



Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin 16.12.21



Wishing you all a very merry, happy and healthy Christmas! As you would expect, Christmas festivities have permeated every aspect of the week since the last bulletin! We have had Christmas tunes and live music across the site over the last five days and surprisingly, no one appears fed up yet with hearing Wham! Mariah or Wizzard!

Everyone is definitely still very impressed with the choir and it was lovely to hear them again yesterday during Christmas lunch. Well done to Mr Garbett and the choir for keeping us entertained. The decorations across the site are also adding festive cheer and it always feels slightly 'Grinch-ish' to have to take them down on the day we break up for fear of them falling and setting off the alarms over the holidays!

Well done to the Prefect team for organising another excellent Bring-A-Tin day and thank you again for supporting both the school and this wonderful charity.

Please do read the important 'Just-in-Case' letter attached to the bulletin.

Staggered Start to T3

Please see the letter from the Headmistress sent home on Wednesday 15th December. A copy of the staggered start schedule can be found on the back page of this week's bulletin.

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.

The DfE have confirmed that twice-weekly LFD testing for students and staff will continue into the new term from January 2022. We do not plan to change our procedures and LFD testing and reporting will continue to take place on a Sunday and Wednesday.

COVID-19 Test Team

Bring-A-Tin Day

Friday 10th December marked Spalding High School's eighth annual 'Bring a Tin' Christmas Jumper day. As always, we encouraged students to bring in tins of food in support of the local charity 'Agape Care'. Students were also asked to wear their favourite Christmas jumpers on the day, which definitely added to the festive atmosphere!

This year the School community came together and have donated a staggering 2044 items of food, ranging from basic essentials to Christmas treats. The way in which the number of items we donate has increased from year to year indicates just how important this appeal has become within the school community. Every form group stacked their vegetable crate full of tins and packets, which were then sorted and counted by the Prefect Team. As a school, we have donated a fantastic total of over 12,200 items over the past eight years. Everyone who has ever seen the stack of food in the School Hall on Bring-A-Tin day has commented upon how touching and humbling a sight it is. We are pleased and proud to continue supporting this worthy charity and will endeavour to do so for many years to come. The day really has become a highlight of the year for many pupils and staff alike and this year was definitely not an exception.

Thank you for your continued support for this fantastic cause.

The Sixth Form Prefect Team



I was awarded my Gold Award on Thursday the 9th of December at my weekly Guides meeting by the County Commissioner. I got a certificate, a pin and a badge. Very few people get this award as you have to do so much for it and it took me 1 1/2 to 2 years to complete. A long time ago, when I was still a part of brownies (the stage below guides) I also received my Brownie Gold award so I now have two in a row. On Thursday, it was a great surprise as it was the last week at guides before we broke up for Christmas and there was a ceremony held for when I was presented with the award.



Veronika Prots, 7P

7N

Students in 7N have been working with their peer mentors to investigate the life and work of Florence Nightingale. Here are some of the posters that they have made.

Well done 7N.



9S

In 9S, we have held a charity bake sale. This bake sale takes place in our form group, and we all bring in a small donation towards a chosen charity, which will be decided at the end of the year. This bake sale is done on a rota where groups of three bring in cakes, biscuits, cookies etc. every three weeks. On our first week, Mr Wright baked for us. He made salted caramel brownies and a Malteser cheesecake that the form all enjoyed at lunchtime. So far, we have raised around £40. We are hoping to raise much more throughout the year!

Last week 9S had their first form assembly since Year 7. We made our assembly by ourselves and formed the PowerPoint together. The assembly was about weird and wonderful Christmas traditions around the world. This assembly was then presented to the rest of Year 9 last Wednesday. We really enjoyed getting back into the normal swing of things by putting together the assembly.

Lexi Withers 9S

Sixth Form News

Christmas Door Decorating Competition:

Throughout the first couple of weeks of December, the Sixth Form students have been busy decorating their form room doors ready for the judging, which took place this week.

Mrs Haunch and Miss Jeffery went around on Monday lunchtime to decide on their favourite three doors. All of the entries were really creative and have definitely made the Sixth Form area a lot more festive! The two runners-up were 6IW with their "take an ELFiE" innovative door idea and 6EK with a beautiful snow scene. The overall winner of the competition was 6TD whose team effort led to the designing of a really fun and decorative gingerbread house door.

Well done to every form, they were all fantastic!



Sixth Form Christmas Parties:

The Sixth Form Prefect Team organised lunchtime Christmas parties for both Year 12 and 13 this week. The party hats and Christmas music definitely got everyone into the festive spirit! It was great to see everyone singing along and getting involved.



Skeletal Formula Society (Chemistry Club) Christmas Tree:

Over the past couple of weeks the Sixth Form Chemistry Club (The Skeletal Formula Society) have been working on their Christmas Tree made out of clamps and test tubes filled with different coloured liquids. They even made a star out of molymods to put on the top!



Careers Update

Useful links:

The 'Get My First Job' website has a very good section giving an insight into various jobs and careers with useful labour market information such as routes into the occupation, salary and entry requirements: <https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/Discover/OccupationCategories.aspx>

Achievement Assemblies

The students have been very positive about the new style achievement assemblies in school this week and should be proud of their achievements. The certificates awarded are testament to the effort and dedication shown by our students. It is a good idea to keep the certificates in a safe place and reflect upon the skills they represent and how they can be used to evidence progress, attainment and achievement in future applications. Well done to all students.

Terms 1 and 2

It has been a busy two terms since September:

- Each year group has had careers related lessons in the PSHCE programme and these will continue in 2022.
- Year 10 students are trying to find work experience placements for May.
- The majority of Year 11 students have had their personal guidance interview with Mrs Gilman, an independent careers adviser – these will continue after Christmas if students have not yet had their appointment. The students are discussing and making decisions about their progression routes after GCSEs. The students were very positive about their plans when I spoke to them last Friday at the event organised by the sixth form team regarding subject choices at A Level, if the students decide to stay at the High School.
- Year 12 students will be taking part in work experience in 2022 for the first time. They are also starting to research their options post A Levels and adding to their experiences by completing MOOCs and super-curricular activities.
- 75 students in Year 13 have completed and sent off their UCAS applications and 18 students already have offers from all five of their course choices. The speed at which decisions are received depends considerably upon university and course choice. Mrs O'Brien and I and Heads of Department have conducted mock interviews with students who have been interviewed for competitive courses such as healthcare related courses and Oxbridge courses. If any students require or would like a mock interview, they know to ask and we will facilitate this.

Grace Seaton – Year 13

Thank you to Grace who has written this summary of her progression route planning and activity over the last two terms:

This time last year, I was all ready to apply to study Optometry at Cardiff University. However, since then I came to the realisation that business is my passion. My teachers supported me and I applied to study Accountancy, Finance and Business Management. Since then, I have received five conditional offers and have already selected the course at the University of York as my firm choice. During October half-term, I gained work experience at Goldman Sachs with a corporate bond trader – this experience was so interesting and I got to see a trader confirm deals with other firms in Japan and Germany, this gave me a real buzz and am excited for what the future holds!

In the future, I would like to work at J.P. Morgan or Morgan Stanley as a Commodities Non-market Risk Manager or an Equity Trader.

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

Staggered Start

Staff will provide pre-reading or a specific task for students to complete on Tuesday 4th January for the year groups not in school.

SHS staggered start Term 3 January 2022

TUESDAY 4TH JANUARY = Year 7, Year 11 and the Sixth Form

| | | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 8.15-8.55am | Y7 / Y11 / Sixth Form Bus/taxi students Students in these year groups who are not testing should arrive at 8.55am | | | Testing will start at 8.15 by bus group. Students will be directed to either the Sports Hall or School Hall. Students will be sent to form/P1 or P2 as soon as clear from test. |
| Year 7 | 10.15am 7C and 7J | 10.30am 7N and 7P | 10.45am 7S | Into P2 after testing and result. Normal lessons P3 onwards. |
| Year 11 | 11am 11C and 11J | 11.15am 11N and 11P | 11.30am 11S | Into P2/P3 after testing and result. Normal lessons P3 onwards. |
| Sixth Form | 11.45am Surname A - G | 12noon Surname H - R | 12.15pm Surname S - Z | Into P3 after testing and result. Normal lessons P4 onwards. |

WEDNESDAY 5TH JANUARY = Year 8, Year 9, Year 10.

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|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 8.15-8.55am | Y8 / Y9 / Year 10 Bus/taxi students. Students in these year groups who are not testing should arrive at 8.55am | | | Testing will start at 8.15 by bus group. Students will be directed to either the Sports Hall or School Hall. Students will be sent to form/P1 or P2 as soon as clear from test. |
| Year 10 | 10.15am 10C and 10J | 10.30am 10N and 10P | 10.45am 10S | Into P2 after testing and result. Normal lessons P3 onwards. |
| Year 8 | 11am 8C and 8J | 11.15am 8N and 8P | 11.30am 8S | Into P2/P3 after testing and result. Normal lessons P3 onwards. |
| Year 9 | 11.45am 9C and 9J | 12noon 9N and 9P | 12.15pm 9S | Into P3 after testing and result. Normal lessons P4 onwards. |