



# Spalding High School



## Weekly Bulletin 23.09.21

It was glorious this week to hear live music again (see the report from Mr Garbett). As we gradually return to some of the pre-pandemic activities, the School Choir and Chamber Group had their first rehearsals and school fixtures are set to start soon too. Tomorrow we start our 2021/22 fundraising campaign and will be supporting Macmillan Coffee Morning and hope that students and staff get fully involved in this activity too. I would like to reassure parents and students that we continue to re-introduce these activities carefully and cautiously. As you know, we had cause this week to evacuate the School. I would again, like to offer my thanks and praise to students and staff for their maturity and patience and to thank parents for their messages of support following the event.

### **Parental drop off and collection.**

Can we again, politely remind parents not to drop off/collect their children at the school gates and car park areas. Parents should arrange a location away from the School and neighbouring streets where their child can safely walk and meet them. The large area in front of the School is marked by zig zags and "buses only" road markings and should not be used for drop off. We have a number of unused bays in the bicycle racks if students wish to cycle to school.

Thank you

Supporting

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Don't forget your cakes, cookies, brownies and general lovely stuff for this Friday's cake sale for Macmillan.

Homemade or shop bought treats are perfect. Donations please. Cakes will be on sale at break and lunchtime in each year group area.

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Programme**

On Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup>) we sent a letter to all parents/carers and students with information published by the UK Health Security Agency and NHS. The letter contained hyperlinks to their information leaflets; one of which is a parental guide. There are two guides for young people, one aimed at younger students and the other, at older students, together with a guide for what happens after the vaccine. All of the guides can be accessed via the home page of the school website and can be found below too:

For younger students:

[COVID-19 vaccination – A guide for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97427/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

For older students:

[COVID-19 vaccination – a guide for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97427/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

For after the vaccine:

[What to expect after your COVID-19 vaccination – Advice for children and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97427/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

For parents:

[COVID-19 Vaccination programme for children and young people – guidance for parents \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97427/covid-19_vaccination_-_a_guide_for_children_and_young_people.pdf)

### Year 7 commencement of Covid-19 home testing

We have been so impressed with the maturity, confidence and speed of learning of our Year 7s on how to perform correctly a Covid-19 test, that we feel they no longer need a member of staff overseeing them. They can start home testing with the rest of the school community from Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021. We would ask that they have a parent/carer present at home to assist with reporting their result to both the NHS <http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> and to school via their Teams assignment. The assignments are uploaded every Wednesday and Sunday to report their result to school. We request, if possible, that Covid-19 home tests are performed and reported in the morning, but if this is not possible then by 6pm at the latest on the test day.

All students taking part in home testing were given a Covid-19 home test kit yesterday, which contains seven tests, ready to start testing and reporting on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September.

If you have any concerns then please contact the Covid-19 Test Team on [Covid.Testing@Spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Covid.Testing@Spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk).

Thank you.

The Covid-19 Test Team

### School Choir

The Whole School Choir and live singing began again this week with 84 students and staff coming along to Wednesday's first rehearsal back after the pandemic restrictions. The choir sounded fantastic and I would like to encourage more students to come and join us in the Hall on Wednesday lunchtimes. We are now starting to rehearse for a Christmas Concert and although the online virtual concerts were amazing and have provided an everlasting memory, nothing beats live music!

Mr Garbett  
Head of Music

### Maternity Leave

Mrs Neal left us on Monday to start her maternity leave. We would like to wish her a happy and healthy maternity leave and look forward to hearing the news of the new baby in due course. Good luck from us all Mrs Neal!



This week, Year 7 were joined by presenters from the UK's leading study skills company, Learning Performance, who as part of our Covid catch-up programme delivered a series of interactive and motivational workshops, including building confidence and self-esteem, memory techniques, self-reflection and healthy habits for body and mind. I am confident that the strategies from these workshops, cultivated over time, will serve as a powerful intervention.

The workshops were very well received by the students and we are very proud of the way they responded to the presenters. As always, their behaviour and attitude was exemplary and the presenters said they were a joy to work with, commenting specifically on their confidence in asking questions.

*"I really enjoyed the day because I learnt many interesting things. We learnt about stress and memory and what different parts of the brain do."* - Karolina Gren – 7C

We look forward to welcoming Learning Performance back later this month to work with our Year 8 and 9 students on the following dates:

Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> September – Year 8  
Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September – Year 9

We also plan to share a pre-recorded parent workshop with all parents and carers at the end of this month demonstrating practical examples of what Learning Performance have been doing with the students so that you can effectively support your child(ren) at home.

Mr Love  
Assistant Head

## Information from the Department for Education:

### **The Children's Commissioner's The Big Ask...and The Big Answer**

"Earlier this year, The Children's Commissioner asked all children in England to complete a survey, to show the true voice of this generation. The results are in and The Children's Commissioner would like to say thank you. Over half a million children responded, the largest survey of its kind in history, and at a landmark moment for young people growing up in this country.

At a critical time, as we emerge from the pandemic, children have told us how the past year has affected them and what needs to happen now to put them at the heart of the recovery. Despite the sacrifices they have made, the majority of children say they are happy.

Children were united – they told us they want to get back to school, to get on, and do well. To have fulfilling lives. Children cared deeply about their family, their communities, their wellbeing and are an ambitious, excited generation. They want to make a contribution to a better world, a greener world, rooted in fairness of opportunity for everyone. The Children's Commissioner is now making sure children are being heard.

You can read the full [report](#) and use the [resources](#) to share the results with your pupils and students."

## Careers Update

### Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience Opportunities

Over the past academic year, several of our students have taken part in Medic Mentor virtual work experience placements. If students in Years 10-12 are looking for opportunities to gain experience in Medicine, Dentistry, Allied Healthcare or Veterinary Medicine, there are opportunities starting this term. If students wish to apply, there is a cost of £10 per day. I am happy to provide a reference for interested students if they make me aware that they are applying. (Allied Healthcare covers the following job roles: nurses, midwives, paramedics, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, radiographers, dieticians, radiographers, osteopaths, prosthetists, orthotists, speech and language therapists and pharmacists.) <https://medicmentor.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/>

### Year 11 Careers Guidance Appointments

Mrs Gilman, Independent Careers Adviser, will be starting appointments with Year 11 students from next week. Students will be informed in advance of their appointments.

### Alumni Articles (see attachment)

This week's alumni article is written by Niamh Mulley who left the High School in 2020 and is studying Aeronautical Engineering at Loughborough University.

### 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](mailto:Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk)

[Lucy.obrien@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Lucy.obrien@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk)

Mrs Bushell - Careers Leader