

## Head of School

Friday 24th March 2023

**JPDATE** 

Dear parents/carers and students,

Spring has definitely arrived at Spalding Academy. The sun has been shining, our site is in full bloom with the blossom and daffodils and the students, as ever, are being fantastic.

As usual, we have had a very busy successful week, ensuring our students get the best opportunities to challenge themselves to achieve their best. Our final SLAT Trust Games were held this week and our Year 11 Football Team were going into this tournament with confidence. I am pleased to announce Spalding won two of their games and drew one, so again we are crowned the Year 11 SLAT Games champions! This Inter Trust tournament has been a great success for our students. We cannot wait to defend our titles next year!

On Monday this week, our Year 9 Girls Football Team competed in the County Cup semi-finals against King Edwards VI School. Our girls played with determination and skill and I am pleased to announce they won their game, and they are now in the County Cup Quarter Finals! **Again, Spalding Academy football team are in the top four schools in Lincolnshire.** We wish them all the best for their quarter finals.

On Mothering Sunday, we had some more gymnastics success. Eleven students from Spalding Academy went to Grantham to compete in the Kesteven and Grantham Floor and Vault competition as guests. As always, the students were a credit to the school, very well behaved, looked immaculate and performed beautifully. The Under 14 Novice Team came 2nd as a group and Megan Farrar came 2nd as an individual. The Under 14 Advanced team came 2nd as a group only 0.6 behind 1st place! Emilia Wilson came 3rd as an individual, with Connie Urquart coming 4th and Elle Alsop-Buxton coming 5th. Lily Kelk competed as an individual in the Under 19 Girls category and came 2nd in her final competition for Spalding Academy. Well done to everyone for yet another successful competition.

Over the course of this week, our Year 10 students have been sitting a number of Pre-Public Examinations (PPE) in various subject areas. These PPEs, commonly known as 'mock exams' have taken place in formal exam conditions. It has provided our students an opportunity to experience what is to be expected when they sit their final GCSE examinations next academic year. I would like to express my gratitude to each Year 10 student for the level of focus and commitment they have shown in each exam. The feedback from the invigilators describes our students as exceptional which makes us all very proud!

As our Year 11 get ever closer to their final exams, we continue to support our students and families. On Tuesday evening we hosted our Year 11 exam success evening. The event guided parents and students



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into our top ten tips for exam success. I am really pleased to see such high numbers of students sign up to our Easter revision sessions. In fact, some of our sessions are full! Our Year 11 are determined to succeed in their examination series, and are showing such determination and hard work to achieve their best! Keep this up Year 11.

Also, on Tuesday evening I was invited to support the RAF Cadets awards evening, at the Parish Church. I was so proud to see so many students involved in a local community group. Our students wore their RAF uniform with pride. It was lovely to see so many parents and people form the local community supporting this event.



I am really pleased to announce the return of the Spalding Academy House Music Competition after a wonderful first show last year. The competition will be taking place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 from 5.00pm to 7.30pm in the East Hall. The amount of interest shown in taking part in the competition has increased vastly this year with students from all Year groups wanting to be involved. The event involves each house preparing two performances with judges awarding points for each performance based on confidence, technicality and audience response. The two performance categories are: House Solo Performance (vocal or instrumental) and House Band Performance. The students involved have been working extremely hard preparing their performances during both lunchtime and after school rehearsal sessions. There will be a wide variety of musical styles on show so if you would like to come along and support your house, tickets are FREE and can be collected from either Mr Barrett or Miss Armstrong in the Music department.

I would like to thank everyone who supported the non-uniform day last Friday. As a Trust we raised over £4,000 for Comic Relief and the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal.



Today, the Careers Team continued with our Myth-Busting assemblies for Year 10 as the NHS South Lincolnshire Training Hub came into school and talked about the various careers in primary care within the NHS and the different pathways that can be taken. Prior to the assembly, selected students in Year 10 and 11 attended a workshop where they were encouraged to ask about different jobs and what they actually entailed. They also had a look at the apprenticeship and trainee routes within primary care. With more jobs than our students had considered initially, I think they certainly had their eyes opened to the bigger picture that makes up the NHS and specifically primary care. Another successful afternoon to end the week in Careers!

Finally, we finish Term 4 next week on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 3.15pm. Please be reminded that our start of Term 5 is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 as we have a Staff Training Day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Your sincerely,

**Mrs Jemma Curson** 

Head of School, Spalding Academy

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