

Head of School

Friday 7th March 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We have had another fabulous week with many student opportunities and successes to be celebrated.

We continue to promote and encourage Year 11 students to complete as much revision as possible to maximise the time left at school, remember the more loyalty cards completed the more prizes that can won by attending the intervention sessions!

To help prepare the Year 11 students from Spalding Academy who have applied to the Sixth Form at Bourne Academy, we arranged two separate trips to the SLAT Sixth Form in February and March 2025. With the summer exams around the corner, this has helped our Year 11 students plan ahead and be better prepared for when they start in September. They had a guided tour of Bourne Academy, visiting subject classrooms, meeting staff and hearing from former Spalding Academy students who are now at Sixth Form, as well as having the opportunity to ask any questions throughout the day. Over 100 students from Spalding Academy have now applied to the SLAT Sixth Form this year and they will be studying a wide range of subjects ranging from Art & Design to Sociology, History to Sport & Physical Activity, Health & Social Care to Mathematics, English Literature to Physics and Business to Performing Arts.

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday, where our Year 7 students were able to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book, which includes many classics, young adults fiction, graphic novels and biographies. It was optional for students to participate in, and we were impressed there were so many amazing costumes with lots of thought, effort and imagination gone into them. To reward our students for taking part, we held a 'Best Costume' competition in the Library where there were gift voucher prizes and certificates to the winners. It was very difficult choose a winner!

Congratulations to the following students and also everyone who took part.

- First place - Joseph Larnar
- Runner-up - Freddi Bird
- Runner-up - Amelia Slater

Look out for more photos on our website next week.



On Tuesday, we had SALAD Day which stands for 'Speaking and Listening Activity Day'. This is where all of the lessons in the day for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 involved little to no writing to encourage students to speak and listen. Normally, the classrooms around school are quiet and calm, but the decibels were notched up as we encouraged students to learn differently for the whole day. There was debating, presenting, group discussion, teamwork activities and much more. There have been some fantastic lessons planned by teaching staff across all subjects to incorporate speaking and listening in the classroom.

We have been celebrating International Women's Day, which will be celebrated across the world on Saturday 8th March 2025. In school we have focused on this topic during assemblies this week and will be part of our SMSC sessions (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education) next week. By educating our students on the history and global issues around women's rights, we can help empower the next generation and also change attitudes around misogyny as we work towards a world with gender equality.

On Friday lunchtime, we held our annual Science Fair, where our Science Club invited students from the rest of the school to come and try out some of the fun experiments that they have carried out this year. These are all experiments that are unlikely to be seen in normal Science lessons. The event was very popular, with students particularly enjoying setting some of their teachers on fire (with methane bubbles)! Students were also able to learn about how fireworks get their colour, how to make a scribble bot and how chemicals are used to create different fragrances. The fair forms part of our celebration of science for British Science Week 2025.

At Spalding Academy, we have high standards and expectations of our students to come to school prepared and ready to learn, whilst maximising every opportunity. Students are expected to have the basic equipment which is checked each morning by the form tutor (black pen, red pen, purple pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator, strike card and out of lesson card). We would appreciate your support. We are also reminding students of the importance of maximising the opportunities provided and preparing for life beyond school. Every second in lesson counts towards their goal of achieving high academic progress which we are very proud of.

It is always important to continually remind our students and parents of the wide platform of safeguarding support offered at all of our Trust schools. We widely highlight and signpost supportive strategies to enable students know where to access support and contacts for safeguarding and mental health concerns. Our school-based email worried@spaldingacademy.org.uk is accessible at all times for students and I would also like to remind parents that all schools have a support room SS2. SS2 is offered to students that may need additional space and time out of lessons, this is considered on a case by case arrangement. There is also a comprehensive list of support services to be signposted to in order to access external specialist services, these can all be found on the school website – www.gilesacademy.co.uk/safeguarding. One important service to highlight is Kooth www.kooth.com, which is a service we often promote to our young people. It is an online support and counselling service which is available 24 hours 7 days a week. It is a platform which is easily accessible to students and run by professionals to provide a free and safe space to communicate concerns and worries by name or anonymously.



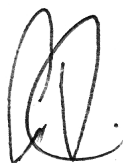
I would like to inform parents/carers that on Friday 21st March 2025, it is Comic Relief / Red Nose Day and we will traditionally hold a non-uniform day at the school. A letter will be sent out next week to remind parents/carers about the non-uniform clothing that can be worn on this day. This year we would like students and staff to **wear something red** to support the event.

A reminder that next week on Wednesday 12th March 2025, we are hosting two recruitment events at Spalding Academy for anyone who is interested in becoming a Teaching Assistant or wants to know more about the Initial Teaching Training qualification now available via South Lincolnshire Academies Trust. These are going to be popular events as more and more people want to start and progress by working in our Trust. Details of the events are included at the end of the update and you can also visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.

Finally, this week it has been Year 6 Offer Day and I am extremely proud to communicate that once again, Spalding Academy will be oversubscribed in Year 7 with a rapidly increasing waiting list. The rapid growth of the popularity in the local community is testament to the school's and South Lincolnshire Academies Trust sustained success. We have already been making plans to welcome these new students to the school and this week they will all be receiving their New Student Welcome Pack.

I hope you have all have a fantastic 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.x.com/SpaldingSLAT



**Join the
no 1 ranked**

Multi Academy
Trust (MAT) in the
East Midlands area

Become a Teaching Assistant

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 • 5.30pm to 7.00pm

Becoming a Teaching Assistant is a highly rewarding and valued job at South Lincolnshire Academies Trust. Due to expansion, we are looking to recruit even more Teaching Assistants to join our SEN team.

You can drop-in anytime between 5.30pm to 7.00pm for the opportunity to speak to our staff for more information about the role and how it can also further develop your career in our Trust. You can also find out more about the Teaching Assistant Responsibility allowance (TAR) which can be worth up to £2,000 for suitable candidates.

This event is for those who are interested in working at ANY of our Trust schools (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy).

To attend, please visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.

We also have vacancies advertised for Teaching Assistants on this website so you can even apply today.



Spalding Academy, Neville Avenue, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2EJ
www.slat.org.uk/vacancies



TRAIN TO TEACH WITH
LINCOLNSHIRE ITT



Get Into Teaching

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 • 5.30pm to 7.00pm

South Lincolnshire Academies Trust (SLAT) are now one of the **Lead Partners for Lincolnshire ITT** and can talk to you about starting your teaching journey with us. At this 'Get Into Teaching' event, which will be held at Spalding Academy, you will discover how you can gain a recognised teaching qualification with our one-year school centred Initial Teacher Training.

If any of the following applies to you, you will benefit from attending:

- Recently gained a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying A-levels or Level 3 BTECs and wanting to get into teaching
- Wanting to change career and become a teacher
- Working in a non-teaching role within a school or college environment and wanting to get into teaching

You could train either at the schools in our highly successful Trust (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy) or at a variety of other secondary schools in the Lincolnshire, Rutland and Peterborough areas.

This event starts at 5.30pm where there will be a presentation then the opportunity to speak to staff informally. You will learn about the different training pathways, entry requirements and details about student finances. We will cover school placements, the course content, support available plus timescales. We can also provide help so you can successfully apply.

To attend, please visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.



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South Lincolnshire
Academies Trust

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www.slat.org.uk/vacancies