



Spalding High School weekly bulletin

22nd July 2026

This week, from Mrs Anderson, Headteacher

As we reach the end of another school year, it is worth reflecting on how much can change in twelve months.

This time last year, many of our students (and no doubt staff) had a clear picture of what the year ahead would look like. They had goals to achieve and plans to follow. Yet, as John Lennon famously observed, *"Life is what happens while you are busy making other plans."*

For many of our young people, the year has not unfolded exactly as expected. There have been challenges, changing priorities and unexpected obstacles. However, there have also been many moments of growth, achievement and success that could never have been predicted.

One of the greatest lessons of the year has been resilience. As Dame Kelly Holmes said, *"Believe in yourself when nobody else does."* Resilience is not about avoiding difficulties; it is about finding the courage to keep going, adapting when plans change and continuing to learn and grow.

Some of the year's most important achievements will never appear on a certificate or trophy. Students have developed confidence, independence, kindness and determination. They have formed new friendships, supported one another, embraced new experiences and discovered strengths they may not have known they possessed.

As Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson reminds us, *"You don't have to be brilliant at everything. You just have to keep trying and keep learning."* That spirit of perseverance and growth has been evident throughout our school community this year.

As we look back, we encourage everyone to celebrate not only the goals that were achieved but also the personal growth that has taken place along the way. Success is not always about reaching the destination we planned; sometimes it is about becoming stronger, wiser and more capable through the journey itself.

As Winston Churchill said, *"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."*

We are incredibly proud of all our students and everything they have achieved this year, especially the successes they could not have anticipated a year ago.

We wish all our families a happy, restful and well-deserved summer break.

Before I bid a final summer sign off, it is with regret that we say goodbye to colleagues leaving the High School this year.

Mrs Whiteway joined the School in 2024 as one of our reception team and has been a key member of staff in her role. Mr Rogers also joined us in 2024 and has been a key member of the Science team. We wish him well in his new role as Head of Department at his new school. Ms Bailey has led the German department with passion and enthusiasm for her subject, she too leaves to take up a new and exciting post in education. Mrs Knowles joined us first in 2004 and then again in 2014, and has been an amazing teacher in the classroom and department. We wish Mrs Knowles luck in her work with the church. Mrs Hebblewhite joined us in 2004 and has taught Psychology and a number of other subjects such as critical thinking, health and social care and EPQ over the years. She has also led the Psychology department and been our SENDCo over the years. Mrs Hebblewhite is not retiring but is about to set off on some amazing and exciting adventures!

We wish all of the colleagues leaving us this year the best of luck with a debt of gratitude for the commitment and enthusiasm with which they have served the School. Thank you!

Whilst I would normally wait until September to introduce new staff, I thought you might like to meet Gertie!

Thank you for the overwhelming messages of support, we are very excited that she will be joining us, although year one is a training year, before she will commence her official duties!



Extended Learning Week 2026

Careers Day

Please see here some photos from Careers Day.



Year 9 Visit to Lincoln Zoo

On Wednesday 8th July, our Year 9 students enjoyed an exciting and educational visit to Lincoln Zoo.

On arrival, we were welcomed by the zookeepers, who guided us around the zoo and introduced us to a fascinating selection of animals. One group met Polly the Parrot, a friendly bird who loves interacting with people. We were delighted to hear her say, "Hello" and "I'm a parrot!"

Next, we visited the spider monkeys, Rodrigo and Diego, and learnt about their remarkable prehensile tails and how they use them to move through the trees. We then met the ring-tailed lemurs and discovered their matriarchal society, in which the females lead the group. During our visit to the eagle enclosure, it was feeding time, and we learnt that the eagles are fed a deer leg each day.

"The sloth bears were my favourites. These bears have been mistreated in the past and used as dancing bears, so it was lovely to see them being so well cared for."

Jess, 9J

The entire year group then enjoyed an impressive animal show, where we watched a variety of animals fly, climb and swoop around us.

"I really liked watching the barn owl fly over and around us, and I learnt that they can turn their heads 270 degrees because they can't move their eyes like we can."

Audrey, 9J

Students were also treated to a close-up snake encounter, with volunteers invited to touch the snake.

"I thought it would be all slimy, but it was surprisingly dry and soft."

After lunch, students had time to browse the gift shop and explore other parts of the zoo, visiting animals they had not yet seen.

As we gathered into our coach groups ready for the journey home, the otters made an unexpected appearance, chattering as if they were waving us goodbye!

It was a memorable day filled with opportunities to learn about animal care, conservation and the important role we all play in helping to protect the natural world. We would like to thank the staff at Lincoln Zoo for providing such an enjoyable and informative experience.

Mrs Fisk

The tours with the zookeeper guides really helped the Year 9 students enjoy learning about the important work involved in rescuing animals, protecting endangered species, and understanding what it takes to become a zookeeper. The guides included important aspects about animal management and were also very informative - they gave Year 9 a valuable insight into routes into careers working with animals.

Mrs J Lord

I really enjoyed visiting the Lincoln Zoo as part of Extended Learning Week. I was fascinated by all the different animals we saw and were able to learn about. As someone who was really interested in animals when I was younger and spent a great deal of time researching about them, I loved taking in new information about the different species that were being taken care of in the zoo. We also got to watch some of the animals, mostly birds of different breeds such as the barn owl, out of their enclosure and interacting with the zookeepers which was incredibly engaging - not only was it informative, but it was also entertaining to watch. One of my personal favourite experiences of the trip was the butterfly enclosure - both the butterflies and the habitat itself were very pretty, although it did get very hot in there! I also really enjoyed being able to walk through the lemur enclosure where I saw both ring-tailed

lemurs and red-ruffed lemurs; they can be extremely loud. Not to mention the gift shop, where I purchased a fabulous pair of green tiger socks!

Sakina, 9J





Year 10 PE Day – Extended Learning Week

As part of Extended Learning Week, all Year 10 students took part in an exciting and action-packed PE Day, giving them the opportunity to experience a range of sports that are not usually taught within the PE curriculum.

Throughout the day, students competed in a variety of activities, including **Kin-Ball**, **Boccia**, **Speed Stacking**, **Indoor Curling**, and **Golf**. These unique sports challenged students to develop new skills, work collaboratively, and step outside their comfort zones while having fun.

The enthusiasm and positive attitude shown by Year 10 throughout the day were outstanding. Students embraced every activity with energy, determination, and excellent sportsmanship, creating a fantastic atmosphere across all events.

It was wonderful to see so many students enjoying new experiences, encouraging one another, and demonstrating resilience and teamwork. The day was a great success and highlighted the value of trying something different while staying active.

A special well done to the speed stacking champions; 3-3-3 Abi 3.03s 3-6-3 Katie 4.38s

Well Done!

The PE Department











Sports Day

Friday 10th July saw the completion of another successful Spalding High School Sports Day. Due to the hot weather forecast the format of the day was changed so that the track events were completed during the cooler hours of the morning and the field events could be completed with adequate shade provision in the afternoon. The 1500m races had already taken place on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtimes for Years 7-10 and the 800m races will be taking place at lunchtime on Monday 20th July.

After registration, the pupils prepared for a morning of races on the track, sat in their Houses under the shade of the Willow trees. There were some remarkable individual performances on display with students showing determination, resilience in the hot conditions. It was lovely to have the whole school on the field to celebrate one another's successes, with banners made by form groups and cheering for one another.

The field events for Years 7-10 (Shot, Discus, Javelin, Long Jump and High Jump) were scheduled throughout the afternoon. It was fantastic to see 456 pupils had signed up to participate in the field events, with long jump and javelin proving to be the popular choices. Participation points were awarded to every athlete in each event, with additional points awarded from first to fifth place in each year group competition. The students were focused, determined and very encouraging of one another. Each member of the PE department was responsible for officiating a field event and would not have been able to do so as efficiently without the assistance from the Year 12 Sports Leaders who measured the distances of each event, so thank you for your help!

The Sixth Form field events were completed during their Sixth Form games lessons with their points being added to the total House points. The overall Sports Day winning House is to be announced in the final assembly on Wednesday 22nd July.

The PE Department would like to thank all of the staff members who helped on the day, whether that be as starters, track judges, place judges, or first aiders, we could not run the event without your support. Please see the winners of each event below.

A special well done to Imogen, Dominic, Edvinas and Stanley who broke the school records.

	Year 7 Winners	Form		Year 8 Winners	Form
Shot	Bethan Wilson	P	Shot	Amelia Everett	J
Discus	Laura Malitka	C	Discus	Annika Beitane	P
Javelin	Grace Clare	C	Javelin	Megan Wright	N
Long Jump	Isla Wilson	S	Long Jump	Viggie Chung	C
High Jump	Arabella Tysterman	P	High Jump	Amelia Zuk	C
Hurdles	Corie Williams	N	Hurdles	Olivia Lewis	N
100m	Emily Askew	P	100m	Lily Smith	N
200m	Arabella Tysterman	P	200m	Maria Sroka	N
800m	TBC 20 th July		800m	TBC 20 th July	
1500m	Nyah Gyamfi	J	1500m	Iris Thomas	C
Relay		P	Relay		C

	Year 9 Winners	Form		Year 10 Winners	Form
Shot	Jonelle Osei-Owusu	N	Shot	Imogen Neal	P
Discus	Bea Snaith	P	Discus	Katie Cawson	
Javelin	Kaelyn Velasquez	P	Javelin	Alex Baker	C
Long Jump	Mbali Mlalazi	C	Long Jump	Charlotte Turner	S
High Jump	Maya Fraszczak	P	High Jump	Jessica Pilgrim	N
Hurdles	Maya Fraszczak	P	Hurdles	Divine Isaac	C
100m	Mbali Mlalazi	C	100m	Antonia Novak	S
200m	Lily Kwayke	J	200m	Katie Bonarius	C
800m	TBC 20 th July		800m	TBC 20 th July	
1500m	Isabella Gutane	J	1500m	Ella Skidmore	J
Relay		C	Relay		C

	Year 12 Winners	Form		Year 12 Boys Winners	Form
Shot	Lily Bull		Shot and Discus	Edvinas Rudokas	S
Discus	Amber Nieburg	N	Javelin	Sam Dowsett	P
Javelin	Shylini Bharaneedharan	N	High Jump	Dominic Blawuciak	P
Long Jump	Emily Allwood	P	100m	Stanley Gates	C
100m	Julia Wawro	C	200m	Stanley Gates	C
200m	Ava Ilott	S			
Relay		N			









Sydney wrote this after one member of the form continued on in the hurdles despite a few setbacks. Sydney felt this reflected the whole form's attitude to sports day - Nightingale do not give up!

Student of the Week

Staff name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Rogers	Lillie Payne	7J	Community
Miss Bailey	Heidi Green	7N	German
Miss Pettefar	Chivirnen Tivkaa	8J	English
Mr Murphy	Francesca Gorman	9N	Latin
Miss Magnus	Alex Baker	10C	Physical Education
Miss Jones	Lily Tomlinson	10J	Physical Education
Mrs Bennett	Prisha Rajesh	10J	Geography
Mrs Aurikko	Zaina Sabri	10J	Biology
Mr Hemsall	Emily Webster	10J	History
Mrs Bennett	Bridget Akanbi	10N	Community
Miss Magnus	Ruby Spicer	10N	Community
Mr Blackburn	Emily Spendelow	10P	German
Mrs Rogers	Arjannya Das	10P	Geography

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 29th June 2026.

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

Staff Name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Miss Bailey	Hadiyah-Zainab Kurji	8C	Form
Mrs C Lord	Sophia Neno	8J	Community
Mrs Nowak	Romana Bhatti	9C	Community
Mrs Cave	Lacey Bourne	9N	Community
Mr Murphy	Jessica Day	9N	Latin
Mary Clay	Jonelle Osei-Owusu	9N	Community
Miss Hammond	Dibyanshi Muduli	9P	Community
Miss Ashley	Leli Jenkins	10C	Mathematics
Mrs Fisk	Eve Barclay	10J	English Literature
Mrs Aurikko	Olivia Ward	10N	Community
Mrs Bennett	Reyah Ali	10S	Community
Miss Pettefar	Reyah Ali	10S	Community
Miss McArthur	Stanley Gates	12LM	Community

Please find here the Extended Learning Week Champions nominations.

Staff Name	Student Name	Student Form	Reason
Mrs Cave	Grace Fox	7J	Religious Education
Mrs Fisk	Chloe Miles	7J	English
Mrs Wilkins	Eden Hill	7S	Art
Mr Garbett	Amelia Zuk	8C	Extra-Curricular Music
Miss Jones	Evah Goult	8J	Physical Education
Miss Pettefar	Lois Howman	8N	English Literature
Mrs Lees	Jessica Chamberlain	8S	Library
Mrs Spinks	Esme Cornwell	8S	Mathematics
Mrs Busfield	Maryam Naqvi	9J	Biology
Mrs Rogers	Maja Polonskaite	9J	Geography
Mrs Aurikko	Francesca Gorman	9N	Biology
Mrs Tanner	Kira Wong	9N	Art
Mrs Tanner	Isabella Brook	10N	Community
Mrs Martindale	Yogitha Velpuri	10P	Biology
Mrs Schwarz	Chloe Bragg	10P	Textiles
Mrs H Waldron	Sarah Jones	10S	Religious Studies
Mrs Schwarz	Julia Fumanczyk	11N	Outlook Expedition
Mrs Nowak	Dominik Blawuciak	12SC	Mathematics
Mrs Bennett	Lexi Goult	13NG	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
Mrs Schwarz	Briony Sweeting	13NG	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Please find here the Student of the Week nominations for the week commencing 13th July 2026.

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

Sports News

South Lincolnshire Schools' Athletics Championships Success

On Thursday 2nd July, Spalding High School's athletes travelled to Princess Royal Sports Arena (PRSA), Boston, to compete in the South Lincolnshire Schools' Athletics Championships.

The School was proudly represented by girls' teams in Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10, with all students demonstrating excellent determination, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the day. Competing against some of the strongest athletes from across South Lincolnshire, the girls produced an impressive set of results.

The Year 7 and Year 9 teams both enjoyed outstanding success, finishing 2nd overall in their respective age groups. The Year 8 team secured a commendable 4th place, while the Year 10 team finished 6th overall after a series of competitive performances.

A special congratulations goes to Emily Askew (Year 7) and Kaelyn Velasquez (Year 9), who both produced outstanding performances to become South Lincolnshire Schools' Javelin Champions in their respective age groups.

These achievements reflect the hard work and commitment shown by all of the athletes in training and on the day of the competition. Congratulations to everyone who took part and represented Spalding High School so positively. The PE department is incredibly proud of all the competitors and looks forward to seeing their continued success in future athletics events.







Congratulations to Our Year 9 & 10 1500m Runners!

A huge well done to all of our Year 9 and 10 students who took part in the 1500m event during lunchtime on Tuesday 7th July.

Completing 1500m is a fantastic achievement, requiring determination, resilience, and perseverance. Our runners successfully completed an impressive 7½ laps of the track, showing great commitment and effort from start to finish.

It was wonderful to see our students supporting some of our GCSE students by filming their races to be used for GCSE PE NEA evidence. Every participant should be proud of their achievement.

Congratulations to everyone who took part, and thank you for making the event such a positive and enjoyable experience. Well done to Year 9 race winner Isabella and Year 10 winner Ella!



Year 8 Rounders Team Crowned South Lincolnshire Champions

Congratulations to the Spalding High School Year 8 Rounders team, who were crowned champions of the South Lincolnshire School Sports Association (South) Rounders Tournament on Tuesday 14 July, after an outstanding unbeaten campaign.

The team demonstrated excellent skill, determination and teamwork throughout the tournament, winning all three of their matches against strong opposition.

Spalding High began the day with an impressive 11 rounders to 6½ victory over University Academy Holbeach, showcasing confident batting and sharp fielding. Their second match proved to be a much closer contest, but the team held their nerve to secure a 5½ to 5 win against Bourne Academy. In their

final fixture, the girls produced another dominant display, defeating Spalding Academy 8½ to 1½ to confirm their status as tournament champions.

The players worked brilliantly together across all three games, supporting one another and maintaining a positive attitude throughout the day. Their unbeaten record is a testament to the hard work and commitment they have shown this season.

A special mention goes to Annika, who was deservedly named Player of the Tournament. Annika impressed with her powerful and consistent batting performances, while also providing excellent encouragement and leadership in the field. Her positivity and determination were evident throughout the competition and played a key role in the team's success.

Well done to all the players on a fantastic achievement. Winning the South Lincolnshire School Sports Association (South) Rounders Tournament is a remarkable accomplishment, and the team should be extremely proud of their efforts and the way they represented Spalding High School. The team will now go on to play Boston High School in the area final on Monday.

PE dept





T1 Rugby Tournament Wednesday 15th July

Our Year 7 rugby team put in an outstanding performance at the T1 Rugby Tournament, competing against five other schools. Throughout the day, the team demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, impressive skill, and fantastic teamwork, making our school incredibly proud. The girls remained unbeaten, winning three games and drawing two, which secured them the tournament title. Across the five matches, they scored an impressive 10 tries, with every player contributing through their determination, support, and teamwork.

Special congratulations goes to our try scorers:

Nyah – 5 tries

Alice – 2 tries

Charlotte – 2 tries

Maddie – 1 try

Emily – 1 try

Every try was made possible by the outstanding support and teamwork shown by the entire squad, with players working tirelessly for one another throughout the tournament.

Congratulations to the whole team on becoming T1 Rugby Tournament Champions—an excellent achievement and a wonderful example of teamwork, resilience, and respect.

Miss Parker, PE







Year 9 Rounders Match Report

SHS kicked off their rounders fixtures with two competitive matches. In the opening game against UAH, the team narrowly lost **8–6½**. Although it took a little time for the players to settle into the game, there was some excellent batting on display, and the team showed great determination throughout.

The second match saw SHS bounce back in style with a fantastic **6½–3** victory over SA. The team worked brilliantly together in the field, showing excellent communication, tactical awareness, and teamwork. Their batting was confident and consistent, helping to secure a well-deserved win.

A special congratulations goes to **Violet**, who scored the most rounders for SHS across the matches, and to **Isla**, who was deservedly named **Player of the Match** against SA for her outstanding all-round performance.

Well done to everyone involved!

Miss Parker, PE teacher

Double Success Crowns Spalding High School Rounders Champions!

Spalding High School is celebrating a fantastic sporting achievement after both the Under 12 and Under 13 rounders teams won their respective South Lincolnshire Finals on Monday 20th July, earning the title of **South Lincolnshire Rounders Champions**.

Both teams faced **Boston High School** in their finals and produced outstanding performances to secure victory. Demonstrating excellent skill, teamwork and determination, the girls rose to the occasion against strong opposition and represented the school brilliantly.

Winning one South Lincolnshire championship would have been a remarkable achievement, but for both age groups to be crowned champions in the same season is a testament to the strength of rounders at Spalding High School. The success reflects the dedication of the players, the support of their families and the commitment of staff who have helped develop the teams throughout the year.

Congratulations to all the players involved in this outstanding double success. You have represented Spalding High School with pride and should be incredibly proud of your achievements.



Music News



Summer Concert 2026

This year's concert was a wonderful celebration of the hard work, talent and dedication of our students. Since rehearsals began in January, performers have devoted countless break times and lunchtimes to preparing the programme, and their commitment was evident in every performance. Their professionalism, enthusiasm and musicality shone throughout the evening, making the concert a pleasure for everyone in attendance.

The success of the event was made possible by the invaluable support of our peripatetic music staff, several of whom joined the performers on stage, adding to the occasion. We are also immensely grateful to parents and carers for their continued encouragement, patience and support throughout months of rehearsals and practice at home. It was especially heartening to see some family members

performing alongside students in the Orchestra. The return of several former students also added a special sense of community and continuity to the evening.

A particularly poignant moment came as we celebrated and said farewell to our Year 13 musicians. Over the past seven years, they have been at the heart of almost every musical event at SHS, contributing not only exceptional talent but also unwavering commitment, loyalty and enthusiasm. Their influence on the department has been immense, and they leave behind a lasting legacy for younger musicians to follow. We thank them for everything they have given to the School and wish them every success and happiness as they embark on the next stage of their journeys, whether in music or beyond.

The concert was a fitting culmination of months of dedication and collaboration, showcasing not only outstanding performances but also the strong sense of community that makes Music at SHS so special.

Mr Garbett

Head of Music

Our Summer Concert was a night to remember! All of us singing together to the crowd in harmony felt surreal. The Orchestra was majestic and the Chamber Choir had a beautiful blend of voices! Performing to the crowd, some for the last time and some for the first, was a joy to us all. My favourite song we performed was the Pop Medley from Singsation, all our voices blended perfectly, and it was a blast to perform.

Lily, 8N

This year's summer concert was my fourth concert in this school and to be honest, it was my favourite out of all the concerts I've performed in. I couldn't decide which was my favourite part - the choices of songs made me sing the melody in my head and at some points I felt like I wanted to cry happy tears. I want to thank everyone for this and I am looking forward to the next concert.

XienHan, 8P





Library News

Carnegie Book Group

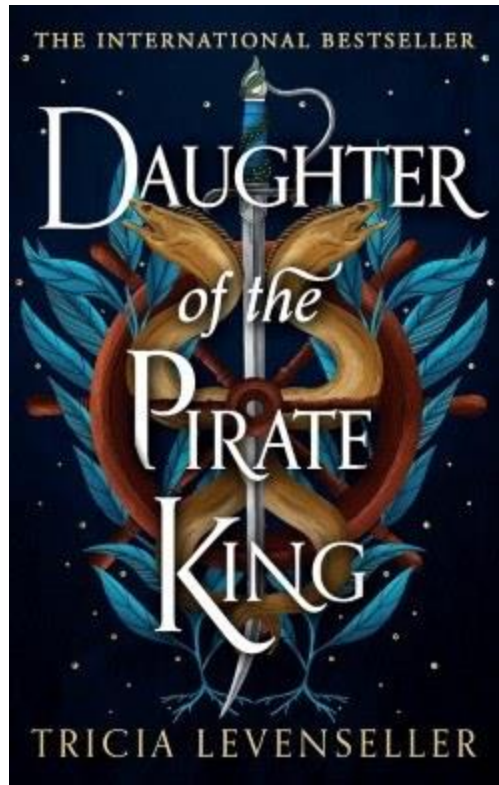
Last Tuesday, our book group met for the final time this academic year and, in keeping with tradition, we held a hot air balloon debate. In each round, the students defended their book, beginning with a full minute in the first round and going down to a single word in the finale. At the end of each round, the book with the fewest votes was eliminated and “thrown” from the hot air balloon.

The titles chosen this year ranged in genre and included Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, The Contender, After the Fire and Rooftoppers. In the last round, our finalists were Freya with Daughter of the Pirate King, Holly with Einstein the Penguin and Edith with Apprentice to the Villain. Their final words to win the competition were ‘ruthless’, ‘penguin’ and ‘lovers’. After a close vote, Freya was this year’s winner with Daughter of the Pirate King, and we all left with more books added to our TBR lists...

All of the books are of course available for loan from the school library.

Happy Summer Reading

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees



Sunshine Reading

Jodie and Lachlan have created a fun and vibrant Sunshine Reading display in the library, with a selection of new books that they have catalogued for you. The display is an eye-catching focal point for summer reads and their suggested books are:

Every Cloud by Ros Roberts. A humorous and heartfelt story of new friends, fresh starts and silver linings.

The Light Thieves by Helena Duggan. An ecological adventure thriller where the earth has shifted on its axis and the world is in peril.

After the Fire by Will Hill. An award-winning survival story.

The Danger Gang by Tom Fletcher. Childhood friends discover magical powers after a strange storm in this humorous adventure.

The State of Sorrow by Melinda Salisbury. Sorrow rules in place of her father and brother, but her rule isn't secure in this immersive fantasy read.

The Gilded Ones by Namina Forna. West African inspired epic fantasy.

The Davenports by Krystal Marquis. This historical story, inspired by the real-life Patterson family, features four independent young women of colour finding their place in American society.

The Case of the London Dragonfish by Joan Lennon. A Victorian mystery featuring Slightly Jones, a Sherlock Holmes like young sleuth.

The Immortal Games by Annaliese Avery. Greek mythology meets the Hunger Games.

Secrets of the Sun King by Emma Carroll. Action packed mystery surrounding a pharaoh's curse with a strong female protagonist.

Brightstorm by Vashti Hardy. A fast-paced fantasy adventure.

All the books are available for loan and are proving popular already. Thank you, Jodie and Lachlan, for such a fabulous reading promotion.

Happy Reading

Miss O'Sullivan & Mrs Lees



Book reviews



Anne of Green Gables by L M Montgomery

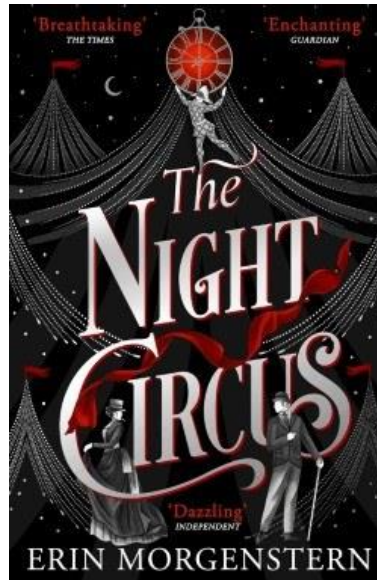
I really enjoyed reading Anne of Green Gables. I ended up liking it much more than I expected. The story is about Anne Shirley, an orphan who is accidentally sent to live with Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert instead of the boy they wanted. Even though she gets into lots of trouble because of her imagination and curiosity, she is a kind and lovable character.

My favourite part of the book was Anne's personality. She is funny, creative, and always tries to see the good in people. Even when she makes mistakes, she learns from them and becomes a better person. I also liked how her friendships, especially with Diana, made the story feel warm and realistic.

The book has some long descriptions, so there were a few parts that felt a bit slow. The descriptions helped me imagine what the island looked like, so I think they made the story more interesting.

Overall, I think Anne of Green Gables is a great book because it has memorable characters, funny moments, and important lessons about friendship, family, and being yourself. I would recommend it to anyone above 10 years old who likes stories with lots of adventure. I would give it 4.5 out of 5 stars

Florence 9S



The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern

The Night Circus was really fun to read and theorize about. It follows two characters: Marco and Celia, who are forced to compete against each other and their displays of magic, using the circus as their venue. But as more time passes, the more extreme the game gets and more innocents are roped into it. Then they uncover a game-changing detail that becomes a seemingly impossible problem to solve. It was interesting to read the different perspectives and piece together the full scope of each moment. The whole story is brimming not only with magic, but also growing tension as more secrets are revealed and even more are piled up. I didn't really expect too much from this book when I first saw it, but it exceeded all expectations of mine. The book is mainly focused about romance and magic but has a bit of other genres in there as well. Personally, I really loved this book and I hope that you do too!

Mia 9C

House Competition News

A Fantastic Week of House Rounders!

This week has been a huge success as we welcomed all Year 7, 8 and 9 tutor groups to our lunchtime House Rounders competition.

It has been fantastic to see every form enter a team, with students embracing the opportunity to represent their house and compete in a fun, friendly atmosphere. Throughout the week, pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship, making every match enjoyable to watch.

A big thank you goes to everyone who took part, as well as the staff and Sports Leaders who helped organise and supervise the event. Well done to all of our Year 7, 8 and 9 forms for getting involved, we look forward to seeing the same fantastic spirit and participation in our future House events!

Well done to the winning forms: Year 7- J Year 8- P Year 9- P

On Thursday 16th July we had the Year 10 competition with C, J and N putting teams in. Well done to 10N who finished as winners.

Miss Magnus, PE teacher





Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Last week, we set off on our Gold DofE expedition – leaving school at 7am on Sunday and spending the afternoon on an acclimatisation walk, then celebrating its completion with our final taste of civilisation for a few days, in the form of fish of chips in Keswick! Then from Monday to Thursday, we spent our days trekking between campsites in the gorgeous mountains and hills of the Lake District, and although the dry weather felt like a blessing near the start, we quickly had to adjust to the heat by rationing our water and finding refills on several days, especially due to the heavy weight of our bags! The expedition was a huge challenge due to the difficult terrain, navigation and physical endurance required, not to mention the mental resilience required to stay positive even when tired and sore, but such a worthwhile one when we were able to look back on the experience at the end of the last day and recognise our achievement. My favourite part of the expedition must be when we summited Place Fell on the first full day and took photos at the trig point with stunning views over Ullswater. Gold DofE has been such a fun experience that I'm personally so glad I took part in during Sixth Form, and I will always be proud of our team for all the hours, sweat and tears we've shared and spent over the course of the expeditions, both the practice last year and the assessed this time, and the award as a whole. Buckingham Palace, here we come!

Briony, Y13 District Destroyers Group (Assessed expedition)

On 6th July, we completed our Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award assessed expedition. We travelled to the Lake District and started in Keswick for four days and three nights of walking and camping. The expedition was a rewarding adventure that I will never forget. I felt slightly nervous before we began as the Lake District was unfamiliar to me as our practice expedition was in the Yorkshire Dales. However, looking back now, I'm so proud of my team. The expedition was not without its challenges. Walking many hours a day with a full rucksack was physically and mentally demanding and there were times we became exhausted. We also faced situations that required us to work together to solve difficult situations, including finding the safest way to support a teammate who had become unwell. However, our Friday preparation sessions and practice expedition equipped us to face these challenges. By knowing what to expect, we remained calm and worked effectively as a team. One of my favourite memories was spending the evenings together after a long day. Despite being tired, morale remained high as we celebrated getting to the summits after steep climbing and reaching the campsite, bringing a huge sense of achievement. The expedition taught us all valuable lessons about ourselves and the outdoors. I've become more resilient, confident and knowledgeable, while gaining teamwork and problem-solving skills. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the teachers who supported us throughout the expedition, as well as those working behind the scenes to make this opportunity possible.

Lexi, Y13 Mountain Mewers Group (Assessed expedition)

Looking back on our Gold DofE practice expedition, we can honestly say it was one of the most physically and mentally challenging experiences we have shared as a team, but it taught us so much about resilience, determination and teamwork. Day 1 was a difficult start as we quickly fell behind schedule because our rucksacks were much heavier than they needed to be—we definitely packed too much! Although the weather was ideal for walking, we struggled to keep up with the pace, however, we were determined to learn from our mistakes and improve. Day 3 was our strongest day, the weather

was warmer and we worked well together and managed to reach camp. We finished the day feeling exhausted, but much more positive and proud of what we had achieved, even though we were beginning to wonder how we would find the energy for the final day. Day 4 was incredibly hot and we started feeling motivated. Emotions were running high, there were definitely a few tears, and every step became more difficult, but we continued to encourage and support each other until we finally reached the finish. The feeling of completing the expedition was one of relief, pride and accomplishment. Throughout the week, we looked after one another, kept each other's spirits up during the hardest moments and proved that, even when things don't go to plan, we can work together to overcome challenges. We learned valuable lessons about packing lighter, managing our pace and staying positive, and although the practice expedition wasn't perfect, it has given us the confidence to believe that we are ready to take on our final Gold DofE qualifying expedition together next year.

Y12 Summit Seekers Group (Practice expedition)

We recently completed our Gold DofE practice expedition in the Lake District. Over the course of 4 days, we navigated challenging routes and hiked up difficult terrain, whilst carrying everything we may need for the week. We experienced a variation in weather conditions, with bright sunshine in the valleys and around the campsites, to being surrounded by cloud and strong winds at the top of the mountains. Despite facing difficult times, the experience strengthened our teamwork and together we enjoyed the beautiful views across the fells and time spent together. It was a memorable and rewarding experience and we are proud to have completed this step in achieving our gold award!

Y12 Team Get Lost (Practice expedition)



Charity News

Year 9 Charity

Huge congratulations to **Romana**, our **9C Form Captain**, who completed her **Sponsored Silence Day** on **Wednesday, 1 July**!

For anyone who knows Romana, staying silent for an entire school day was no easy challenge—especially in a lively Year 9 full of friends and conversation! It took incredible determination, self-control, and commitment, but she did it!

Romana took on this challenge to raise money for **Haven Domestic Abuse Service in Boston**, and thanks to her hard work and the generosity of her supporters, she has raised an amazing **£160.66** so far. What a fantastic achievement!

Think it sounds easy? Challenge yourself to stay silent for just **15 minutes** while you're with your friends, and you will quickly realise just how difficult it is!

We are incredibly proud of Romana for her dedication, resilience, and kindness in supporting such a worthwhile cause.

Well done, Romana, and congratulations on this outstanding achievement!



The Lighthouse Project is an amazing charity which we are supporting as Charity Prefects this year.

The Lighthouse Project provides a safe, welcoming space where people can access practical support, build confidence, and improve their wellbeing. Its community approach focuses on bringing multiple forms of support together in one accessible location, making it easier for people facing complex challenges to receive the help they need.

There is a branch located in Spalding and to help support this vital charity, we will be doing a sponsored bike ride to the nearest lighthouse. We plan to confirm our route and do this in September when we return to school. We have already created a go fund me page so the donations can start rolling in:

Go fund me page: <https://gofund.me/0174fb858>

Please support us on our fundraising journey and keep an eye out in the bulletin for updates on our preparations and progress.

Florence and Abbie, Charity Prefects



Celebrating the Individual: Elle, Year 10

Last month Elle trialed for both Nottingham Forest & Loughborough Under 16 netball pathways for the coming season.

Amazingly, Elle has been offered a place in both training hubs, which is an incredible achievement - 500+ girls trialed at Forest & 300+ at Loughborough!

She is only allowed to play for one franchise, and has chosen to train with Loughborough Lightning, starting the first week of September.

Well done, Elle!!

"I am very proud of Elle - what an outstanding achievement to be offered places with both Nottingham Forest and Loughborough Lightning. To be selected from such a large number of talented players is a real testament to her hard work and ability. She should be immensely proud of this. Loughborough Lightning is an incredible opportunity, and I'm sure she will thrive there."

Miss Jones, Head of Year 10 and PE teacher

Celebrating the Individual: Iris, Year 11

Iris had a wonderful time at the 95th English Schools Athletics Championships, improving her personal best in the 200m from 25.42 secs to 25.18 secs in the heats of the Intermediate Girls 200m on Saturday morning, qualifying for the final.

Drawn in lane 2, notoriously a tight bend so lanes 1, 2 & 3 are a disadvantage, Iris finished 8th in the final but this did not dishearten her - in fact, she is more determined to return in 2027.

The whole experience was positive for Iris, from the Team Coach & Hotel, the professional approach to the warm up, call room and competition and the honour of walking out with the Lincolnshire Team presenting our County Banner.

Hopefully in 2027 we will have more of Iris's school colleagues achieve the Schools Standard and share in the experience she felt so rewarding to be a part of.

Miss Parker, PE teacher

Year 11 Prom 2026

On the 3rd July SHS and SGS held our Year 11 Prom at Springfields Exhibition Centre. From start to finish it was an amazing night. The students arrived in style, we had tractors, lorries, ice-cream vans, vintage cars and even a horse. It was so enjoyable to watch everyone arrive looking glamorous and ready for a fun packed evening. The students were greeted with wristbands, sunglasses, sweets, donuts and a beautifully decorated hall and the party didn't take long to get started. The atmosphere was fun and energetic, so many students were up dancing and enjoying themselves.

Thank you to all of the students for your wonderful behaviour, you were a credit to both schools. To our SHS Year 11s - We hope your night was filled with memories and gave you a good farewell to Year 11. We will miss you and wish you all the success in the future, you are all brilliant.

Mrs Neal and Mrs Norton





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

Year 12 Work Experience

We are extremely proud of our Year 12 students who were out on work experience placements before Extended Learning Week. The feedback so far from employers and students is very positive and the experience has given students insights into the world of work and enabled them to build their networks. There will be more feedback to follow and pictures on the school's Facebook page.

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](#)

Aspiring Pharmacy Event

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

Delivered by NHS pharmacy teams across acute, community hospital, and mental health settings, this event explores a career that positively impacts people's lives by treating illness and supporting healthy lifestyles.

What to expect:

- **Meet pharmacy professionals from a variety of settings**, including Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Foundation Trainee Pharmacists
- **Attend engaging talks** to explore career pathways, entry routes, and the vital role of pharmacy in patient care
- **Take part in interactive workshops** to develop practical skills used in pharmacy

- **Join panel discussions** and hear first-hand experiences about career journeys into the profession
- **Participate in a half-day work experience** placement, gaining insight into pharmacy in an acute hospital setting

This is an excellent opportunity for students considering careers as pharmacists, pharmacy assistants, or pharmacy technicians.

Event details:

- **Lincoln County Hospital** – Thursday 23 July
- **Time:** 9:15 am – 12:00 pm
- **Work experience:** Half-day placement on the afternoon of 23 July, or the morning/afternoon of 24 July

Criteria:

- Must be living in or educated in Lincolnshire
- Be 16-19 years of age on the day of the event

To learn more or book a place, visit: <https://lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events/>



Aspiring Pharmacy

Explore a career that makes a lasting impact on people's lives by treating illness and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Open to individuals aged 16 to 19. Take part in workshops and talks delivered by healthcare professionals. The experience also includes a half-day work placement, providing practical insight into the field.

Thursday 23 July
9:15 am – 12:00 pm
Half-day work experience
23 or 24 July

Lincoln County Hospital

Register today!




lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events

TALENT ACADEMY
Inspiring Futures : Informing Careers

Outer Dowsing Youth Representative Opportunity

Please see the flyer and information in the link below about a great opportunity for 15–17-year-olds who are interested in the renewable energy sector.

This is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Gain **real-world work experience** in the renewable energy sector
- Build valuable skills in **communication, teamwork, and leadership**
- **Learn** more about Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind
- **Strengthen your CV** and stand out in future education or job applications
- **Network with local community leaders** and make sure that the young people of your area have a voice in the community liaison groups

[Open for Applications! Youth Representatives for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Community Liaison Groups - Outer Dowsing](#)



Wanted: Youth Representatives for Community Liaison Groups

Want to make a difference in your community while also gaining valuable work experience? Apply now to become a representative and help bring new perspectives to the table.

- Gain real-world work experience in the renewable energy sector
- Build valuable skills in communication and leadership
- Strengthen your CV

Applicants must be aged between 15 and 17 years old and live in Boston, Skegness or Spalding or within any Parish Council that crosses the onshore underground cable route or substation location. A selection committee formed of existing community liaison group members and the Outer Dowsing team will select participants. Youth representatives will require a guardian or parent to act as a chaperone at the meetings that will be held in person at three locations along the cable route and online. Expected attendance at 2-3 meetings per year. For more details please email contact@outerdowsing.com. This is a voluntary role.

Apply by sending a letter of application, no more than one page in length to contact@outerdowsing.com or FREEPOST ODOW by 31st August 2026. More information available on www.outerdowsing.com

 **OUTER DOWSING**
OFFSHORE WIND

APPLY NOW! Contact@outerdowsing.com

Deadline Aug 28th 2026

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**

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:

Wednesday 22nd July Last day of term

Thursday 13th August A Level results day

Thursday 20th August GCSE results day

School Canteen

Please note that from September there will be a small increase in prices in the School Canteen due to increased food prices.

Also, no cash will be accepted from September - all accounts must be topped up online through Scopay. Please ensure that you set alerts through Scopay to advise you when your child's account is getting low.

Thank you in advance.



SHDC Communities & Events Team cannot wait to welcome you to our fun, free events this Summer!

LOVE FLEET ACTIVITY DAY

Fleet Community Playing Field, Old Main Road, Fleet Hargate, PE12 8LL

 Climbing Wall

 Face Painting

 Arts & Crafts

 Sports Activities



Photographs and video may be taken at these events for promotional purposes

Monday 27th JULY 11AM TO 3PM

Email: community@sholland.gov.uk
Facebook: SHDC Communities
Instagram: SHDC_CommDev



SHDC Communities & Events Team cannot wait to welcome you to our fun, free events this Summer!

COMMUNITY SKATEPARK DAY SPALDING SKATE JAM

THU 20 AUG 11AM TO 3PM
SPALDING SKATEPARK (HOLBEACH ROAD)



TEAM RUBICON
TECH DECK
CRAFT

- Free event
- Open to all ages and ability levels
- Free coaching available between 11am and 12pm with equipment provided
- Join us for a fun competition in the afternoon - open to all ages and abilities to showcase their skills - with prizes and music available
- Bring a picnic and enjoy some free fun with your friends and family!



SHDC Communities & Events Team cannot wait to welcome you to our fun, free events this Summer!

COMMUNITY SKATEPARK DAY CROWLAND SKATE JAM

FRI 21 AUG 11AM TO 3PM
CROWLAND SKATEPARK (THORNEY ROAD)



TEAM RUBICON
TECH DECK
CRAFT

- Free event
- Open to all ages and ability levels
- Free coaching available between 11am and 12pm with equipment provided
- Join us for a fun competition in the afternoon - open to all ages and abilities to showcase their skills - with prizes and music available
- Bring a picnic and enjoy some free fun with your friends and family!



SHDC Communities & Events Team cannot wait to welcome you to our fun, free events this Summer!

Ayscoughfest

LIVE MUSIC • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES • FOOD

SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 12PM TO 8PM
AYSCOUGH FREE HALL MUSEUM & GARDENS, CHURCH OATS, SPALDING, PE11 2BA

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT



Photographs and video may be taken at these events for promotional purposes

See overleaf for more great Summer events...

@community@sholland.gov.uk SHDC_Communities SHDC_CommDev

the ZONE

The Zone – the award-winning pop-up youth space for 11-18s, is landing in Hall Place, Spalding this summer!



There's something for everyone at *The Zone*. And the best bit? It's all **FREE**.

From laidback hangouts and creative sessions with pro artists to gaming, cosy book corners and big summer energy - you decide how to spend your time.

Drop in with your mates, meet new people, try something different - or just hang out for a bit. No pressure. No need to book.

Everything at *The Zone* has been shaped with young people to create a space where you can feel welcome, relaxed, and completely yourself.

The Zone is your place to chill, create and be you this summer.

Hall Place, Spalding, PE11 1SA

25th - 29th August 2026
Open Tuesday to Saturday:
11am - 5pm

Find out more and register for **FREE** getinthezone.uk



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 SPALDING DISTRICT COUNCIL

 ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

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](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture).

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

Library photos: Mrs Lees

Book covers: Amazon

Aspiring Pharmacy: Talent Academy

Youth Representatives: Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Community Liaison Groups