

Head of School

Friday 10th February 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

I would like to wish everyone a happy half term. Although it is our last week, we have not stopped with our teaching and learning. Our students have had many opportunities and successes this week. We have supported the National Apprenticeship Week, with Inspire+ and Boston College coming into school to see our Year 10 and 11 students, to discuss their future aspirations and career journeys.

We have had over 100 Year 11 prefects this academic year. Students wear their prefect tie and badges with pride and support the school community throughout the school day. As our Year 11 students move closer to their examinations, we would like them to focus their attention on those important GCSE and BTECs grades. On Thursday, we held their final Prefect Breakfast reward. I would like to thank our students for their hard work and dedication over the past year. They have been incredible! I know they will miss their free reward breakfasts too.



Mr Bamber led a special assembly where 80 of our Year 10 students were newly appointed as Temporary Prefects. These students had to apply through a formal process and were selected based on their excellent attendance and positive attitudes to learning. I look forward to working with our new prefects.

Our Year 11 students are now working towards their exams and it has been a positive week for attending lunchtime interventions sessions which we provide every day. We continue to encourage completing GCSEPod revision and using the revision resources we have provided. To encourage further for Year 11 students, we have launched the Loyalty Card which students will get signed every time they attend a revision class. There are plenty of prizes to be won including a hot chocolate treat to free stationery!

On to sporting events now, and yet again, I am blown away by our devoted students and PE staff. At the weekend, eleven students from Spalding Academy travelled to Stamford to take part in the East Midlands Regional Floor & Vault Competition. The Under 14 A Team (Elle Alsop-Buxton, Whitney Law, Connie Urquhart, Emilia Wilson and Gabrielle Wilson) went into the competition as County Champions after winning the Lincolnshire competition in December. Their stunning routines earned them 3rd place in the competition and only narrowly missing out on 2nd! This is a great achievement for this talented team as it is only their second competition together and means they are 3rd in the whole of the East Midlands region!



The Under 14 B Team (Megan Farrar, Oliwia Kuchta, Aleksa Parfjonova, Jess Roberts and Olivia Wells) had been working incredibly hard in training prior to the competition especially on the vault. Lily Kelks in Year 11 competed on her own as she still wanted to participate in one more competition before she leaves Spalding Academy in the summer. This determination and passion for gymnastics was on show as Lily went all out and absolutely smashed her floor routine and vault. I would like to thank Miss Ringrose for giving up her time to support our students.

Thank you for reminding your child of the timetable swap that took place today. As mentioned in my newsletter last week, we took a decision to swap the Friday and Monday timetable due to the significant disruption our students have faced to their usual Monday timetable as a result of the various public holidays. I am pleased that today was a resounding success with students having an opportunity to catch up with work they would have previously missed out on. Student feedback was extremely positive and many commented how creative this concept was to allow for missed learning time to be optimised in such a beneficial way.

I would like to remind all parents and students that we have a worried@spaldingacademy.gov.uk email address. This is available for students who have any concerns of a safeguarding matter both in or out of school and would like some advice or support – the availability of this is extended into the holiday period where we will be able to respond as soon as we can to signpost support or offer appropriate advice to any student who feels they wish to contact the safeguarding team for any matter of concern.

Our extra-curricular focus for this week is the 'Mindfulness Colouring Club', which is open to all students and takes place in C6 every Thursday lunchtime. The technique has roots in Buddhist meditation, but you don't have to be spiritual, or have any particular beliefs, to try it. Mindfulness colouring aims to help you become calmer and less stressed and to kinder to yourself. Mindfulness works by taking your focus to the present moment and away from other thoughts. The way we think, and what we think about, can affect how we feel and act. Through mindfulness colouring students take time out of their busy week to focus on their well-being.

Finally, as a Trust, across all our schools, we will be responding to and supporting the Syria/Turkey Earthquake Appeal. Due to the timing of half term, we will be responding after half term and will share plans very soon.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe half term. We return to school on Monday 20th February 2023.

Your sincerely,

Mrs Jemma Curson
Head of School, Spalding Academy

For the **latest news**

You can follow Spalding Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

- www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy
- www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy
- www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT