

Spalding High School Newsletter



Term 2 2019

Is it just me or does Christmas seem to have crept up on us this year without much warning? I am staggered that here we are at the end of Term 2 and the longest full term of the year and the time has just flown by.

The two beautiful Christmas trees went up in Reception and the School Hall on the 1st of December (thank you to Mr and Mrs Williams) and were artistically decorated by the Sixth Form and Mrs Knight (thank you ladies and gents; you have done a sterling job) and certainly make the School feel far more festive. Year 7 have also added to festivities with their house themed decorated trees from the Year 7 Christmas Tree Competition which are now located at various prominent locations around the School.

The School panto and Winter Concert were definitely amongst the highlights of the term. All of the staff and students acted, played and sang so well and with the help of the Drama and Music Departments. Please do read the newsletter reports written by students and staff that tell you all of the other exciting news that has happened this term. It has, as always, been a very busy term!

I want to also say **Thank You** to the students, parents and staff for their wonderful charitable donations over the last few days. On Friday last week over 1700 cans and food items were donated to our annual Agape Care "Bring a Tin" Day. It was truly humbling to see so many items of food, shoeboxes and gifts; Thank-you again. We also had more than 400 teddies and toys donated too; more news on those charitable events overleaf and with thanks to the Spalding Guardian who have written lovely reports and included some great photographs so do take a look.

Good luck to Year 11 and Year 13 who have their mocks after the Christmas break and a final reminder that there is not an inset day at the start of January so students and staff all start back on Monday 6th January.

Wishing everyone a restful and enjoyable Christmas and a happy and healthy 2020.

Duke Of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to our Year 11 students who successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and collected their certificates at the D of E Awards ceremony hosted this year at UAH. Well done too, to our Year 13 Gold Award students who will collect their awards from the Palace later in the year. Thank you also to the staff, led by Mr Garbett and Mr Martindale who give up their time and energy to support the students in this fantastic endeavour.

Mrs M K Anderson
Headmistress



Christmas Appeals 2019—Agape Bring a Tin Day

Community is the largest word on The Spalding High School word cloud. It is the word students and staff think is the most significant characteristic that reflects our School and what is important to the people in it. This does not just mean the school community. We work hard every year to engage with the wider community and work hard for the benefit of our neighbourhood and town.

One of the ways that we feel that we do this is with our “Bring-A-Tin Day”. This was first introduced to the school when I started five and a half years ago. On the second Friday of December, just before we break up for Christmas, we hold a non-uniform day but instead of donating money for charity, staff and students bring an item of food to support the Agape Care (Spalding) Food Bank. Without fail, the number of food items increases year to year; another indication of how important this appeal has become to our school community. This year was no exception and a new record of 1,721 food items were donated. This means that over the last six years the High School has donated 8,364 items to the Agape Care appeal.

The students in the sixth form do a remarkable job every year promoting the event so that students and staff experiencing the appeal for the first time understand why it is so significant, not just to our school but to this important local charity and the people of Spalding and the surrounds. They organise boxes, posters, letters and lists of suitable items for donation; they collect, sort, and count; they pack, load up and deliver; and they do this all happily and willingly.

Anyone who has ever seen the stack of food in the School Reception on Bring-A-Tin day has commented upon how touching and humbling a sight it is. Bring-A-Tin day is now an embedded part of our School and will remain so for many years to come.

Teddy Donations - Donations of soft toys is always popular when we collect for the Spring Fayre teddy tombola and so when we saw the report on Spalding Online for the “Give a cuddle for Christmas” we felt it struck a chord and was a scheme we would like to help with.

The appeal asked for donations of pre-loved soft toys which carry the CE standard mark that can be given as gifts to “help families in need of support to enjoy Christmas and make sure that no child has an empty stocking”. The appeal is being organised by local resident, Mr Le Sage who runs Ella’s Project. We volunteered to act as a collection point and asked our students to have a good hunt through their soft toy collection and donate any that they felt could be re-homed for this very good cause. Our students responded and gave some of their most precious friends totalling an incredible 427 soft toys.

I would like to say a heartfelt “thank you” to our wonderful students, parents and staff for supporting this appeal and continuing each year to make “Bring A Tin Day” & “Give a cuddle for Christmas” one of the highlights of the school year.



Foreign Language Leaders Award

The Year 11 language leaders completed their foreign language leaders' award on Thursday October 7th by hosting their languages evening, 'Fantastische Fiesta Phenomenal.'

Georgie Van Dyke and Lucy Blackburn were the compères for the evening and all of the other language leaders helped by running the cake stall, raffle and meeting guests at the door.

The evening consisted of a range of incredible acts including poems from the sixth form German prefects and a French poem from Charlotte Marsh of Year 7.

Sakinah performed a fantastic Spanish version of Titanium, Ocea-Lily Jarvis performed "Das Veilchen" in German and three Year 9s alongside the language leaders performed "Pop Musik" also in German. There were also two instrumental pieces one of which was a Polish piano solo by Julia Siekierzynska and the other was a flute duet by Sarah Mansfield and Jemima Gurney.



All of the language leaders brought in a range of cakes which were sold for small donations on the evening and then at breaktime on Friday. Alongside the cake stall, there were a large variety of raffle prizes on offer and a fantastic total of £188 was raised to go towards the cost of putting the evening on and the Modern Foreign Languages department.



Another highlight of the evening were the Year 8, 9 and 10 translation bees. These were the school finals for the German, French and Spanish translation bees in which three girls competed by trying to translate as many sentences as possible in one minute. Mrs Dorey was one of the guest judges and Mrs Abram was also invited to the evening to award certificates to the translation bee winners.

I think everyone can agree that the evening was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all those taking part and all of the guests alike.

We would like to thank our sponsor Greenyard Fresh as well as Mrs Barats and Mrs Carthy.

Georgie Van Dyke



Trampolining

On Wednesday 30th October the Spalding High School KS4 trampolining team attended the District Competition. After weeks of practice from novice seat landings to elite double front somersaults the girls were ready to compete. In the advanced category, Chloe Voak came 3rd and Emmi Bell came 2nd. Then in the Elite category, Kiera Gordon came 3rd and Jessica Ringsell came 1st. Once everyone has competed the top four scores get added together to conclude a winning school overall, with 209.9 points, Spalding High School were district champions. Well done to everyone who competed!



Year 11 Netball Tournament

On Thursday 31st October the Year 11 Netball team competed in their last District Tournament, they were up against some tough competition but played extremely well and didn't lose team moral. Well done to everyone who played and thank you for your continued commitment to practices and fixtures over the last 5 years!



East Midlands Regional Trampoline Competition

Well done to all the girls who competed at the East Midlands Regional Trampoline Competition on Sunday 1st December. There were two exceptional performances on the day, one from Jessica Ringsell who was Elite Champion with the highest score and difficulty of the whole competition, performing five double somersaults in her routine. Secondly, Willow Gill, who has only been trampolining for a year, coming first out of 48 competitors being awarded Year 7-8 novice champion.

Both Jessica and Willow will go onto represent the East Midlands at the Central Zone competition in the New Year. Good luck to both of you in the next round!



U15 Indoor Hockey

On Thursday 28th November, the U15 Indoor Hockey Team went to Bourne Academy to take part in the South Lincolnshire Schools indoor Hockey tournament. The whole team played exceptionally well with one outstanding goal fed in by Hennie and scored by Maddie. The team were unbeaten in every game they played, finishing as South Lincolnshire Schools U15 indoor hockey champions.

Well done!



Sixth Form Netball

Monday 16th December saw the first match between Spalding High School and Spalding Grammar's Sixth Form netball teams. After a very close second quarter, the High School went on to beat the Grammar School 27-15. We look forward to another game in the new year!



Y9 Netball County Finals

On Saturday 9th November, the Y9 Netball team travelled to Skegness to represent South Lincs in the County Netball finals. The U14 teams were split into two sections, and after four extremely tough games, narrowly missing out on a win against Winterton, Spalding High School finished 5th. The girls then played in the 9th/10th place play-offs and beat Tollbar 11-3 to finish 9th in their first ever County Finals.

The team were a credit to themselves and the School. The way they conducted themselves when decisions were not going their way shows how mature and resilient this team is becoming. I am beyond proud of them for reaching the finals, they should be very happy with their performance.

Miss Jones



KS3 Spooky Writing competition

As English Prefects, we have had the pleasure of reading and judging the KS3 Halloween Spooky Story and Poetry competition. After reading the submissions and a few sleepless nights as a result, we finally chose a runner-up in each year group and a Grand Winner from Year 8. Below, we include an extract from the winning poem, 'It's Only Death' by Grace Rhodes 8J.

1795: The French Revolution

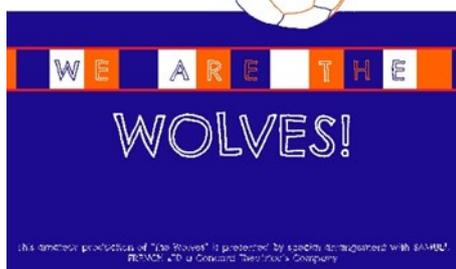
My family walked in solemn succession,
After they got our untrue confession,
The way they got it was far from fair,
It was a nightmare beyond compare.
They beat us and tortured us,
Battered and broke us,

Now we stand as a joke,
Amongst the town folk,
Our old friends turned for,
The people we used to know.

As we walked to our deaths,
We breathed our last breaths,
Hundreds of people watched in anticipation,
Their faces alight with elation,
'Not us yet, him next I bet',
This is what they think, what we thought.
Then we got caught.

We would like to thank everyone who entered the competition for taking the time to craft such excellent work. The winners were presented with their prizes in school assembly.

Jennifer Camm (6GD) and Ethan Drew (6EJ)



Drama News

In late October, the Drama Department produced *The Wolves*, a funny and poignant play about a girls' indoor soccer team during practise drills as they prepare for a succession of games. They bond over a bag of orange slices and personal traumas.

The performance was of a high standard and the nine cast members and three student directors received high praise from the audience members. The meticulous character work ensured that each actor shone as an individual, as well as capturing the power of the group.

Highlights included the devouring of the orange slices by the team in preparation for a group photograph, Holly Klatt's enviable football skills, Eva Mason's sassy striker, Ella Butler's wig, and the many hilarious moments that were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. Well done team!



CAST LIST

#00 – Goalie: POPPY GILL
#2 – Defence: SOPHIE BARR
#7 – Striker: EVA MASON
#8 – Defence: MEGAN BROWN
#11 – Midfield: SOPHIE ALDIS
#13 – Midfield: SAMANTHA HAINES
#14 – Midfield: ELLIE-MAI MYCOCK
#25 – Defence Captain: ELLA BUTLER
#46 – Bench: HOLLY KLATT
Soccer Mum – Mrs Fisk
Student Directors:
Diana Chareviciute
Jade North
Ocea-Lily Jarvis

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO MAPLES
SOLICITORS FOR PROVIDING THE
COSTUMES**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...



Pupils in Years 7-9 have been busy preparing for the Junior Production of *Honk!* This production is based on the story of the ugly duckling, and is a great show for the whole family! The music and libretto are by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe. The production dates are Friday 31st January and Saturday 1st February. Please join us for a fun event that showcases the talent of our younger pupils.

Staff Pantomime

The staff pantomime is a school tradition and has been a biennial event since the late 1990s. The stimulus material for the staff pantomime 2019 was 'Stranger Things', a popular Netflix series. This was quite a challenge to adapt, due to the representation of two worlds and the dark, brooding tension of the first series that (at times) scared me when I watched it! Developing ideas such as Mrs Waldron adding a trail of tomato ketchup under her nose (in Spalding's favourite chip shop - Sheddy's Café) when using her 'telekinetic' powers to represent the nose bleeds that Eleven experiences in the original series created light humour for those who are fans of the series. There was also opportunity to develop a love affair for Hopper (Mr Martindale) and the dame – played by Mr Garbett with his usual charm and charisma! The staff and I also loved revisiting the 1980s of our school days!





SHS – Winter Concert

On December 12th, Spalding High School Music department put on its Winter Concert. The evening featured 122 performers performing in the Orchestra, the String Group, Wind and Brass Group, Songbirds Choir, Pop Choir, Whole School Choir, Chamber Choir and various other smaller ensembles. The audience were delighted with such seasonal classics as the music from the film 'A Christmas Carol', 'Fairytale of New York' and a finale of John Williams' 'Somewhere In My Memory' from 'Home Alone', during which a gentle snow began to fall around the on stage choir. The concert also featured the premiere of 'Go To The Child', a new carol written by Lynne Loose. Further highlights included an 18 Christmas song medley by the Year 10 GCSE group, stunning vocal performances by Diana Chareviciute, Mary Catherine Dunne, Megan Brown, Ocea-Lily Jarvis, and the Year 12 A Level Group – Katie Winfield, Freya Perkins and Hannah Palmer, and rocking versions of Stevie Wonder's 'I Wish' by the Pop Choir, and Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' from the Orchestra. The Chamber Choir produced a moment of atmospheric stillness and beauty with two pieces by Norwegian contemporary composer Ola Gjeilo before the very large Whole School Choir gave the audience stunning renditions of Steve Winwood's 'Higher Love' and 'Pompeii' by Bastille. After 'Somewhere in My Memory' had finished, and with the snow still falling onstage, the audience gave the performers a standing ovation and demanded an encore. Head of Music, Richard Garbett said: 'This concert is the result of countless break-time, lunchtime, before school and after school rehearsals since we started back in September and includes some of our most ambitious music yet. This all adds up to a huge number of hours spent rehearsing and I continue to be overawed by the dedication and professionalism of the students, from those with much experience in the upper years and also for those involved in their first concert in Year 7, they have all, as always, been amazing!. Year 11 students, and member of multiple choirs, Louise Underwood and Megan Brown added: 'The concert was a huge success and we had so much fun taking part! We had spent many lunch and break times rehearsing for the concert and we are so happy that all of our hard work paid off and we produced something we can all be proud of!



Senior Maths Challenge Results 2019

Spalding High School was one of more than 2,200 schools competing in the Senior Maths Challenge 2019. Congratulations to Upper School and Sixth Form students who achieved a magnificent two Gold, 13 Silver and 17 Bronze Certificates.

The Senior Mathematics Challenge is aimed at 6th form, but we allow top set Year 10 and 11 to sign up on a voluntary basis. Of these 38 students who are technically 'too young' for this challenge we achieved four Silver and eight Bronze Certificates – fantastic results, some of these students managed to beat a lot of 6th formers!

The top student from each year group also received a Best In Year certificate. Congratulations to Emily Wright 6AF, Katie Matthewson 6SC, Georgie Van Dyke 11S and Abbie Beeson 10S.

National Cipher Challenge

Spalding High School has had 13 teams and individuals across a range of year groups competing in the National Cipher Challenge. The Cipher Challenge is a nationwide, online codebreaking competition which has been running since 2002 and regularly attracts entries from teams at over 700 UK schools and colleges. The top prize is £1000 from GCHQ, presented at an awards ceremony at Bletchley Park (where the Enigma code was broken).

There are two challenges each week, A and B, and separate overall leader-boards for each. Points are awarded for speed and accuracy, with accuracy more important. The challenge gets increasingly difficult as the weeks pass, and the final challenges are almost impossible. Although the national competition is still ongoing, the top codebreaker at SHS is already clear: congratulations to Georgie van Dyke 11S who tops our leader-board for the third year in a row.

The British Physics Olympiad

The Physics department would like to congratulate Ellie Keeble and Emily Wright for their success in the British Physics Olympiad Round One.

This year over 2,100 students participated across the UK. The paper was designed to stretch and challenge the top young physicists in the country in a national competition, every question is a real challenge and tests the students' ability to decipher the root of the question and apply their knowledge to new applications.

Ellie achieved a BRONZE I certificate putting her in the top third of entries and Emily a GOLD putting her in the top 10%.

Well done girls we are very proud of you!

Mathematical Olympiad for Girls 2019

The Mathematical Olympiad for Girls is a prestigious annual competition which aims to encourage and inspire as many girls as possible to get involved in advanced mathematical problem solving. The MOG paper lasts two and a half hours and consists of five challenging mathematical problems for which full written solutions are required. Top-scoring students are awarded a Certificate of Distinction, and this year we are delighted that four Sixth Form students achieved this accolade. Congratulations to Emily Wright, Ellie Keeble, Niamh Mulley and Briony Christie. Emily and Ellie both qualified for the British Mathematical Olympiad, and Niamh for the Senior Kangaroo, and we are eagerly awaiting the results from these next rounds as well.

Emily Wright has also been presented with the book prize that is awarded by the UKMT to the most outstanding students nationally each year. Her name has been published by the UKMT on their small list of top scholars – this year just 37 students in the whole country met the high standard required. Well done, Emily.

Calling all Parents/Pupils

Please encourage your daughter/son to tune in and watch as Dr Hannah Fry presents the Royal Institution's 2019 CHRISTMAS LECTURES – Secrets and lies: The hidden power of maths. BBC 4 at 8pm on 26th, 27th and 28th December. Pupils please encourage your parents to the same! <https://www.rigb.org/christmas-lectures>

We have been selected to be able to take part in a very exciting opportunity where pupils will be able to talk to mathematicians via a live chat associated with the Christmas Lectures.

Years 7/8 Tuesday 28th January at 1pm

Years 9/10/11 Wednesday 29th January at 1pm

Years 12/13 Thursday 30th January at 1.30pm

More details to follow in the new year during your lessons.

Merry Christmas and a Happy Mathematical New Year from everyone in the maths department here at SHS.

Florence Art Trip October 2019

The trip to Florence was very interesting, both artistically and culturally. It was nice to have so many good photo opportunities as the buildings and sculptures around the streets were so beautiful.

The prison gallery was very interesting because it was not something you would ordinarily see.

The most favoured gallery was La Biennale, it had such a variety of art that everyone could enjoy. It was also very exciting to be able to talk to the artists about their work to gain inspiration.

We all made a lot of good memories, throughout Years 10 to 13.



Christmas Craft Fayre

Christmas took hold in the Library and English corridor for three lunchtimes at the beginning of December with our annual Christmas Craft Fayre. Nearly fifty groups or individual students from Year 7 to Year 11 as well as ex staff and students set up stalls, embracing their entrepreneurial creativity. As always we were spoilt with a sumptuous delight of handmade wares from hand carved reindeers and Christmas bows to decoupage cactus pots and Brussel sprout pompoms. Those with a sweet tooth could indulge in delicacies to make a gourmet happy, with spiced fudge, sweets galore, chocolate bark, fruit cake and decorated gingerbread. The festive fun was enhanced with games, raffles and tombola's.

Happy crafting for the next year

Mrs Lees

Learning Resource Manager



Dates for your Diary

6 th January	Start of Term 3	30 th January	Junior School Production
	Y11 Mocks begin	31 st January	Junior School Production
13 th January	Y13 Mocks begin	1 st February	Junior School Production Matinee
15 th January	Y7 Art Trip to Tate Modern	5 th February	Y9 Parents' Evening
16 th January	Y11 Mocks end	6 th February	Intermediate Maths Challenge
	Y8 HPV Vaccinations		
17 th January	Y13 Mocks end	7 th February	PTA Family Quiz 6:30pm
20 th January	Y12 Taster Day	13 th February	Y11 Reports to Parents
21 st January	Y9 Options Evening 7pm		Y13 Grade Cards to Parents
27 th January	Y9 Options Fair		End of Term 3
29 th January	Y12 Geography Trip to Cranedale	14 th February	Ski Trip Departs
		17 th February	Classics Trip Departs

NHS Advice

We have been asked by Lincolnshire County Council to circulate the following message with our winter newsletter, please see the last page.

Each year A&E sees a large number of families and children that present with minor symptoms and/or respiratory tract infections. The attached one page guide can help families get to see the right person in the right place for the right symptoms.

For the attention of schools, nurseries and childcare settings – please cascade to parents and carers:

Over recent weeks, our local NHS services have seen an increase in the number of adults and children with cold or flu-like symptoms and associated respiratory illnesses.

Respiratory tract infections (RTIs) can affect the upper respiratory tract, such as the sinuses and throat (e.g. common cold, tonsillitis), or the lower respiratory tract, such as the airways and lungs (e.g. chest infection, pneumonia). Most RTIs pass within 2 weeks and will get better without treatment, but sometimes you may need to see your GP.

Treatment from your GP will depend on whether your RTI is caused by a virus or bacteria. Antibiotics are only used to treat bacterial infections. They do not work for viral infections.

You can find out more about RTIs, including the symptoms, how to treat them and where to go for more help, on the NHS website here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/respiratory-tract-infection/>

The chart below has been designed to help you choose the right type of care to access for a range of illnesses and injuries:

Self-care 	Grazed Knee Cough or cold Sore throat	Make sure your medicine cupboard is stocked up with over the counter remedies
NHS 111 	Unsure Unwell Confused Need to know where to go	When you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency
Pharmacy 	Diarrhoea Runny Nose Headache	For advice on common illnesses and medicines to treat them
Your GP and Out of Hours 	Ear pain Backache Throat infection	If you have an illness or injury that won't go away make an appointment to see your GP. If it's outside your GP's opening hours, you can telephone your GP surgery to be directed to the local 'Out of Hours' service.
Minor Injuries Unit 	Strains Sprains Stitches	For minor injuries
A&E and 999 	Choking Chest pain Blackout Blood loss	Life threatening situations and emergency