

1920 - 2025



105

YEARS

LAMPADA

VITAE

TRADIMUS

Spalding High School weekly bulletin 27th November 2025

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headmistress

It is getting harder and harder to ignore that Christmas is well and truly on the horizon now! Not only have I started to see house decorations and lights popping up in greater numbers on my drive to and from school each day but I have also approved / made decisions about lots of bits and pieces that need to be organised in advance of the High School officially starting its Christmas celebrations tomorrow!

Some of these decisions need to be made weeks in advance and are not just part and parcel of everyday matters. The School Christmas trees, for example were ordered weeks ago, but will arrive shortly and then our Prefect Team have what I know they consider to be their MOST important job of the year which is to decorate them both! We have two beautiful trees, one of which will be in the School Hall, ready for the disco, Bring A Tin Day, Pantomime and Christmas Concert, and the other in the School Reception, to keep the fish company and also act as a warm welcome this coming season. Similarly, the Christmas lunch menu was confirmed weeks ago but now tickets have gone on sale. Students and staff have the delights of two different menus this year, a traditional lunch and a grab and go version (details inside). **Christmas lunch** will be served on the **16th and 17th December** and tickets will sell fast, so do get yourself organised with one so as not to miss out. One of the joyous tasks that no doubt awaits me over the next few days is organising the Senior Leadership Team as to what jobs they will be doing in the canteen those days; although none of us dares to challenge Mrs Ray for the gravy pouring job! Or at least students should hope that she will be doing that rather than serving the veg as she will nag you to have Brussel sprouts, so beware!

Christmas at the High really does start tomorrow with the **Year 7 Christmas Tree Competition (Friday 28th November)**, and we are all very excited about that! Not only will the School Hall be full of excited Year 7s and their tutors but also other year groups singing along to all the festive favourite songs on their way through the canteen, and admiring all of the homemade decorations. This is another really enjoyable job for the SLT as we take it in turns to judge the entries across a number of categories – it really is incredibly hard! I look forward to sharing the winners and photographs in next week's bulletin and would like to thank Year 7 for their efforts and for officially launching our festive celebrations for 2025.

You will also see inside this week's bulletin we have the details of our **Christmas Concert (Monday 15th December)**, and well done to the School Choir for their amazing performance at Baytree last weekend. Hot off the press today is the launch of the Annual **High School Pantomime on Friday 12th December** ("Oh yes, it is!"). This year it is the turn of the staff pantomime which is always good for a jolly old laugh and a great way to see your teachers and

staff joining in the festive fun! Tickets for these two exciting events will sell out fast and so again, get in early to avoid disappointment!

So, it's official, Christmas at the High starts tomorrow!

Student of the Week



Staff Name	Student Name	Form	Reason
Mrs Knowles	Izzy Simpson	7N	German
Mr Wright	Heidi Green	7N	Science
Mrs Lees	Issy Burton	7P	Library
Mrs Spinks	Sharon Emeh	7P	Mathematics
Mrs Clay	Cimmy Alvarez	8C	French
Mr Murphy	Kira Wong	9N	Latin
Miss Parker	Umayyah Muhammed	9S	Physical Education
Mrs Aurikko	Alex Baker	10C	Biology
Mrs Bennett	Iris Lucas	10C	Geography
Miss White	Holly Claydon	10J	Chemistry
Mr Blackbourn	Olivia Duff	10J	Business
Mr Hemsall	Emily Webster	10J	History
Mr Ganger	Alena Golek	10S	Mathematics
Mrs C Lord	Izzie O'Brien	11C	Mathematics
Mrs T Waldron	Abigail Grimer	11P	Biology
Miss Jeffery	Isabella Wilkinson	11S	English
Mrs Martindale	Gabby-Lorraine Muhammed	11S	Biology
Miss Dunbar	Isia Hepplewhite	12AF	Criminology
Mrs Busfield	Angel De Melo	12LM	Biology

Please find here 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.

Sports News



Despite icy winds and frozen fingers, our Year 7 and Year 9 netball teams delivered two outstanding performances against Bourne Academy, proving that teamwork and determination shine even brighter than the freezing weather!

Year 7 displayed fantastic movement around the court, with equally good attacking and defending. Their resilience in the cold conditions didn't go unnoticed and their powerful team spirit helped secure a well-deserve 8-0 victory! A special well done to Lily who was awarded Player of the Match!

Year 9 matched the energy with skilful play and strong communication. Their defensive work forced turnovers and their shooters remained calm and accurate under pressure. Well done Year 9 for your 8-2 win!



On Tuesday 25th November the Under 14 football team travelled to Sir Robert Pattinson to play in Round 1 of the Lincolnshire County Cup. We took an early lead from a great strike by Annika but were then very complacent and second to a lot of balls which led to us finding ourselves 4-1 down at half-time. After a much improved second half team performance, we brought the game back to 5-5 with goals from Kaelyn, Darcy and two more from Annika.

With it being a cup game this meant we played a further 10 minutes, but the game remained 5-5 leading to the dreaded penalty shootout. Well done to Ruby, Cimmy and Emily for scoring their penalties and Megan for saving the oppositions final penalty to put us into the next round.

Player of the Match was undoubtedly Annika, who not only scored a hatrick but also played a vital role in defending the final stages of the game. We showed great belief and resilience to claw the game but we did make hardwork of it!

Last week, fourteen students braved the cold to represent the School at the South Lincolnshire Cross Country Championships. Despite the icy conditions, our students produced fantastic performances, demonstrating great pacing, strong finishes and excellent support for one another. All students completed the race with real enthusiasm and effort - you represented the School superbly, well done to everyone who took part! Also a big thank you to Evie Russell for helping at the event.

Eight pupils finished in the top twenty, securing them a place in the next round and earning them the chance to represent South Lincolnshire at the County Cross County Championship which is held at Burghley house on Saturday 17th January 2026 - more details to follow.

Year	Name	Position
U13	Ula Jarosiute	1 st
	Nyah Gyamfi	8 th
	Alice Gough	26 th
	Maddie Povey	32 nd
	Lyla Huggins	37 th
U14	Iris Thomas	10 th
	Mbali Mlalazi	17 th
	Megan Hogan	21 st
	Diana Zamura	30 th
	Maria Sroka	48 th
U16	Izzy Hurn	2 nd
	Grace Hurn	3 rd
	Pela Tian-Wright	7 th
	Lisa Szymanowska	13 th





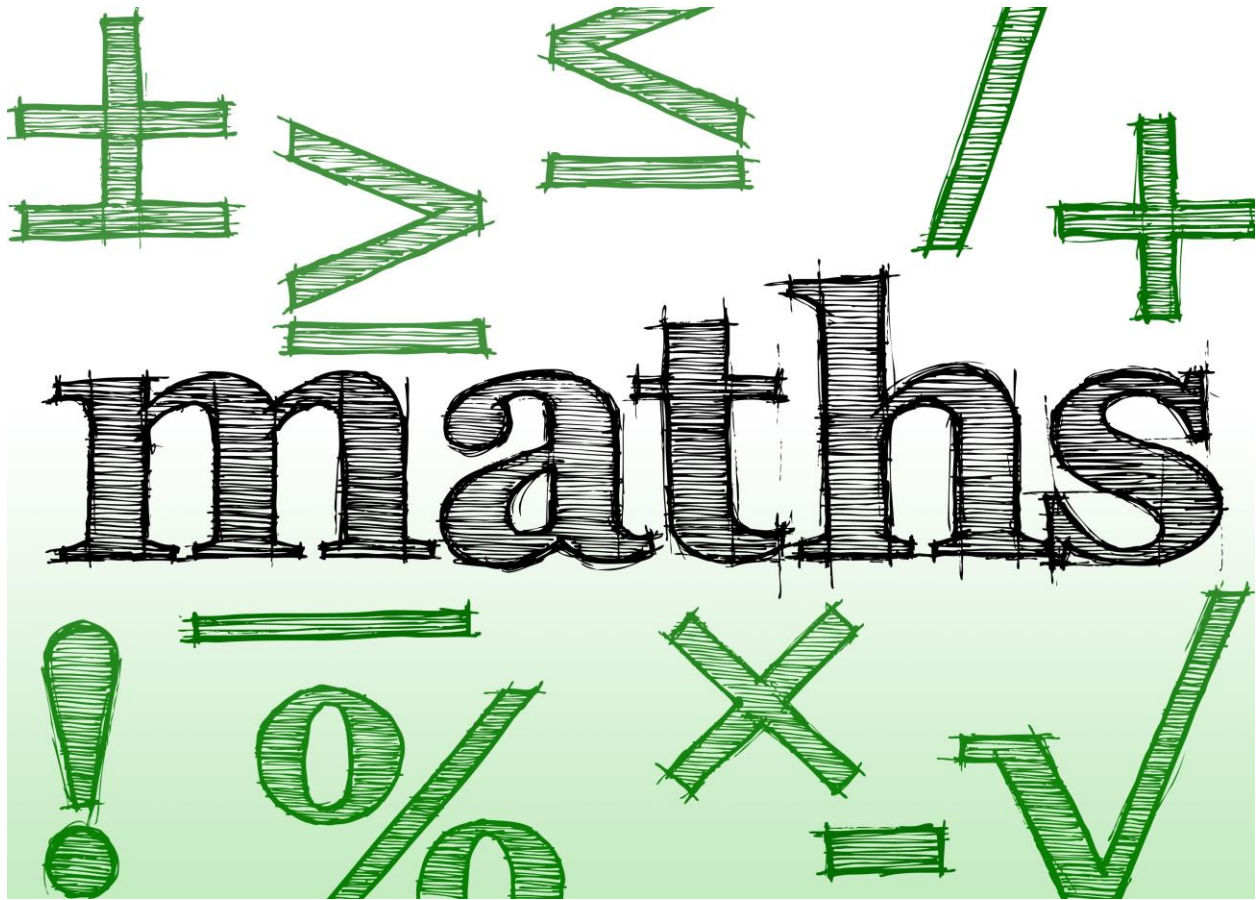
This term, our sports leaders took part in a fun and engaging Winter Olympics Games sessions. Just like the real athletes, pupils focused and competed in a range of winter- themed challenges to earn points for, sportsmanship, resilience, effort and skill. Some of the stations included Blind Folded Drawing, Snowball Scoop and Ice curling. Well done ladies, you are developing into fantastic leaders!







Maths News



Axiom Maths

Axiom Maths is a fantastic five-year enrichment programme designed to nurture deep problem-solving skills, curiosity and mathematical confidence. Please see [link here for more information](#).

At our school, sessions run online for Years 9 and 10 and in person for Year 8, creating a supportive and engaging learning environment.

We warmly invite all Year 7 students, who recently enjoyed an Axiom taster session in their Maths lesson, to enrol and begin this exciting and empowering mathematical journey that will start in January 2026. The deadline for enrolling is Friday 28th November 2025.

Here's what our older students are saying about the programme:

I enjoy doing Axiom sessions because it expands my knowledge in various maths areas that are outside the box. This helps me challenge myself by teaching me skills that I can use in lessons later on. Since Axiom is online, it allows me to talk to people I don't know about mathematical problems and ideas in the time that is convenient for me.

Kiera

I have been doing Axiom Maths since Year 7 and it's really fun, it helps us to think about maths in many different ways and it gives us a chance to try explore more. In Year 7 and 8 we had Axiom Maths in school at lunch and we solved maths problems together with our friends in groups. In Year 9 I have Axiom Maths online after school; we still solve maths problems together and it does NOT matter if we make mistakes. It is a really good chance for us to try out different things and try to think in more other ways.

Eunice

More comments from Year 8 students:

Axiom Maths is a fun maths club where you can extend your maths knowledge by solving questions with your friends. Join Axiom Maths this year to get stickers and Excellents weekly.

Axiom Maths club is really fun as you get to learn more maths with your friends. Everyone is accepting so you don't feel left out. Join Axiom Maths!

Axiom Maths is inclusive and it is really practical. It helps to prevent stress during lessons and once you go to a few, you will soar in Maths.

Axiom Maths is a fun circle of maths which is completed with your friends. It also helps your effort grades.

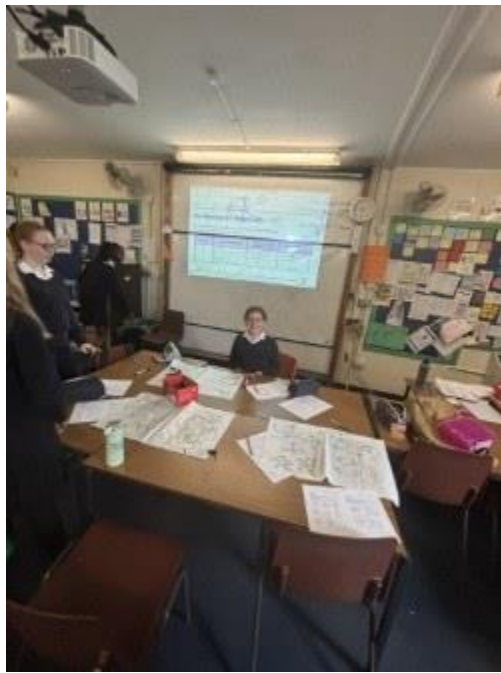
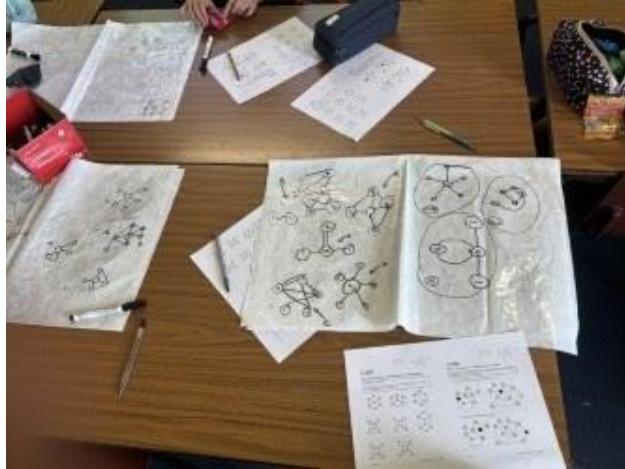
Axiom Maths is very interesting and I find it fun to expand on my maths learning, especially when you can come with your friends!

Axiom Maths helps me with my logical thinking. You can find lots of friends, and it's fun. You can also get extra Excellent points when you join.

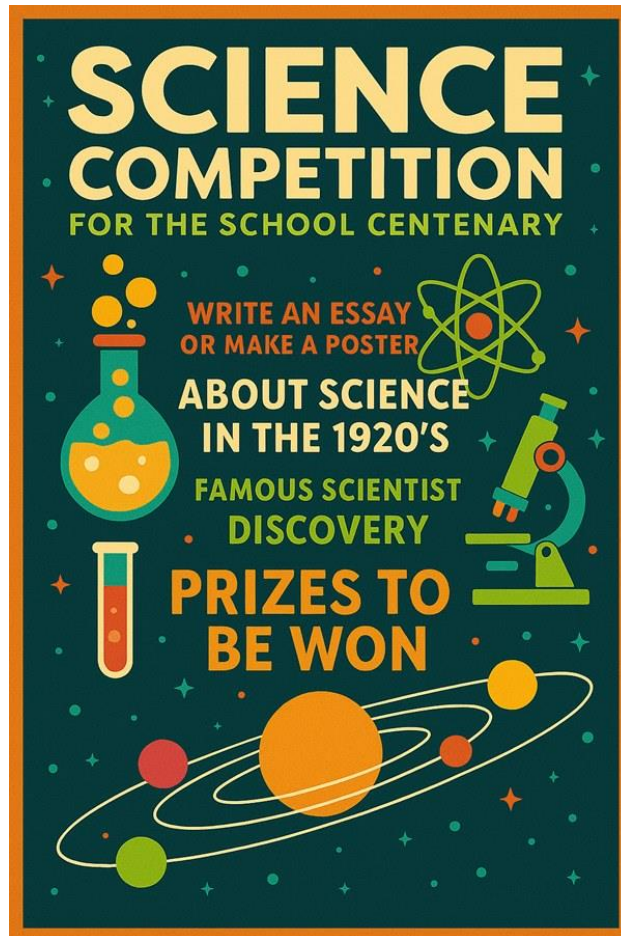
I find Axiom very challenging and a good way to get in some extra curriculum maths. I like Axiom because I get to sit with my friends and because the questions are really fun.

Axiom Maths can help you with learning and problem solving. You can make new friends and have a nice time. The best thing about it is that you can earn Excellents.





Science News



Please see details of the Science Department competition for the School Centenary.

Library News



Book Group Update

Our Year 9-11 Crime Book Club met to discuss this term's shared read 'Agency for Scandal' by Laura Wood. The book follows nineteen year old Isobel who by day is a respectable member of the upper class and by night works for a secretive all-female detective agency righting the wrongs of the world. Our book club loved this book! From the mystery to the romance, our students were hooked.

This term we are reading Richard Osman's 'Thursday Murder Club' and will meet next term to discuss our thoughts.

Upcoming dates:

Key Stage 3 Reading Group: winter reads on 4th December.

Crime Book Club: general book chat on 28th November.

Sixth Form Book Club: winter reads on 5th December.

Happy Reading!

Miss O'Sullivan and Mrs Lees



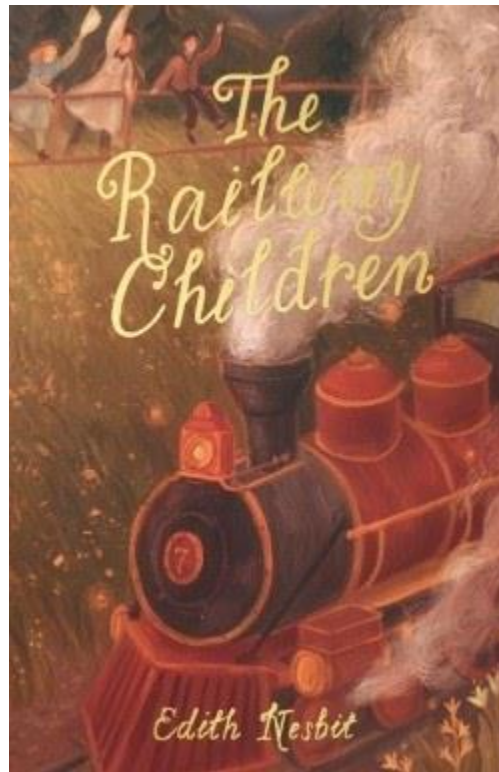
6th form Library Committee Winter Reading Challenge

What are you enjoying reading this winter? Tell us about it and you may win a prize.

Happy Reading

<https://forms.office.com/e/4Vy51pKY7a>

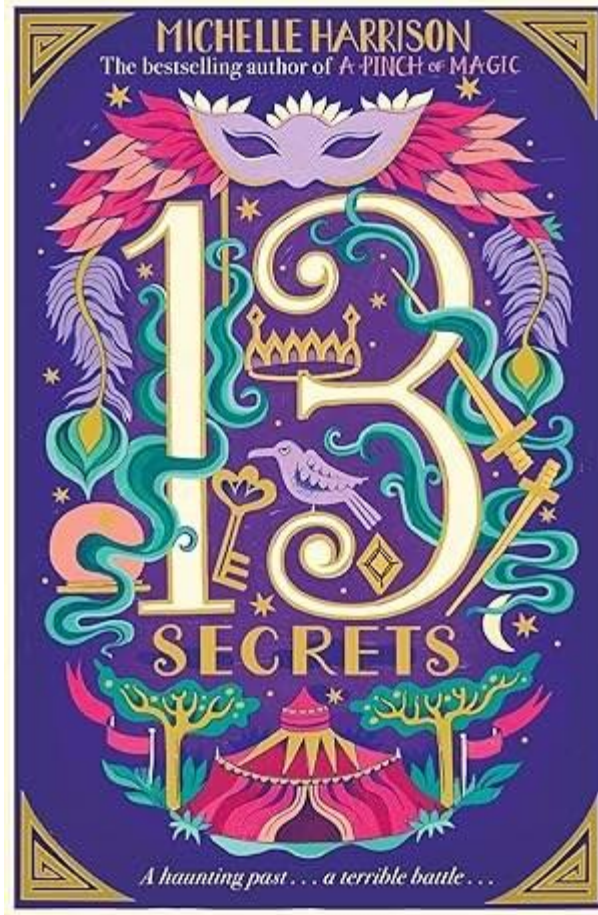
Book reviews



The Railway Children by E. Nesbit

This book is a classic children's book. However, it could also be described as a mystery, as the children don't know what has happened to their father. The story is based around three young children; Roberta, Peter and Phyllis and their mother. The children are very brave, fearless and heroic and their mother is very kind and caring. The book is set in the early 1900's. The main storyline is that the children's father gets taken away and the children don't know why. They then had to move to the countryside and start a new life, without their father. They live by the railway so they are quite familiar with it and this leads them to befriend the station porter, Perks. They complete many heroic deeds, like saving a boy from the railway tunnel, as he had fallen onto the track and when they save a whole train full of people with only their handkerchiefs. They then have to learn how to live their normal lives without their father. I would recommend this book to people who enjoy a bit of suspense and a bit of mystery, but also with a good family bond.

Livy, Year 8



13 Secrets by Michelle Harrison

13 Secrets is an excellent book for children aged 9-14 years old who enjoy adventurous, mysterious, magical stories. The story follows a girl called Rowan (her nickname being Red), who goes on adventures with her two cousins, Tanya and Fabian. There is a magical bracelet with 13 charms that link to 13 secrets and it is passed down through Tanya's family. The cousins set out to uncover the mystery of the 13 secrets. The story also includes The Covan, a mysterious group of changelings who Red knows well.

This book has made me cherish reading as it contains loads of different genres. It is definitely a favourite of mine.

Nawal, Year 8

Music News



The SHS Choir entertained a very large crowd at Baytree's Christmas Market on Saturday morning. The Choir were superb, very enthusiastically singing a 30 minute set at the market. I was very very proud of all of them! Here are a couple of reviews by members of the Choir.

Mr Garbett, Head of Music

On Saturday 22nd November, the High School choir sang at the Baytree Christmas Market. Despite the rainy weather, it was a busy morning, and we had a large audience who all enjoyed the selection of songs we sang. The performance started with hits like *Sky Full of Stars* by Coldplay and *Unwritten* by Natasha Bedingfield and ended with a few Christmas songs including *Santa Tell Me* by Ariana Grande and *Merry Christmas Everyone* by Shakin' Stevens. It was a great performance, and everyone had lots of fun. We hope we put everyone in a Christmas spirit and more to come with the Christmas concert due on the 15th of December, tickets on sale now!

Zofia - Year 10

Baytree was an unforgettable experience. With all of our voices blending in harmony, we moved the crowd using nothing but our singing. From *Counting Stars* to *Santa Tell Me*, we performed together—united by our shared love of music. As the crowd filmed, our smiles shone brightly, and our happiness became contagious. Everyone there seemed to enjoy the moment as Spalding High School came together at Baytree to perform for the audience's enjoyment—and our own. The songs filled the air with Christmas spirit and made everyone feel ready for the holidays. It was truly a wonderful experience, and as a member of the Choir, I would love to do it all again.

Lily - Year 8





SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS
A WINTER CONCERT
MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER
7:00 PM

Tickets - £6.00
Available on ScoPay or from the School

Charity News



Bring a Tin Day 12th December 2025

We will be holding our annual "Bring a Tin Day" in aid of Agape Foodbank in Spalding on Friday 12th December.

Agape is a charity that provides support and food to homeless people and those struggling financially in Spalding and the local area. This Christmas, Agape are again collecting donations and we would like to continue to help them in supporting people in need. We ask that students bring an item of non-perishable food (or more if you feel able to) and we will deliver them all to the local branch. This will make a huge difference to children and families living in Spalding. We will send a list of items needed to families soon.

To promote the festive spirit the day will be a non-uniform day at School - please feel free to wear your festive Christmas jumpers!

Please see the lists from Agape of items that would be particularly useful to the foodbank for the Christmas period.



**The Lighthouse, Haverfield Road,
Spalding,
Lincolnshire PE11 2XP**

One or more items would be appreciated

Shopping list

- . Milk UHT
- . Packet/Pot Noodles
- . Pasta and pasta sauces
- . Tinned Vegetables
- . Tinned Meat
- . Tinned Soup
- . Tinned Fruit
- . Rice Pudding
- . Cereals
- . Biscuits
- . Squash
- . Tea
- . Custard

**Emergency
food for
people in
crisis in
South
Holland area**

•
**Enabling
local
communities
to help their
neighbours**

We care . We share . We're there

A Social concern project of the Lighthouse Church -
charity no 1052166

agape:care Foodbank

Christmas Shopping List

Christmas food
For families in need
in the
South Holland area

Bread Sauce
Gravy Granules
Christmas Cake
Savoury Snacks
Selection Boxes
Chocolate Mints
Pringles
Mince Pies
Christmas Crackers
Colouring Books
Felt tip Pens

The Lighthouse, 10 Haverfield Road, Spalding,
Lincolnshire PE11 2XP
Mobile: 07956 60289
email: agapecare@lvs.co.uk
The Market House, Market Street, Long Sutton PE11 9DD

A Social concern project of the Lighthouse Church - Charity no. 1052164



Agapecare Foodbank
Christmas Donations

Tinned
*Potatoes (large size tins especially)**
Fruit
*Rice pudding**
*Custard**
Spaghetti
Baked Beans (with sausages)
Soup (Heinz Big Soup especially)
Ravioli
*Ham**
Corn beef
Chicken
Meatballs
Tomatoes
Packet
Noodles
*Mashed Potato**
Pot Noodles
Hot Dogs

Thank you For YOUR Support

Items marked with * are particularly useful.

Other News

On the 20th November, 10C led our fortnightly assembly. Rather than sticking to a more 'traditional' style, we decided to use our theme of "teamwork" more creatively. Each form took part in teamwork activities, which meant that they had to communicate in different ways. The forms were tasked to pass a hula-hoop round a circle the fastest, order themselves on a bench from oldest to youngest, untangle themselves from a human knot, and create a five-point star out of rope. To finish we all came together and sang Viva la Vida (Coldplay), played by a few members of 10C on the keyboard, bass guitar and triangle. All the forms performed excellently, well done!

Heidi, 10C Form Captain

After our assembly we discussed which forms completed the activities the best and which forms worked well together. For the first activity, which consisted of passing a hula hoop round each other whilst in a circle, 10J had the quickest time in total. However, we also decided that the best teamwork was shown by 10P, even if they weren't the fastest they communicated well and worked great together. For the second activity where everyone held hands and had to untangle themselves, 10S had the quickest time. And once again we decided that 10P had the best teamwork overall. For the third activity the groups had to arrange themselves on a bench in order. The form with the best teamwork and quickest time was 10N, who worked brilliantly with each other. It was great to see Mrs Tanner getting involved with her form in this activity. And for the final activity involving having to make a shape out of rope without talking we have joint winners: 10S and 10J! Well done everyone and thank you for participating in our assembly!

Zofia, 10C Eco-Rep





Careers News



Year 10 Work Experience – 23rd-27th March 2026

Well done to Year 10 students who have already found work experience placements for March and added their details, their employer's details and their parents' details onto the Unifrog Placements Tool, which we are using in school to manage work experience administration. Could students who have not yet found a placement please continue to make enquiries to try to get their placement secured as soon as possible. We are aiming to have all students logged on the placements tool by the end of this term.

Year 13 – University Applications and Offers

If students have already received all their offers from the universities they selected for their application, they do not have to choose their firm and insurance choices immediately, unless they are 100% certain. In their UCAS hub, it will give a deadline date by which they will need to choose. I advise students to give it some time, think it through and possibly attend offer holder days in the New Year.

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

Other notices and information



Upcoming diary dates:

28th November Christmas Tree competition

1st December Year 11 and 13 mocks start

2nd and 3rd December Christmas Craft Fayre

5th December Year 7 & 8 Christmas Disco & Bingo at Spalding Grammar School

12th December Bring a Tin day and Staff Pantomime – see poster attached

15th December Christmas concert

16th and 17th December Christmas Lunch - see menus attached

17th December Christmas Service at St Mary and St Nicholas Church

19th December (Friday) Last day of term

6th January (Tuesday) First day of Spring term

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

Lunchtime

Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd December

In the Hall

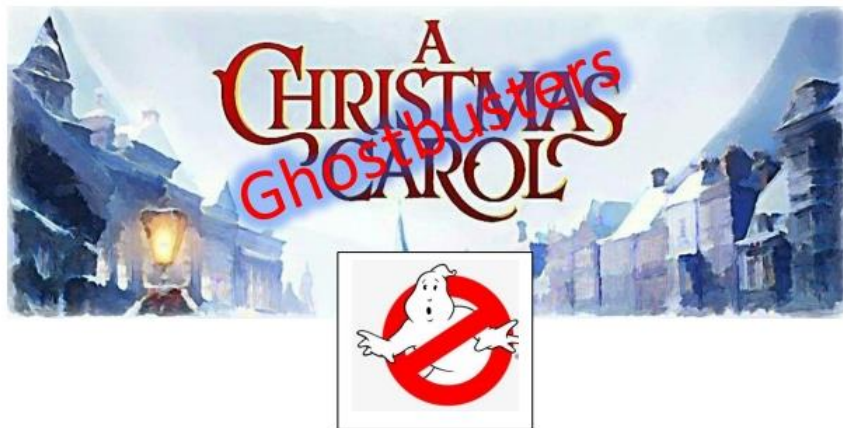
*Handmade crafts, decorations, bakes,
jewellery, crochet, Christmas
stocking fillers and much more - visit
and do some Christmas shopping!*

Spalding High School presents

**Phantomine Spectreular by
Charly Martindale and Dickens Fisk**

(Mr Martindale)

(Mrs Fisk)



Friday 12th December 2025

Doors open 6.30pm

Show starts 7.00pm

Main Hall, Spalding High School

Tickets £5.00

Christmas Lunch 2025

Tuesday 16th December

Wednesday 17th December

Main Course

*Turkey, Stuffing, Pig-in-blanket, Yorkshire Pudding,
Roast Potatoes, Vegetables & Gravy*

Or

*Vegan Layered Vegetable Roast, Stuffing,
Quorn Vegan Sausage Bite, Roast Potatoes,
Vegetables & Gravy*

Dessert

Festive Chocolate Brownie

£4.50

To order a ticket, please pay online through SCOPAY in Products

Other food will also be available

Christmas Grab & Go 2025

Tuesday 16th December

Wednesday 17th December

Grab & Go

Jumbo 'Pig in Blanket' Hotdog
(Pork sausage wrapped in bacon in a soft deli roll)

~

Brie & Bacon Flatbread

~

Quorn Jumbo Hotdog

~

Houmous, Mozzarella & Tomato Flatbread

Dessert

Festive Chocolate Brownie

£3.00

To order a ticket, please pay online through SCOPAY in Products

Jacket Potatoes, Pasta and cold food will also be available

SPALDING CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Friday 28th November
4pm - 8pm

Spalding Town Centre

◆ Christmas Lights Switch On ◆

- ◆ Food Court ◆ Seasonal Stalls ◆
- ◆ Children's Rides ◆ Festive Music ◆
- ◆ Street Entertainment ◆
- ◆ Fancy Dress Competition and much more!



[f SHDC_Communities](#) [i SHDC_CommDev](#) [@ community@sholland.gov.uk](#)

Photographs and video may be taken at these events for promotional purposes

Fancy Dress Competition

6.50pm at the stage


*Winner gets to turn the
Christmas lights on
with Santa*

Prize bags with goodies



Kindly supported by Spalding Lions


Photographs and video may be taken at these events for promotional purposes



Holiday Activities and Food

An opportunity for young people to enjoy new experiences, take part in **FREE** activities, and enjoy healthy meals over the holiday period.



Monday 22 December 2025 to Friday 2 January 2026
(excluding bank holidays).

Scan here 

Book your place from Thursday 20 November.

Open to all school age children in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals.

Funded by

HAF WINTER



Buying alcohol over Christmas & New Year for under 18s?

Partners
Local council, Police, Trading Standards, alcohol retailers, schools and the community

For more Information
If you have any information relating to the supply of alcohol to young people or street drinking, please contact the police on 101

For more information on the harms underage drinking can lead to go to www.drinkaware.co.uk

Community Alcohol Partnerships
CIC number: 07478097

It is illegal to buy alcohol on behalf of someone who is under 18.

If you're caught you could get an **£90** on-the-spot fine or end up in court with a criminal record and an **unlimited fine**

www.communityalcoholpartnerships.co.uk
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CAP
Community Alcohol Partnerships

Image credits

Book covers: Amazon.com

Winter Reading Challenge poster created by Isobel, Year 13

Other images: click on individual image for info