



Spalding High School weekly bulletin 15th January 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headmistress

The term is now very much underway and the holiday seems a dim and distant memory. However, I know from my journey into school in the mornings and afternoon duties, that it is getting lighter earlier and staying lighter longer and so hopefully Spring is just around the corner! I like this term, not just because it leads us nicely into Spring daffodils and lighter days (hopefully not cold and snow), but also because it provides us with a slightly less rushed and busy period following all the excitement leading up to Christmas. It is with interest then, that I read the book reviews and recommendations in this week's edition of the bulletin; lots of good ideas about what to read next - although I have to disagree with the students who feel Thursday Murder Club is over-rated! I finished the fifth book in the series over the holidays and thoroughly enjoyed it (and would recommend it!).

Having said it is a slightly calmer and quieter term, last night at the High was anything but, as we launched the 2026 Y9 Option Process. The hall was full for both of the presentations and it seemed that the whole year group was out and about asking questions and finding out about which possible subjects to take for GCSE. Well done Y9 and exciting times - choose well!

You will also see that the School production of Legally Blonde is in full swing and tickets are now on sale. Trust me, from the rehearsals I can hear (and see) of an evening, it sounds and looks amazing. Buy those tickets early to avoid disappointment!

Student of the Week



Staff name	Student Name	Form	Reason
Miss Hammond	Carly-May Still	7N	Drama
Mrs Knowles	Emily Askew	7P	French
Mrs Chandler	Viggie Chung	8C	Library
Mr Hempsall	Isla Griffiths	8P	History
Miss Bailey	Freya Blackshaw	8S	German
Mr Garbett	Alyx Paurine	8S	Music
Mrs Aurikko	Elana Abraham	9C	Chemistry
Miss Chalcraft	Florence Wild	9J	Mathematics
Mrs Nowak	Kira Klesyk-Prolejko	9S	Mathematics
Mrs C Lord	Thamrutaa Satheeskumar	10J	Mathematics
Mrs Martin	Poppy Wall	10N	Mathematics
Mrs Martindale	Hannah Jones	10P	Biology
Miss White	Ruby Forsyth	11J	Chemistry
Miss Ashley	Ava Judkins	11P	Mathematics
Mr Blackbourn	Eleanor Seer	11P	Business
Mrs Nowak	Nicola Burke	12AF	Community
Mrs Jones	Matthew Kirk	13KM	Classical Civilisation

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.

Maths News

As 144 KS4 students prepare for the Intermediate Maths Challenge in two weeks' time, we have received some fantastic news from the Senior Kangaroo. Both qualifiers, Briony and Edvinas, performed brilliantly, achieving Silver and Bronze certificates respectively. This is the best achievement in the follow-up round of the Senior Maths Kangaroo National Competition we have had in the past couple of years, and we are extremely proud of them both. Congratulations!

Briony, our Head Student, reflecting on her experience, said:

"The recent UKMT Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo was tricky, bamboozling and fun as always, of course with the obligatory question containing the year - but didn't tire me completely out of Maths yet

so I decided to crunch some more numbers related to the Maths challenges! As a Y13 student, this paper was my last one out of the 17 Maths challenge papers I've sat, relating to 8 different challenges, over my 7 years at the High School. Each one has been a unique, very enjoyable (albeit rigorous) stretch of my Maths skills, so thank you very much to the Maths department for providing us with the opportunity to sit these challenges every year!"



Library News

Book Club updates:

Year 9-11 Crime Book Club

Last week, the Year 9-11 Crime Book Club met to discuss last term's choice 'Thursday Murder Club' by Richard Osman. Opinions were mixed on this popular read! Whilst some students loved the plot twists, the older characters and the gripping mystery, others confidently declared it as over-rated!

We meet each Friday week 2 at 1:30pm in the Library Study.

This term's read is 'Where Sleeping Girls Lie' by Faridah Abike-Iyimide and we will chat about this next term. If you would like to join, come to the Library to pick up a copy.

KS3 Book Club

At our latest meeting we recommended books or authors starting with the letter I. Our must-read recommendations are:

I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You by Ally Carter. This is the first in a series about a spy school for teens.

Ignite Me and Imagine Me by Tarhereh Mafi; volumes in the very popular fantasy series, Shatter Me.

I was Born for This by Alice Oseman. An authentic teen read.

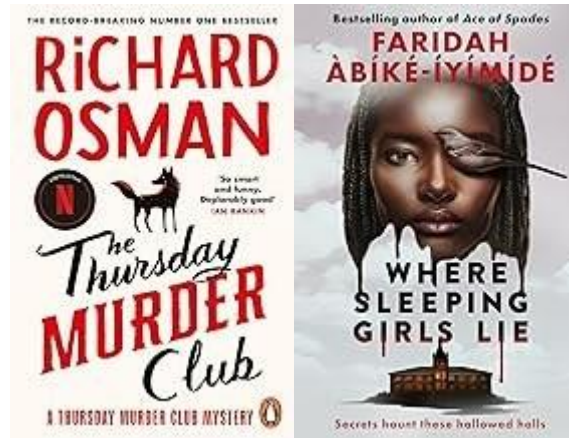
I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys. A brilliant young adult thriller set during the Romanian Revolution of 1989.

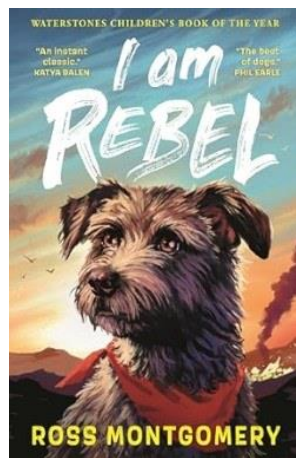
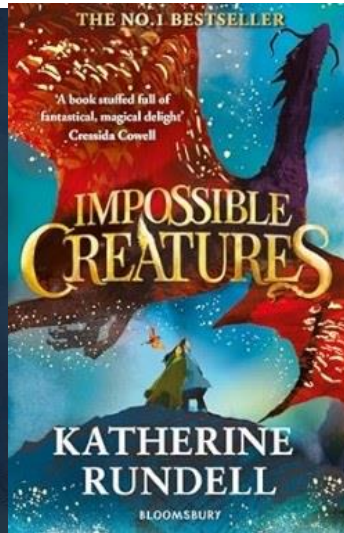
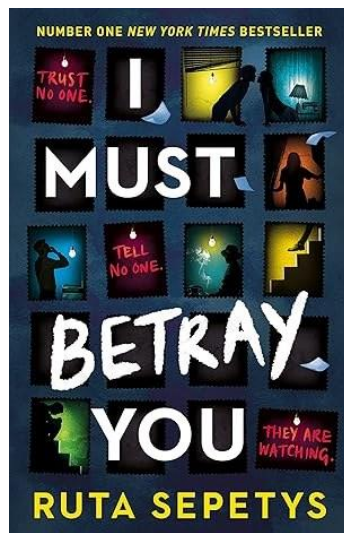
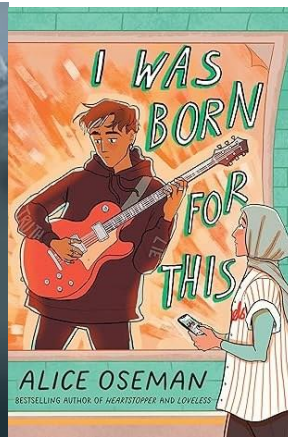
Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell is a multi-award winning magical fantasy.

And for the dog and cat fans out there, try I am Rebel by Ross Montgomery or The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford.

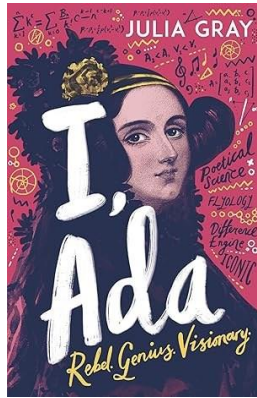
Happy Reading,

Mrs Lees and Miss O'Sullivan





Book reviews



I, Ada: Ada Lovelace. Rebel. Genius. Visionary. By Julia Gray

I, Ada is a historical book with fictional parts to it. The author, Julia Gray, puts herself in Ada Lovelace's shoes as she describes Ada's life using the known facts about her, while improvising her feelings, thoughts and memories. I love this book because I thought I knew about Ada Lovelace but then I read this. I like that it is descriptive and gets you thinking about everything. I would recommend I, Ada to anybody!!

Florence, 9S



Seven Ghosts by Chris Priestley

The supernatural book, Seven Ghosts, is a children's horror/thriller. Chris Priestley has written about a young boy named Jake, who entered a writing competition along with a group of other children. Jake and the other competition finalists are hosted at a spine-chilling manor where they are informed about ghost stories as they are guided through each haunted room. The un-earthly tales that are told made me eager to carry on reading, as each of them ended with an unexpected finale that I was desperate to know. I finished this book quickly, because as a person who loves to read ghostly and unnatural books, this one was perfect for my liking. I enjoyed it mainly because of its plot, and how Priestley made every chapter interesting and contrasting; especially the last one with its exciting and unexpected ending. I would highly recommend this novel for adults and children who love scary stories that may keep you up at night, or will inspire you to read more!

Kaidi, 9P



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>

Careers News

Year 12 – Sutton Trust Summer Schools

In readiness for applications opening in January, I have advertised the Sutton Trust Summer Schools to Year 12 students. 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](#)

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.

Siemens Careers Morning

Please see the information below from Siemens Energy:

We are excited to announce that Siemens Energy Industrial Turbomachinery Ltd, Lincoln, will be hosting a Careers Morning to showcase our Engineering Apprenticeship Scheme. This event is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in pursuing a career in engineering and for anyone with questions about the apprenticeship program and available roles.

Event Details:

- Date: Saturday 7th February 2026
- Agenda: The morning will feature an informative presentation about our current apprenticeship scheme, followed by a guided site tour.

If anyone is interested in attending, please can you ask them to complete the link below to register their interest and further details will be sent out closer to the event. Please note that due to limited resources, we kindly ask that each person brings only one accompanying adult. Additionally, the event is only open to Year 11 students upwards, who are eligible to apply.

[Siemens Energy Careers Morning Interest Form](#)

National Apprenticeship Week – 9th-15th February

Unifrog is hosting an online apprenticeship fair on 11th February 4-6pm. Please have a look with your child to see what is available with national employers and to find out more about apprenticeships. Employers taking part include AstraZeneca, BBC, RAF, KPMG, National Grid and many more.

[Apprenticeship Fair](#)

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://britisharmy.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

Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader

Other notices and information

Upcoming diary dates:

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 6th February School production

Thursday 12th February Year 10 parents' evening

Friday 13th February End of half term

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

Monday 23rd February Start of new half term



Legally Blonde
THE MUSICAL

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LAURENCE O'KEEFE AND NELL BENJAMIN

BOOK BY HEATHER HACH

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY AMANDA BROWN AND THE METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER MOTION PICTURE

WED 4, THUR 5 & FRI 6 FEBRUARY 2026
7.15PM • SCHOOL HALL £8

Presented by Spalding High School

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL
ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI



UNIFORM DONATIONS

Outgrown any uniform over the holidays?
Had a clear out?

The PFA will gratefully receive any preloved uniform that can be handed in to Reception at any time

All proceeds from onward sales go towards enrichment of students' education



Do you have any unwanted or outgrown SGS uniform or PE kit?

Spalding Grammar School PFA

Quiz Night

Friday 30th January

First question at 7:00pm
(doors open 6.30pm)

Tickets £5 per person
11-16 yrs £3, under 11 free

- ✓ All proceeds directly enrich the education of our students
- ✓ Teams of 6 adults maximum (no limit on children)
- ✓ Quizzers welcome to bring own food, but drink refreshments must be purchased - Thank you



BOSTON SENIOR TWO YOUTH CLUB
School Years 11, 12 & 13
Thursdays 6.30pm to 8.30pm during school term-time
Carlton Road Youth Centre
Unit 5, The Carlton Centre,
Carlton Road, Boston, PE21 8LN
Tel: 01205 311794

BOSTON SENIOR ONE YOUTH CLUB
School Years 8, 9 & 10
Tuesdays 6.30pm to 8.00pm during school term-time
Carlton Road Youth Centre
Unit 5, The Carlton Centre,
Carlton Road, Boston, PE21 8LN
Tel: 01205 311794

What's on offer
Pool Table, Football Table, PS5 and Driving Wheel, Xbox, Sports, Cooking, Music, and More!

FREE ENTRY

Future4Me Lincolnshire COUNTY COUNCIL
Working for a better future
Find out more: F4Minterventions@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Image credits

Book covers: Amazon.com

6th Form Reading Challenge poster: Isobel, Year 13

Quiz poster: Spalding Grammar School

Uniform donations poster: Spalding Grammar School

Other images: click on individual image for info