

Head of School

Friday 7th June 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Welcome back to our final school term of this academic year. Our first week back to school has been as busy as always!

Students have returned to school looking even smarter than ever. As the weather starts to warm up, we will ensure students can remove their blazers during the school day. We will make this decision on a daily basis, so for now students must continue to wear their school blazers.

I am sure our Year 11 students appreciated the half term break as they have continued to sit their formal examinations over the course of this week. I would like to thank all Year 11 parents/carers for continuing to support their child arriving prepared and on time. The crammers and support from teaching staff is still available for students as per their exam timetable. In addition to this, I would like to remind parents/carers and students that all school resources are still available for students should they require to access them. For example, our safeguarding team and careers department if any further advice or support is needed.

Tickets for our end of year musical production of **'The Stage'** went on general sale earlier this week and nearly 300 tickets have already been purchased – thank you to everyone for your support so far. There will be three evening performances on Wednesday 3rd July, Thursday 4th July and Friday 5th July 2024 and you advised to book early as our events last year sold out in advance. When you book, you can select your preferred seats. Further information about the production plus the link for where you can purchase tickets is available here: www.spaldingacademy.org.uk/book-tickets-for-the-stage



SPALDING ACADEMY PRESENTS

THE STAGE

Fighting for the future of theatre since 1880

An end of year showcase with the best of musical theatre featuring drama, song and dance.

Wednesday 3rd July, Thursday 4th July and Friday 5th July 2024

Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/spaldingacademy

One of the House competitions in the school calendar is our annual Sports Day on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at the Princess Royal Sports Arena in Boston. As in previous years, if your child is chosen to represent their House for the Sports Day, you will receive details via ParentMail with a proforma to complete to confirm you are happy for them to attend and represent their House team. In order to select participants for each House, students will be selected based on their scores/times achieved in PE lessons and the weekly after-school athletics club. I will provide further updates regarding the upcoming Sports Day in subsequent newsletters.

I would like to inform you about an important new safety measure we are implementing this term to enhance the health and safety of our students and maintain our positive school community. Starting this term, we will be introducing handheld metal scanners, which is now a common approach in many local and national schools. The purpose of the handheld scanners are for detection and deterrent, and these additions will further support our Behaviour Policy, in line with creating a safe environment. This decision has been made to further ensure the safety and security of all students and staff.

Listed below are the key reasons for this initiative:

- **Enhanced Security:** The handheld scanners will help us detect and prevent the presence of any prohibited or dangerous items on school grounds.
- **Preventive Measure:** This proactive step aims to deter any potential banned items and ensure a safe learning environment for everyone.
- **Student Safety:** Our primary concern is for the well-being of our students. These scanners are part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure and supportive school atmosphere.

This approach is supported by the Department for Education (DfE), as outlined in the [Searching, Screening and Confiscation document](#), where it states: *“A senior member of staff may use a metal detector/scanner to assist with a student search for any banned or prohibited items. Health and Safety legislation requires a school to be managed in a way which does not expose students or staff to risks to their safety. Therefore, the metal detector/scanner will be used at the discretion of the school when searching a student for any banned or prohibited items. Please note that if a student refuses to be screened, parents/carers will be contacted and this may result in the student being refused admission into the school building on the grounds of safety.”*

We believe that these measures will contribute positively to our school community and enhance our school safety. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement this new safety procedure, as we believe that this measure will contribute positively to our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school, via your Pastoral Year Lead.

As the national General Election approaches, we are excited to announce a unique and educational opportunity for our students - a Trust-wide election! This initiative is designed to help our students understand the democratic process and the importance of civic engagement. Our Trust election will mirror the national election, allowing students to experience the excitement and responsibility of voting. Our Trust Sixth Form students have been allocated a political party where they will present and engage in discussions with our students. Our students will then cast their votes in a simulated election on Thursday 4th July 2024. This hands-on experience aims to foster a sense of citizenship and awareness of the democratic process. We encourage parents/carers to discuss the election process at home and share your voting experiences with your children. Your engagement will reinforce the lessons learned at school and show the importance of being an informed and active citizen.

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