



Spalding High School weekly bulletin 30th April 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headteacher

It is remarkable to think that we have already reached the point in the term when the annual staff versus student (Y11 and Y13) fixtures are underway.

In this week's bulletin, you will find a full report on the Year 13 vs Staff netball match, which took place last week in glorious sunshine. As the photographs clearly show, it was unmistakably a competitive sporting event. I am less certain that next week's bulletin—featuring the report and photographs from yesterday's Year 11 vs Staff rounders match—will convey quite the same level of clarity; although perhaps giant dinosaurs *can* play rounders after all.

Both Year 11 and Year 13 have made a strong start to their first practical and speaking examinations. The exam season seems to begin earlier each year, and although lessons continue and the revision programme is well established, it will not be long before we hold our Leavers' Assemblies and begin exam leave, starting with Year 13 next week.

At the time of publication, our U13 and U16 teams are representing the School in the county cup competitions in Sleaford. We wish them the very best of luck and hope they return with trophies in hand. We look forward to sharing their results in next week's bulletin.

Tickets for the Year 9 Social next week have been selling well, though some remain available. Please ensure you secure yours if you have not yet done so. Further information can be found on the poster below.

Whatever your plans for the long Bank Holiday weekend, I hope you enjoy a well- deserved break.

**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

Staff Name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Knowles	Lily Price	7P	French
Mrs Martin	Matilda Nizzer	7S	Community
Mrs Rogers	Sara Walji	7S	Geography
Mr Ganger	Ellie Tunnard	8C	Mathematics
Mrs Chandler	Wiktorja Gren	8C	Library
Mrs Spinks	Sophia Houliotis	8J	Mathematics
Mrs H Waldron	Lily Jessop	8N	Religious Education
Miss Bailey	Sofia Emraz	8S	German
Mr Garbett	Emma Marks	8S	Music
Mrs Bennett	Smeera Mehta	9N	Geography
Mrs Busfield	Lily Rechciglova	10J	Physics
Mr Fovargue	Poppy Crunghorn	10N	Computer Science
Ms Busby	Neve Timmins	10N	Food and Nutrition
Mrs Fisk	Leila Petraite	10P	Drama
Mr Blackburn	Darcey Laithwaite	10S	Business
Mrs C Lord	Ruby Forsyth	11J	Mathematics
Mrs Jones	Lucy Wilson	11J	Latin
Mr Hemsall	Tilly Buck	11P	History
Mr Murphy	Ava Judkins	11P	Chemistry
Mrs Cave	Abigail Grimer	11P	Religious Studies
Miss Ashley	Pela Tian-Wright	11S	Mathematics
Mrs Martindale	Alexa Shogy	13GD	Biology
Mrs J Lord	Grace Zacharkiewicz	13JL	English Literature
Mrs Rogers	Lexi Withers	13JL	Community
Mrs Rogers	Beth Stewart	13JL	Community
Mrs Bennett	Briony Sweeting	13NG	Community
Mrs Rogers	Scarlett Phillips	13NG	Community

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 21st April 2026.

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

Sports News

On Wednesday 22nd April, Year 13 students took on the staff in a friendly but spirited netball match. The event brought plenty of energy, laughter, and spectators with both teams eager to showcase their skills on the court.

The staff got off to a winning start, demonstrating impressive teamwork and experience early in the game. However, as the match progressed, the teams were mixed up, creating a fun and inclusive atmosphere where students and staff played side by side.

Overall, the match was a great success, filled with enthusiasm, sportsmanship and plenty of memorable moments. It was fantastic to see such positive interaction between students and staff, and we look forward to more events like this in the future.

Thank you Briony for organising the game.

Miss Parker





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

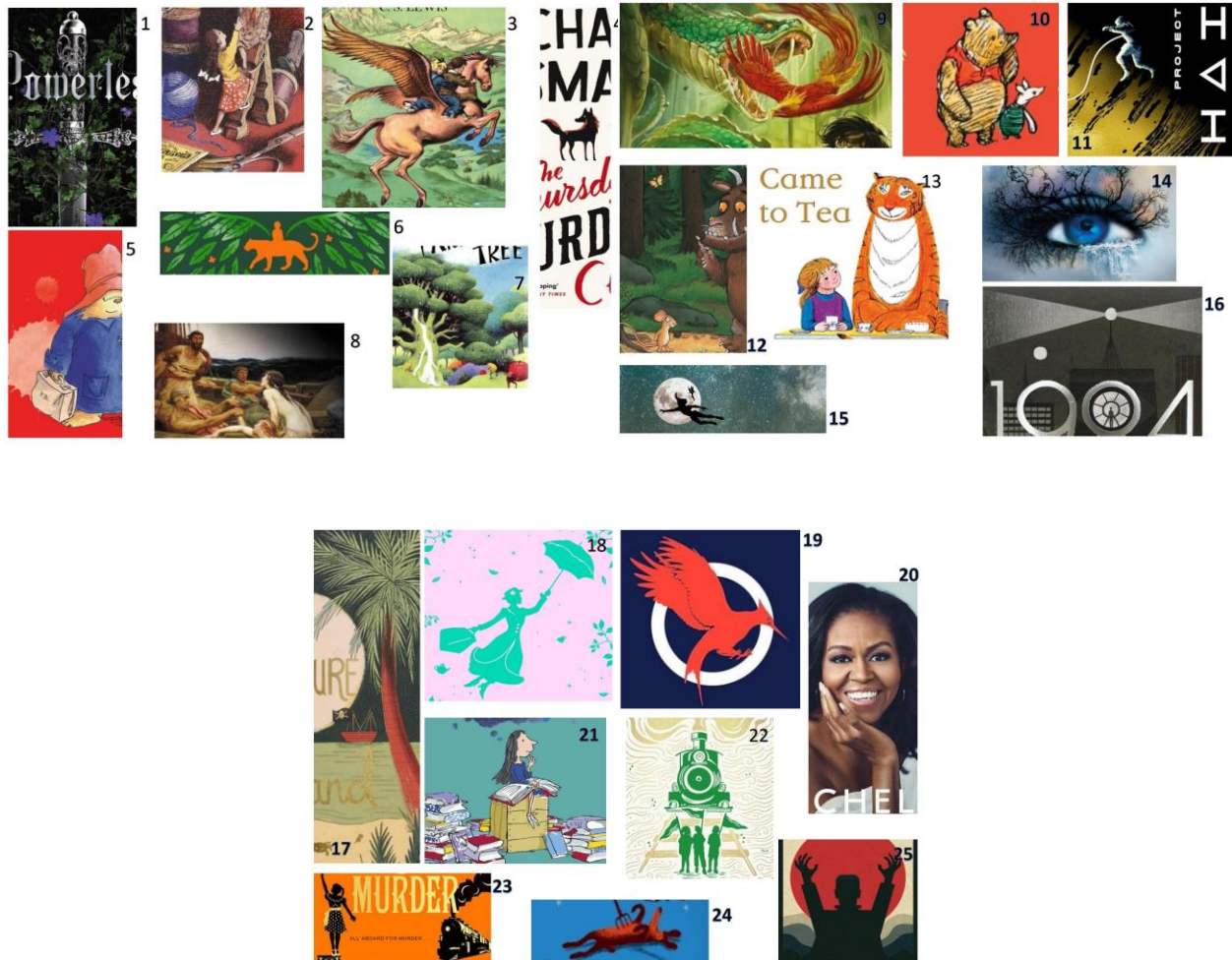
Think you know your books? Try our book cover competition with your family and name the 25 books and authors, on the form, by Friday 22nd May.

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 Update

Our first book on our shortlist, *One* by Sarah Crossan, was featured this week with a high 4.5 out of 5 star rating. *One* is a very emotive book featuring conjoined twins Grace and Tippi as they start high school, chronicling their experiences and personal journeys into young adulthood. Our group overall enjoyed the verse style in which this is written, a style which can be polarising for readers. We explored the pros and cons of this uncommon narrative format which our group felt allows for an immediate connection to the text but can sometimes be confusing to follow. We drew parallels with other books exploring disabilities such as *Wonder* by RJ Palacio. *One* also features a shocking, heartfelt twist, and we enjoyed debating and discussing how and when an author manipulates the reader.

Our next book will be *October*, *October* by Katya Balen. Come and join us next Tuesday at 1.30pm in the Library.

Our vintage Carnegie shortlist and meeting dates are:

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

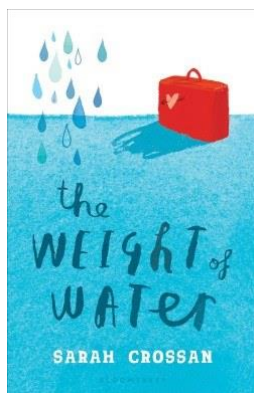
30th June – Balloon Debate, join us for manic fun and frantic book survival!

Happy Reading

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees



Book reviews



The Weight of Water by Sarah Crossan

I feel that "The Weight of the Water" is a really special book as it is written in verse. The story starts with a Polish girl called Kasienka who has just migrated to England. At this stage, the atmosphere is somewhat depressing and has sense of dullness. Kasienka and her mum seem to be in England to find someone and it also seems that her mother is hurting a lot. Kasienka goes through a series of different types of friendships and relationships with different people that affect her, but later in the story she realises that maybe there could be a way for her life to get better. I would recommend this story to someone who enjoy stories that give them a feeling of comfort and who like quite emotional books, because

this story gives a range of emotions and did almost make me cry.

Ke Wen, 9P



Five Feet Apart by Rachael Lippincott

This is the first ever romantic book that I actually liked, which was both inspirational and realistic. I liked how Lippincott did chapters for each character - some from the girl's and some from the boy's point of view, which really showed a different aspect to the story. Both of the protagonists Will and Stella have cystic fibrosis (a debilitating lung disease), but Stella can have a better life with a lung transplant, whereas Will cannot as he has another disease which restricts him from living longer. People with cystic fibrosis have to stay apart, but at their hospital they stay together. They fall in love with each other and decide to take one foot back for all the restrictions they have due to cystic fibrosis. I cannot disclose the ending ... will they ever get together or not? It is an amazing read for romance lovers and people who are beginning to try reading the romance genre. It is fantastic for teens and any age. It is also a film, but the book is absolutely worth reading; the author really details the lives of people diagnosed with cystic fibrosis through this short yet romantic story. I would totally recommend it.

Arjannya, 10P

Careers News

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 last 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.

[UCAS Information Evening Thursday 7th May 2026 6.00pm – Fill in form](#)

Agrifood Sector Webinar

Please see the information below from the Greater Lincolnshire Careers Hub:

We're pleased to invite you to our upcoming **Sector Insights Webinar: Agrifood**, delivered in partnership with Pathway CTM and the Greater Lincolnshire Careers Hub.

📅 Thursday 21st May

🕒 6:00 – 7:00pm

🖥️ Virtual (online session)

This webinar is designed for students, parents and educators, offering a clear and engaging insight into careers within the agriculture and food industry—one of Greater Lincolnshire’s key sectors.

What to expect:

- Explore a wide range of careers in agrifood
- Hear directly from local employers
- Learn about apprenticeship and progression routes
- Understand the skills employers are looking for
- Gain practical tips to support applications and next steps

This is a great opportunity to support students’ career exploration.

📄 Register here:

<https://pathwayctm.com/event/sector-insights-agrifood-webinar-with-greater-lincolnshire-careers-hub/>



Why attend ?

- Explore careers in agriculture and the food industry
 - Hear directly from employers in the industry
- Discover apprenticeships and job opportunities
- Learn what skills and qualities employers want
- Get tips to improve your applications and plans

Year 13 Students - George Clarke Scholarship

The George Clarke Scholarship is a charity set up under the terms of the will of George Clarke and is administered by Lincolnshire County Council. The Scholarship is available to students under 25 who attend courses of higher education (Level 4 or above) and whose home address is in the parishes of Long Sutton or Sutton Bridge.

Please see the flyer for details.

GEORGE CLARKE SCHOLARSHIP

**Do you or your parents live within the
parishes of Long Sutton or Sutton Bridge?**

**Will you be attending a course of higher
education (level 4 or above) at University or
College during the 2026/2027 academic
year?**

Are you under 25?

**If you answered yes to the above questions
you may qualify for a scholarship of up to
£400 per year.**

For further information please contact

Eddie Corrigan
Financial Services
Lincolnshire County Council
Newland
Lincoln, LN1 1YL

Email: Eddie.Corrigan@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Telephone 01522 552995

**Closing date for receipt of applications
30th November 2026**

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

We are recruiting for cadets in:

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

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
For more information and to download an application form visit: www.lincs.police.uk/cadets

www.facebook.com/LincsPoliceVolunteers/

Please scan for more information

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:

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

Friday 22nd May Year 10 RS trip to Walsingham 1

Friday 22nd May End of term 5

Monday 1st June Start of term 6

Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 5th June Year7 Geography trips to Snipe Dales

Friday 5th June Year 10 RS trip to Walsingham 2

W/C Monday 8th June Year 4 taster week

Tuesday 9th June SHS & SGS PFA meeting 6pm @ SHS

Monday 15th June World Music and Culture day

Tuesday 16th June New intake information evening

Thursday 18th June Year 4 and Year 5 Open Day

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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>

Online Safety Webinar for Parents of Teens ◆◆

Learn about the apps teens use, key online risks, and how to keep them safe – plus tips for confident conversations and a live Q&A.

- ✓ Understand the most popular social media apps teens use, their risks, and the parental controls that can keep them safe
- ✓ Support your teen in managing harmful content and unwanted contact from strangers
- ✓ Learn strategies for starting confident, open conversations about online safety
- ✓ Ask your questions and get clear answers on trends, apps, and risks

📅 **Wed 6 May** | 📅 **18:00–19:30**📅 **Microsoft Teams**

📅 Register via the link

below. <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/2160049> 📅 **Equip yourself with the knowledge and skills to keep your teen safe while they explore the online world.**

Image credits

Photographs of students: Spalding High School

Book covers: Amazon

Lincolnshire County Council information: Lincolnshire County Council

Year 9 Social event: Spalding High School