



1920 - 2025



105

YEARS

LAMPADA

VITAE

TRADIMUS

# Spalding High School weekly bulletin 8th January 2026

## **This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headmistress**

I know that I have corresponded with parents, carers and students multiple times this week already, but forgive me for saying again – Happy New Year! I hope 2026 is a positive, productive and pleasant year for everyone!

As you know, this week we have been launching our student practice and drill response for invacuations and lockdowns. I would like to thank the parents that have contacted school with messages of support. Your kind words have been much appreciated. The children coped brilliantly on Tuesday and whilst the very great majority had absolutely no idea we had gone into partial lockdown due to a potential threat at another local school, those who had been more affected were well looked after and safe.

As I said in my letter, our preparations for Martyn's Law were completely coincidental to Tuesday's partial lockdown and not as a result of it. I have found the assemblies very sombre events this week; speaking to groups of students about what we would do if we had an on-site risk that means we have to invacuate or lockdown buildings is something I would rather not have to do, both as a professional and as a parent. However, I have a strong belief that if we empower the children to be able to remain calm, proactively risk assess and make rational decisions, we increase their chances of keeping themselves safe. Hopefully, they never will have to put what we teach them into practice for real.

On Friday we will be having an extended registration time and will listen to the invacuation alarm, which obviously is different to the evacuation (fire) alarm. Form groups will then be discussing "what we would do if", in a number of scenarios such as:

- The invacuation alarm sounds whilst in lessons with a member of staff.
- The invacuation alarm sounds at break or lunch, or before school, when we might not be with a member of staff.
- The invacuation alarm sounds whilst we are in the toilet away from everyone else.
- What the Sixth Form are to do if it sounds whilst they are off site in lessons at the Grammar or in town during lunchtime.
- If students can see the threat or not (imagining it is an intruder).

These are just a few of the examples of the scenarios that form tutors will be carefully and sensitively guiding students through on Friday. Whilst the children will be encouraged to share their thoughts about what they think they would do, tutors will scaffold the discussions using the Invacuation Plan that we already have in place. This plan will become more detailed as the children share with us any questions or worries they have.

I would very much appreciate parents and carers speaking to the children about this issue after the discussions on Friday. Talking to them about difficult topics such as this gives reassurance that the key messages have been received and understood, and also gives the children the opportunity to ask you questions that they might not have asked their form tutor.

Thank you again, as always, for your support; it is much appreciated.



## Sports News



During their final games lesson of the term, 8J showcased the Bollywood dance routines they had been developing. Each group was challenged to create a one minute routine (or longer if they wished) to the song *Jai Ho!*. The performances were energetic, creative, and confidently executed. To add to the challenge, they performed in front of 7J, rising to the occasion with enthusiasm and pride.

Well done to all of 8J for their fantastic effort and performances.

Miss Jones





At the end of last term, 7J proudly performed the gymnastics routines they had worked hard on throughout the term. Despite having had a break from practice for a few lessons, every single group demonstrated excellent routines, showing strong teamwork, creativity and resilience. To make the challenge even greater, they performed in front of 8J, rising confidently to the occasion. Their focus and effort were impressive, and it was a fantastic way to showcase the progress they had made.

Well done 7J!

Miss Jones





## History News



At the very end of the autumn term, Year 12 Historians debated “this house believes that it was a mistake to dismantle the grammar school system in the 1960s and 1970s” during their final lesson before Christmas.

This relates to our A Level Paper 1, Britain 1918-97, which includes a unit on changes to education with examples including the 1944 Butler Act and the government’s encouragement of comprehensive education from 1965 onwards.

Students conducted themselves ably, led by students who are familiar with debating through the Debating Club (Monday lunchtimes for Years 10-13) who provided guidance on structure and how to conduct a debate. This allowed students to build their confidence of this topic, which is particularly timely during the School’s 105 ‘centenary’ celebrations, as well as improving their persuasive skills - which are also vital in synthesising effective arguments when writing essays.

Mr Hemsall, Head of History & PSHE

## Library News





### 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>

## Year 9 News

A number of Year 9s have achieved sporting successes recently.

A student from 9C took part in an archery competition in Friskney, near Boston, and won in her age category.

Another year 9 student has competed with her netball team in many league matches in Stamford over the past season - the team came second overall with some fantastic victories including scores of 16-2 and 20-5.

Another member of the 9C made a fantastic appearance in a badminton tournament and won first place, which led to her promotion - she is now one of the youngest members of the Women's Badminton in Peterborough.

Well done to all three students.

## 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.

### **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 coming weeks/months.

### **Year 12 – Sutton Trust Summer Schools**

Applications open on 12th January for the Sutton Trust Summer Schools. If students are considering applying to university, this is a good opportunity to consider. There are eligibility criteria so students will need to check these carefully. Here is the link to the website:

[Sutton Trust Summer Schools](#)

UNIQ – Summer Residentials

UNIQ is run by the University of Oxford and provides the chance for students to attend a one-week residential course in June/July. There are eligibility criteria which need to be looked at carefully.

[What is UNIQ | UNIQ](#)

### **British Army Insights – A Guide for Parents and Guardians**

Please find below information about an online event:

**Event:** *British Army Insights – A Guide for Parents & Guardians*

**Date:** Tuesday 20 January

**Time:** 18:00 – 19:00

Register Now: <https://britishar.my/GTQfiD>

*This online session is designed to give parents clarity and confidence about the opportunities the British Army offers young people.*

**Why it matters:** Recent research with over 600 parents and guardians revealed:

- Only 27% feel fully confident supporting their child through the application process.
- Nearly half (49%) want to attend an online session and receive resources about Army apprenticeships.

**What parents will gain:**

- A real look at life in today's Army, including roles, training and qualifications.
- Inspiring stories from those with lived experience, plus practical advice and Q&A time.
- Insights into how the Army helps young people build confidence, resilience, and valuable life skills — all while earning and learning.

**Bonus:** Attendees receive a FREE downloadable resource to help support their child's career choices.

**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

## Other notices and information



### **Upcoming diary dates:**

Tuesday 13th January SHS & SGS PFA meeting, 6pm Spalding Grammar School

Wednesday 14th January Year 9 options evening 5-7pm

Monday 19th January Year 9 options fair

Tuesday 27th January 6th Form taster day

Thursday 29th January Spalding Grammar School 6th Form taster day

Wednesday 4th - Friday 5th February School production

Thursday 12th February Year 10 parents' evening

Friday 13th February House Charity Day and end of term

W/C Monday 16th February School closed for half term break

Monday 23rd February Start of new half term

# INDOOR TRAINING 2026

## SPALDING TOWN CRICKET CLUB

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS - FIRST SESSION 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**





**6PM - 7PM**  
UNDER 11 - SCHOOL YEARS 5 & 6

**6PM - 7.30PM**  
UNDER 13 - SCHOOL YEARS 7 & 8

**7PM - 8.30PM**  
UNDER 15 - SCHOOL YEARS 9 & 10

**8 PM - 9.30PM**  
YEARS 11, 12 & SENIORS

**£3 PER SESSION**

Venue:  
Spalding Grammar School

FIND US ON FACEBOOK @SPALDINGTOWNCRICKET  
EMAIL: SPALDING.TOWN.CC@GMAIL.COM

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME!

### South Holland Sports Programme



12<sup>th</sup> January – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>Darts</b> Spalding Constitutional Club 13 – 18 years 5.00pm – 6.00pm <b>Community Snooker</b> Spalding Constitutional Club 13 – 18 years 6.00pm – 7.00pm <b>Football</b> Rotten Row Playing Fields 13 – 18 years 7.30pm – 8.30pm	<b>Junior Dance Mix</b> Diamondz Studio, Spalding 8 – 12 years 4.30 – 5.30pm <b>Senior Dance Mix</b> Bromley Memorial Hall, Spalding 12 – 18 years 5.30 – 6.30pm <b>Senior Youth Club</b> The Umbrella, Spalding 12 – 17 years 6.15pm – 8.00pm (Every other week from 7/1/2026) <b>Youth Hub</b> Pinchbeck Village Hub 11 – 17 years 7.00 – 8.30pm (Every other week starting 7/1/2026)		<b>Youth Club</b> Holbeach Hub Year 7 – 11 5.00pm – 7.00pm <b>Indoor Football</b> Holbeach Hub Year 7 – 11 6.00pm – 7.00pm <b>Multi-Sport</b> Holbeach Hub Years 7 – 11 7.00 – 8.00pm

Please note that there will not be any sessions week commencing 16th February  
All sessions are free to attend and will require a signed consent form from a parent or guardian.

Contact us:  
 Rob Martin ☎: 07825 120073 ✉: [rob.martin@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:rob.martin@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
 Emma Morley ☎: 07880 101279 ✉: [emma.morley@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:emma.morley@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
 Ross Dryburgh ☎: 07584 343115 ✉: [ross.dryburgh@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ross.dryburgh@lincolnshire.gov.uk)



## Image credits

Book covers: Amazon.com

6th Form Reading Challenge poster: Isobel, Year 13

Other images: click on individual image for info