



Spalding High School weekly bulletin 12th June 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headteacher

Staff are busy in the background already preparing for Extended Learning Week 2026 and it is, as always, going to be an engaging and exciting week!

Extended Learning Week gives us the opportunity to step outside of the formal curriculum and explore learning, knowledge and cultural experiences in a way that we cannot during a normal timetabled week, as well as providing a greater amount of time dedicated to a project, topic or trip.

Planning has been taking place for several weeks and staff are working in groups to plan an exciting week of opportunities, which not only support and extend knowledge and skills but also provide us with opportunities to develop further the School's 4Rs: Reciprocity, Resilience, Resourcefulness and Reflectiveness.

From Monday to Wednesday, each year group will follow a timetable of themed days as outlined below. On Thursday, the whole School will be involved in the Careers and Skills Day and on Friday, Sports Day and House Competitions.

July	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 12
Monday 6th	Maths Day	Stay Safe Day	Civil Rights Day	Macbeth Day	Personal Statement Day
Tuesday 7th	Tate Trip	Space Museum Trip	Stay Safe Day	Maths Day	Team Building & Resilience Day
Weds 8th	Science Challenge Day	The Food Challenge Enterprise Day	Lincoln Zoo Trip	PE Day	VESPA Day
Thursday 9th	Careers & Skills Day				
Friday 10th	Sports Day & House Competitions.				

As you can see, this is an amazing week, which really does support learning at a broader and deeper level whilst developing important life skills. We are all very excited about the opportunities it provides!

Student of the Week

Staff Name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Lees	Ariane Arnfield	7C	Library
Mrs Fisk	Rachel Anadhyla	7J	English
Mrs Bennett	Evie-Mai Baxter	7P	Community
Mr Fovargue	Victoria Gren	8C	Computer Science
Mr Hemsall	Isla Griffiths	8P	History
Mrs Jones	Lily Briggs	8P	Latin
Mrs Busfield	Daisie Houghton-Bird	9C	Biology
Mrs Aurikko	Amreen Clark	9C	Biology
Mrs J Lord	Aimee Kierman	9C	English Language
Mr Murphy	Lucy Kitchen	9N	Latin
Mrs Martin	Maya Pahal	9N	Mathematics
Miss Bailey	Mariam Walji	9P	German
Mr Blackburn	Katie Bonarius	10C	Business
Mrs Neal	Khanyi Mlalazi	10C	Art
Mrs C Lord	Evelyn Barclay	10J	Mathematics
Ms Busby	Jenna Jeffries	10J	Food and Nutrition
Miss Ashley	Ava Judkins	11P	Further Mathematics
Mrs Martin	Julia Wawro	12LM	Community
Mrs Tanner	Caitlin Loasby	12LM	Art
Mrs Wilkins	Ava Ilott	12SC	Photography
Mrs Tanner	Honey Smith	12TD	Community
Mrs Wilkins	Martha Cook	12TD	Community

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 1st June 2026.

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

Sports News

South Lincolnshire Athletics Success

Congratulations to the fifteen students who represented South Lincolnshire at the County Championships on Thursday 4th June. This was a fantastic achievement, and all students should be extremely proud. The students represented South Lincolnshire exceptionally well and were outstanding ambassadors both on and off the track.

A special well done goes to Khanyi and Mbali, who both achieved an impressive 2nd place finish in the 100m sprint for their age groups. Their outstanding performances have earned them qualification for the Anglian Championships, which is a remarkable accomplishment.

We are incredibly proud of all fifteen students and wish Khanyi and Mbali the very best of luck in the next round representing Lincolnshire.

Miss Parker



Music News



Library News

Carnegie Book Group Update

Our sixth book was *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay, a powerful coming-of-age story about grief, guilt and the risks a Filipino American teenager takes to uncover the truth about his cousin's murder. This book explores the themes of patriarchy, prejudice and identity, whilst documenting the horrifying effects of President Duterte's anti-drug policy and state sanctioned violence.



Our discussions probed how and why the setting of a book is important to us as readers and we shared books with unusual settings such as *Tsunami Girl* by Julian Sedgwick, *The Song Walker* by Zillah Bethell, *The Incredible Journey* by Sheila Burnford and last week's Carnegie book, *Girl.Boy.Sea.* By Chris Vick. We discussed the titles and how intriguing titles capture our attention as readers. Other books suggested with interesting titles were *Because You'll Never Meet Me* by Leah Thomas, *Spilled Water* by Sally Grindley, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury and *The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness. Finally, we talked about the structure of the book, which includes frequent social media messages between friends. We debated how current government proposals in social media access for teens may affect how this is represented in teen literature and we're all interested to see how authors will work with this.

Our next book will be *Tinder*, come and join us every Tuesday at 1.30pm in the Library.

Our vintage Carnegie shortlist and meeting dates are:

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

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

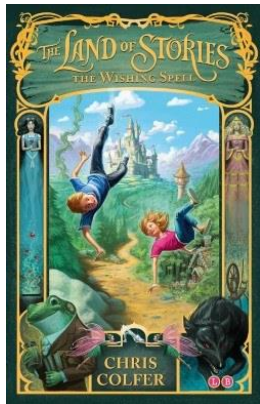
30th June – Balloon Debate, join us for manic fun and frantic book survival!

Happy Reading.

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees

Book reviews

The Land of Stories, The Wishing Spell by Chris Colfer

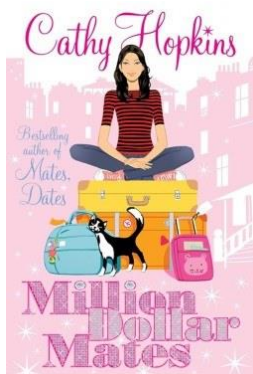


The Land of Stories, *The Wishing Well* is a fantasy book following the adventures of the twins Alex and Conner Bailey, who are 11 years old at the start of the book but turn 12 later on. Conner and Alex are pretty much opposites, with Alex being an intelligent girl who always listens and contributes, and Conner being a boy who struggles with listening and falls asleep in lessons. The twins live alone with their mother as their father unfortunately passed away the previous year. Their grandmother however is still alive but she is constantly traveling the world and sharing fairy tales with children. The story starts with the twins in school and their teacher (Mrs Peters) teaching her class about fairy tales. Alex and Conner's birthday also happens very early in the story. For their birthday their grandmother has come home and brought with her lots of presents for the twins, along with lots of souvenirs from the places she has visited. One present that stands out from the others is their grandmother's story book that she uses to teach children around the world, and many years ago used for Alex and Conner. Following this the twins find themselves inside the book and they have to find a way out. Along the way they meet a lot of friends and people they have grown up reading about, such as Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks, Jack (from Jack and the Beanstalk), Cinderella and many more. They also meet other people not in traditional fairy tales, such as one character named "Froggy".

During the story lots of events happen which keeps for an entertaining read. Personally, I think that this book would be most liked by girls aged 10-13. I would recommend this book to people because it is a fantasy book which most people enjoy, it has lots of action and it isn't childish like the cover suggests.

Arianne 7C

Million Dollar Dates by Cathy Hopkins



I think this book is a good book as it's an enemies to friend's story and it's really fun to read as there is a bit of drama in it and it is very funny at some points. The main characters are Jess, Pia, Alisha (who's kind of a mean girl) and JJ (who is Alisha's brother). Jess, her brother and their dad move to one of the staff apartments at Number One Porchester Park (which is a posh hotel complex) when her dad becomes general manager. Everyone in her school thinks it's so cool that her dad manages the rich hotel but no one knows how much Jess gave

up, like her cat Dave. Jess had to leave him with her Nan and she can rarely see him so she hides him in the Porchester Park summer house. A lot of celebrities and stars move in to Porchester Park including Alisha and JJ, the kids of the Jones family. At first Alisha gives Jess the cold shoulder, but then Alisha's mum sends them out together with their private driver and Pia, Jess's friend, tags along too. They go on a shopping spree to get her a dress for her massive birthday party that they are hosting. Towards the end Alisha starts warming up to Jess, but will they become good friends?

I would recommend this book for teens and children (8-14) who like to read funny and dramatic books.

Evie-Mai 7P

High Quarterly Magazine



The High Quarterly is the School's Education Award-nominated, student-led magazine. Our aim is to enrich our school community and beyond, by celebrating achievement and knowledge.

From in-school events to personal hobbies and comic strips, members are free to choose and write about whatever they choose. We aim to produce three to four magazines per academic year; most with seasonal themes.

We pride ourselves on being a friendly and approachable team open to all and any ideas, and on making meaningful contributions to our student body. Joining the magazine is a perfect opportunity to build your professional writing and editing skills, and is ideal for anyone interested in pursuing a future in journalism or creative writing.

We welcome students from all year groups and of all interests!

If you are as passionate about fostering an environment of collaboration and creativity, come join us! We are headed by Mrs Anderson and meet at 1:30 in the Sixth Form Study Room, on a Wednesday Week 1 and Thursday Week 2.

Poppy, Year 12

Celebrating the Individual: Gabby, Year 8



On Sunday the 1st of June I took part in a netball league in Stamford. I played on the U14s Stamford Rutland Junior team and we came first place out of all the games we played. Afterwards we were rewarded with first place league winners medals.

Gabby, Year 8

Celebrating the Individual: Abidat, Year 10

Before half term, we shared that Abidat has written a book which is soon to be published.

We are delighted to now share that Abidat has since been announced as a winner of the Simon Powell Poetry Prize 2026!!

Daniel Powell, from the competition, wrote to Abidat:

It was a very strong field this year, with hundreds of brilliant entries, so you have done particularly well. Here is what our judge, Daljit Nagra, had to say about your poem:

"a title which means freedom in Yoruba, and the poem is in controlled stanzas as it celebrates defiance through clear, calm insights inspired by Maya Angelou, 'I know why the caged bird sings/Echoing voices for the voiceless'. May the bird be freed from the cage!"

As part of the prize Abidate will receive a collection of books from the Poetry Live poets, as well as an invitation to read at one of next year's Poetry Live events. The other section of the prize is to attend a poetry workshop next month, hosted by poets Daljit Nagra and Imtiaz Dharker.

Here is Abidat's winning poem.

Ominira

I know why the caged bird sings,
wearing his crown high - A king,
twittering melodies of survival,
against the bars,
the cold irons
and chains.

I know why the caged bird sings,
watching a woman shrink
within the corners of her home,
using her sleeves
to cover a broken love,
she would never leave.

I know why the caged bird sings,
up above a trembling tree,
the witness for the girl
who was cornered by the corner
and shown life's cruelty.

I know why the caged bird sings,
opening its beak for the old man
who lets his phone ring,
blinking
and blinking away
the memory
of what laughter used to be,
whilst sat alone in Beijing.

I know why the caged bird sings,
policing a mother,
with an empty purse,
an empty pot,
but a full voice
singing an omniverse,
that lures her children to sleep.

I know why the caged bird sings,
for the youth whose future
hangs on an envelope
pulling the wrath or worth hope.
he sends his fears to the sky,
in lyrics that sharp with aching truth.

i know why the caged bird sings,
watching the lover of the loved
walk away
a promise stretched thin
a vow that gathered dust
and slowly turned grey.

i know why the caged bird sings,
with the fatherless son all day,
a voice hoarse and hoarse,
hoping the wind would carry away
the cry,
the call
for papaoutai?
to return
a father
unreturned,
unknown
unfound
and most likely...decayed.

i know why the caged bird sings,
echoing voice for the voiceless,
pouring joy to the joyless,
giving chances to the choiceless,
opening doors that are priceless.

i know why the caged bird sings,
because singing is defiance,
a pillar for survival,
a daring dream.
Because even inside a cage,
the soul searches for freedom
that someday
one day,
he would find ominira
and the cage would spring open.

A. Isiak

Celebrating the Individuals: Ella, Lily, Milly, Year 10

Over the half-term break, Lily, Ella and Milly travelled to the Netherlands with the Deeping United U15 Girls team for an exciting football tour. During the weekend, the team played a friendly match against a local Dutch side, securing an impressive 5–2 victory, before competing in a tournament on the Sunday. They finished as runners-up overall, with their only defeat coming in the final against Portsmouth FC, a team that competes several levels above them.

At the club's end-of-season presentation event, all three girls received trophies in recognition of Deeping United's league championship success. In addition, Milly was awarded Players' Player of the Year, while Lily received the Most Improved Player award.

Well done Lily, Ella and Milly!



Careers News

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.

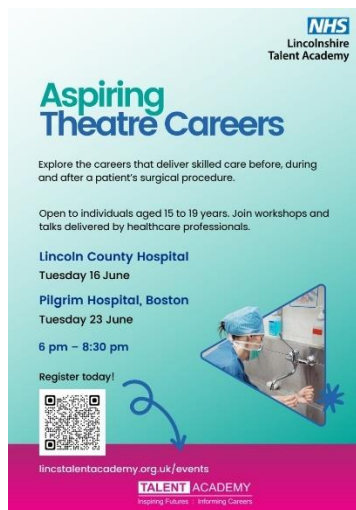
[The Uni Guide Podcast for students, parents and schools | UniTasterDays](#)

UniTasterDays has also published its 2026 edition of the ‘Parents’ Guide to University’ which can be downloaded for free here:

[Parents' Guide to University | Expert advice brochure to support parents and carers | UniTasterDays](#)

In careers lessons, students have been starting to fill in their online university applications. Over the coming weeks, they will be supported with personal statement writing for their applications.

Aspiring Theatre Careers



Please see the information below and the flyer about an upcoming opportunity.

The Lincolnshire NHS Talent Academy is running an Aspiring Theatre Careers event on Tuesday 16th June, at Lincoln County Hospital and Tuesday 23rd June at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm. This event is open to young people aged 15-19 years, living or educated in Lincolnshire.

There are many roles within the Theatre team, including Anaesthetists, Healthcare Support Workers (HCSW), Nurses, Nurse Associates (NAs), Operating Department Practitioners (ODPs), Orderlies, Surgeons, Theatre Managers and Theatre Support Workers (TSW). Participants will gain an insight into this high-pressure, rewarding team environment through interactive workshops and informative talks led by experts.

This is an excellent opportunity for young individuals eager to embark on a career working within theatres.

For further information about the event or for students to book their place, please visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>

If students sign up to take part, could they please let me know for monitoring purposes.

Aspiring Dentists



Please see the information below and the flyer about an upcoming opportunity.

The Lincolnshire Talent Academy is holding an Aspiring Dentists event on Thursday 16th July, at Lincoln County Hospital, 6.00pm to 8.30pm. This event is open to young people aged 15-19 years, living or educated in Lincolnshire.

Delivered by the Lincolnshire Local Dental Committee, this event offers a valuable opportunity to discover the skills and knowledge required for a career in dentistry.

What to expect:

- **Meet dentists from the Lincolnshire Local Dental Committee** – ask questions and gain real insight from professionals
- **Talks on applying to study dentistry at university** – understand what it takes to stand out in a competitive field
- **Hands-on clinical skills workshops** – develop practical skills essential for a dental career, including alginate impressions, scanning, composite fillings, special care dentistry, and orthodontics.

This is a great opportunity for students interested in careers such as a dentist, dental therapist, and dental hygienist. To find out more or to book a place, please visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>

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

Access Creative College Open Event

Access Creative College is holding an open event on 27th June. This may be of interest to students in Year 10 who are considering their post-16 options or to students in Years 11 and 13 who are still considering their next steps.

[Open Day - 27th June 2026 - Access Creative College](#)

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:

Saturday 13th to Sunday 14th June DofE practice expedition

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

Friday 19th June Dragon's Den afternoon

Monday 22nd June Year 10 exam week

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June Year 8 Lincoln fieldwork trip

Friday 26th June Year 7 & 8 Disco and Year 13 Leavers' Ball

W/C Monday 29th June Y12 Work Experience
Tuesday 30th June Summer Concert
Thursday 2nd July New Year 12 Induction Day
Friday 3rd July New Intake Day & Year 11 Prom
W/C Monday 6th July Extended Learning Week
Friday 10th July Sports Day
Tuesday 21st July Year 9 Ypres trip departs
Wednesday 22nd July Last day of term
Thursday 13th August A Level results day
Thursday 20th August GCSE results day

Upcoming Free Parent Webinars

As part of Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's week, the Lincolnshire County Council Stay Safe Team will be hosting the following free webinars:

Navigating Teen Relationships Webinar for Parents

Lincolnshire County Council DA Stay Safe Officer is hosting a free Microsoft Teams session to help parents support their teens with relationships.

Learn about:

- Signs of unhealthy relationships
- Coercive control & love bombing
- Red flags and where to get support

Monday 29th June | 6:30–7:30pm

Book your place: <https://www.tickettailor.com/.../lincolnshiresafe.../2068657>

Curious about AI and your child's world?

Join our Stay Safe Team's free webinar on "AI: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly" to learn:

- How AI can support learning and creativity
- What to watch out for, like chatbots and misinformation
- Simple tips for family conversations and using parental controls

Empower yourself to guide your family confidently in the age of AI!

Wednesday 1 July, 6:30–7:30pm

Register your place

here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/lincolnshiresafeguardingchildrenpartnership/2068715>

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