

Head of School

Friday 13th December 2024

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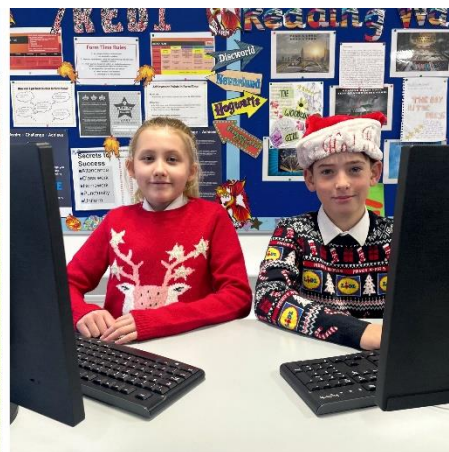
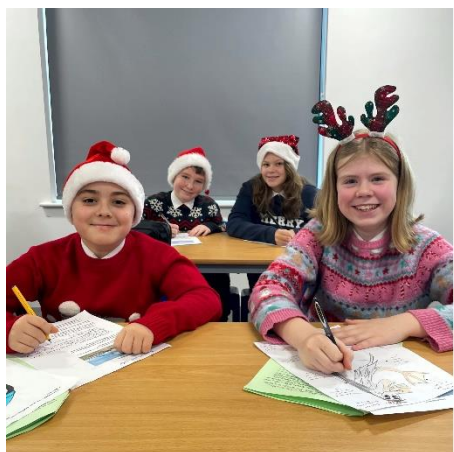
Dear parents/carers and students,

As I think about the last term, there has been so much to celebrate at Spalding Academy. When I write my newsletter each week, I am always so proud of the incredible achievements and opportunities our students have.

As we approach the end of Term 2, we have certainly been busy with our usual achievements and supporting our local community at a time of year, when a little extra is always needed and appreciated. As we all know Christmas is a time of joy and happiness, our second day of Christmas dinners was very popular and tasty as ever. It was great to see all of the students enjoying their dinner together with their peers.

We recognise as a school, we must support others in our local community who may need an extra kind hand at this time of year. All of our form groups have been busy collecting Christmas food hampers to donate to our local foodbank. Our students and their families have gone above and beyond for our local communities. Thank you to everyone.

On Thursday, students were invited to wear a Christmas item to school in aid of Save the Children. It was great to see so many of our students taking part in this and helping to raise money for this worthwhile charity. Across the Trust, we raised an impressive amount, making a significant impact on the lives of many children. We will announce the total amount raised next week.



Our staff team have been busy supporting our 'Just Giving Tree'. The appeal makes a huge difference to struggling families across South Holland, ensuring children who wouldn't get a present have something to open on Christmas Day. We feel we can make a difference to our local families. The Spalding Academy staff have been so generous this year. The number of presents collected is huge and the gifts are amazing! I would like to thank Miss Fuller for organising this charity event and co-ordinating the gifts.

Last weekend, eleven of our gymnasts went to compete in the Lincolnshire Schools Floor & Vault Competition held in Grantham. Well done to Oliwia Kuchta and Mollie Bennett who came first in their categories. Liberty Moore, Emily Turner and Zachariah Spies who came second and Monika Jakovlevaite, Kristella Abolina, Austeja Samkute and Emilia Wilson who came third. Finally, well done to the Under 14 girls (Connie Hammond, Monika Jakovlevaite, Emily Turner, Kristella Abolina and Austeja Samkute) who came second in the team event and the Under 14 Mixed team (Mollie Bennett, Oliwia Kuchta, Liberty Moore, Zachariah Spies and Megan Farrar) who came first and becoming the Lincolnshire Champions!



Two of our trampolining students were also representing Spalding Academy, when Will Genever in Year 7 and Karolina Uzpelke in Year 10 travelled to Hinckley to take part in the first round of the East Midlands Schools Regional Trampoline Championships. Both students executed their routines beautifully, with Karolina finishing in a superb 10th position standing her in good stead as she moves through the year groups and Will taking to the podium with 1st position and the title 'Regional Champion'. The next competition for Will is the Zonal championships in January 2025 where he will compete for a space in the Regional Finals, we wish him the very best of luck! This is the first year we have entered this prestigious competition and we look forward to more students entering next year as trampolining continues to grow within the school.

Last week we also had some of our students in Year 11 take part in the Elite 11 competition, which was held at Boston College. They did tremendously well and were determined to get the best possible scores they could. All students proudly represented Spalding Academy, showed great sportsmanship and keep their enthusiasm high all day by supporting one another during each activity.

This week we have continued to be busy with lunchtime and after school clubs. I really enjoyed listening to the students in the debate club, seeing so many students engaged in their performing arts, music and Year 11 continuing to attend intervention. We have had sports fixtures, in futsal and county cup football competitions. Well done to our hockey team who won 8-0 on Tuesday evening.

Thank you to all of the Year 11 students for their conscientious approach to their Pre-Public Examinations throughout these last few weeks. There has been endless independent revision undertaken, additional intervention classes attended and a high usage of GCSEPod throughout this period. Students have been well supported and their conduct has been excellent, PPE's continue next week with Art. We have designed the PPE's to take place before the Christmas holiday period so students can then enjoy their break with their families and friends and not worrying about upcoming examinations. The results for these will be in January 2025.

Also, this week we have been reminding students how to remain safe over the Christmas period. This has included highlighting our worried@spaldingacademy.org.uk, the school email address where students can contact a member of the safeguarding team if they have a safety concern. During the weekends and holiday period staff will endeavour to respond when they are available to. In addition to this, we have added a list of contact numbers to our website where students can access further specialist support and guidance, including the emergency services.

In addition to this school email support, please be reminded that the national support service 'Kooth' offer a 24/7 service for students who are struggling with their mental health. This service is supported by trained professionals who can offer specialist advice and support to all children in a non-judgemental forum. We will be highlighting Kooth to students in assemblies and tutor time throughout next week to enable all of our young people to understand where to access support if needed. All details for this service will also be available on the safeguarding pages of our school website.



Whatever's on your mind during the Christmas holiday, we're here to listen

Free, anonymous and safe support for children and young people aged between 11 and 18 in Lincolnshire

Kooth.com



24th December	(Christmas Eve)	12pm – 8pm
25th December	(Christmas Day)	4pm – 8pm
26th December	(Boxing Day)	12pm – 8pm
31st December	(New Years Eve)	12pm – 8pm
1st January	(New Years Day)	4pm – 8pm

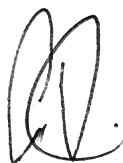
Other days over the holiday period will follow our usual live chat hours of 12pm – 10pm on weekdays and 6pm – 10pm on weekends.

It is incredibly important as we head towards the end of term to maintain high attendance. As we say to all of our students that every lesson counts as we continue to deliver our curriculum.

Finally, just a polite reminder that we break up on at 3.15pm on Thursday 19th December 2024. Please remember all year groups return to school on Monday 6th January 2025.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,



Mr Glenn Martin

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