



# Spalding High School



## Weekly Bulletin 01.10.20

As always, it is lovely to see and hear the news from year groups and departments – lots to look forward to in this week's edition too!

School wide, students have been set homework in core subjects over the last two weeks and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October marks the start of homework across all subjects and year groups. Please read the homework schedule at the end of the bulletin very carefully. We have also included the amended Homework Policy for reference. No homework should be expected the next day. We have asked staff to give at least three working days and preferably the week for completion. If students (or parents) feel that there are worries or issues with homework, please contact us (via the form tutor or Head of Year) to discuss.

### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**To Mrs Busfield and her husband on the birth of their new baby boy, Ronnie! The family are all doing well.**

### **News from Year 7:**

Here are some early feedback comments and advice from 7N & 7S as they enjoy their first few weeks with us at Spalding High School:

'All the teachers are very nice.'

'Lessons have been fun.'

'I am enjoying it a lot more than I thought I would.'

'You might not think it but you make loads of new friends very quickly.'

'Get into a routine to help make you feel a little less nervous. This really helped me.'

'I enjoy the lessons more at secondary school as they are more interesting and fun.'

'Being organised will really help you to settle in quickly.'

'Starting a new school is both fun and exhausting!'

'It's normal to feel nervous, but you will soon get used to it.'

Mrs Schwarz,

Head of Main School

### **Microsoft Teams Letter.**

Further to last week's bulletin item about Teams, please see the attached letter from Mr Love.

### **News from the Art & Design Department.**

Please see the attached montage.

### **Face Masks:**

Thank you to everyone for wearing your facemasks as requested. Can you please make sure that you have a spare with you if you need one and that you dispose of them correctly (if they are disposable) by putting them in a nappy sack and in the new green bin.

### **Ventilation during the autumn and winter.**

It is our intention to maintain good ventilation throughout the school buildings this autumn and winter to continue the fight against the transmission of Covid. This means we will be keeping doors and windows open. We will always take a common sense approach to uniform and as the weather is turning, we would strongly advise students (and staff) to consider wearing base layers under their school clothes.

Winter uniform (including the School jumper) will be worn after the October half term. Plain t-shirts, vests, micro-fibre thermals etc. will help everyone to keep warm. Building up base layers will be more comfortable than wearing outer jackets and coats indoors too – which we would rather avoid if possible.

We would also like to remind students that coats that are worn at school must be plain and dark coloured without prominent logos. It would also be sensible for students walking or cycling on dark winter roads to have fluorescent armbands so that drivers can see them more clearly. A variety of hi-vis fluorescent armbands are widely available on-line

### Careers Update:

BBC Bitesize website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/secondary>

Many students use the BBC Bitesize website to support their learning in subjects. There are also excellent sections for careers information and advice, which are worth investigating. Please see the 'Support' and 'Careers' tabs at the top of the main page.

Students in Years 9 and 10 have been talking about Post-16 options in their PSHCE sessions and Year 11 students will be focusing on this over the coming weeks. There is a useful video, which explains all the options open to students after GCSEs on the Bitesize website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z6ws47h>

### Mini Medical School – Medical Sciences online lectures

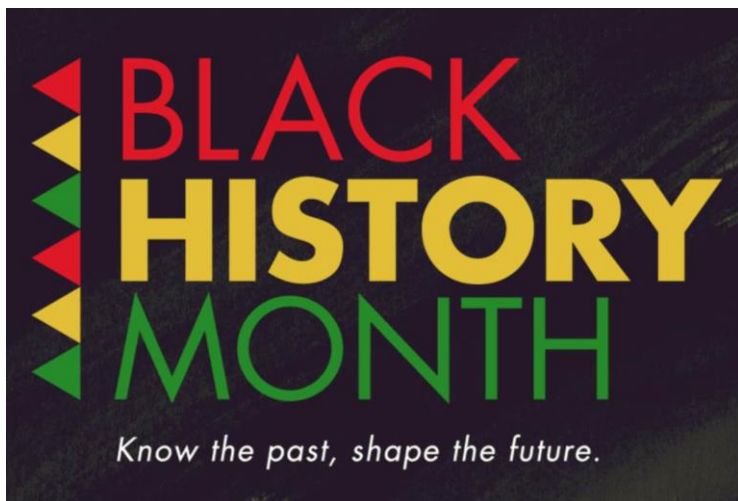
Newcastle University will be offering a series of online evening lectures in November and December to anyone aged 15 and over. Previous programmes covered the topics below:

- dermatology
- emergency medicine
- medical scanning technology
- anaesthetics
- sport and exercise science

Please see the website to book a place:

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/medical-sciences/engage-with-us/mini-medical-school/>

Mrs Bushell  
Careers Leader



### **A message from the History Department:**

Every year the world celebrates Black History Month in October.

This year, the SHS History Department have prepared assemblies and enrichment activities for students to get involved with to find out more about Britain's black history.

Stay tuned for further announcements in the coming weeks about how you can get involved and celebrate the (sometimes hidden) black history of Britain.

### **#HelloYellow!**

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, it is World Mental Health Day and in celebration of this, we will be supporting the Young Minds #HelloYellow! Campaign. We will be inviting all students to wear something yellow with their school uniform on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Students can wear all yellow, or a token 'yellow' item of clothing (no yellow hair or nails please) with their school uniform. We only ask that students donate 50p into one of the charity buckets on their way into school. So let's make our #HelloYellow day as big and bright as possible and thank you in advance for your support. Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Hickman.

### News From Year 11:

**Mrs Neal asked the form groups for their “small joys” in life at the moment...**

**11C-** We are enjoying returning home to family after a long busy day. Jeon and many others are pleased that poetry has been taken out of the English exam. Sophia achieved her purple belt in judo. Meg found a perfect pair of jeans and they fit so now she feels skinny and is pleased!

**11J** - We love being together again and seeing our friends after 6 months of limited contact. Winning at hockey and scoring a goal” – Jemima, “netball is back”- Libby, “coffee shops are open again so I can buy a coffee on the way into school” – Ebony, “my dog is having an operation today so her knee will be better” – Bethany, “intermediate maths challenge, bronze certificate” – Hannah, “evening walk by the river” – Mrs Martin and finally the “canteen is back at break on Friday” – all of 10J!

**11N** - We are joyful over several things this week. Having dessert back in the canteen and playing sports again. Connie has just turned sixteen and Holly will be soon. They are excited already that Christmas is getting closer and Holly says that Harry Potter makes her happy.

**11P** - 11P has found our weekly form Kahoot quizzes very enjoyable and we look forward to them every week. The previous winners include Elizabeth, Joan and Evie. Seeing our friends also makes us happy, especially after 6 months of lock down.

**11S-** We have all enjoyed getting into a warm bed at the end of a cold and busy day.

My small joy is running in the rain - **Mrs Neal**

### Homework Schedule:

Year 7		
Week 1 and Week 2	Week 1	Week 2
English Maths Science Languages RS <b>30 minutes once per week</b>	Art Music Computing <b>30 minutes once per Week 1</b>	Technology Geography History <b>30 minutes once per Week 2</b>

Year 8		
Week 1 and Week 2	Week 1	Week 2
English Maths Science Languages Latin RS <b>30 minutes once per week</b>	Technology Geography History <b>30 minutes once per Week 1</b>	Art Music Drama <b>30 minutes once per Week 2</b>

Year 9	
Week 1 and Week 2	Week 1 and 2
English Maths Science Languages Latin RS <b>30 minutes once per week</b>	<b>ALL</b> other subjects studied, 30 minutes once per fortnight.

Year 10 and Year 11
Each subject studied – one 30-minute piece per week.

Sixth Form
Each subject studied – 90 minutes per subject, per week.

### **SHS Homework Policy:**

Homework is an important part of the learning process; it is a compulsory, integral and crucial part of the wider curriculum for all students. For it to be effective and meaningful, it must be seen as part of the curriculum by all members of the School Community. Homework should be fit for purpose to support student progress in that curriculum area. It should also have some/all of the following characteristics:

- Build student confidence within a subject
- Advance and build upon what it done in lessons
- Consolidate knowledge and understanding
- Extend learning
- Be used to practise skills and techniques
- Improve performance (e.g. revision for tests)
- Develop independent learning skills
- Enable pre-reading and preparation before a topic/text is covered in lessons
- Complete tasks related to the specification content or assessment requirements of the course.

### **Responsibility of the School:**

#### **We will:**

- Set homework on a regular basis and in line with the published schedule
- Set tasks that are suitable and achievable in the time allowed
- Ensure that sufficient time is incorporated into the lesson for homework to be explained clearly and written down by students in their planners
- Ensure that planners are checked and signed regularly by Form Tutors
- Check and monitor that homework has been completed on time and to an appropriate standard and take action if not Ensure that homework tasks are not routinely set for completion by the next day
- Recognise excellent effort and reward accordingly
- Provide student support opportunities at school such as private study periods and individual support where needed
- Support students who are finding it difficult to fulfil their homework requirements.
- Involve parents/carers when we have concern
- Ensure that subject concern forms and appropriate sanctions are given (starting at departmental level) where homework is repeatedly late or incomplete
- Be aware of Junior Athletes Education Scheme (JAE) students who may need additional time, on occasion to complete their homework due to training commitments or competition schedules

### **Responsibility of the student:**

#### **Students will:**

- Record all homework and deadlines in their planner
- Ensure that they understand the task and if not, seek guidance and help from their teacher or tutor
- Ensure that they have the time and resources they need to complete the task and discuss with their teacher, in advance of the deadline, if there is a difficulty
- Do their homework to the best of their ability
- Hand homework in on time and in the correct format (e.g. handwritten, digital or printed copy)
- Make every attempt to catch up on homework missed through absence
- Talk to their teacher or form tutor if homework is taking longer than the published timetable/schedule or if they are having difficulty with the task
- Respond to feedback and advice in order to make further progress.

### **Responsibility of home:**

#### **Parents/carers will:**

- Engage with their child about their homework, take an interest and offer support, where possible.
- Try, wherever possible to ensure that their child has a suitable and quiet place to complete the homework.
- Check and sign the pupil/student planner on a regular basis.
- Raise concerns with the form tutor or subject teacher if they are worried about their child's homework.