



Spalding High School weekly bulletin

19th March 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headmistress

Sometimes events happen in school that provide a moment to pause and reflect. This week such a moment occurred when we had the whole school photograph. A huge amount of organisation goes on behind the scenes before the photography team even arrive in school (thank you Mrs Waldron and Mrs Prkye), and considering we had to delay the photo in the autumn due to high winds, we were all a little anxious on the day. However, the sun shone and the wind did not interrupt us too much. The photographic team were brilliant and had one thousand children and over a hundred staff height and year sorted within about half an hour, although the staff took considerably longer to organise than the students! Then we started to fill the staging, and that is when I was quite happy to just stand and watch, filled with pride as each year group took to the stands. You cannot imagine how impressive it looked. Everyone followed the directions carefully and so from the very start, you could see the pattern of students emerging, with each face to be seen between the shoulders of the row in front of them. The closer you got to the stand, the more the chatter sounded like a gaggle of geese, high above in the skies, soft and low, but enough to be heard. However, as soon as the photographer gave a direction or instruction, everyone fell silent. It was impressive. This was my third whole school photograph as Head of the High. We have them every five years and so as the School took shape on the stage it struck me that there might not be many more for me. Seeing everyone in place and smiling away was a joy to watch, and again, a moment not just to pause and reflect but also a moment of being so proud of everyone I was looking at and how lucky I am to be Head of this school. Thank you for being so brilliant.

Next week, year 10 will probably not get too many moments to pause and reflect as they are going to be incredibly busy exploring the big wide world of work! Students have organised a fantastic array of placements and despite some feeling a little trepidatious, I know there is also

a lot of excitement. Good Luck Year 10, we look forward to hearing all about your adventures when you return the week after.

RED NOSE DAY - tomorrow, 20th March

Tomorrow, Friday 20th March will be a non-uniform day - please donate £1 to raise money for Comic Relief.

Normal non-uniform guidelines apply: no cropped or strappy tops or ripped jeans, and no offensive or political slogans.

We will also be holding a Red Nose themed bake sale - please join in to support this worthwhile cause.

Parking at Spalding High School

We recently reminded parents and carers about parking at Spalding High School.

A number of parents / carers are still driving into the Matmore Gate car park at the start and end of the day, to drop off and / or collect students. May we respectfully remind you that the Matmore Gate car park is for staff and Sixth Formers *only* between 8.30am and 4pm. This measure is in place for everyone's safety, and we ask that it is respected. Thank you for your cooperation.

Student of the Week

Staff name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Dowson	Lillie Payne	7C	English
Mrs Rogers	Chloe Miles	7J	Community
Mrs Tanner	Mayte Harrison	7J	Art
Mrs Knowles	Evie Mae Baxter	7P	French
Mrs Lees	Julia Idzikowska	7P	Library
Miss Parker	Shiloh Ngwa	7S	Physical Education
Miss Jones	Katie Preston	8J	Physical Education
Mrs H Waldron	Airida Bandzaitė	8N	Religious Education
Miss Bailey	Safa Nadeem	8S	German
Mr Garbett	Freya Blackshaw	8S	Music
Mrs J Lord	Rugle Girdauskaite	8S	English Literature
Mrs Martin	Matilda Pennington-Bratley	8S	Mathematics
Mrs Spinks	Esme Cornwell	8S	Mathematics
Miss McArthur	Uthra Chandramohan	9N	Religious Studies
Mrs Neal	Fatima Shamine	9N	Art
Mr Hemsall	Ava Willis	9P	History
Mr Fovargue	Kathryn Jesson	9S	Computer Science
Mrs Clay	Jessica Pilgrim	10N	French
Mr Blackburn	Dua Fatima Abbas Asif	10P	Business
Mrs Martindale	Suviksha Sahani	10P	Biology
Miss Chalcraft	Greta Merkelyte	10S	Mathematics
Mrs Bennett	Nevaeh Firth	10S	Geography
Mrs Bennett	Ayla Pargeter	10S	Community
Mrs Fisk	Scarlett Norman	10S	Drama
Mrs Jones	Harriet Laing	11J	Latin
Mrs Rogers	Izzy Hurn	11J	Geography
Mr Murphy	Jasmine Bate	11N	Chemistry
Mrs Bushell	Lola McAllister	11N	German
Mrs Busfield	Erin Walters	11P	Biology
Mrs Aurikko	Mae Richardson	11S	Chemistry
Mrs C Lord	Sophia Shackleton	11S	Mathematics
Mrs Cave	Chloe Emraz	11S	Religious Studies
Mrs Martin	Zofia Nowak	12AF	Community
Mrs Martin	Sophie Smith	12EO	Community
Miss Dunbar	Amelia Kazombiaze	12SC	Sociology
Mrs Lees	Alexis Bradshaw	12TD	Community

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 9th March 2026.

Nominations can be made by both teaching and support staff and can be subject related or community focused.

Sixth Form News



We are pleased to announce our new Head Student, Zara-Jayne Odell alongside Deputy Head Students Grace Bushell and Yomola Oyinloye.

The Head and Deputy Head Students chose to take on their roles with the aim of supporting the school environment that is enjoyable, inclusive, and supportive for all. They are committed to ensuring that every student feels seen, valued, and heard within the school community.

Throughout the year, they plan to organise a variety of engaging events designed to bring students together and provide opportunities for everyone to get involved.

They believe that empathy is a key quality in their roles, as it allows them to understand different perspectives across the student body. They also recognise the importance of being good listeners, ensuring that student voices and ideas are acknowledged and acted upon. In addition, strong teamwork and effective communication are essential to successfully carrying out their responsibilities.

They also encourage all students to share their opinions confidently, reminding them that every voice matters. Here are their words for the pupils at our School:

"Never be afraid to share your opinions. What you say is valuable and should always be appreciated. Go for every opportunity even if you don't believe you're capable because you may surprise yourself. Thank you."

Zofia, Year 12

Sports News



On Wednesday 11th March, Spalding High School hosted a School Games Primary Netball Tournament for Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from local schools. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for young players to represent their schools, develop their netball skills and experience the excitement of a tournament environment.

A key part of the day's success was the involvement of Spalding High School's Year 12 Sports Leaders. The students played an important role in organising and running the event, taking responsibility for coaching teams, time keeping and umpiring games throughout the tournament. Their leadership and enthusiasm helped ensure that the competition ran smoothly and that all teams had a positive experience.

The Sports Leaders demonstrated excellent communication and organisation skills as they guided players through warm-ups, explained rules and encouraged fair play on court. While umpiring, they showed confidence and fairness in making decisions, helping younger players understand the game and maintain a respectful sporting environment. Meanwhile, those responsible for timekeeping ensured that matches stayed on schedule, allowing the tournament to run efficiently.

Overall, the Primary Netball Tournament was a great success. Thanks to the dedication of the Year 12 Sports Leaders and the enthusiasm of the participating schools, the event was an enjoyable and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

Miss Parker

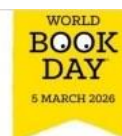
Library News

World Book Day 2026

This year's World Book Day quiz was a tricky one which resulted in a three-way tie between 7P, 10C and 10P. It all came down to the tiebreaker: how many books are currently on the SHS library system? Whilst no form guessed the exact answer (30,854), 10P were the closest and are this year's winners!

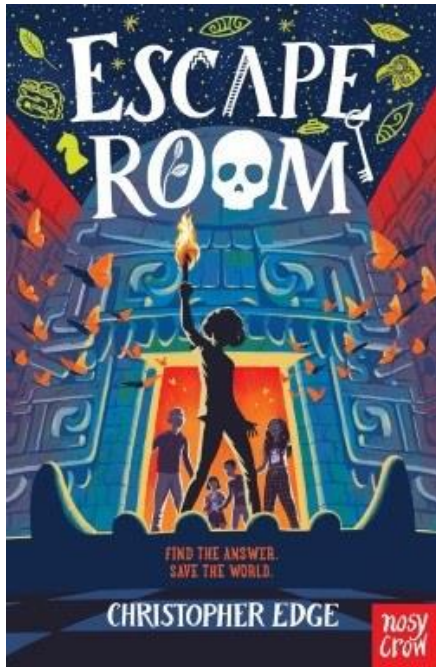
Thank you to all of the participating forms and staff for being involved.

World Book Day 2026 Quiz



Has never read 'Pride and Prejudice'.	Reads in a comfy snug chair.	Favourite book character: Miss Havisham from 'Great Expectations'.	Thinks folding the corner to mark a page should be a crime!
1. Mr Blackburn	2. Mrs Spies	3. Mrs Lord (Eng)	4. Mrs Lyford
Loved the autobiography 'Obsessive Compulsive Cycling Disorder' by David Barter.	Was changed by the book 'Little Women' – likely due to being the oldest of four girls!	Currently reading: The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away by Sophie Anderson and The Heirs by Faridah Abike-Iyimide.	Loves 'Red Storm Rising' by Tom Clancy. This covers a fictional scenario where the Cold War turned into WW3.
5. Mr Skinner	6. Mrs Bennett	7. Mrs Lees	8. Mr Hemsall
Has a New Year's resolution to quit social media and read instead. 17 books so far and counting!	Loves reading in the summer holidays on a sun lounger somewhere warm.	Matches their book to their tea (Earl Grey for gothic, green for fantasy...)	Was told off by the school librarians for reading in the bath and making pages crinkly!
9. Miss Ashley	10. Mrs Bushell	11. Miss Hammond	12. Miss Pettefar
Currently reading: Vanity Fair by William Makepeace Thackeray.	Loves reading outside in the garden when the weather is nice.	Reads every night before bed without fail, wherever they are in the world.	Loves book to have a happily ever after
13. Mr Murphy	14. Mrs Fisk	15. Mrs Chandler	16. Mrs Hoodless
Loves buying special editions with beautiful covers and sprayed edges.	Has not watched 'Hamnet' because they have a strong idea of the characters in their mind but might watch 'Wuthering Heights' because they have not read it for a while.	Currently reading: Queen James by Gareth Russell. If we know the six wives of Henry VIII, why not the six loves of James I of Scotland and VI of England?	Favourite quote: 'Those that know, do; those that understand, teach.'
17. Miss O'Sullivan	18. Mrs Schwarz	19. Miss Jeffery	20. Mrs Cave

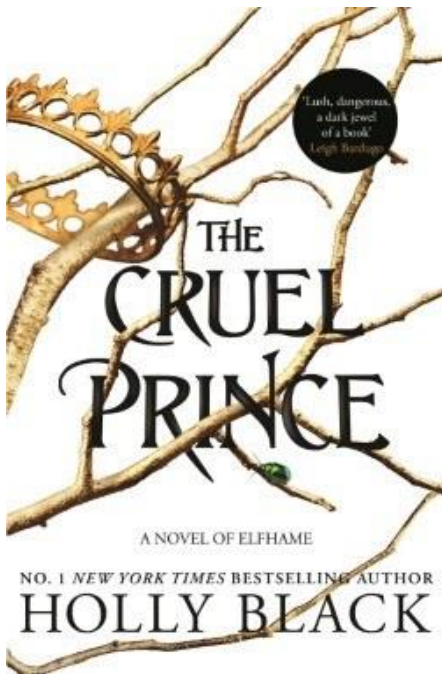
Book reviews



Escape Room by Christopher Edge

I picked Escape Room as my favourite book because of how adventurous it was and how everybody had to work together to complete the mission to escape the rooms. There are five characters: Min, Ami, Adjoa, Ibrahim and Oscar who together make up the Five-Mind group. All of them have their own personalities such as Oscar is the sporty one of the five, Ibrahim is shy and introspective however still a very important part of the group. Adjoa is the confident and adventurous one of the group also described as the Secret weapon. Min was known as the Walking Encyclopedia with great knowledge and lastly Ami is a curious and eager character who brings the group together. It is an action-adventure novel where the Five-Mind had to go through many different rooms and challenges to find out the answer to save the world. This was my favourite book and I would recommend this book for people over ten who love a good adventure and excitement in a great book like the Escape Room.

Saara, 7J



The Cruel Prince by Holly Black

The Cruel Prince is a fantasy that explores ambition, lack of power, and what it means to live and exist in a world where strength matters more than being kind. It is a story that follows a young girl called Jude who was kidnapped from her home at a very young age along with her two sisters, after her parents are killed. She is forced to live in a world of faerie. As a human living among people with magical powers and pointy ears, she is constantly underestimated and seen as vulnerable and weak, which pushes her to be stronger and prove everyone wrong. One thing I love about Cruel Prince is how Jude refuses to give up and be powerless. She sees being unable to do something as a weakness which makes her be more fearless and the opposite of what everyone thinks of her. Instead of relying on magic, she uses her determination and intelligence to face problems in her life. The relationships in the book are tense and unpredictable, especially between Jude and the fae, which keeps the reader

interested. I really loved this book because it was exciting, full of plot twists and kept me interested in the book, at all times. I would definitely read Cruel Prince again and I would recommend it to anyone who is new to starting fantasy like I was, when I first started reading it.

Julia, 7P

Careers News

Year 10 Work Experience – 23rd-27th March

We wish Year 10 students all the best for their work experience week next week and are looking forward to hearing about it on their return to school on 30th March.

Year 12 Work Experience – 29th June - 3rd July

Several students have now added their placements onto the Unifrog platform and we would like to encourage remaining students to continue to make enquiries about placements and to add them onto Unifrog when they are ready to do so. Any support in helping students to find placements would be greatly appreciated from parents/carers, friends and family members.

Year 12 – University Applications

In careers lessons in Year 12, we are currently discussing open days at universities, how to plan for them and what to ask. Many universities are now taking bookings for their open days.

A great resource to use to find out about applying to university, choosing subjects, university life, student finance and budgeting and much more is the UniTasterDays podcast – ‘The Uni Guide Podcast’. There are currently 51 episodes.

[The Uni Guide Podcast for students, parents and schools | UniTasterDays](#)



Student Finance Applications

Students can apply for student finance for undergraduate full-time courses for 2026 entry from 23rd March. [Apply online for student finance - GOV.UK](#)

Webinars to support students and parents/carers with understanding Student Finance

There are two useful upcoming webinars for students and parents, hosted by UEA:

- 24th March 4.30-5.15pm - **Disabled Students' Allowance** - Applying for Disabled Students' Allowance can be daunting, and many people don't realise they are eligible for funding. This webinar from UEA will help you to understand what DSA is, the funding you might be entitled to, and how to apply. You'll also hear from current students about their experience of applying for DSA. [HE Guidance: Applying For Disabled Students' Allowance \(DSA\) With Higher Education Advisers From University of East Anglia - Channel Talent - Interactive school webinars](#)

Three Opportunities with the NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy during the Easter Holidays:

Aspiring Medics 2026

Explore a career that transforms lives through exceptional communication, strong leadership, rigorous research, and a compassionate, holistic approach to care.

Scheduled for Wednesday, 8th April, at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, or on Thursday, 9th April, at Lincoln County Hospital, from 8:30am-1:00 pm, this event is open to young people in Year 12 aged 16 to 17, living or educated in Lincolnshire.

Supported by the Undergraduate Medical Education Team, participants will discover the skills and knowledge essential for a future in medicine.

What to expect:

- Meet the ULTH Undergraduate Medical Education Team – ask questions and gain insights from professionals who understand what it's like to pursue a career in medicine.
- Join engaging talks – explore important topics such as ethics, confidentiality, patients' rights, and professionalism.
- Take part in hands-on clinical skills workshops – develop practical skills essential for a career in medicine.

This is an excellent opportunity for young individuals eager to embark on a career in medicine. To learn more or book a place, visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>

Aspiring Physiotherapy 2026

This event is running on Thursday 16th April, at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, 9.00am-3:30pm and is open to young people aged 14-19 years, living or educated in Lincolnshire.

It will be delivered by NHS healthcare professionals and offers a valuable opportunity to discover what it's like to work as a physiotherapist within the NHS. Participants will engage in workshops and informative sessions, including:

- Q&A sessions with physiotherapy staff across a range of roles in a hospital team

- University taster sessions led by current Physiotherapy students
- Workshops exploring the use of specialist equipment
- Simulated sessions and case studies demonstrating how physiotherapists working within a hospital support patients to live an independent life

This is an excellent opportunity for young individuals eager to embark on a career working within health and care. To learn more or book a place, visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>

Aspiring Occupational Therapy 2026

Explore a career that sees beyond diagnosis and limitations, supporting independence and helping people live life to the fullest.

This event is on Friday 17th April, at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, 9.00am-3:30 pm and is open to young people aged 14-19 years, living or educated in Lincolnshire.

Delivered by NHS healthcare professionals, this event offers a valuable opportunity to discover the skills and knowledge required for a career in Occupational Therapy. Participants will engage in workshops and informative sessions, including:

- Q&A sessions with staff from a variety of roles within the Occupational Therapy team
- University taster sessions led by current Occupational Therapy students
- Workshops exploring the use of specialist equipment
- Simulated sessions and case studies demonstrating how Occupational Therapists support patients to live an independent life.

This is an excellent opportunity for young individuals eager to embark on a career working within health and care. To learn more or book a place, visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>

The image displays three promotional posters for NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy events. Each poster features the NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy logo at the top right. The first poster, 'Aspiring Medics', is for Wednesday 8 April at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. The second poster, 'Aspiring Physiotherapy', is for Thursday 16 April at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, from 9 am to 3:30 pm. The third poster, 'Aspiring Occupational Therapy', is for Friday 17 April at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Each poster includes a QR code and the text 'Register today!' and 'lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events'. At the bottom of each poster is the 'TALENT ACADEMY' logo with the tagline 'Inspiring Futures - Informing Careers'.

Volunteer Police Cadets

The Volunteers Police Cadets is a nationally recognised, police uniformed youth group, open to teenagers from all backgrounds aged between 13 and 18. It aims to promote a practical understanding of policing, to encourage the spirit of adventure and good citizenship and to inspire young people to participate positively in their communities.

In Lincolnshire, cadets are supported by police officers, police staff and adult volunteers. Sessions are every Wednesday during school term times at the following police stations: Lincoln, Boston, Bourne, Spalding, Grantham and Skegness.

Cadet recruitment opens on 1st April until 13th May. Please see the flyer for details.

CADET RECRUITMENT IS OPEN FROM 1ST APRIL TO 13TH MAY

Apply to join the cadet programme at Lincolnshire Police to learn new skills, meet new people, learn about policing, and support your local community.

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY ON OUR WEBSITE.

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE
POLICE CADETS
www.facebook.com/LincsPoliceVolunteers/
For more information and to download an application form visit: www.lincs.police.uk/cadets

We are recruiting for cadets in:

- Boston
- Bourne
- Grantham
- Lincoln
- Louth
- Skegness
- Spalding

Please scan for more information

Lincolnshire POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER SAFER TOGETHER

VPC Volunteer Police Cadets

Lincolnshire Fire Cadets

Please see the information below about the Lincolnshire Fire Cadets programme for 13–17-year-olds:

[Apply to become a fire cadet – Lincolnshire County Council](#)



Washway House Farm
Holbeach, Lincolnshire PE12 7PP
Tel: 01406 422266
sales@taylors-bulbs.com
www.taylors-bulbs.com

Taylors Bulbs, Holbeach – Summer Jobs

Taylors Bulbs, Holbeach, is recruiting 18-year-olds for summer jobs. Please see the attachment for details.

SEASONAL WAREHOUSE OPERATIVES

**Are you a student looking for summer work.
We are looking for people of 18 years plus:**

- Production Operatives
- Order Pickers
- Good In Operatives
- Forklift Drivers

We work 8am – 4.30pm plus overtime as required.
The work will start from mid-June through to the end of September.
Good rates of pay, a friendly working environment and training.

All the above positions are temporary.

Please contact Mrs Sue Taylor
We are situated in Holbeach approx. 9 miles from Spalding
Tel: 01406 422266

or
Apply online: www.taylors-bulbs.com/taylors-recruitment or
Email: sue@taylors-bulbs.com

Taylors are an equal opportunities employer

OJA Taylors and Sons Bulbs Ltd.
Directors: A.E.J. Taylor, S.R. Taylor,
Registered Office: Washway House Farm, Holbeach,
Registered in England: 2714466, Vat Reg. No: 706 2154 14

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:

Thursday 19th March Year 12 Parents' Evening

Friday 20th March Red Nose Day non-uniform and Fringe Friday 2

Week commencing Monday 23rd March Year 10 work experience week

Thursday 26th March Y8 Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day

Friday 27th March Year 7 and Year 8 Eggstravaganza

Thursday 2nd April End of term 4

Tuesday 21st April Start of term 5

Tuesday 21st April Y12 exams begin

Monday 27th April GCSE MFL speaking exams begin

Tuesday 28th April SHS and SGS PFA meeting 6pm at Spalding Grammar School

Family advice

EastMidsRelationships is offering free webinars for parents, aimed at giving support to parents and carers to enable them to make things feel calmer and more secure at home.

Please see the [link here](#) for more information and for the links to the webinars.

Easter Multi-Sports & Creative Arts

Courses in Bourne, Boston, Corby, Grantham, Higham Ferrers, Kettering, Peterborough, Spalding, Stamford, Rushden, Weybridge, Wellingborough

Primary Ages 5-11

Secondary Ages 11-16

MACCA Sports Academies

Register your interest **HERE**

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND RESERVE A SPACE TODAY

Easter Multi-Sports & Creative Arts

Course Locations

Courses in Lincolnshire: Bourne: Esea Park AGP, Boston Rugby Club, Boston Rugby Club, Grantham Prep School, Spalding, Spalding Rugby Club, Spalding Rugby Club, Stamford Rugby Club, Stamford

Courses in Northamptonshire: Corby: Lodge Park Academy, Higham Ferrers: The Ferrers School, Rushden: Rushden and Higham RFC, Wellingborough: Waldon Village Hall, Wellingborough: Weavers Academy

Courses in Rutland: Kettering: Kettering Sports and Community Centre

Courses in Surrey: Weybridge: Weybridge Vandalis

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND RESERVE A SPACE TODAY



Image credits

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Book covers: Amazon

Opportunities with the NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy posters: NHS Lincolnshire Talent Academy

Summer Jobs poster: Taylors Bulbs

Lincolnshire County Council information: Lincolnshire County Council

T1 Rugby: Spalding Rugby Club

Other images: click on individual image for info