



Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

23rd February 2023



Welcome back to Term 4 and I hope you all had a restful and relaxing half term holiday!

We had two school trips abroad over the break; The ski trip to Austria (which we will hear about shortly) and the Classics trip to Italy, which is included in this week's edition of the bulletin. Thank you to all the staff involved in leading and running these extra-curricular opportunities; they are tiring and a lot of hard work but as we know, so very enjoyable and beneficial to students. It was good to read about all the exciting opportunities and activities from Italy '23—thank you to Mrs Jones and Daisy for their reports.

It is also good to hear about other extra-curricular activities such as Languages Day, Poetry Live, Y7 Careers, and of course, the Inter-House Dance competition!

Keep the reports coming in!

Mrs M K Anderson, Headmistress

Summer 2023 Examination Series

Please find below a reminder for all parents, carers and students of this year's exam periods.

- ⇒ GCSE exams will take place from **Monday 15th May 2023** to **Wednesday 21st June 2023**
- ⇒ GCE (A Level) exams will take place from **Tuesday 16th May 2023** to **Monday 26th June 2023**

The Contingency Day is **Wednesday 28th June 2023**, and there are contingency afternoons on **Thursday 8th June 2023** and **Thursday 15th June 2023**. These will be used if a significant, unexpected event arises nationally or locally during the exam period such that no students (or a large number of them) are able to take an exam when planned. Students should be available to take examinations up to and including this date (**Wednesday 28th June 2023**).

The updated generic timetables are available on the school website and individual student timetables will be issued in late February/early March.

Mrs Smith, Exams Officer

Student of The Week

Please find below the latest 'Student of the Week' nominations. Nominations can be made by both teaching and support staff and can be subject related or community focused.

Form	Student	Reason	Staff
7S	Ayla Grant	English	Miss O'Sullivan
7S	Pranusha Rajesh	Physical Education	Miss Parker
8N	Simona Moskova	Textiles	Mrs Wilkins
8P	Darcie Pennington	Technology	Reddy-Devlin
8S	Karina Zokaite	Art	Mrs Neal
9C	Julia Wawro	Computer Science	Mr Fovargue
9J	Zara-Jayne Odell	Community	Mrs Bushell
9N	Sky Salkeld	Drama	Mrs Fisk
9N	Syisha O'Neill	Music	Mr Garbett
9S	Tilly Talbot	Drama	Mrs Love
9S	Liliana Wong	Physics	Mrs Haunch
10C	Lucy Searson	Technology	Mr Martindale
10C	Erin Taylor	Biology	Mr Wright
10P	Betsy Neil	Chemistry	Miss White
10P	Edie Twell	Religious Studies	Mrs. Waldron
10P	Natalia Procel	French	Mrs Barats
11J	Roisin Williams	Geography	Mrs Rogers
11N	Tega Akpobi	Biology	Mrs Busfield
11N	Gracie Green	Biology	Mrs Aurikko
11P	Izzy Wright	History	Mr Hemsall
6AF	Molly Ireland	Geography	Mrs Bennett
6FM	Diana Skarulskyte	Business	Mr McAlinden
6LH	Amelia Sieling	Latin	Mrs Jones
6LM	Jess Strong	Geography	Mrs Hoodless
6NG	Jessica Corney	Law	Mr Love

PE News

Y10 & Y11 House Dance Competition

On Thursday 9th February the Year 10 and 11 House Dance competitions took place.

The Y10 Competition was won by 10S with Nicki and Evie performing a fantastic high energy dance to a mashup of songs.

It was pleasing to see three out of five forms enter the Y11 tournament, with the winners a combination of J & N. Second place went to 11N who did a street dance with the whole form & form tutor joining half way through to do the YMCA and the Macarena.



Modern Foreign Languages

Year 9 Languages Day

The language teachers are very grateful to Zara-Jayne Odell in 9J for her detailed write-up about Year 9 Languages Day which took place on 27th January.

On the 27th of January, Year 9 took part in Languages Day. To begin, with we listened to Mrs Bushell talk about what an important role language has on careers and where it can take us. On a PowerPoint we read about how past Spalding High students have taken languages at GCSE and A Levels and how they have made it part of their career.

We sat in our groups and watched a few videos then answered questions on the videos. After this we took part in a group quiz about the world and read about teachers' journeys to their career and matched it up with the teacher. We then had a break and after this we moved around the MFL block taking part in learning about different languages and countries. For example: Greek, French, Linguistics, German and Spanish.

In Greek, we learned the numbers 1-10 and noticed how similar it was to English. During our Greek lesson, Mrs Jones taught us how Greek gave us our modern-day language. "Greek is just different squiggles to the same sounds".

In linguistics, we learnt about the base of languages. We took a quiz on how Yoda speaks and scrambled the sentences to linguistics. Linguistics is the systematic study of human language. "Why do we have noses that run and feet that smell?"

In Spanish, we danced around the classroom singing a Spanish song with mini maracas. We also translated a paragraph and learnt that people can still do well in Spanish GCSE even when starting from scratch.

During our German class, we did a GCHQ task where we had to decode a few numbers and then translate a paragraph to encipher the puzzle as a German detective. We were also taught about the opportunities languages has.

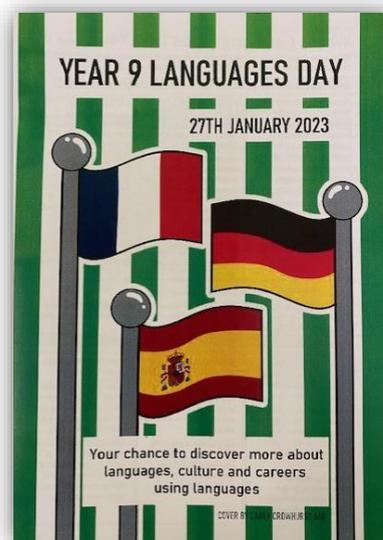
In French, we took a quiz with Mrs Clay where we learnt new words and French derivations. We also learnt that French is the official language in 29 countries.

With Frau Almasi, we were given a country we had to research and we were able to learn many things from this, such as their national dish, capital city, prime minister, the flag and many more interesting things.

Languages Day gave me the opportunity to appreciate languages for my GCSEs and to learn that they can open-up different career pathways.

Overall, Languages Day was a momentous success and very inspirational. Thank you to the language teachers for organising a brilliant day.

Zara-Jayne Odell 9J



Student News

Classics trip to Italy—February 2023.

Last week 30 students and four staff headed out for the first time in three years to the Bay of Naples where we visited Pompeii, Herculaneum, climbed to the crater of Mt Vesuvius and visited Cuma and Oplontis. More importantly we made it back to Caecilius' house!

It was my first visit to Cumae which is where the mythical Sibyl of Apollo lived and was visited by Aeneas in the Roman epic "the Aeneid" there he had to perform sacrifices and entered the Underworld to meet his father. Although we did not descend into Hades, the cave of the Sibyl still held some mystical atmosphere and the site of this ancient site (8th Century BCE) was fabulous – a great viewpoint looking out over the Mediterranean and the footprints of two temples built long ago.

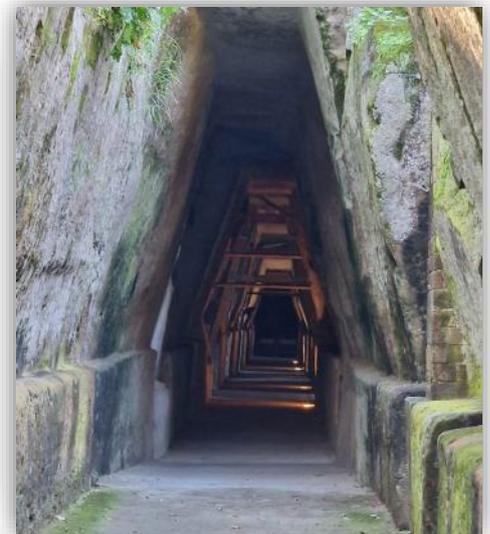
In the evening, following the a visit to Naples museum where many artefacts of Pompeii and Herculaneum are housed we had another first, an ice-cream demonstration. David was very entertaining as he informed us of his family's business and the huge variety of flavours they now produce – over 100! I'm not sure vegemite ice-cream would taste nice though. Several students were involved in making fresh orange sorbet which tasted amazing!

Sadly Vesuvius was covered in cloud when we ascended but we all made it! Everyone felt very proud of themselves. An interesting talk about the volcano's history by the resident geologists surprised everyone with the danger Vesuvius still poses on the Bay of Naples.

It was wonderful to be back in Pompeii and Herculaneum again; since COVID this is the first trip we have taken so it was really lovely to see the students equally excited and impressed by these wonderful sites. I find this aspect a great privilege of the job!

Watch out for the next one which will be to Rome and Sorrento in 2025!

Mrs Jones, Head of Classics



Student News

A student's perspective

On the whole, the Latin trip was incredible, I made some new friends, and it was a really enjoyable trip. However, my favourite part was definitely Tuesday, when we went to Pompeii, followed by a lovely walk, through Sorrento on Valentine's Day. From the start of the day, I was extremely excited to visit Pompeii, and to walk where so many Romans had walked years beforehand. The sights were so fascinating, especially the Amphitheatre and the smaller theatre, as the acoustics were great (I loved the performance of The 100 Digits of Pi). Walking along the streets was captivating, but also rather painful, due to the number of dips and cracks along the way. Overall, Pompeii was beautiful, and I loved walking around and having to imagine what it would have looked like before the eruption. After the long day of walking around an ancient ground, it was so much fun to go into Sorrento. The views of Vesuvius and the sea from the cliffside/ pier were stunning, and the sunset made it even better, illuminating the sky in orange and pink. Walking around Sorrento that evening was so much fun, I got to see so many different stalls and everyone was celebrating Valentine's Day and the festival of Saint Antonino. In conclusion, Tuesday was fabulous, I got to see so many breath-taking sights and I got to spend my evening having fun with my friends, which was a great way to end the day!

Daisy Mardle, 9N



Student News

Valentine's Day Cake Sale

On Thursday 9th February, 7S held a Valentine's Day Cake Sale at the School. I wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you so much to everyone who brought something from the stall. I am really pleased to announce that we raised £100! All the money raised will go to our chosen charities which are RSPCA and Cancer Research UK.

Ayla Grant, Charities Representative 7S

Thank
You!



School News

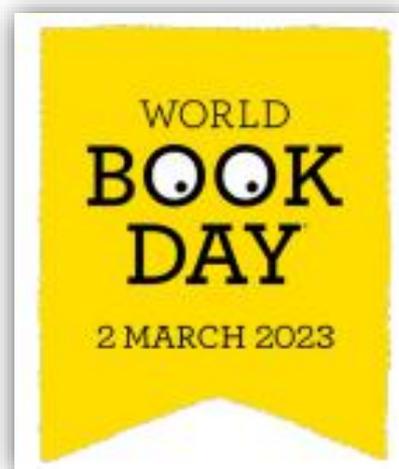
World Book Day

World Book Day 2023 is here! Digital vouchers are new for this year, download yours to claim your free World Book Day book between Thursday 16th February and Sunday 26th March 2023 at any participating book shop. Printed World Book Day vouchers are available from the Library on request.

For more information please see the poster attached.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Lees, Learning Resource Manager



English

SHS English Department trip to 'AQA GCSE Poetry Live' at Cambridge Guildhall

Nine months ago Mrs Lord had the idea that it would be great for SHS Year 10 to experience poetry, to make it real and make it resonate with the students. Poetry Live had been a vibrant event pre-pandemic, so it was with eager anticipation we watched for the announcement of the reinstatement of this event!

On Wednesday 8th February 2023, Year 10 students were enthralled by six performances from some of the contemporary poets, who have poems in the GCSE AQA poetry anthology. Students were also treated to an audience with the Chief Examiner, Peter Buckroyd, who “spilled the beans” on how to ace the ‘Unseen’ poetry element of the GCSE examination.



This was the first post-pandemic poetry event; it was oversubscribed, thus it was a real coup to have secured the tickets. Three coaches of students were accompanied by Head of Department, Mrs Lord, who was ably assisted by Mrs Pryke, Miss Jeffrey, Mrs Love, Miss O’Sullivan, Mrs Ray, Miss Pettefar, Mrs Read, Mrs Chandler, Mrs Walker, and Mrs Bennett. The staff supporting this trip gave-up planning time, breaks, time after school and they had to organise cover lessons for classes they were missing to enable this trip to happen – their commitment to providing this curriculum enrichment for students is greatly appreciated.

Arriving in perfect time, we were seated in the Guildhall, ready for the first poet, Intiaz Dharker – and she did not disappoint! Dharker’s dulcet tones brought ‘Tissue’ and some of her lesser known poems to life. Ms Dharker also had time for a Q&A session where she revealed she had published over six hundred poems but had written far more, with many ideas jotted on pieces of paper around her house waiting to take shape and craft into complete poems.

Continued...

SHS English Department trip to 'AQA GCSE Poetry Live' at Cambridge Guildhall



Students were amazed by the range of poets who shared work and brought the written word to life.

The students heard the former Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, share the context to her poem 'War Photographer' and some of her other works - with her usual droll manner...

Students were also treated to an extended performance by the current Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage, who is one of Britain's most prolific writers of poetry, prose, films and documentaries. His most recent poem was 'Floral Tribute' which was written to commemorate the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

In spite of his fame and professorial status, Simon Armitage was unassuming, humble and engaging. He performed his poems with aplomb and was prepared to answer a raft of questions about being a poet from the student audience.

Owen Sheers and Daljit Nagra also shared their poems and respective journeys into poetry and writing. Without exception everybody loved the zany energy of the poet John Agard with his narrative style and political slant on identity culture, which gives rise to the power of his poetry.

After the performance everybody was in high spirits, discussing the power of the performances and the impact of 'live' poetry. As we expected, SHS students were outstanding, their behaviour exemplary. It was a pleasure to take them to this showcase of poets and poetry.

We made our way home via Peterborough Services to enable some students to be collected nearer to their home locations. On behalf of the staff team, we would like to thank parents and carers for promptly collecting your children; the swift dismissal and departures at the end of a long day was much appreciated. This trip would not have been possible without parent and carer financial help and support - thank you.

Students and staff universally are agreed that poetry is about passion and performance!

Mrs Lord, Head of English

Careers Update

Year 7 Employer Encounter – 9th February



Mrs O'Brien and I were very pleased to welcome Major Julie Downing from the British Army into school on 9th February to speak to Year 7 students about the importance of soft and transferable skills required in the wide range of job roles within the Army. Major Downing joined the Army as a vehicle mechanic after having completed an engineering apprenticeship. After becoming an Army Officer, she joined the Royal Logistics Corps. During her career, she was the first woman to deploy to a warzone with a tank regiment and has also trained as a Military Working Dog Handler.

Major Downing gave a very interesting presentation to the students and then led a question and answer session. The Year 7 students asked many insightful questions and can be very proud of the professional way in which they conducted themselves.

The session was organised as part of our careers education programme through which students have to the opportunity to meet an employer or employee. The Army was the top apprenticeship provider in 2022 in the Department for Education rankings. As it was National Apprenticeship Week before half-term, it was particularly relevant to welcome Major Downing to the High School. We hope to welcome Major Downing and her team back into school in July to attend our Careers Fair.

National Apprenticeship Week

Prior to half-term, we invited two former High School students, Will Blower and Milly Mason into School to talk to sixth form students about the apprenticeships they did after completing their A Levels. Will now runs his own accountancy business, Realise Finance, in Peterborough and Milly works at World Wide Fruit in Spalding after having recently won the Young Achiever of the Year Award at the south Holland Business Awards. Many thanks to Will and Milly for giving up time during their working week to come into school to talk to students interested in looking for apprenticeships locally.

Careers Update

Please find attached a useful reference document regarding apprenticeships provided by our local school adviser at the Spalding Jobcentre Plus, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

Spalding High School Law Society

During National Apprenticeship Week, members of the Law Society put together a well-researched document about law apprenticeships (see attachment). We have many students in Year 12 who are interested in pursuing law courses after sixth form study so this is a useful document for them and other students in other year groups.

On the Friday before half-term, seven of our Year 12 law students met with our Careers Department Link Governor, Ms Amanda Bailey, who talked to the group about her career as a barrister. The students enjoyed meeting Ms Bailey and we are very grateful to be able to consult with Ms Bailey to support our law students.

University Centre Peterborough Open Day – 4th March

University Centre Peterborough (UCP), part of the Inspire Education Group, is holding an open day event on 4th March from 10.00-13.00. Parents/carers and students can register using the link below. This may be of particular interest to students in Year 13 who wish to stay local to studying for part of the week at university whilst also gaining work experience.

[Open Events Tickets, Sat 4 Mar 2023 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Support:

As always, we can be contacted by email if parents or students in any year group have any queries:

Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Lucy.obrien@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader