

Head of School

Friday 30th June 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We have had another great week at Spalding Academy. We will continue to ask students to bring in their full uniform for next week. If anything changes and of course we will monitor the temperature in schools and allow students to remove their blazers and ties, if necessary. We will review this on a weekly basis to ensure we maintain our high uniform standard, whilst accommodating the warmer weather.

Next week our students will be performing the musical **'School of Rock'** on Wednesday 5th July, Thursday 6th July and Friday 7th July 2023. All of the school staff and students are really looking forward to this production and from the rehearsals it looks and sounds amazing. If you haven't yet got your tickets, these are just £6 each and available from: 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 drumsticks. The text reads: "THE NEXT GENERATION SCHOOL of ROCK THE MUSICAL". A QR code is in the top right. Below it, the dates "Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July 2023" and "TICKETS £6" are displayed in red. The website www.ticketsource.co.uk/spaldingacademy is at the bottom.

Over last weekend, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award students ventured out to complete their practical element of the award. The DofE is a fun programme of activities designed to build confidence and improve essential skills and attributes for life such as resilience, problem solving, teamwork and communication.

A fantastic group of Year 10 students from across South Lincolnshire Academies Trust completed their qualifying expedition last weekend for their Bronze Award. This two-day trip involved a 10 mile walk each day carrying everything they needed for their expedition. Throughout the weekend the students were assessed on their expedition skills. This included navigation using a map and compass as well as reading the land around them, camp craft skills and the safe use of a stove to cook their evening meals.

Miss Gemma Sanderson, The Duke of Edinburgh's Lead said *"The students all did exceptionally well in the warm conditions and should be very proud of themselves. All groups have successfully passed their expedition section after demonstrating some excellent navigation and camp craft skills."*

To achieve the Bronze Award, students have to complete four sections. Three of these are completed independently over a period of three or six months, then the fourth of which is the expedition section. The independent sections involve volunteering to support a local charity or organisation, learning a new skill and taking part in a physical activity.

For Year 9 students who are interested in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, they will be given more information about signing up at the end of the school year. This is such a worthwhile experience for our students. I would thank all our staff who supported our students over the weekend.

On Tuesday evening, we celebrated the end of the examination season with our Year 11 Celebration Prom. From tractors to motorbikes, our students' modes of transport were amazing and really made their arrival at Springfields Events & Conference Centre special. We had a huge number of spectators from the local community too. The students had their awards given out and danced the night away. I am so proud of all our students who attended, as their behaviour was impeccable. I cannot wait to see all the photos and here is a teaser...!



Today we had the pleasure of having 300 excited Year 6 students on our school site. The Year 6 students used our Transition Day opportunity to make new friends, become familiar with our school site and standards and ask us a thousand questions! We all had a successful day and the students left the school site very positive and looking forward to joining our school community in September 2023. We have launched our Year 6 transition video for parents/carers and students on our website. If you have any questions about transition please email transition@spaldingacademy.org.uk to contact our transition team.

Finally, I am really pleased to announce that Spalding Academy have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year moving up from Bronze attained last academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.



Our sporting achievements this year include:

- Widest extra-curricular timetable ever
- Overall SLAT Games (Football and Netball) winners
- Year 7 Netball team league winners
- Year 9 Boys and U16 Girls Football County Cup semi-finalist
- U16 Gymnastics overall 1st Lincolnshire Floor and Vault also coming 3rd in Regionals
- SEND Boccia tournament winners
- Year 7 students took part in the first ever Transition Kin Ball Festival
- Took part in Elite 11 at Boston College for careers aspiration
- Year 6 taking part in School Games Summer Pentathlon and Transition Rounders Festival
- Year 9 Sports Leaders completing Level 2 Sports leaders award including helping Primary Football and Tennis festivals as well as Transition day - also doing volunteer work for Inspire+ Holiday Activities and Food programme
- Students qualifying for County Athletics teams
- Inter-house competitions (Cross Country, Dodgeball, Rounders, Football and Sports Day)
- Return of 11-a-side Rugby fixtures and Rugby 7's tournaments
- Girls small sided cricket team qualifying for county finals and taking part in indoor cricket
- First ever 8-a-side softball cricket tournament hosted at Spalding Academy

We are extremely proud of our students for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including attending extracurricular clubs, representing the school in competitions and teams and our very successful Sports Leaders Programme. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

Thank you to the PE Department and all that have made this year such a success. We look forward to applying once again in 2024!

What an incredible week of achievements!

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jemma Curson'.

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