



Spalding High School



Weekly Bulletin 09.12.21

This week has been very exciting! Firstly, it has been thrilling to see the incredibly well decorated results of the Year 7 Christmas Tree Competitions appearing all over the site and bringing Christmas cheer to each corner of the School. Secondly, and just as thrilling, has been the fact that students and staff are now accessing each different corner of the School! Year 7 and Year 8 excitement levels have been palpable as they have donned their bags and ventured into lessons in department zones that they have just not seen before. Parents should expect them to be even more tired now they are walking so much every day! I even had some Year 9 and Year 10 students checking room locations with me earlier in the week as they had forgotten where certain rooms were located as it has been so long. My Y9 class will tell you that I was almost emotional at teaching a Geography lesson in a Geography classroom for the first time in two years – with the text books (and pencils for shading **not** colouring) all to hand!! The new route way system is having an incredible impact at reducing congestion in certain areas of the school at lesson change times. If everyone follows it and “goes with the flow”, movement is smooth, quick and easy. Thirdly, this week we have recorded the Christmas Concert; my word, how wonderful a day that was and well done to all the singers, musicians, Mr Garbett, Mr Loose (senior and junior) and Mrs Brown for a magical day of music – we can’t wait to watch the finished version.

Update on Plan B and Schools

As you know, the Prime Minister announced further measures and a move to “Plan B” last night. Schools have received notification this morning that the “work from home” announcement does not apply to schools, who are to continue to operate face-to-face on site. Attendance at school remains mandatory unless a student has been instructed by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate. The DfE further confirms that there are no changes to advice for those previously identified as clinically extremely vulnerable or clinically vulnerable.

Update to isolation for close contacts of the omicron variant

This morning we have received the update below from the DfE following the Prime Minister’s announcement last night:

“All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will continue to be required to self-isolate and asked to book a PCR test. The Government plans to introduce Daily Contact Testing as soon as possible as an alternative to self-isolation for contacts of positive Omicron cases who are fully vaccinated or under the age of 18 years and 6 months.”

No further details have been provided as to whether the daily contact testing will be by LFD or PCR, nor when/how the testing will be organised and by whom. As we receive more information, we will share this with parents/carers and students.

Covid-19 Testing

With the Christmas holidays fast approaching, please remember to continue with your Covid-19 Home Testing. You should do your test on a Sunday and Wednesday, report your test result to the NHS and report on Teams on Sunday 19th December 2021.

You must test on Sunday 2nd January 2022 and report to the NHS **AND** on your Teams Assignment. When pupils return to school in January, the Government guidelines are that consenting pupils will be tested once onsite within the ATS facility.

If a pupil tests positive during the Christmas holidays, please ensure that you notify the School via enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

COVID-19 Test Team

'Bring a Tin' Day Reminder – Friday 10th December

Just a reminder for students to bring in their donations for the 'Bring a Tin' Christmas jumper day this Friday. There will be boxes placed in every form room ready to be filled with the donations on Friday morning. Please also remember to come to school in your favourite Christmas jumper or non-uniform on the day.



Flu Vaccinations

On **Tuesday 14th December**, the School Age Immunisation Nursing Team will be in school to administer flu vaccinations for students in Years 7-11 that did not receive it on the 11th November 2021.

Covid-19 Vaccination

The Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust have confirmed further Covid 19 vaccination opportunities at various locations for students between the ages of 12-15 years. Please see attached letter for further details.

Trampoline Competition

On Sunday 5th December, dedicated trampolinists, representing Spalding High School, travelled to Hinckley Leisure Centre to compete in the Regional Schools' Trampolining Competition. The day started very well with Isla, Isabelle and Grace completing fantastic routines and Isla placing 4th in the 7-8 novice category. As a team they won 1st place and all qualified for the zonal competition next January in Essex. They all completed exceptional routines! We then moved onto the 10-14 intermediate category where Willow completed 2 confident routines in a tough group, and qualified for the zonals in 5th place! Another fantastic achievement.

Overall, it was a brilliant day and all participants should be incredibly proud of their performances! They cannot wait to get back to training for the zonals!



Football Success

The Y7 and Y8 football team conquered yet another team in the 4th round of the U13 9v9 English Schools National Cup Competition. The game was played against Robert Bloomfield Academy and the team fortunately triumphed 5-1, goals scored by Darcey Grundy, Freya Willerton, Ella Lynn and Katie Reilly (2). Player of the match was awarded to Freya Willerton. We were supported tremendously by a large crowd of students. The students played a great attacking game, and we hope to keep our winning streak. The team now have a long journey to Flegg High Ormiston Academy in Great Yarmouth.

Match report by Amber Nieburg team captain

Senior Maths Challenge Success

On 10th November, we had 76 fantastic Mathematicians taking part in the Senior Maths Challenge. Over 60% of those students get enough credits to get either Bronze, Silver, or Gold Certificate.

Congratulations to Alicia Nicolaou (11 J), Hanna Rogers (Year 12, 6JM), and Georgie Van Dyke (Year 13, 6SC) who got the best in the School, in their Year group accolade.

Well done to all those who participated!

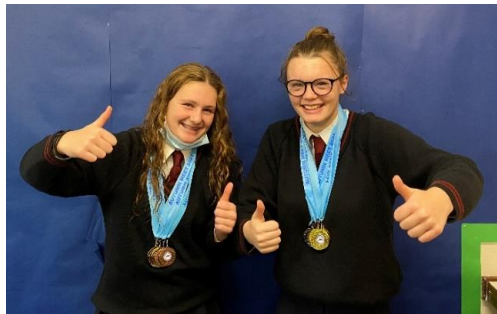
Mrs Nowak



Year 9 News - 9P

The Year 9 Spalding High School Netball team played against Stamford Welland Academy in a friendly last week. There were two teams; our first team won 22-5 and the second team won 10-4. Well done everyone.

Sophie and Issy with their medals - they competed in the Autumn Meet (Swimming) on 28/11/2021. Sophie is really proud of achieving medals in her swimming. She got two golds in 100m individual medley and 200m backstroke and three bronze medals in 50m freestyle, 100m butterfly and 100m backstroke.



Mrs Nowak asked 9P what they have enjoyed most about this week; these were just a few of the responses:

“I mono-printed leaves in art and went outside and printed them”

“Last week I enjoyed languages (Latin and French), Drama, Music, Technology (DT), Geography and Mathematics. In Latin we have been learning verb endings. French we have learnt past participle. Drama we were practicing lines. Music we were working on a word up project. Technology was making designs. Geography was learning about deforestation and mathematics learning pie charts”

“This week in Drama, we did our first run through of our play ‘Mobile Phone’, it was really fun and even though it didn’t go the best; it was definitely coming together.

“In food tech, we made chocolate snowballs during lunch, and they turned out very good.”

“I liked when we played netball last week as my team worked together very well and won the match”

Year 7 Christmas tree Competition

Our annual inter-form Christmas tree competition took place on Friday 3rd December. Pupils were set the task to decorate a tree in their house colours using only handmade decorations. The standard this year was incredibly high and the judging of these trees was a very challenging one for Mr Blackburn. However, after lots of deliberation the results were announced as follows:

- Best Baubles 7N
- Spirit of Xmas 7S
- Best single decoration 7P
- Best topper 7C
- Special award to 7J for being eco-friendly
- Overall winner 7S

Congratulations to all those who took part and really entered into the spirit of the competition, and a huge thank you to Mr Blackburn for judging.



Mrs Ray
Assistant Head

Christmas Concert

The school's musicians spent all day Monday and Tuesday preparing, rehearsing, filming and recording this year's Christmas Concert! The days were a huge success, our Orchestra, String Group, Wind & Brass Group, Chamber Choir and our 135 strong Whole School Choir all playing and singing their hearts out!. I am extremely proud of every single one of them and I am now working hard to get the film edited and produced as quickly as I can.

Mr Garbett
Head of Music



Careers Update

Year 8 Careers in PSHCE

In two PSHCE sessions in November, Year 8 students talked about their personality type and how this fits with possible career ideas for the future. They used the Buzz Quiz to establish which personality type they are. There are sixteen possible results which each link to an animal. In the follow-up lesson, students were asked to reflect on boosting their transferable skills by reflecting on experiences they have had, what they currently do in terms of hobbies and interests and what they hope to be involved in both in and out of school in the future. The link for the Buzz Quiz is below. It would be interesting for parents/carers to do the quiz and then discuss the results with their child.

<https://icould.com/buzz-quiz/>

This is the video the students watched at the beginning of the session on transferable skills:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWZxyyK6OuA>

Hopefully, these resources will instigate some interesting conversations at home. The students engaged very well with the materials in class and this has enabled tutors to get to know their tutees better too.

Work experience in Year 12

May we please remind students and parents/carers that the deadline for handing in completed placement confirmation forms is **Friday 21st January**. We know that many students are continuing to make enquiries about placements through friends and family members and would encourage them to continue with this. If students have already found a placement, they are reminded to hand in the confirmation form to Mrs O'Brien or to me as soon as possible.

Parents' Pack from Amazing Apprenticeships

The November edition of the Parents' Pack from Amazing Apprenticeships is available to download. It includes information on how to use the government's 'Find an Apprenticeship' search tool and other interesting articles.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2021/11/Parent-Pack-November-2021.pdf>

Medic Mentor – Healthcare Careers Fair for 2022 – Students in Years 10-13

Please see the information below from the Allied Healthcare Team at Medic Mentor for students interested in pursuing healthcare careers:

The UK's largest Healthcare Careers Fair is back for 2022 and this time it is virtual for greater accessibility and there are E-learning options for students who are unable to attend the live dates.

This is a fully packed weekend with an opportunity to meet a variety of healthcare professionals virtually, learn from admissions experts about how to choose a university course strategically, write a personal statement, navigate interviews and apply for healthcare apprenticeships.

You can register here: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/national-healthcare-weekend/>

National Healthcare Weekend will be taking place on the 19th and 20th March 2022 online, via your own unique portal.

The great thing about attending the weekend live is that you have the opportunity to speak to a variety of healthcare professionals virtually via zoom. However, if you are unable to attend the live event, you can opt to register for the NHW E-learning course, which will be available throughout April for you to watch all of the recorded talks.

All students will receive a certificate of attendance. This event is something that you can list on your UCAS application under the section entitled 'what courses have you attended that prepare you for higher education'.

Therefore, attending the event (live or via the e learning) is useful for your UCAS application.

Saturday 19th March 2022

10:00 Welcome and Introduction to Day 1 of Healthcare Weekend

10:15 How to make an informed decision about a healthcare career

10:30 How to obtain work experience

11:00-11:20 Morning break

11:20-12:20 Breakout session one: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 30 minute career presentation and a 30 minute Q&A with healthcare professionals

12:20-12:50 Lunch break

12:50 How to apply to university healthcare courses: the UCAS application

13:20 Breakout session two: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 30 minute presentation from a university admissions rep to explain how to apply to a specific career degree and a 30 minute Q&A with the university rep

14:20-14:40 Break

14:40 Breakout Session three: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 30 minute presentation from a healthcare professional about the training pathways within their chosen career and a 30 minute Q&A with the specialty healthcare professional.

15:40-16:00 Whole group teaching on working in the NHS, structure of the NHS, commissioning and resource allocation

16:00 Session End

Sunday 20th March

10:00 Welcome and Introduction to Day 2 of Healthcare Weekend

10:15-10:45 Whole group teaching on the role of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) with clinical case examples and worksheets to learn about how different healthcare professionals come together to provide care for each patient.

10:45-11:00 Q&A regarding the clinical cases and panel discussion from different healthcare professionals

11:00-11:20 Break

11:20-12:20 Breakout Session one: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 30 minute career presentation on a 'subspecialty' within their chosen career and a 30 minute Q&A with healthcare professionals.

12:20-12:50 Lunch Break

12:50-13:10 How to apply to Apprenticeships

13:10-14:10 Breakout Session two: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 30 minute apprenticeship presentation on their chosen career and a 30 minute Q&A with healthcare professionals.

14:10-14:30 Afternoon Break

14:30-15:00 Breakout Session three: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 20 minute presentation on 'subject choices and entry requirements' for their chosen career by a university admissions rep and a 10 minute Q&A.

15:00-15:30 Breakout Session four: students join a virtual breakout room of their choice where they will have a 20 minute presentation on an 'alternative career' within a specific healthcare career by a healthcare professional and a 10 minute Q&A.

Alternative careers are career options that you can pursue outside of a clinical healthcare setting. Healthcare degrees open many doors beyond patient care, which are also worth exploring.

15:30-15:40 10 minute break

15:40-16:00 Whole group presentation on how to write a healthcare personal statement and prepare for healthcare interviews

16:00 End of Day 2

Students can register for 1 Live day for £25 or both days for £45. Alternatively, students can opt for the E-learning course, which is £10. These events are suitable for students in Years 10-13 and we look forward to helping you take your first steps towards a healthcare career!

Nuffield Research Placements – An opportunity for Year 12 students

Nuffield Research Placements are supervised but independent research projects relating to an area of science, quantitative social science, computing, technology, engineering or maths (or a combination of these). They take place over the summer after Year 12 and involve both online activities and two-weeks' on-site research. Placements take place at a variety of locations including offices, museums, research centres, laboratories or fieldwork settings across the UK. The on-site placement activity will not cost parents/carers anything. Travel costs are reimbursed for all students, and depending on family circumstances, students may also be eligible to receive a bursary.

Please watch the video to find out more about eligibility criteria. I will make more information available to students via the Year 12 Careers Team. <https://youtu.be/hzb7EhG04NM>

University Courses

Our focus on lesser-known degree titles for students and parents/carers to consider continues this week. A good starting point for research regarding university courses is the UCAS website: <https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects>

Actuarial Science and Risk Management – Taken from the UCAS website, describing the course at Queen's University, Belfast:

The underlying cornerstone of the Actuarial Science and Risk Management degree is the application of financial and statistical theories to help solve real business problems. The degree combines modules in actuarial modelling, financial reporting, insurance, pensions, economics, finance, mathematics and statistics to develop techniques and skills to assess, evaluate and manage future financial risk and thereby address a wide range of practical problems in long-term financial planning and management. A lot of actuaries' work might be thought of as risk management, which assesses how likely an event may be and the costs associated with that event. This might include investigating how life insurance reserves and future premiums might balance future claims, analysing investment risks, or projecting the financial costs of an epidemic.

Here is a short film about the course at Queen's University, Belfast: <https://youtu.be/qtC75M-8OYk>

Support:

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

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Mrs Bushell
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