

SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 2019

So here we are at the end of Term 1 already; goodness me, time really flies when you are having fun! We have welcomed all of our new Year 7 into the School this term and they seem to have settled in very well already. It was a pleasure to see them so confidently guiding our prospective new High School students on Open Day on Wednesday after just a few weeks in the School themselves. So many of our visiting parents commented upon the excellent tours and guides they had been given. My thanks also to Amelia and Briony for giving talks to over 800 people in the School hall. They were both very confident and spoke with enthusiasm. We have also welcomed our new Year 12 to the School, mostly Year 11 but with a good number of transferees too. A Level courses are now well under way and Good Luck to all in your new subjects. The leadership of the Sixth Form also shone on Open Day as our sixth formers organised everyone and chatted to parents and prospective students so "Thank you" to them too.

As always, there are lots of wonderful reports from students and staff in this term's newsletter and so do take the time to read our news. I would urge everyone to read the Health & Safety notice carefully, especially in light of the two road traffic accidents we have seen on local roads this week.

- There is also news of our Project 100 work in preparation for our centenary celebrations next September.

M K Anderson

Headmistress

New Staff

Mrs Harris—Teaching Assistant

My first term at Spalding High School has flown by. I am a Year 7 teaching assistant and I am very fond of all the students in my lessons and form.

Having worked with primary school students for a number of years, I was ready for a new challenge and I certainly have that! I adore my role and I have created lots of bonds.

The students at the School are courteous and hard working. I have spoken to many students in various year groups this term and I have found them to be nothing short of inspiring. They are an absolute credit to the School. I have had lots of fun so far and I look forward to being here every day. I have found the staff to be very supportive and nothing has been too much trouble, even if I do have a memory like a sieve and ask the same questions! There is a real sense of pride at this school and I am proud to be part of such a fabulous team. I look forward to seeing what the next year brings.

Miss Parker—PE Teacher

I visited Spalding High School before the end of the summer term and from that moment I knew I would be welcome. My first few weeks at the High School have been an adventure and rather fun. I was fortunate enough to become 8S form tutor. They have helped me learn the High School ways and we have had lots of fun during form time. Aside from being a form tutor I have had the pleasure of getting to know a lot of the students. I am always delighted to see how excited the majority of students are for physical education, and even the students who aren't quite so, the effort they bring is aspiring. Behaviour at the High School is impeccable, students are courteous and extremely hard working. There is a real sense of pride to be part of Spalding High School and I am proud to be part of a fantastic, supportive team. I cannot wait to see what the rest of the academic year brings.

Mrs Pryke—Medical Officer/Admin Assistant

In June this year I moved from midday supervisor to an administrative assistant and medical officer role, and have really embraced the new position. My office was transformed over the summer holidays, and is now a fantastic working space – I thoroughly enjoy my job. The staff and students have really made me feel welcome and to be part of such a team within this fantastic school is totally rewarding.

Mr White—Assistant Site Manager

I was very excited to begin my new role here at Spalding High School and now after three months I am happy to say that hasn't changed. Every member of staff has been friendly and welcoming which made me feel at home right away. Although my role doesn't involve much interaction with the students, they are always very polite and seem like they are very happy to be here. I am so pleased that I get to be part of this great team and hope that I can continue to help improve the School any way that I can for years to come. I am looking forward to all the new challenges and opportunities the rest of the year will bring.

Urgent Health & Safety

In recent weeks we have seen increased traffic, some of which appears to be driving quite fast along Stonegate and Matmore Gate. Whilst not all of these cars may belong to parents, some might.

To prevent congestion and risk of accidents, we must ask parents/carers NOT to drive onto the premises either at our Stonegate or Matmore Gate entrance when collecting or dropping off students. Please park away from the school at these exceptionally busy times to ensure the safety of both our students and staff. Please ensure your speed is appropriate not just to the legal limit for the road (30mph) but in consideration of the fact that between 15:20 and 16:15 we have hundreds of children from multiple schools using these roads as pedestrians as well as eighteen school buses.

We have had concerns raised regarding students crossing roads whilst using mobile phones or wearing headphones. Please remind all students that this is extremely dangerous and puts both pedestrian and driver at risk. We consistently give students these safety messages in form time, assemblies and PSHCE. No student should be wearing headphones when walking off site and they have been advised by us to keep music low enough to hear traffic and remain vigilant when using footpaths and crossing roads.

Bags2School

We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated again this year to our Bags2School project. We received a fantastic £264 towards the School projects.



Numeracy

In the new term Year 7 can expect to start the highly anticipated Numeracy Ninja's. This regular dose of numeracy will aim to improve key skills that will be used in all subjects. This will hopefully be something that our Year 7's will enjoy, and they will be able to immediately see their progress through the different coloured belts achieved. We will be on the lookout for top achievers and students who are making the most progress.

As well as this Year 8 are continuing with their Numeracy Ninja's and I expect those results to be as fantastic as last year!

Years 9 and 10 have begun their numeracy booklets in form time, which aims to solidify key GCSE knowledge, providing a solid foundation for students to build upon.

Mr Ganger

Music at the High School

The Music Department has had a busy start to the year and has performed at the Sport, Music & Drama Presentation Evening, the Upper School Prize Giving and the Lower School Prize Giving, as well as the Cultural Evening. Groups from Year 9, the Year 10 GCSE Music group, and soloists Mary Catherine Dunne, Millie Parsons and Eva Mason from the 6th Form have all given stunning performances. The Department is currently also working very hard to prepare for the Winter Concert on December 12th, when all of these groups will be in action again. The new Lunchtime Concert series also began this week, organised and run by the Y13 Music Prefects and with a first concert featuring Millie Parsons, Eva Mason, Kirsty Strange and Megan Brown. The Music and Drama departments are currently auditioning for our Lower School Production of the musical 'Honk', which will be performed early in the new year.



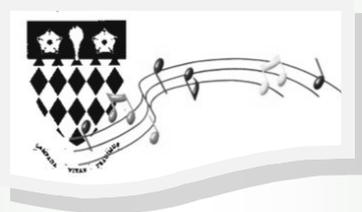
Spalding High School

Presents a

Winter Concert



Thursday 12th December 2019



Further details to follow

Team Pleiades take 1st place

"Team Pleiades" aka 6th formers Jess Jeakins, Scarlet Denman and Nick Carter are the 2019 overall winners of the Cambridge Classics AV competition. They produced a fabulous presentation on the topic of metamorphosis and expect to collect a prize of £250.

The link below is their winning entry which has been shared on the Cambridge Classics twitter and Facebook page.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLEeqxpP6x0>

I am so very, very proud of them!

Mrs Jones

Below is the email received from Cambridge!

Dear Team Pleiades,

I'm emailing to let you know that your video secured 1st place in this year's AV competition - many congratulations! We were really impressed with the research and thought that had gone into your piece and the illustrations were just fantastic. Thank you so much for entering!

If you could send us a confirmation of the correct name and address we will send out your prize money as a cheque shortly.

Your video has now been shared on our Facebook page (the Greeks, the Romans and Us) and Twitter feed (@camClassics) so do go and have a look.

We hope you had fun making the video and that your passion for Classics long continues!

All best,

Hannah

Macbeth at Oxford Playhouse

This production was an exciting interpretation of Macbeth. One notable aspect that added to the success was the fusion of contemporary songs with Shakespeare's text. This added atmosphere, particularly in King Duncan's death scene in which the three witches sang a lullaby to soundtrack Macbeth's approach to the sleeping King. This led to a thrilling sequence of stage combat as Duncan fought for his life, a scene that usually takes place off stage. All pupils found the performance highly entertaining and it developed their understanding of the play and characters. Comments included the following: 'I really admired the way proxemics were used effectively to illustrate the changing relationships'; 'I'm really glad I came because it helped us in our studies in Drama, Latin and English'. Thank you to Mrs Jones for organising the trip.





The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford



On Saturday 21st September, the Classics, Drama and English departments conducted a trip to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and the neighbouring Oxford Playhouse theatre, to watch a rendition of Macbeth.

The Museum featured an exhibition, 'Last Supper In Pompeii', on loan to the museum for a limited time. The exhibition was incredibly interesting, featuring all sorts of artefacts on the subject of Roman dining (particularly interesting to year 11 Latin students as this is a part of their GCSE).

There were terracotta models of food, bread carbonised in the eruption of Vesuvius (plus other preserved foods) and all sorts of paintings and mosaics.

There was also a separate room full of statues (many of Roman/ Greek deities). They may have not been originals but they were exact replicas of what archaeologists could assemble.

Unlike all of the other statues, one casting was made of resin. This may not seem particularly notable but the material is somewhat translucent, allowed exhibition visitors to see bones and details of the skull, in a very haunting fashion.

Another regular exhibition Roman Life was very interesting and contained similar things such as pottery and mosaics/frescos but also jewellery with details on what each specific signum means.

We were then given some time free in Oxford, a hub of culture and art, in which we could eat lunch and explore a small corner of the city. Some people stayed by the museum, ate lunch and socialised whilst others used the opportunity to go to the nearby restaurant 'Ask Italian' or other food chains.

After lunch, we all walked to Oxford Playhouse and were seated for the production of Macbeth, however it was set with modern day army fatigues, in a jungle - this re-contextualising made the performance even more interesting!

Macbeth is a set text for GCSE so whilst the experience was definitely enjoyable (beautiful set design/special effects, well utilised music and incredible actors), it was also very useful, making it certainly worth the time.

Overall, an enjoyable and culturally packed day was had by all.

By Maddie Harris



SHS Swimming Stars

An update on how our stars did during the summer holidays in their respective races.

Emma qualified for all three finals in the events she entered at the British National Championships. She had a brilliant swim to win the Silver medal for the 50m free. Her time of 26.63 secs has gained her the Lincolnshire County record for the 14 year old girls and places her 9th in the British records. She came 4th in the 50m fly and 6th in the 100m free. Swim England has acknowledged her achievements by offering her a place on the National Development program.



Aurinija Maliauskaite and Daisy Rummery joined Emma and Ellie to race the 16 years & under, 100m x 4 relay and swam a faster time to take 23rd place, higher than they were seeded and also finished ahead of all the other bigger East Midland teams.

The English National Championships saw Ellie swim 800m Freestyle and come 5th, 50m Breast stroke and come 4th, 400m IM and come 8th.

Emma came 5th in the 200m Freestyle.

Mollie Briggs had three hard days of swimming when she took part in the 800m and 1500m and came 5th in both events, then went on to compete in the 400m Freestyle to claim 9th place.

Mollie then went on to swim at the Swim England National Outdoor Water 3km event and took 11th place for girls 14 years old.



Elisha Cookson swam the gruelling 1500m free and came 12th in 15yr girls. She also raced the 200 IM and came 21st.



Iceland Trip July 2019

During July the Geography GCSE students across the school had the opportunity to visit Iceland, famously known as 'The Land of Fire and Ice' to enrich our geographical knowledge and experience a once in a lifetime trip that we will never forget.

We started by visiting the tallest building in Iceland; the church Hallgrískirkja and while we didn't go inside the church, our tour guide Val told the group about the history of the church and its significance to the country. We continued a tour of the streets of Reykjavik (which were overflowing with artwork and history) by visiting the statue titled 'The Sun Voyager' which we visited last on our journey that day. It perfectly encapsulated the Viking origins of Iceland while also showing the modern style of art emphasised around the capital.



During the second day, our favourite day, we followed the golden circle tour travelling first to the hot thermal pool known as the 'Secret Lagoon'. It was lovely and warm however the natural pool was very slippery at the bottom so we had to be careful! Next we saw the geyser dubbed 'Geysir' while we also took a quick hike up the mountain adjacent to it. The views were amazing and we could see for miles. Then we saw the enormous gushing waterfall name 'Gullfoss' which was so loud we could barely hear ourselves talk, however it was amazing with the double tier and it was one of our favourite geographical sites. Finally we visited the Thingvellir National Park where we saw another, smaller but still equally as pretty waterfall and walked through the fault line of the two moving tectonic plates that provide Iceland it's source of geothermal energy.

On the third day we bathed in some more thermal waters and visited a church built on a historical settlement while also posing for some pictures with more of Iceland's contemporary art.



Iceland Trip July 2019

On day four the weather had brightened up so we walked along the beach and did some seal and puffin spotting. While we saw no puffins there were a group of seals lounging by the water which made for good pictures. In the afternoon as we had travelled north of Reykjavik that day, we decided to take a 3km walk of the rugged yet beautiful Icelandic coastal trail. We saw coastal landscapes that we learned about in geography like arches and stacks, while finally visiting the black volcanic beach.



By Amy Berry and Molly Peel

On our final day, we visited one of the tallest mountains in Iceland named 'Kirkjufell Mountain' while in the distance Val pointed out Iceland's largest Glacier, before flying home to England. On the whole the trip was amazing and we are so lucky to have been a part of it. We will never forget the beautiful sights we saw, amazing artwork littering the streets and our favourite person of the entire trip, our tour guide Val who told us so much of trolls and elves.

We'd like to say massive thank you to the geography department for letting us have such an amazing opportunity, we are very grateful.





Year 7 Netball

Year 7 netball won their first netball game against Spalding Academy on 9th October. Considering the girls have only trained together a few times their team work was admirable, they passed the ball around the court using space and worked together to score a fabulous 11 points. The team demonstrated great centre court play with strong attacking runs. The defensive play was even stronger with some great interceptions. A massive well done to the Year 7 team.

Miss Parker

Cross Country Running

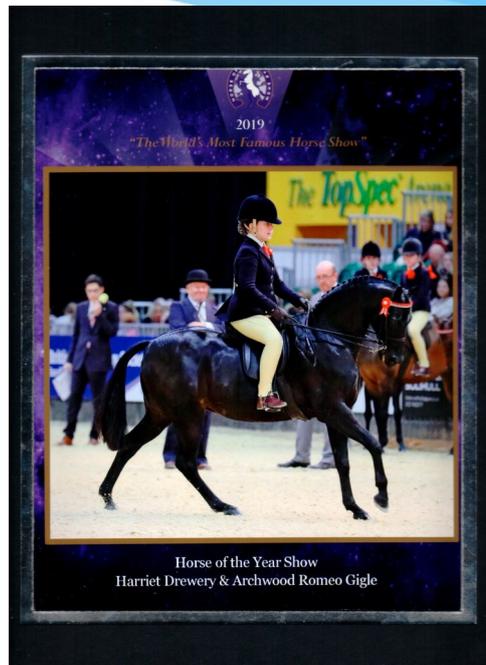
On Friday 11th of October 12 students competed in the annual South Lincolnshire Schools Sports Association (SLSSA) cross country race held at the Princess Royal Arena, Boston. Representing various age categories throughout the event nine of the twelve girls qualified for the County cross country finals in January after finishing in the top 16 of their respective races. Notable performances on the day included Evie Hemmings & Mollie McCormack who finished 1st & 2nd in the U13 girls category, Lottie Hemmings who finished 3rd in the U17 girls category and Molly Peel who finished 1st in the U19 girls category.



U13 Football Team

On Wednesday 7th October the High School U13 football team were crowned South Lincolnshire Schools Sports Association (SLSSA) champions. The 7v7 football tournament involved schools from across the area and after victories against Spalding Academy, Boston High School and Bourne Academy the girls faced Haven High Academy in the final. The team dominated the final but found it hard to put the ball in the back of the net and the game finished goalless. This resulted in a nail biting penalty shootout which the girls finally won 3-2. The U15 football team also took part in a similar tournament on the same night and finished 4th.

Mr Farrell



Horse of the Year Show 2019

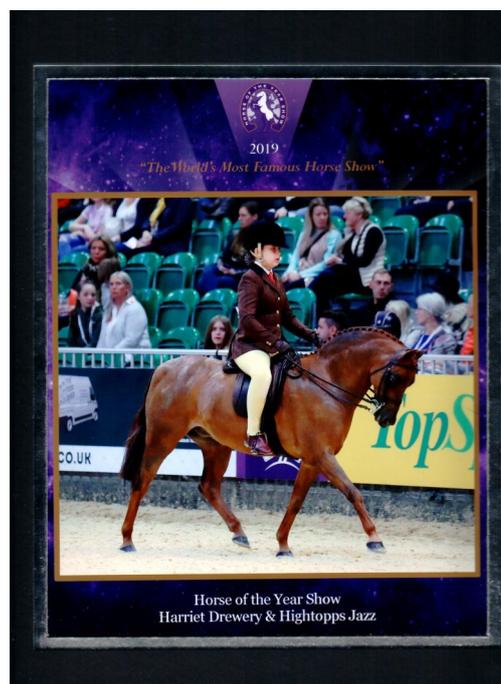
I have been very lucky this year to qualify two of my ponies for the Horse of the Year Show, the biggest horse show of the year, it has always been my dream to ride there so I was extremely excited.

First on was Archwood Romeo Gige (Jack), he is a show pony and absolutely loves big occasions, he loved the arena with all the people watching and loud music, he's a real show off.

Once everyone has done their shows, they call forward a certain number of ponies to be placed and the others have to leave the ring. I was delighted to be called forward and we finished in 5th place.

I then rode my other pony, Hightopps Jazz (Ginger Boy) who is a show hunter pony, I rode Ginger Boy there in 2018 too. We have had Ginger Boy for three years now so I know him really well he also loves the atmosphere there and we finished 12th. I was delighted with both ponies as it is a real achievement just to qualify.

Harriet Drewery



The Diana Trust Award Anti-bullying Ambassador Programme

On Thursday 19th September, 21 students took part in a one-day anti-bullying training session run by The Diana Award. Young people, in Years 8-13, worked together and acquired vital skills to enable them to change the attitudes and behaviours of bullying in school by building their skills and confidence to address different situations, both online and off.

The Diana Award's **free** Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme which is available to schools across the UK, sees trainers working with students and other young people to change the attitude surrounding bullying. The programme has a strong peer-to-peer focus, with trainers giving young people the skills and confidence to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to tackle bullying in school long after the training has finished. The Diana Award's anti-bullying work is recognised as world-class thanks to this sustainable approach.

The training looked at bullying in different situations including face-to-face and online. At the end of the day, students made an action plan of how to approach bullying issues that may arise in school and committed to their roles as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

Their first planned activity is to give a presentation and to introduce themselves to the whole school through assemblies. These will be held during Anti-Bullying Week (12-16th November).



Project 100: The High School at 100

Calling all ex-students! We are building our alumni database of 'old girls' and 'old boys' and if you have attended the High School (or know people who have) please contact us with your email details. We would ask that you email us at enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk and we will forward you dates and details of the events we are planning.

We would also like to ask you to send us (scanned) copies of any pictures you may have of you and your friends whilst at the High, especially if you can also tell us the names of the people in the pictures and the years you attended as we will be compiling a special edition of the School magazine.

Dates for your diary

29th October	Start of Term 2	3rd December	Christmas Craft Fayre start
4th November	Y8 Arts Day	5th December	Christmas Craft Fayre end
6th November	Sixth Form Information Evening 6:30pm	5th December	GCSE Art Mock Exam
7th November	Senior Maths Challenge	6th December	GCSE Art Mock Exam
11th November	Y12 & Y13 Oxbridge Interviews	10th December	Staff Christmas Panto 7pm
13th November	Y11 Parents' Evening	10th & 11th Dec	A Level Art Mock Exam
15th November	Children In Need—Non Uniform	12th December	Christmas Concert 7pm
15th November	KS3 Sleepover	13th December	Bring A Tin Day
21st November	GCSE Presentation Afternoon 2pm	13th December	KS3 Christmas Disco 7.15pm
22nd November	PTA Family Bingo 6.30pm	16th December	Staff/Sixth Form Christmas Meal 7pm
27th November	Y12 Geography Assessed Trip - Stamford	17th December	Carol Service
28th November	Y12 Parents' Evening	19th December	Senior Prize giving 2pm
2nd December	Y7 Christmas Tree Competition	19th December	End of Term 2 (Half Day Students)
2nd December	Y11 Mock Orals start		