I would say it was a success, so well done to everyone who helped out. As a new team we are now excited for the summer term to commence. Many exciting events are happening such as Sports Day and the Summer Concert. The Senior Prefect team is looking forward to more events and planning has already begun.

Finally we would like to congratulate not only the Year 13s but also the Year 11s on making it half way through their exams. We wish you all the best of luck for after half term!

#### **Lexi Withers 6TD**

## 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**



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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

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**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](http://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](mailto: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](#)**

### University Applications for Year 12 students

We will be attending the UCAS Discovery Event at the University of Lincoln on 26<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 recently, 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](mailto: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](https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events)