

# Head of School

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

On Thursday, our Year 9 have had 'Prison Me No Way' deliver a full day of engaging workshops and activities. Our Year 9 students had a valuable insight into what it would be like to go to prison, the penalties and consequences that would affect them for the rest of their life and most importantly, how to not make the wrong choices focusing on crime prevention. They provided a full day of engaging workshops and activities, which are led by retired Prison Officers, Youth Engagement Officers, ex-offenders and volunteers from charities and other organisations. All of these people were able to pass on their first-hand experiences and real-life knowledge so students know exactly what it is like. This forms part of our Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) programme which is an integral part of our curriculum offer at Spalding Academy.



Last Saturday, Mr Horner, Teacher of Performing Arts, had the pleasure of taking 14 students to the Peterborough Theatre Festival to compete against other schools in the area. The students took part in creating performances from three different categories within their age range; monologues, duologues and a group acting piece. The students were incredible during the day bringing positivity and energy to the festival.

The effort from all students to attend school every day must be highlighted this week as our whole school attendance continues to be above the national average. We have been rewarding students that have 100% attendance with a cookie and a drink.

This week we have focused on National Careers Week. Throughout the week members of staff have shared their career journey with the students. Sharing this information with students has sparked discussion about careers and opportunities that are available.

The Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme at Spalding Academy is designed to support students' transition to the next stage of their careers. The school offers impartial advice through various activities including talks, visits, information evenings and individual interviews. The Careers team collaborate closely with local employers to provide an annual Careers Fair and a variety of enterprise challenges ensuring students develop essential employability skills. We have embedded weekly 'Job of the Week' presentations to help students in all Year groups consider different careers. Students in Year 11 and at the SLAT Sixth Form are provided with additional support to explore career paths, further education and employment opportunities. There are work experience opportunities for SLAT Sixth Form students and they are also successfully guided towards diverse destinations including university placements (for approximately two thirds of Year 13 students each year), apprenticeships and direct entry into employment. This tailored approach ensures that each student receives personalised advice, aligning their aspirations with suitable Post-16 and Post-18 options. For further information, please see the Careers section on the school website ([www.spaldingacademy.org.uk/careers](http://www.spaldingacademy.org.uk/careers)) or contact Mrs Barber, Associate Director for Post 16 & Careers by emailing [BarberL@bourneacademy.org](mailto:BarberL@bourneacademy.org) if you have any queries.

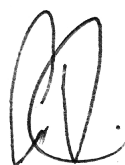
Our Year 8 Parents Evening will be taking place online on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm and parents are required to book online appointments in advance. We encourage all parents to participate so they can speak to subject teachers about student progress, the interventions that could benefit them and how parents can support students.

Then on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025, from 6.30pm we have got our Exam Success Evening for Year 11 parents/carers. We encourage you to sign up and attend this crucial opportunity for final advice and support. Remaining with examinations, I would like to remind parents and carers that we will be hosting our Easter Revision sessions during the Easter break for our Year 11 students. The holiday sessions form an additional mechanism of support and I am pleased to see how many students have signed up for the sessions.

Finally, we will be having a special whole school non-uniform day next Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 to raise funds for Comic Relief / Red Nose Day. Students will be allowed to wear non-uniform **incorporating red items of clothing** in support of Comic Relief. However, we do ask for students to observe the list of dress restrictions as outlined in the letter sent to all parents this week. If students do not wish to take part they will need to wear full school uniform as per normal.

I hope you have all have a fantastic weekend.

Kindest regards,



**Mr Glenn Martin**

Head of School, Spalding Academy

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