

Head of School

Friday 16th June 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

What a fantastic second week we have had. It has been great to see our students so happy in the warmer weather. I have never seen so many ice poles being enjoyed! As the weather looks more unsettled next week, we would like students to come back to school, from Monday 19th June 2023 with their blazers on. We will contact parents again, if anything changes and of course we will monitor the temperature in schools and allow students to remove their blazers if necessary. We will review this on a weekly basis to ensure we maintain our high uniform standard, whilst accommodating the warmer weather.

As we head into the final week of our GCSE examination season, I would like to thank students, parents and staff for their hard work and dedication to our very successful examination season. Our students have had solid examinations for four weeks now, and they certainly deserve to be nearing the end of their journey. With this in mind, we are going to start our transition for our other year groups. From Monday 19th June 2023, our year groups will be introduced to their new Year Leads in their assemblies. Our Pastoral Team are working to share information on their current year groups, so the transition is smooth. Mrs Cousins (current Year 7 Lead) will continue her work with the local primary schools to ensure our new Year 7 students are ready and excited to join Spalding Academy in September 2023. Mrs Cousins has already visited many of our local primary schools to meet our new students. I look forward to meeting them on our Year 6 Induction Day on Friday 30th June 2023.

Your child's new Year Leads are as follows:



Current Year 7 will transition to **Mr Higgins**



Current Year 8 will transition to **Mrs Ward**



Current Year 9 will transition to **Mrs Caress**



Current Year 10 will transition to **Mrs Lammin**



The warmer weather does not stop our sports teams! We took two Year 9 rounders teams (pictured below) to Spalding High School for the yearly Superzone Tournament. The students played exceptionally well and have really improved since Year 8. For the second team this was their first ever tournament. The first teams fielding was incredible as they managed to catch or stump out the whole of the Deepings and University Academy Holbeach teams. All of these students have been dedicated to training sessions and showed excellent teamwork throughout the tournament! Team 1 finished in third place overall and Team 2 finished in seventh place overall.



We also took our Sports Leaders to support the Spalding Tennis Festival which involved eight local Primary Schools at the Spalding Tennis Club. The morning session consisted of our sports leaders teaching small groups, on their own, the basics of tennis. The afternoon session was a competition and each school played against one another. Our leaders had to umpire the games and keep score and they did it superbly.

The organiser of the event was full of praise for our students and commented that Spalding Academy Sports Leaders were the best leaders he's had! And finally, our amazing Cricket team (pictured above) is through the County Finals tournament! This is a great achievement for the team.

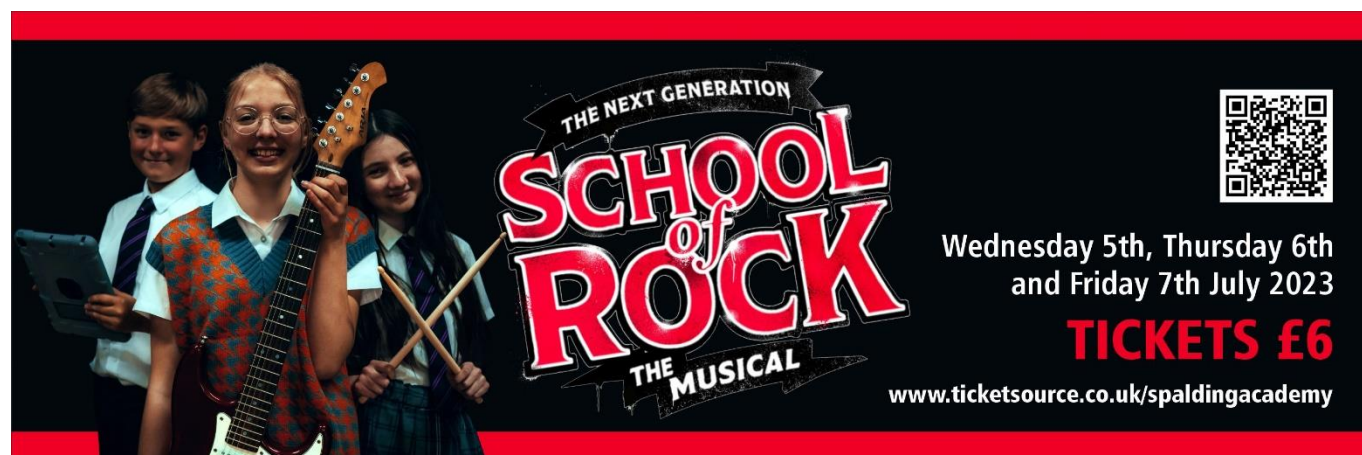
This week we continued with our 'careers myth busting' and welcomed Jo Earth from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) into school to speak to our Year 10 students. This one-hour workshop saw over 60 students volunteer to take part and learn the importance and facts about CV's and covering letters. The lightbulb moment was when they realised that they were potentially going to be competing for a job against as many candidates as there are students in their year group - there were some interesting facial expressions and noises.

These students were then joined by the rest of the cohort for an assembly where Jo Earth highlighted the various pathways within the many different departments and sectors of the Civil Service along with the benefits such as the professional and personal progression and pay.

It was brilliant to see the enthusiasm and engagement of our students and, due to numbers, we ran further sessions after school and during lunch so that all the students that took part in the workshop had the opportunity to design their own CV.

We began the follow-on CV writing sessions with do's and don'ts to re-cap and then brainstormed positive words that describe skills they didn't know they had. To hear them maturely and openly discussing their personalities, skills and goals with each other, thinking about which words describe them best and why, was nothing shy of awesome. It is such a great thing to inspire our students and see their aspirations raise as they begin to believe in themselves and what they can achieve. What a superb opportunity for our students.

There are only a few weeks left to go until our performances of School of Rock and the students and staff have been working incredibly hard. Don't forget to get your tickets early as the Friday performance now only has 40 tickets left, but you can also attend on Wednesday or Thursday. We will be opening up tickets sales to local primary schools next week so don't miss out before it's too late. Tickets can be booked on the following link and are just £6 each - www.ticketsource.co.uk/spaldingacademy



The banner features a photograph of three students in school uniforms: a boy with a tablet, a girl with a guitar, and a girl with a drumstick. The text 'THE NEXT GENERATION' is at the top, 'SCHOOL of ROCK' is in large red letters, and 'THE MUSICAL' is at the bottom. A QR code is in the top right. The dates 'Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July 2023' and 'TICKETS £6' are prominently displayed, along with the website www.ticketsource.co.uk/spaldingacademy.

And finally, I am really pleased to announce we have been shortlisted for **FIVE** Lincolnshire Free Press & Spalding Guardian Education Awards:

- **Secondary Student of the Year:** Kiya Clark, Year 7
- **Inspirational Teacher of the Year:** Mrs Penny Watt, Head of RE
- **Support Staff of the Year:** Mrs Nicky Marks, Attendance & Admissions Officer
- **Environmental Champion:** Spalding Academy Eco-Council and Prom Wardrobe Initiatives
- And of course, we have been nominated for **Secondary School of the Year!**



The winners will be announced during the awards evening in July. All our nominations are already winners in my eyes. Good luck!

I hope you have a great 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