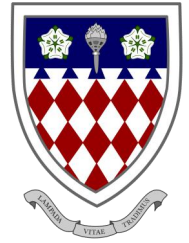


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

5th June 2025



Welcome back to T6; the summer term is here at last – if only the summer weather was too!

Hopefully, you had a lovely restful Whit half term holiday and have come back, batteries recharged and ready for the final seven and a half weeks of the year. There is a lot to look forward to, including Extended Learning Week between Monday 7th and Friday 11th July. There will be the usual mix of year based activities Monday to Wednesday, followed by Careers Day on Thursday and Sports & House Day on Friday. Plans are taking shape and details will be shared over the next few weeks so keep an eye on the bulletin for further information.

Over the holiday, contractors started working on R6, our new SEND hub. The former food tech room and then Covid test room has been completely gutted by the site team whilst we made plans and designs for how we want the room to be laid out. It has all been very exciting! Over the holiday, the contractors moved in and a new floor has been made and the walls plastered. It has already made such a difference to the feel of the space. On site work will continue over the next few weeks and then in the summer holidays the contractors will work their magic to build our new Hub. It will be operational from September and we cannot wait to show you the pictures in the bulletin.

I hope that you are working your way through the most recent edition of the HQ. We sent the link home just before the holiday and it is an edition full of all the exciting things that students have been involved in over the spring term. The next edition will be issued just before the summer hols and so do come along and join the team if you would like to contribute. Talking of exciting things – excellent news about the joint SHS/SGS Y12 Rugby Team – well done to you all! And to Izzy too – what an amazing achievement!

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

Sports News

Y12 Rugby

On Wednesday 21st May our first ever combined Spalding High School / Spalding Grammar School Y12 Rugby team took part in a tournament organised on behalf of the RFU. The tournament was held at Spalding Rugby Club and followed the game format of T1 rules (same as the recent Y9 teams).

The tournament had an emphasis on participation and inclusivity, which our students echoed in their approach to the day. We played against teams from Stamford College and Willoughby Academy, and it was fantastic to see our students being so understanding and displaying empathy, kindness and sportsmanship to the other teams. Our students represented the Schools and our values incredibly well, which I am really pleased was recognised and commented on by a number of other staff members at the event.

Following the event, I was delighted to receive an email from the organiser to say he had been offered the opportunity to nominate a sixth form team to play at **Allianz Stadium, Twickenham next year and has chosen us!!** Something for the Y12 team to look forward to in the Autumn term with more details to follow.

Miss Magnus, PE Department



Celebrating The Individual in Y9 - Isabella Goddard 9C

I'm Izzy and I love to dance! I do at least one dance class every school night. I do ten different classes altogether; modern, acro, comp team, pointe work, gifted ballet, contemporary, grade five ballet, jazz, intermediate ballet, and tumbling. My favourite is definitely ballet, but I really enjoy contemporary as well.

Each year my dance school puts on a show in the theatre with every class in it. I have taken part in this every year since I was five years old. It's so fun learning all the dances and wearing the costumes. Performing also makes me feel so good.

As well as this, I take part in competitions with the comp team group. So far, we have competed in four. Over these competitions I have placed 3rd five times, 2nd three times and 1st three times with different dances I compete with. I have a ballet solo, a ballet duet, a lyrical trio, a lyrical group dance and I have recently had a new lyrical solo choreographed for me. This new solo has been eventful to say the least. The first time I performed it, I was quite nervous and forgot some of it on stage so ended up having to improvise which was one of the scariest things that's happened to me on stage, I think. This upset me quite a bit so when I still placed 3rd I was, I guess a bit annoyed at myself. I didn't feel like I deserved it because I knew I went wrong and could dance it so much better. However, this half term I had another comp so got to dance it again. I was quite scared after what happened last time, but I had been practicing loads in the hope it wouldn't happen again. During this time, the CD skipped so it didn't go to plan, and I had to improvise again. I wasn't too annoyed though because I danced the rest full out and to the best of my ability. Because of all this, I was over the moon when I came 1st! I was so happy and so proud of myself, I hugged my family and cried happy tears for a while.

I also took part in Lincolnshire Youth Ballet for two years. I went to Stamford every day for three weeks in the summer holidays to learn it and perform the show at the end. I have made some great friends through doing this and had the opportunity to dance with professional ballet dancers. It also helped improve my technique loads and my confidence has grown so much.

I have an upcoming show, and I am taking part in BGT (Boston's Got Talent) soon. Fingers crossed that all goes well. I can't wait to compete more and do more shows. These years have been incredible and yet filled with hurdles along the way but I'm overcoming those, and I think I have grown so much in confidence and personality and have come so far from where I started. I still have so much further to go and so much more to learn though.



Y7 Visit to the Community Orchard Opening

On a bright and beautiful afternoon, ten Y7 students had the privilege of attending the opening of the new community orchard, situated behind Scalextric Racing in Weston Hills Road, Spalding.

The community orchard was officially opened by Sir John Hayes, with the planting of a tree. He also spoke to the students about the importance of trees, not only in supporting biodiversity but also in combating climate change and fostering a healthier environment for future generations.

The students were not mere spectators; they actively engaged in activities around the orchard. From learning about the different species of trees planted to assisting in tending to the area, their enthusiasm was palpable. These efforts demonstrated the value of teamwork and the sense of accomplishment that comes from giving back to the community.

The orchard itself is a welcome addition to Spalding, offering a serene space for relaxation, learning, and growth. Its thoughtful placement and design aim to encourage local residents to connect with nature. The students left the event not only inspired but also excited about the prospect of visiting the orchard again in the future and seeing how their work contributes to its flourishing.

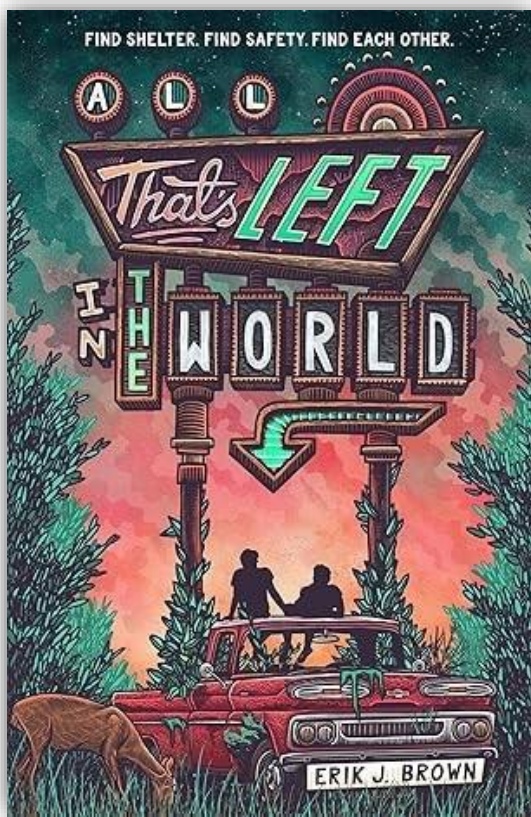
The visit to the community orchard opening was a wonderful opportunity for the students to step outside the classroom and engage with their local environment in a meaningful way. The event was a celebration of nature, community, and cooperation, and it provided valuable lessons that the students will carry with them for years to come. We are proud of their involvement and look forward to seeing how our community continues to benefit from this beautiful orchard.



Mrs Spinks, Head of Y7

Bookworm Bulletin

All That's Left in the World by Erik J. Brown

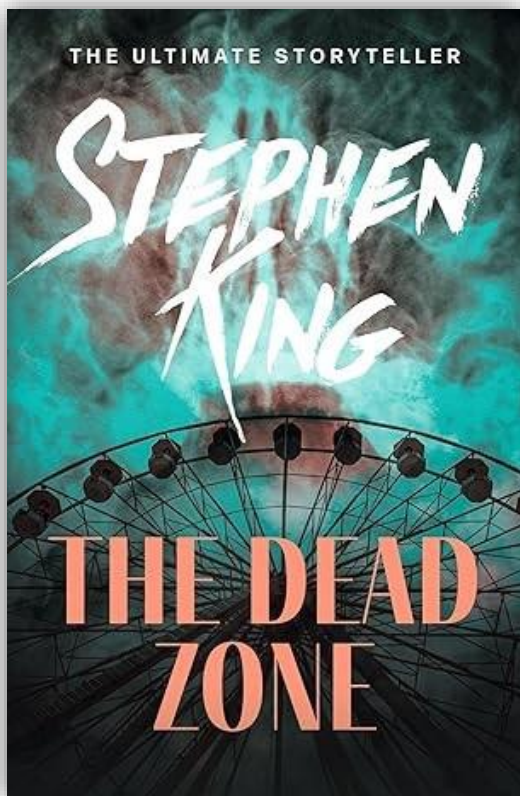


This was a fascinating book! It gave real world examples of the type of things that would happen if we had a breakout of a disease. I believe it painted a very realistic picture of the world, and the emotional and physical trauma that could come with it, and without access to healthcare what would be needed to survive. This book follows two boys, around the age of 16, and the after effect of the outbreak of a disease, which ends up killing over half of the population. This post-apocalyptic world is dangerous, and trusting people is very hard, since many would do anything to survive. After Andrew stumbles upon a cabin that is seemingly empty, he tries to enter, only to find another boy there. Jamie has just lost his mother, and has not left the cabin since. They end up leaving the cabin, however, and travel through a world where wild animals are loose, there is no internet and people are just trying to do what they can to survive. As they slowly travel through ghost towns and abandoned cities in search of safety and maybe even a permanent home, they start to fall for each other. This book was amazingly written and an absolutely gripping story of loss and the lengths people will go to in order to survive. I would recommend this to anyone who loves a good dystopian, post-apocalyptic style book. 10/10

Jasmine 9S

Image source: Amazon.com

Stephen King Books



If you have an imagination, the problem with reading Stephen King books, is sleeping. Whilst they can be read with background noise, they are at their most chilling when read in the silence. He will draw you deep into a magical new world and then just as you are comfortable he will scare you beyond comprehension. At bedtime!

I've read a good few; one of my favourites is *The Dead Zone*, in which the main character spends most of the book in a coma (ha-ha it's more interesting than it sounds), but when he comes out he has the power to perceive evil in people's souls, and can see the future. *The Shining* is an absolute classic, not least for the fact it was made into one of the most famous horror films of all time. But I can recall the drunken conversations with the ghosts as if they were yesterday, as the Dad gradually loses his mind to murder. Following his little son Danny along the hallways I was scared to turn a page. You will love *Carrie*, King's first novel, about a bullied school girl's fiery revenge, *Cujo* is a rabid St. Bernard hulk stalking a mother and child trapped in their broken down car. *Pet Cemetery* does what it says on the cover. I also loved *Misery*, *Salem's Lot* and *The Running Man*.

The most recent book that I read was *Needful Things*, about a shop that sells something for everyone, something you really just had to have at a price you could only just about afford, but that would

ultimately end up being your downfall. That was written in 1991 when I was a 19. I've been too scared to read any since. I dare you to read one!

Mr Martindate, Head of Design Technology

Image source: Amazon.com

Carnegie Shadowing Book Club Update

Our Carnegie book group is open to all, meets every Tuesday at 1.30pm in the library and is run by Miss O'Sullivan and Mrs Lees. In our last session we looked at *Play* and *Little Bang*, two more Carnegie Award Shortlisted books. These are both older teen reads and although many of us hadn't read them, we discussed the themes and issues they raised. *Little Bang* focuses on teenage pregnancy and abortion, whereas *Play* looks at teenage drug use, toxic masculinity and teenage LGBTQ+ issues amongst teenage boys. Our group discussed how these books could help and support people who were uncomfortable talking to parents or carers, or just to know about choices and positive outcomes.

We both found these books very interesting in unique ways however, because of the content, we would recommend to older readers.

Freya and Holly 75



SEND News

The SEND and Inclusion as well as the Medical Needs policies have been updated, with minor amendments made. There is also a new EAL policy. All three policies can be found in draft form on the School website: Any questions or feedback related to this should be sent to Mrs Abrams by Thursday 19th June 2025 via email: jill.abrams@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Hickman, SENDCo

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

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 10 – University Centre Peterborough Trip – 8th July

Earlier this week we sent out information about a free upcoming trip for all our Year 10 students at University Centre Peterborough. Could parents/carers please complete the consent form at their earliest convenience.

Year 12 Work Experience – 30th June – 4th Jul

Year 12 students will be out on work experience 30th June – 4th July. If any students are not at a placement for the full five days, they will be expected to be in school where they will be able to complete virtual work experience activities and continue to work on personal statements and progression route planning with me.

University Applications for Year 12 students

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

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.

Introduction to the Role of a Teaching Assistant

Boston College is pleased to offer a **free** *Introduction to the Role of a Teaching Assistant* session, which may be of interest to parents/carers within our school community.

The session will take place on **Monday, 9th June from 5:00pm to 8:00pm** and will provide an excellent overview of the role, including:

- Understanding the responsibilities of a Teaching Assistant
- An introduction to safeguarding
- Awareness of SEND
- Behaviour management strategies
- Creating and maintaining an effective learning environment

To express interest or book a place, please apply via the following link:

 <https://www.boston.ac.uk/adult-bite-size-course-application/>

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

