Spalding High School weekly bulletin 2nd July 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headteacher

Extended Learning Week (ELW) 2026

Students and staff are looking forward to another exciting Extended Learning Week. Final timetables and activity information can be found below, and students should check their schedules carefully so they know where they need to be each day.

Each morning will begin with registration with form tutors, followed by a wide range of enrichment activities taking place throughout the week. Students are reminded to pay close attention to timings, as some activities may run to different schedules.

With warm weather forecast, the school will continue to monitor conditions and put appropriate arrangements in place where needed. Contingency plans are also in place for Sports Day if required.

Thursday will feature the annual Careers Fair and Soft Skills activities, providing students with valuable opportunities to develop key employability and teamwork skills. Friday will see students take part in House Competitions and Sports Day, with a range of activities designed to encourage participation, teamwork and healthy competition. The popular jigsaw challenge will also return, continuing a much-loved ELW tradition.

We hope all students enjoy the opportunities ELW 2026 offers to learn new skills, work collaboratively and create lasting memories.

Extended Learning Week (ELW) 2026
Resilience – Resourcefulness – Reciprocity - Reflectiveness

DAY	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 12
SUNDAY 5th					**Gold D of E** Until late Fri 11th July
MONDAY 6th July Bell will ring for 5 period day. SF operate own times.	**Maths Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mrs Novak** R18 20 22 24 S7	**Stay Safe Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mr Hempsall** R13 R14 R15 R16 R17 + S5	**Civil Rights Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Ms McArthur** M4 M5 M6 G1 G2 G3	**Macbeth Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mrs Lord** Library, Hall (AM) R3 4 5 7 8 25	**Personal Statement Writing Day** **6 period day / Dress Code** **Mrs Waldron** CR, Study Rm, R2, T5, PE Abs Room, R3,R4,R5
TUESDAY 7th July Bell will ring for 5 period day. SF operate own times.	**Tate Trip** Off site - 06.45-18.30 **Mrs Tanner**	**Leicester Space Museum** Off site - 08.00-15.30 **Mr Wright**	**Stay Safe Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mr Hempsall** R13 R14 R15 R16 R17 + S5	**Maths Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mrs Chalcraft** R18 19 20 21 22 24 Hall (PM)	**Team Building & Resilience Day** **6 period day PE Kit** **Mrs Waldron** CR, Study Rm, Drama Studio, R2, T5, R3,R4,R5
WEDNESDAY 8th July NO BELLS – mix of times	**Science Challenge Day** **5 period day / uniform** **Mr Wright** Science Labs	**The Food Challenge-Ent/Day** **6 period day / uniform** **Mrs Bushall** M1 M3 M4 M5 M6 S6 Hall P1/P6	**Zoo Trip** Off site - 09.00-15.30 **Mrs Fisk**	**PE Day** **5 period day / PE Kit** **Mr Farrell** Field, sports hall, drama studio, Hall p2-p5	**VESPA Day** **6 period day / Dress Code** **Mrs Waldron** CR, Study Rm, Library, R2, T5, R3,R4,R5

THURSDAY 9th July

Normal times - **6** period day

Normal School uniform and dress code

Careers Fair and Skills Day
Visit the Careers Fair during the day. All other lessons are careers skills eg working together, teambuilding, communication, problem solving, confidence etc.

Yr	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
7	**Y7-Y12 all with FT** Introduction to the Careers Fair, PPP, tasks, booklet and Skills Day tasks	**Task 1:** Domino Detectives	**Task 2**: Build-A-Bridge	**Task 3:** 90 Second Pitch	Careers Fair 2.00-2.55	**Beetle Drive!** Y7-10 will be in form groups with FT completing the Beetle Drive Challenge which will be delivered and led by the Sixth Form. Each form will be divided into groups of 5/6
8		**Task 2:** Build-A-Bridge	**Task 3:** 90 Second Pitch	Careers Fair 12.10-1.00 for 8C, 8J, 8N 8P & 8S **Task 1**: Domino Detectives	Careers Fair 2.00-2.55 for 8P & 8S 8 C J N **Task 1**: Domino Dets	
9		**Task 3** : 90 Second Pitch	**Task 1:** Domino Detectives	Careers Fair 12.10-1.00	**Task 2**: Build-A-Bridge	
10		**Activity 3:** 90 Second Pitch	Careers Fair 11.20-12.10	**Task 2:** Build-A-Bridge	**Task 1:** Domino Detectives	
12		Careers Fair 10.05-11.00	**Task 2:** Build-A-Bridge	**Task 1**: Domino Detectives	**Task 3:** 90 Second Pitch	

FRIDAY 10th July

Sports Day timings.

PE Kit

House Day & Sports Day
There will be students coming and going P1-3 for field events. P1 Y8 / P2 Y9 and Y10 / P3 P7
All other students P1 – P3 - House competition activities contributing to house points (competitions will not be sports related). P4 – P6 Sports Day

Yr	P1	P2	P3	SPORTS DAY
7	House Comp 1	House Comp 2	Field events	Lunch 12.10-1pm 1pm Registration 1.05 start
8	Field events	House Comp 1	House Comp 2	
9	House Comp 2	Field events	House Comp 1	
10	House Comp 1	Field events	House Comp 2	
12	House Comp 2	House Comp 1	Beetle Drive Challenge (SF CR)	

Year 7 Induction Day – What a great success

We were delighted to welcome our incoming Year 7 students for their Induction Day today (hence the change of delivery day of our weekly bulletin!) and what a fantastic day it proved to be.

From the moment they arrived, students embraced the opportunity to experience life at secondary school. They took part in a range of exciting lessons and activities, explored our facilities, met key staff, and began forming friendships with classmates who will join them in September.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces throughout the day. Students demonstrated enthusiasm, curiosity, and a willingness to challenge themselves as they moved between lessons and sampled the wider opportunities available at our school. Staff were particularly impressed by the maturity, confidence, and positive attitudes shown by our future Year 7s.

The day also provided an excellent opportunity for students to become familiar with their new surroundings, helping to make the transition from primary to secondary school as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Spinks, our staff and senior students, whose support and encouragement helped make the day such a success.

We are incredibly proud of how well the students engaged with the experience and are already looking forward to welcoming them back in September. Based on the energy and enthusiasm

we saw during Induction Day, we know they will make a wonderful addition to our school community.

We wish all our new Year 7 students a fantastic summer and look forward to seeing them again very soon.

Student of the Week

Staff Name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Neal	Hallie Jeffrey	7N	Art
Miss Hammond	Felicity Gray	7P	Drama
Ms Busby	Isabella Mann	7S	Food and Nutrition
Mrs Rogers	Bhavya Warnakulasuriya	8C	Geography
Miss Pettefar	Harriet Moss	8J	English
Mrs Knowles	Eleanor Salter	8J	German
Miss Bailey	Iness Korcz	8S	German
Mrs Tanner	Audrey Taylor	9J	Art
Mrs C Lord	Ella Bird	9N	Mathematics
Mrs J Lord	Eunice Kei	9P	English Literature
Mrs Aurikko	Zoha Shahid	10C	Biology
Mrs Cave	Florence Numa	10N	Religious Studies
Miss White	Phemie Gray	10P	Chemistry
Mrs Clay	Lana Conway	10S	French
Mrs Martin	Julia Wawro	12LM	Community
Mrs Martin	Isabel Bowser	12SC	Community
Mrs Rogers	Ava Ilott	12SC	Community
Mrs Rogers	Martha Cook	12TD	Community

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 22nd June 2026.

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

Sports News

On Wednesday 17th June the Year 10 rounders team competed in the South Lincolnshire Schools Sports Association rounders tournament. Due to a couple of schools withdrawing the tournament was between us, Spalding Academy and University Academy Holbeach (UAH).

We played the first game against UAH playing 25 good balls. Some excellent fielding led to us getting their whole team out in 24 balls with some brilliant catches and efficient fielding to prevent scoring and run the opposition out at second post. With some great batting, particularly from Bridget (1 1/2), Annie (2), Katie, Alex and Khanyi (1), we managed to score 8 ½ rounders in total, leading to us winning 8 ½ to 3. Well done to Bridget for being awarded the oppositions player of the match with some good batting and great pick ups in the field.

Our second game was against Spalding Academy who had also beaten UAH making the game the decider for who would win the tournament. This has been a competitive game for the last 4 years with both teams always within reach of the win. We lost the toss and were batting first against some excellent fielders. We managed to score 7 rounders with some excellent hits and capitalising on any lapses in the field to score ½ rounders at second post. The 7 rounders came from Anna and Katie (2), Alex (1 1/2), Annie (1) and Iris (1/2). Unfortunately, despite some excellent fielding we were unable to

contain Spalding Academies big hitters from scoring and in a tantalisingly close game we lost by ½ a rounder. Well done to Katie for being awarded the oppositions player of the match, some great bowling, a couple of catches and joint highest scoring whilst batting.

As always, the Year 10 team conducted themselves brilliantly, with great teamwork and sportsmanship They really are a pleasure to manage and watch. Well done girls, I look forward to our final tournament together in Year 11!

Miss Magnus

Year 7 Rounders Teams Shine in South Lincolnshire Tournament

Our Year 7 rounders teams delivered an outstanding performance at the South Lincolnshire School Sports Association (SLSSA) Rounders Tournament on Monday 22nd June, achieving an incredible 1st and 2nd place finish.

Both teams demonstrated excellent skill, determination, and teamwork throughout the competition, competing against a strong field of local schools. From confident batting and accurate fielding to smart tactical play, our players consistently impressed in every match.

In a superb display of talent and sportsmanship, our two teams progressed through the rounds to secure the top two spots in the tournament standings. The “A” team claimed overall victory, showing resilience and composure in key moments, while the “B” team also performed exceptionally well to secure second place.

This remarkable achievement is a testament to the hard work and commitment shown by all players during training sessions and matches. It also reflects the positive team spirit and support the students showed for one another throughout the event.

As tournament winners, our Year 7 champions have now qualified for the next stage of the competition and will go on to face Boston High School in the upcoming area final. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase their skills on a larger stage, and we wish them the very best of luck.

Well done to all involved on a brilliant achievement—we are incredibly proud of you!

PE dept

Athletics Success for Mbali and Iris

We are delighted to celebrate two fantastic athletics achievements from our students, showcasing their talent on both county and national stages.

On Saturday 20th June, Mbali proudly represented Lincolnshire in the 100m at the Anglian Athletics Championships, held at Lynnsport in Kings Lynn. Competing against some of the best young athletes in the region, Mbali demonstrated great speed, determination, and composure. Representing the county at this level is a significant achievement, and Mbali should be extremely proud of this accomplishment.

In further exciting news, Iris in Year 11 has qualified for the pinnacle of the schools' athletics calendar—the English Schools Championships. Iris earned her place in the prestigious event in the 200m, where she will compete against the very best athletes from across the country on 10th and 11th July.

This is an outstanding achievement and reflects Iris's dedication, hard work, and consistent performance throughout the season. Reaching this national stage is a testament to her talent and commitment to athletics.

We wish Iris the very best of luck as she prepares for the championships and congratulate both students on their fantastic achievements. They are excellent ambassadors for the School!

PE dept

Mbali and Iris

Spalding High School U13 Cricket Team Crowned South Lincolnshire Champions

Spalding High School's Under-13 cricket team has secured a fantastic victory in the South Lincolnshire School Sports Association (SLSSA) U13 Softball Cricket Tournament, finishing the competition unbeaten in a series of impressive performances.

The team demonstrated determination, skill, and excellent teamwork throughout the tournament, overcoming strong opposition from Thomas Middlecott Academy, Cowley Academy, and Haven High Academy. Each match showcased the players' growing confidence and ability, with both batting and fielding standards consistently high.

Spalding High School began their campaign with a convincing win against Thomas Middlecott Academy. Solid batting partnerships and sharp fielding helped set the tone for the rest of the tournament. The team carried this momentum into their second match against Cowley Academy, where disciplined bowling and quick thinking in the field limited their opponents' scoring opportunities and ensured another comfortable victory.

The final match against Haven High Academy proved to be a fitting conclusion to the tournament. Despite determined opposition, Spalding High School remained composed, delivering a balanced performance with contributions from across the team. Their strong overall display sealed a third win, confirming their unbeaten status and securing the championship title.

Throughout the competition, the squad showed excellent sportsmanship and team spirit, supporting one another and representing the school with pride.

This achievement is a testament to the team's hard work in training and their commitment to developing their skills. It also reflects the strength of cricket at Spalding High School, with promising talent emerging at the junior level.

Congratulations to the entire U13 team on an outstanding tournament and a well-deserved victory. The future of cricket at Spalding High School looks bright!

PE dept

School Games Gold Mark Award

Spalding High School is delighted to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2025–2026 academic year. This outstanding achievement recognises the school's commitment to competitive sport, participation, and the development of physical education across all year groups.

The Gold Award reflects a year of exceptional sporting success and dedication from students, staff, and coaches alike. Throughout the academic year, pupils have demonstrated not only their skill and determination but also exemplary teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship across a wide range of disciplines.

Among the highlights of the year were the U12 and U16 football teams, both of whom triumphed in their respective County Cup competitions. These victories represent a significant accomplishment, showcasing the depth of talent within the school and the strength of its football programme. Both teams displayed exceptional consistency and composure under pressure, earning well-deserved county titles.

Cricket also proved to be a major success story, with the U13 outdoor cricket team crowned South Lincolnshire champions. Their unbeaten run throughout the competition demonstrated not only technical ability but also excellent teamwork and strategic awareness. The team's performances have set a high standard for future cricket squads to follow.

In rounders, Spalding High School achieved a remarkable result in the Year 7 South Lincolnshire tournament, where the school entered multiple teams and finished in both 1st and 2nd place. This achievement highlights the strength in depth within the year group and reflects the enthusiasm and engagement of students in extracurricular sport from the very start of their school journey.

Rugby has also been a standout sport this year, particularly in the fast-paced format of Touch Rugby. The Year 9 mixed team achieved success by winning the local 'Touch to Twickenham' competition, an incredible accomplishment that demonstrates the inclusivity and talent within the school's rugby programme. Meanwhile, the Year 8 T1 rugby team also excelled, finishing as group winners, further underlining Spalding High School's growing reputation in this sport.

These achievements, alongside many other successes across athletics (notably Iris Kwakye reaching the English Schools Finals in the 200m), netball, trampolining, and more, have contributed to an unforgettable year of sport. Just as importantly, participation levels have remained high, with increasing numbers of students taking part in clubs, fixtures, and competitions—ensuring that sport continues to play a vital role in school life.

The School Games Gold Award is not only a reflection of elite performance but also of the school's commitment to providing inclusive opportunities for all students to be active and engaged. From inter-house competitions to county-level events, Spalding High School continues to inspire students to lead healthy, active lifestyles.

The school community would like to extend its congratulations to all students who have represented the school this year, as well as to the dedicated staff and coaches who have supported them. This

recognition is a true testament to the hard work, passion, and teamwork that defines sport at Spalding High School.

With such a strong foundation and an impressive list of achievements, the future of sport at Spalding High School looks brighter than ever.

Ski Trip 2027

Several places have become available on the High School ski trip in February half-term 2027 (13th-20th). The places are available for anyone currently in Y8 and above. Please see Mr Farrell in the PE office if you are interested.

Maths News

Some Axiom Maths students were selected to go on the Axiom Maths Festival Trip, to Lincoln on 15 06. They had an amazing day, meeting other Axiom Maths participants, they worked with University Maths students and toured the University of Lincoln.

Here is what the students said about the day:

I found the Axiom trip helpful because it helped me learn how to overcome questions and work efficiently in a group. The trip was amazing. This will help me to get better at Maths and be more adventurous in Axiom

Eden

I enjoyed the trip. We went on a tour around and we also had some time doing Maths with other schools. They also had very nice treats.

Hajra

I really enjoyed the trip. The tasting treats at break and the tour around the whole university were my personal favourites. The tour guide, Emily, was really nice and polite. I never realised that my favourite restaurant (Wagamama) was right in front of the university!

Amelia

We had fun taking part in the Maths circle where we tackled tough questions with other schools. We also had a tour around the university and were given a very interesting presentation.

Tilly

On the trip we went around the university, did different activities and saw views of the castle and cathedral.

Matilda

I got to meet new people and meet a real mathematician. The campus was really nice and so were the Axiom staff.

Ciera

I enjoyed this trip the most when we had a tour around the university as it inspired me.

Anon

You meet a lot of people and it was really fun to try different activities with different people. The tour was very interesting and the lecture was also fun. You could pretend that you were actually at work, working out statistics. It was really fun and I really recommend it.

Wiktoria

We went on a tour around the university and it had some amazing views of Lincoln Castle and university. Definitely a must do!

Shai Shai

I enjoyed it a lot as it was very fun and we got an insight of what life is like in university. We also got to meet new people.

Nawal

It was a very fun, inspirational day. We got to work with other students from different schools. There was a mathematician who gave a talk and got us to solve some tricky questions. We also had a tour around the University. I recommend coming to Axiom!

Evelyn

I found the Axiom Maths trip last Monday amazing. When we got there and got to know other schools, it was fun. Then, at break, we got lovely tasty treats from the university. The whole day was just amazing, thank you so much.

Anon

Library News

Carnegie Book Group Update

Our last vintage Carnegie book discussion was on After the Fire by Will Hill. This unforgettable novel was inspired by the Waco siege of 1993 where 82 members of a cult lost their lives. After the Fire focuses on a teenager, Moonbeam, who is a cult member, having been indoctrinated in the cult's teachings from a young age. The book follows Moonbeam's struggles to break free from the patriarchal cult and the aftermath of the cult's destruction. However, the narrative structure isn't linear, which adds additional tension as we are fed the plot piece by piece and it feels like a challenging jigsaw that you irresistibly have to solve.

This book's themes gave us much to discuss. We didn't agree on how we felt about a non-linear narrative. Some of the group found this to be confusing, some felt the success of it depended on the

genre of the book and suggested this was most suitable for fantasy. Others enjoyed the challenge of this style. Books with this structure that had been enjoyed were The Girl's I've Been by Tess Sharpe and Song Walker by Zillah Bethell.

We continued our discussion on After the Fire, exploring further the themes of indoctrination, control, patriarchy and therapy. All of which the group happily recommended titles they'd read such as The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, Shatter Me by Tahereh Mafi and Scythe by Neal Shusterman.

Our final book group meeting will be on Tuesday 14th July at 1.30pm in the Library for our annual Book Balloon Debate, join us for manic fun and frantic book survival!

Happy Reading

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees

Reading the Rainbow

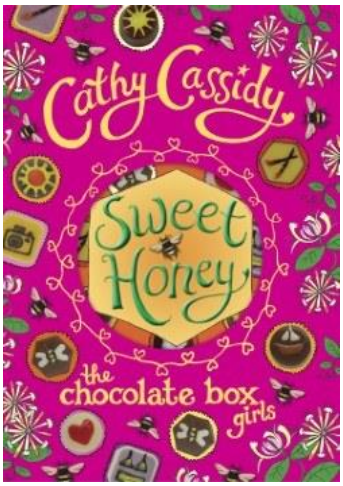
We've been celebrating diversity in books the last few weeks. Our Pride book display has been drawing attention to some fabulous, heartfelt and powerful unmissable reads, which are all available for loan.

Happy Reading

Mrs Lees

Learning Resource Manager

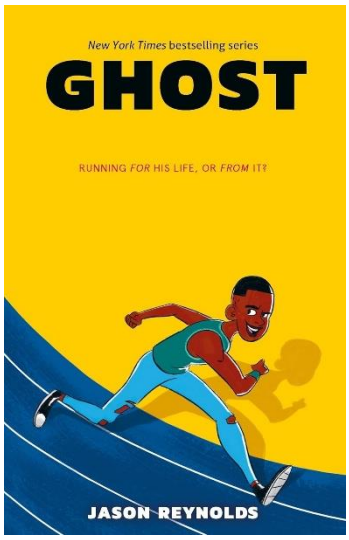
Book reviews



Sweet Honey by Cathy Cassidy

This book was definitely one of my favourites and I have never been more interested by a book when reading. In my opinion, I think Cathy Cassidy is such a talented author. This book is all about a girl called Honey who is going to live with her dad in Australia. Determined to make a fresh start, she couldn't be further away from the tough times she’s experienced. Her new life is a dream come true – until school begins. The girls are different from Honey’s friends in England and the only person who seems to understand her is the cute boy from the beach that she’s chatting to online. But when the girls at school and even her dad start breaking promises, who can she trust? I would 100% recommend this book to teenage girls who enjoy stories about friendship, drama and romance.

Lena, 7P



Ghost by Jason Reynolds

A boy named Castle Cranshaw, known as Ghost, once had to run away from his father with his mom. One day, after school he went to the track and sat alone eating sunflower seeds. He got challenged to race the best runner from the athletics team, so he did and they tied. Coach asked him to join the team but he said no because he preferred basketball and thought his mom would say no. The coach drives him home in his cab and persuades his mom to say yes. She did but only on the condition that if Ghost does anything bad in school he will be off the team. He continues doing bad stuff without his mom finding out. Then comes his first race. Find out what happens if you read this fabulous book of adventures and different decisions made.

Ola, 7P

Year 6 Induction Day – Looking Ahead to September

We were delighted to welcome our Year 6 pupils to Spalding High School for their Induction Day, giving them an exciting first taste of life at secondary school before they join us as Year 7 students in September.

The morning began with lots of polite greetings as pupils arrived, looking happy, excited and, understandably, a little nervous. It was lovely to see many of them reconnecting with friends they had met at our Information Evening a few weeks ago, helping everyone to settle in quickly.

Following a warm welcome from Mrs Anderson, the pupils met their form tutors and spent time getting to know the members of their new tutor groups before heading off to their first lessons. Throughout the day, each form experienced three taster lessons across a range of subjects, including Science, History, Geography and Maths. These sessions gave them a glimpse of the exciting learning opportunities that await them at Spalding High School.

One of the highlights of the day was seeing the pupils begin to navigate their way around our school site. It was wonderful to watch each tutor group work together, supporting one another and building new friendships as they found their way between lessons.

At breaktime and lunchtime, everyone had the opportunity to spend more time getting to know each other. Our fantastic current Year 7 students were also on hand to offer reassurance, help and friendly advice, with many familiar faces helping our visitors feel welcome and at ease.

The afternoon finished with a range of engaging Drama activities, giving pupils the chance to work together, build confidence and end the day with plenty of smiles before heading home.

We were incredibly impressed by the enthusiasm, kindness and positive attitude shown by all of the Year 6 pupils throughout the day. We very much look forward to welcoming them back to Spalding High School in September as they begin the next exciting chapter of their education as our new Year 7 students.

Mrs Spinks, Head of Year 7 and Induction Manager

Celebrating Year 10

As we have come to the end of Year 10 Exam Week, I would like to congratulate all of the students on the mature and positive way they approached their assessments. It has been fantastic to see so many students arriving prepared, demonstrating resilience, and giving their very best effort in every exam.

The calm attitude, excellent behaviour, and determination shown throughout the week have been a real credit to the year group. These exams are an important opportunity to develop the skills and confidence needed for next year, and Year 10 should be proud of the way they embraced the challenge. We are very proud - well done!

Miss Jones & Mrs Spreckley

Year 13 Leavers' Ball

The Year 13 Leavers' Ball, held at the stunning Sessions House in Spalding on Friday 26 June 2026, was a wonderful celebration of friendship, achievement and the hard work that has defined our students' sixth-form experience.

Blessed with a beautiful summer evening, students arrived in style along the red carpet, looking fantastic in their gowns and suits. As temperatures remained high throughout the evening, students were happy to be presented with a paper fan as they walked through the door!

The event was organised by former Deputy Head Student Lexi Withers, whose commitment and enthusiasm helped make the evening such a success. Through a series of fundraising events over the year, funds were raised towards the decorations and special touches that transformed the venue into a fitting setting for such an important event.

Students were able to enjoy the beautiful courtyard throughout the evening, providing a perfect space to relax, chat with friends and reflect on their time together at Spalding High School. The atmosphere was warm, relaxed and joyful as students celebrated the end of their school careers and looked ahead to exciting new opportunities.

A highlight of the evening was the popular photo booth, generously sponsored by Worldwide Fruit. Throughout the night, students captured countless photographs and memories with friends.

We were also fortunate to have Year 12 photography students Martha Cook and Ava Ilott on hand to photograph students as they arrived at Sessions House.

We wish all our leavers every success and happiness as they begin the next chapter of their journeys.

Mrs Rogers, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

SHS

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

Careers News

Dragons' Den Challenge Final

On 19th June we held the final of the Year 7 Dragons' Den challenge. The winning team from each of the five tutor groups went through to the final and they were all extremely impressive. Our four judges were Mrs Spinks, Head of Year 7, Miss Goulding, Head of Business, Will Blower, former High School sixth former and now Director at Realise Finance, and I was also fortunate to be on the judging panel. Special thanks go to Will for giving up his time to attend the event and for providing prizes.

Our budding entrepreneurs in Year 7 presented their products to their peers and the panel of judges. There were some excellent ideas and everyone who took part presented professionally and clearly. It was difficult to pick a winning team but after much deliberation, students in 7P - Bethan, Emily, Issy, Charlie, Sofia, Ola, Maya, and Julia were named our 2026 Dragons' Den Challenge winners with their fabulous product 'The Cooling Cloth'. Congratulations to these students who had considered their design, presentation and business plan very carefully.

Please find below Miss Goulding's comments about each of the teams in the final.

I want to start by saying myself and all of the other judges were in awe of all of you! You had put so much time and effort into your product ideas and pitches that it is so hard for me to now find the words to explain how amazing you all were! It was such a close call and really hard to choose a winner. You all should be incredibly proud of yourselves and what you did was a major accomplishment! Well done to each and every one of you! (and I will happily take you all on for GCSE Business in Year 10!)

7N – Abi, Heidi, Mia, Nyree, Erin, Martha, Macaria and Fola – you were amazing! As judges, we loved your idea of the 'Moisture Me Duo'. The different variations of the product, packaging and pricing were brilliant. We were really impressed by your business knowledge in relation to your marketing decisions and financial calculations. I can see business careers for you all! What I was really impressed by was how enthusiastically and confidently you presented! Going first in a competition like this is nerve wracking – but if you were nervous, you certainly didn't let it show! Well done!

7J – Melika, Chloe, Tomisin, Rachel and Mastwra – what geniuses you are! One of the best ways to come up with a business idea is to spot a gap in the market that is not being fulfilled and you sure did that with 'Masked Hoodie'. Although we all know hoodies are in mass supply, I don't think I have ever seen one that does not flap in the wind and not mess up your hair. We were really impressed that you had looked into getting a patent for your product – and even more so that you had a certificate from the intellectual property office. You also presented so confidently and you should be extremely proud of what you achieved.

7C – Nieve, Charlotte, Lily, Scarlett, Mia, Khaya, Shehzeen and Sophie – well what can I say! You product idea 'Slick It' was so well thought-out and developed perfectly for your target market. Having a brush that can sort your parting, give you the right amount of product and store hair bobbles is another great product that might make an everyday task a little easier. Your prototype designs were fantastic and having a range of options would certainly help your market appeal. When you get this product launched – please let me know!

7S – Matilda, Nila, Mafaro, Tilly, Taraa, Isabella, Betheli and Shiloh – another brilliant idea! The best business ideas often solve a problem in life, and 'Toad-ally Dry' was another product, that might just help! I personally hate trying to get dry after going swimming, but your product would make life a lot simpler! We were blown away by the prototype that you had made and modelled during your presentation and you gave a very good sales pitch. Your logo and branding were great and completely inline with the product name. Well done!

7P – Bethan, Emily, Issy, Charlie, Sofia, Ola, Maya and Julia – our winners! What an amazing idea. You found a product that could help solve a variety of problems. The cooling towel / blanket could answer all of our beach dilemmas. Not only would it help cool you down, but it had pockets to store phones and personal items to stop them overheating and then not only that, you can add weights to the towel to stop it getting blown away! The different designs you had come up with were also great!

In reality, the Dragons on the Dragons' Den only invest in business ideas that they believe have a large and growing market and have the ability to make profit. We would choose you as winners and we could visualise your products selling and having many potential customers. We were also really impressed that you had thought ahead to how you could expand your product range in the future to hats and bags. You all presented confidently and did very well at raising audience interest. Well done, 7P!

Miss Goulding

Careers Prefects

I am very grateful for support from four Year 12 students, Teja, Austeja, Libby and Hannah who are careers prefects. They help at careers events, write articles and share insights with other students. Thank you to Hannah who has written this insightful review of her recent visit to Liverpool John Moores University open day.

<u>My Experience at LJMU Open Day</u>

On Friday the 19th of June, I went to visit Liverpool John Moores University on their open day. I found the day so helpful and enjoyable, especially the talks, the accommodation and the overall environment and location LJMU has to offer. It's definitely now my top university choice!

When I first arrived I was a bit nervous but there was so many signs and pop ups so everything was so easy to access and they had big campus maps everywhere so I never got lost. The current university students helping were so nice and supportive. I was guided around the student union by a delightful girl called Megan. She made me feel so comfortable and welcome and gave me so much advice for making friends, joining societies etc... She made me so relaxed and more confident to just share my interests and in turn get to know her personality. I was also given a tote bag with lots of freebies including a notebook, pen, map, subject guides, prospectus, socks, a keychain, reading light, and a pin. I also spoke with current students about the student union itself and all the societies going on. I was intrigued by the true crime, the nightlife and the cheerleading societies.

As I explored the student union and the buildings my course lectures would be in around my campus, I found that the buildings were really modern and even found that the facility centre I would be using on my course is going to be refurbished and will be made bigger and better ready for my first year which I thought was really cool because it already looked so big. I was given tours around some of the accommodation too. I was really impressed with the rooms because they were much bigger than standard university rooms, they were spacious, really clean, had an area of open space around the rooms that was quite new and modern, a big social space next to the kitchen, and big lit up mirrors (always handy for perfect hair and makeup).

I went on a little later to do a subject talk for the course I'm interested in; 'Forensics, policing and applied investigations'. I really enjoyed this talk. It was incredibly engaging and the lecturers made such a positive impression on me, helping everyone there to engage, let down our guards and feel so comfortable. The lecturers were so approachable and funny and seemed to really care about the course and were just so passionate about it all. I found out that the university works closely with Merseyside Police and Seekham Services in the area so we can go on day trips and really involve ourselves in learning outside of the lecture halls or practical suites. They mentioned that they offer trips for students passionate about their course including Singapore, and Ireland (past trips) and hopefully Vietnam and Australia (future trips). That really caught my interest because not all universities offer such experiences. The course bridges the theory and research with about 60- 70% of the course being practical in the facility suites which I really liked the sound of as I am such a practical learner/worker. I also found out that another one of the lecturers, Heather, is an ex crime scene investigator! I had a long conversation with her and heard all about her background and asked her a few questions which I thought was so helpful.

In really close range to where my talk was, we were then taken across to the facilities building for this course which was my favourite part. It was really close as well – only a 3 minute walk away! In this building there were a range of model crime scene suites. They were huge, and incredibly immersive and engaging. They're all set up to be really realistic where the university students have to dress up in all the overalls, masks, and proper suits before going in, collecting evidence, scouting the scenes and discovering motives and reasons. We got a taste of this by being able to look around and try to uncover evidence to reveal what happened ourselves. I found it fun and got really involved with it, really enjoying the interactive element. I could really see myself enjoying the course there. It gave me such a good insight into what work as a real scenes of crimes forensic officer would be like. After all this I had another conversation with Heather discovering that the course is mostly spent in the crime scene suites, with a couple of input lectures throughout the week which I was very happy about and that if a student was struggling, the lecturers all offer personal tutoring sessions for extra support and they can send over PowerPoints in advance for those with learning or concentration difficulties. I also learnt that they have a very high student employment rate after graduation and the course opens lots of doors for work and job opportunities, which was really beneficial to know.

Overall, I really loved the uni, the course and Liverpool John Moores University has definitely gone to the top of my list.

By Hannah, Year 12

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

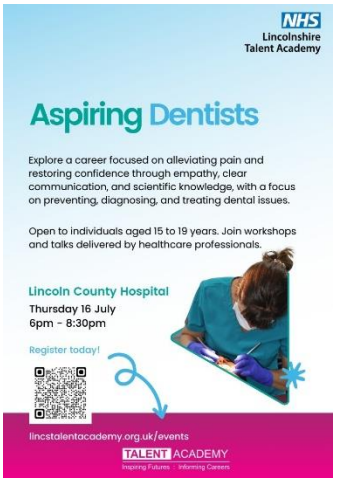
UniTasterDays has also published its 2026 edition of the 'Parents' Guide to University' which can be downloaded for free here:

Parents' Guide to University | Expert advice brochure to support parents and carers | UniTasterDays

Careers Fair

Our annual careers fair will be held on 9th July for current students. As this event is on during the school day, it is not open to parents/carers. If any students in Years 11 or 13 would like to attend, they are welcome to do so between 1.30 and 2.00pm and must enter via main reception.

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.

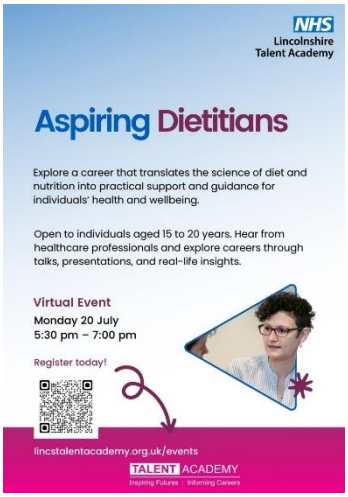
Delivered by the Lincolnshire Local Dental Committee, this event offers a valuable opportunity to discover the skills and knowledge required for a career in dentistry.

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/

Aspiring Dietitians



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

The Lincolnshire Talent Academy is holding an Aspiring Dietitians event on Monday 20 July from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm. This is a virtual event open to young people aged 15–20 who are living in or educated in Lincolnshire.

Delivered by United Lincolnshire Teaching Hospitals Dietetics Team, this event offers an insight into the role of dietitians and how they deliver safe, compassionate, and patient-centred nutritional care. Hear from healthcare professionals and explore careers through talks, presentations, and real-life insights.

What to expect:

· Gain insight into a typical day in the role.

· Learn how dietitians support patients and communities.

· Tips on the skills you'll need and how to get started.

· Ask questions and hear from professionals who understand what it's like to pursue a career as an allied health professional.

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

Year 13 – Clearing Webinar

We hope that students who have just finished their A Level exams achieve excellent results. In preparation for results day, for students (and their parents/carers) who have applied to university, it is useful to know how clearing works. The University of East Anglia is hosting a webinar on 9th July at 6.00pm called 'HE Guidance: Results Day 2026 - Clearing in Five Easy Steps'. Students can register here:

HE Guidance: Results Day 2026 - Clearing in Five Easy Steps – A Session for Students & Their Parents or Carers with Luke Gibbons, Head of Undergraduate Admissions, & Lucy Nottingham, Higher Education Adviser, University of East Anglia - Channel Talent - Interactive school webinars

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:

Sunday 5th July Gold DofE expedition departs

W/C Monday 6th July Extended Learning Week

Friday 10th July Sports Day

Saturday 18th - Sunday 19th July Bronze DofE Assessed

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

The Children's Commissioner for England has launched a national survey, The Big Future.

Message from the Children's Commissioner:

Hi, my name is Rachel and my job is to hear from all children and young people in England.

As the Children's Commissioner I've launched this survey so you can have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today. I will take your views to the Government, to help them make life better for children.

Everything you tell me will be kept private. You don't have to answer any question if you don't want to. There are no right or wrong answers. Just answer honestly! To find out more, visit my website.

Please find below the link for the survey:

https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

The Children's Commissioner says:

It is vital that I hear from children and young people in every school, college and community across England. If students do not participate, their experiences, views and aspirations will be absent from the national picture that will help shape future policy and decision-making.

At a time of significant change for children and young people, it is more important than ever that their voices are heard. Through The Big Future, I can take the views of students directly to government and ensure their priorities help inform the decisions that affect their lives.

Thank you for your support in helping ensure that every child's voice has the chance to be heard.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Rachel de Souza

Children's Commissioner

Image credits

Photographs of students: Spalding High School

Leavers' Ball photos: Ava and Martha, Year 12

Book covers: Amazon

Library photos: Mrs Lees

Liverpool John Moores University: Liverpool John Moores University