



Spalding High School weekly bulletin

23rd April 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headmistress

Welcome back to Term 5, and to the start of the summer term! I hope you've all had a chance to rest, recharge, and enjoy some time away over the break. This is always a special part of the school year — days are longer, the weather is (hopefully!) brighter, and there's a real sense of momentum as we head toward the final long term of the academic year.

For many of our students, this term brings important milestones, whether that's preparing for exams, completing coursework, or stepping up into new responsibilities within the School. Years 11 and 13 have only a few short weeks before the exam season starts in earnest, although many of the orals and practicals are well underway already. Of course, this week is also exam week for Year 12 and so good luck to everyone currently (or about to be) taking their examinations. It's a time to stay focused, support one another, and take pride in the progress you've made so far.

Remember, success isn't just about results — it's about effort, resilience, and the way you carry yourselves each day. Make the most of every lesson, ask for help when you need it, and keep pushing yourselves to improve.

Although this is a very short term, there is also a lot to look forward to, with several trips, competitions and events on the horizon. This includes our very new and exciting Year 9 Social Evening, to be held in collaboration with the Grammar School on Friday 8th May. The event is being supported by the Spalding Community Alcohol Partnership and we have been fortunate enough to purchase some amazing equipment for the students to enjoy: pool, air hockey, table

football, table tennis to name but a few. If we can build on the success of this evening, we will roll it out to other older year groups too. Tickets are still available via the finance office and payment portal.

Let's make this a positive, productive, and enjoyable term. We're glad to have you back, and we're excited to see everything you'll achieve in the weeks ahead.

**SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL
& SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**YEAR 9
SOCIAL**

**TABLETOP
GAMES
AND SOCIAL TIME**

FRIDAY 8TH MAY
SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL

Price £3 • 6.30-8.45pm

Refreshments available
Cash or card payment
accepted

Supported by Spalding Community Alcohol Partnership
reducing alcohol harm in young people, improving health and well being, enhancing communities

Student of the Week

As this is the first week of the new term, the nominations for this week's Student of the Week will be published in next week's Bulletin.

Sports News



On Wednesday 1st April, the Year 8 netball team took to the court for their finals night, facing a strong Boston High School side. It was a challenging start, with Boston taking an early lead and finishing the first quarter 6 - 0 ahead.

However, the team showed fantastic resilience and determination, refusing to let their heads drop. They stepped up their performance hugely over the remaining three quarters, demonstrating excellent teamwork, effort, and defensive strength. Impressively, they limited Boston to scoring just four more goals across the rest of the match, with the game finishing 10 - 1.

This was a brilliant effort from the entire team, showcasing their perseverance, growth, and positive attitude in the face of a tough opponent. I am really looking forward to seeing how they continue to grow when we return to netball in September as a Year 9 team. Well done Elle, Beau, Darcy, Gabby, Milana, Diana, Macie and Amelia!

Miss Jones

History News

Spalding High School 105th Anniversary - Essay Writing Competition

The next stage of the events celebrating our School's 105th Anniversary is an essay writing competition. The title is:

"Who is the most significant British woman born since 1920?"

Requirements:

- Write no more than 750 words (KS3) or 1000 words (Years 10-13).
- Your chosen person can be dead or still alive, provided they were born in 1920 or after.
- Students should decide on their own criteria for judging (measuring) significance, making detailed explanations to justify their overall decision.

- A good answer will make comparative arguments, assessing the contribution of their chosen person to the impact of other significant individuals as part of their essay.
- It should be given to Mr Hemsall when complete with your name and form written clearly.
- The use of AI to help with writing or structure is strictly prohibited and if its use is found the entry will be disqualified.
- **Deadline: Friday 22nd May**

We hope you will enjoy researching and writing, and we look forward to seeing which women are chosen.



Library News

Book Cover Competition

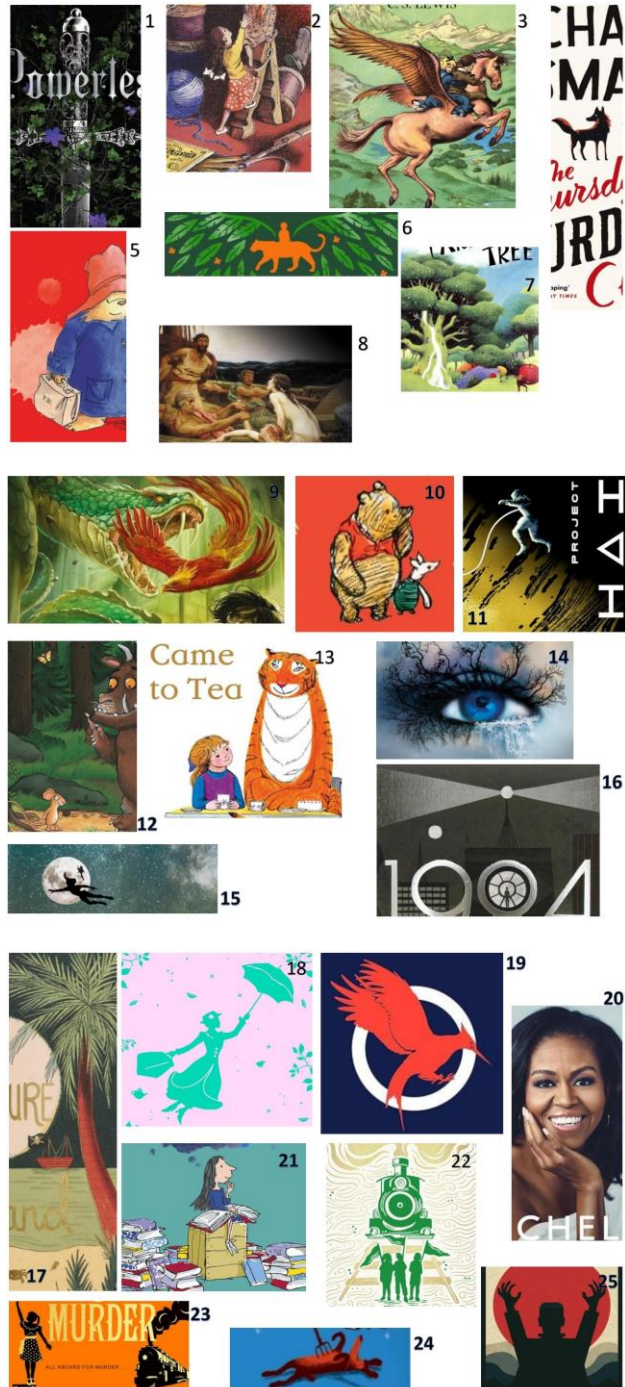
Think you know your books? Try our book cover competition with your family and name the twenty five books and authors, on the form, by Friday 22nd May.

The competition is up in the library, come and have a go!

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6ZeG851hPN>

Happy Reading

Mrs Lees



Carnegie Book Group

This Tuesday we explored first lines of our vintage Carnegie list, and we rated our books on which books hooked us with the opening words. We were all intrigued with *Tinder* by Sally Gardiner which opens with "Once in the time of war, when I was a soldier in the Imperial Army, I saw Death walking". We were also gripped by *After the Fire* by Will Hill's opener "I sprint across the yard, my eyes streaming, my heart pounding in my chest. The noise of gunfire is still deafening, and I hear - I actually hear - bullets whizzing

past me, their low whines like the speeded-up buzz of insects, but I don't slow down and I don't change course."

We will be looking at our first book, *One* by Sarah Crossan next Tuesday at 1.30pm in the Library.

Our vintage Carnegie shortlist and meeting dates are:

28th April – Book 1, *One* by Sarah Crossan

5th May – Book 2, *October October* by Katya Balen

12th May – Book 3, *Echo Mountain* by Lauren Wolk

19th May – Book 4, *Lies We Tell Ourselves* by Robin Talley

2nd June – Book 5, *Girl. Boy. Sea.* By Chris Vick

9th June – Book 6 *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay

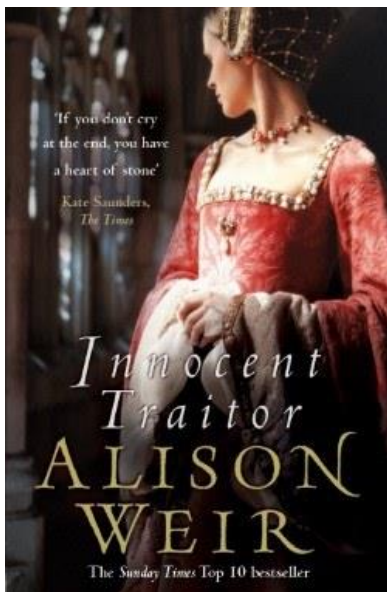
16th June – Book 7, *Tinder* by Sally Gardner

23rd June – Book 8, *After the Fire* by Will Hill

30th June – Balloon Debate, join us for manic fun and frantic book survival!

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees

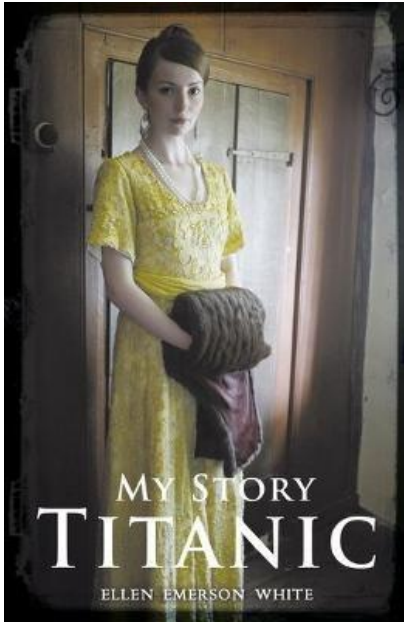
Book reviews



Innocent Traitor by Alison Weir

The story follows Jane Grey, Queen of England, though her monarchy is often debated. This starts when she is born and goes until the end of her life, where she grows up with a family of ambitious parents and a world of heresy. But Jane must navigate this path, so close to the royal family, with her own beliefs and values. Jane stays strong to her beliefs throughout and this book shows another angle to the often romanticized 'nine days' Queen. This is set in Tudor England (1500) and is a historical fiction, so some parts may not be factually correct. I enjoyed it because it was written in such an interesting way that allowed you to understand Jane, but still felt like a mystery novel (even if you know how it ends). I would recommend this to any fans of the Tudors as well as those who enjoy reading books with suspense, because of its strong plot that keeps you hooked. Please enjoy reading this if you do!

Ava 9P



Titanic, My Story by Ellen Emerson White

Titanic, My Story tells the story of a girl who took the journey on the Titanic and what happened and why it affected her. It is a historical book set in the early 20th century. The main character is a young girl called Margaret Anne who is taken on the Titanic by a wealthy American woman. She hopes that by taking the Titanic she might be able to meet with someone very important to her but on the way the Titanic hits an iceberg. Margaret Anne survives by escaping on a rescue boat. Once she reaches land, she ends up not meeting the person she wanted to and goes looking for him. I liked this book because I have a huge interest in history and it really appealed to me because of the way it explains people's experiences in a historical event that became one of the most tragic ship accidents to ever occur. I think people who like history would enjoy reading this book as it explores how the event occurred and why it ended up being so tragic.

Bethanie 9C

Easter Eggstravaganza 2026

On Friday the 27th of March, Year 7 and 8 students participated in this year's Eggstravaganza. As a member of the Sixth Form team helping out, it was lovely to see so many students staying behind after school to get involved in the activities.

The highlight of the afternoon was the Easter egg hunt, where the students searched the canteen and school hall for hidden treats to take home. This was followed by various Easter craft activities, from biscuit decorating to paper flower making. The students got the chance to experience all of the activities and had the opportunity to take home their beautiful creations. Prizes were awarded to the best craft from all the activities, though it was tricky choosing the best!

A big thank you must go to Mrs Anderson, who organised the event. Even when the pompom station did not quite go to plan, she helped everything run smoothly. We helped set up the stations and hide the bags of sweets, but the event would not have been possible without the effort she put into planning it.

Overall, the event was a lovely way to bring the term to an end before the Easter break, and speaking on behalf of my peers, the afternoon was enjoyable for everyone involved. It was great to be part of such a fun event, and I look forward to many more fun things planned!

Libby, Year 12

Sixth Form News



Careers News

Year 10 Careers Guidance Meetings

From next week, the Year 10 students will each have a one-to-one careers guidance meeting with an independent careers adviser. The aim of a careers guidance meeting is to help students think about future career choices and pathways based on their interests, skills and projected grades. The careers adviser will ask questions to gain a clear picture of the best way to offer support. She may question the answers students give and challenge their ideas in a supportive way to help them improve their career planning skills.

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

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 52 episodes.

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

Year 12 – UCAS Information Evening – 7th May at 6pm

A letter was sent out earlier this week to parents/carers about our annual UCAS information evening. Please fill in the form by 1st May to let us know if you will be attending.

InvestIN – Parent/Carer webinars for the summer term

Please see the adjacent information for details of three upcoming webinars.

REGISTER FOR
FREE WEBINAR SERIES

Parent Webinars in April, May and June

WEBINAR SCHEDULE

How to Support Your Child During Exam Season
Wednesday 29th April
6PM (BST)

Find out how to support your child through exam-related stress and burnout, learn effective revision strategies and explore ways to create a positive, supportive environment.

How to Find Work Experience
Wednesday 13th May, 6PM (BST)

Everything You Need to Know About Applying to University
Wednesday 10th June, 6PM (BST)

If you're unable to join live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording after the session.

Click the webinar title to sign up now!
OK

Explore all webinars on our free events page

info@investin.org +44 (0) 203 488 5089 www.investin.org

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.

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 27th April GCSE MFL speaking exams begin

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

Tuesday 5th May Year 13 Leavers' afternoon celebration

Thursday 7th May UCAS evening 6pm

Friday 8th May Year 9 social event

Wednesday 13th May Year 10 Geography fieldwork trip to Hunstanton


Thursday 14th May Year 7 parents' evening


Friday 15th May Year 10 History trip to Lincoln Castle


Heating Oil Support Scheme

Please [follow the link here](#) for details of support available for the rising cost of heating oil from Lincolnshire County Council.

Online safety Q+A for secondary parents








Wednesday 6th May
6:00pm - 7:30pm
Microsoft Teams event

Join the Stay Safe Partnership for an Online Safety Event for Parents of Teens

Get the latest insights and practical tools to help you:
 Understand the most popular social media apps teens use and their risks
 What parental controls are available that can keep them safe
 Support your teen in managing harmful content and unwanted contact
 Learn strategies for starting confident, open conversations about online safety
 Ask your questions and get clear answers on trends, apps, and risks

Equip yourself with the knowledge and skills to keep your teen safe while they explore the online world.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/2160049>




LINCOLNSHIRE ATHLETICS
T&F CHAMPIONSHIPS
2026 PROSPECTUS

Saturday 9th May & Sunday 10th May 2026
 PRSA, Great Fen Rd, Wyberton, Boston PE21 7PB
 EA Licence No. 0517 26/025

Welcome to Lincolnshire Athletics County Championship 2026	Eligibility to Compete	Age Groups
Open to all eligible athletes & spectators!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Born or Resident in Lincolnshire Choose your Country for the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U10 - U12 - U14 U16 - U18 - U20 Seniors & Masters

The closing date for entries is midnight on **Sunday 19 April 2026**
 Full Details & Entry Info at: www.lincolnshireathletics.com





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

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

FREE ENTRY




Find out more: F4Minterventions@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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

BOSTON JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB
Ages 8 - 12
Tuesdays 5pm to 6.00pm 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
Arts & Crafts, Sports, Pool Table, Football Table, PS5 and Driving Wheel, Xbox and Cooking!
FREE ENTRY

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

Image credits

Photographs of students: Spalding High School and students' own photos

Book covers: Amazon

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

Lincolnshire County Council information: Lincolnshire County Council

NHS information: NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board

Year 9 Social event: Spalding High School

Other images: click on individual image for info