



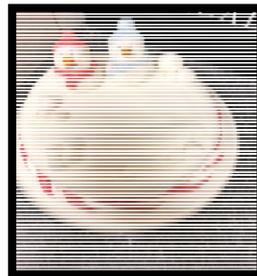
Newsletter

Issue 23
December 2020

Remembrance Displays



Children in Need



Celebration Cakes



Hampers for the Food bank.

Giving Tree

Save the Children Appeal.



Just some of the wonderful things going on in our school.



Head Teacher's Message



Welcome to our Autumn Term newsletter.

It has been a long and incredibly busy term as you will have seen from the regular communication and letters shared by the school. As we approach the end of term and our thoughts turn to preparing for the festive season, it is a fitting time to reflect on the many successes and achievements we have celebrated since the start of the academic year as a school community and remind ourselves as to what makes Spalding Academy such a wonderful school. Our students continue to make us proud every day and in every way in the continued hard work and dedication they illustrate in their lessons and online where necessary, as we continue to move through this time where the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on all our lives.

Despite the current challenging times we have found ourselves in, I am sure you will agree that the variety of events Spalding Academy has still been involved in that are shared in this newsletter are truly impressive. There have been many individual and group student achievements and this edition is again packed full of events and activities to celebrate.

One of the main questions I am currently asked by the Key Stage 4 students is "what will happen to the summer exams" and on Thursday 03 December we woke to the news of the DFE and Government initial plans for summer examinations 2021. In response I have already written to all Key Stage 4 parents / carers and students and we have also spoken to all our Year 11 students to share what is known about the changes and how we can and will support our learners to keep them at the front of the race for success this year.

By now you all may have seen the government's announcement about the package of measures to address the loss of learning and teaching this year, and the contingency plans for the future summer 2021 exams, but if not the details can be accessed via the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-next-summer-exams?_cldee=ZW5xdWlyYWVzQGdsZWVklmXpbmNzLnNjaC51aw%3d%3d&recipientid=contact-d5571c5d08b1e4118e08d89d67633d90-edf7146631834d1385e1cd828a44a62a&esid=daa77817-5035-eb11-a813-000d3a49daf7

In brief these new measures for GCSE include:

- More generous grading than usual, in line with 2020;
- Students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, to help them focus their revision;
- Exam aids – like formula sheets – provided in some exams to give students more confidence and reduce the amount of information they need to memorise;
- Contingency exams – held shortly after the main exam series – so students can sit a paper if they miss all their assessments in a subject because of illness or self-isolation.

The new measures complement the existing changes for next summer which include:

- reduced content in many subjects;
- a delay to the start of exams and changes to the timetable.

For the BTEC subjects, all we know at this moment is that there will also be adaptations to vocational and technical qualifications to make sure there's parity with general qualifications.

Additionally, you might like to know that the DFE has also announced that test and exam results won't be included in performance tables this year, with the performance tables being replaced by attendance information, student destinations and the subjects taken at Key Stage 4.

Head Teacher's Message

For our Year 11 learners, their PPE (mock) examinations will continue, starting in January and these exams will be set and graded in line with what we know of the new national expectations, i.e. with some level of prompts and whole school standardised marking to support these learners and it is still going to be important for students to prepare for these exams in advance, which we have urged them to do.

As well as a continued focus on learning during this term at Spalding Academy, we feel that it has been important to also support all the charitable events. We see this as one of the things that makes Spalding Academy special. Our charity successes can be seen in this newsletter and include:

- **The Poppy Appeal:**

Although we couldn't support Remembrance Day in our usual high-profile way, we were able to show our support by setting up our Just Giving page, which successfully raised around £500.

- **Children in Need:**

Although it has not been possible to have a non-uniform day due to the COVID Health and Safety arrangements in school because we need to be able to see each student's tie and the Year Group identity, many of us supported this event by wearing Pudsey Bear ears and wacky socks or tights!

- **Just Giving Tree:**

This new appeal for our school has been hugely successful, with many people opting to bring in gifts; toys or make donations for local children, working with local newspaper 'The Voice' at a time when local need is greater than normal.

- **The Food Bank Appeal:**

The support shown for this appeal has been overwhelming, with many parents / carers; staff and students bringing in items that will go to support local families over the Christmas period.

- **Save The Children:**

Each December our schools would usually support this charity in some way and this year we have shown our support by asking staff at Spalding Academy to wear a Christmas jumper on Monday 14 December. Additionally, this year we have invited all staff and all students in all year groups to participate in supporting this charity by wearing Christmas Tights or Socks. The Just Giving page for this event is still open if you would like to donate, with all contributions this year being voluntary:

[SLAT South Lincolnshire Academy Trust is fundraising for Save the Children \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com)

I would also like to take the time to thank Buster & Punch, an exclusive lifestyle company who have an office based in Stamford, for their generous donation of £500 to support local families through the Just Giving Tree; the Food Bank appeal and our own disadvantaged student strategy. It is our ever-developing links to local companies that is so important to our school, both for charity support and for the vital careers support for all our learners.

It is fantastic that we can support so many local and national charities at this challenging time and I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our staff; parents / carers and students ... you are amazing ... thank you to you all!

All of our students continue to be a joy to work with throughout this term and I would like to thank them for all their hard work, dedication and the maturity they have shown this term as we have been dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for your support over this past term and for believing in our school vision to continue to provide an exceptional education for your child.

I wish you peace, joy and happiness this Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to welcoming all of our students and staff back in 2021!

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lucy Conley
SLATrust Executive Headteacher

School News

Spalding Academy – Remembers

Spalding Academy once again have been delighted to support Remembrance Day. All staff and students respected the moments silence at 11.00am impeccably. Spalding Academy has also raised over £350.00 for The Royal British Legion via a Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/spalding-academy>

Students were also invited to attend school in their Cadet's uniform. Students Aaron Clark, Bobby England and Davis Bordelo all attended school in their Army Cadets uniform with Ashton Grooby attending in his Fire Cadets uniform. These students can be seen in the picture with History Teacher and Head of House Jess Forbes, Assistant Headteacher Ian Billinghamurst and Director of Staff Development Lindsay Bamber with a Poppy wreath created by Spalding Academy's Art Department and part of the annual display created by Jess Forbes to commemorate Remembrance Day at Spalding Academy.



This year the remembrance display for all the soldiers that have fallen fighting for their country has been produced in a Covid Safe way. With students work from this year and previous years all coming together to create a large display in the West entrance of the school. With links to the local area by having the names of those that fell from WWI Vietnam from Spalding named on the large poppy below the horse and family members of the Spalding team shown for their efforts in different wars including the storming of the Normandy beaches.

Christmas Hampers for the Food bank.

In the run up to Christmas at Spalding Academy there would usually be a flurry of activity in the tutor groups whereby students would create a decorated hamper-style box, and fill it with goodies. Although the creative aspect of this charitable donation cannot take place this year we have still been able to put together a plan alongside a COVID-secure process to accept kind donations from staff and students for the local Agape Food Bank.

All hampers will be distributed to the local community facing hardship this Christmas and hopefully we can help to put a smile on people's faces less fortunate than ourselves.

Mrs Shepherd.



£346 was raised by staff and students for Save the Children's 'Christmas jumper day' campaign



School News

Christmas Gift Tree

As most of you will know, many children in our local community have had an exceptionally hard year and Christmas could be a very difficult and lonely time for some. Being a school that cares about the wellbeing of our students and the children in our community, we wanted to do something about this. We have therefore decided to take part in a local charity initiative run by 'The Voice' newspaper that will see Christmas presents get to children that need them, who are aged between 3 and 14 in our local area (South Holland and Boston Children's Services). This means our school Christmas tree is decorated with (not only baubles and tinsel) but with labels too! Staff can take a label and buy a gift for a girl or a boy aged between 3-14. These gifts will be taken on the last week of term and given to South Holland and Boston Children's services.

Daisy Bland said, 'We are delighted to be able to support such a worthwhile project which benefits so many children in the local area. It's a pleasure to work with 'The Voice' on this initiative and our staff have been very keen to get involved. We only launched the project with staff on Wednesday and already, over half of the tags have been taken. Staff have really embraced the Christmas spirit and we are all looking forward to bringing some joy to little faces on Christmas Day'.

Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Bland.



Thank you to everyone who has helped to generously put a smile on children's faces on Christmas Day.

Children In Need

Spalding Academy has again been delighted to support Children In Need. Students and staff have given generously and raised £343 on our Just Giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/spalding-academy-children-in-need-2020> and were invited to wear wacky socks and Pudsey Headwear.

A selection of our wonderful students and staff can be seen in the picture.

Pictured are Year 7 students Danielle Dixey, Amelia Wywrot, Zara Stafford, Luke Orton, Jessica Gildon and Ida Krzemnska, Year 9 students Sienna Moon, Naomi Warren and Millie Lawrence joined by Executive Deputy Headteacher Brett Sinclair, Assistant Headteachers Daisy Bland and Ian Billinghamurst and Operations and Systems Manager Alex Roffe.



School News

Year 7 News

Since September Year 7 have now amassed 246,786 Achievement Points, and their attendance is a brilliant 96.8%. The first term nerves have now gone, and they have settled into life at Spalding Academy really well.

It has been a busy term for Year 7. They have settled into their new timetables and have now been set for PE lessons based on ability. They have also completed a PASS survey which helps us to understand how they feel about the different aspects of school life. This enables us to understand how best to support the students in the year group.

They also had their first Children in Need day, with many arriving at school with wacky socks and tights, and contributed towards the fantastic sum raised by the school. The first of our reports for this academic year are now being compiled, so parents will be getting an indication of progress and attitude to learning in each subject very shortly.

Mrs Cousins and Mr Keal.

Year 8 News

Year 8 have had a great second term and have taken to the new way of education well. They have been able to focus, keep positive and focused within their lessons and have mostly been very excited at the concept of actually partaking in PE. There have been many students who have been consistently receiving Achievement Points, who should be very proud of themselves. The leader board for form achievements changes weekly and there is a strong competitive edge from all forms. Attendance is good despite current circumstances and recently 123 students received a reward for having 100% attendance in Term 1. Keep up the hard work Year 8, you are doing an amazing job!

Merry Christmas from Miss Forbes, Mrs Ditchburn and Mrs Bamber

Year 9 News

The time is flying by quicker and quicker as we reach the end of this term. The Year 9 team have loved working with the Year 9s and will miss them over the Christmas break.

Christmas gives us a lot to look forward to and the New Year offers a chance to press reset on ourselves. Our behaviours, habits and outlook can all be changed with a more determined and ambitious mind-set.

You are a very capable, sharp and smart year group. As they say 'You have to walk the valleys to appreciate the view from the peaks' so why not modify the aspects of yourself you want to improve in. By this I mean small changes to fix your most pressing issues. If you are always late – wake up earlier. If you can be very impulsive with your calling out or fidgeting – calm yourself down and think before you act. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. If we try to gradually improve ourselves everyday, imagine where we could be when we are older!

I want you to have a think about your aims and come up with a goal to meet that aim. Check you are on the path to achieve it every day, week and month to smash it.

My own aims for you all is to make sure uniform is always tidy so we can lower our strikes and ask teachers to sign your Aspire Cards whenever you feel you have met one of the 6 targets. On another note, Year 9 earned a total of 602 best in lessons for the week for 16-20th November, this is 200 less than the previous week.

The Year 9 boys have been diligent with the signing of their Aspire Cards with 30 being added to the draw in one week - this shows the tenacious and driven side of McLaren house.

Congratulations to the Superprize draw winners for Year 9: Leticia Lott, Patricija Zandere, Hannah Newell, Emily Watson, Gertruda Radcenkaite, Genevieve Stokes.

Thank you for all your hard work. We look forward to seeing an even stronger Year 9 return!

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Mr. Oliver-Robinson & the Year 9 Team

School News

Year 10 News

Year 10 have continued to settle into the routines of this term and have impressed us with their adaptability and ongoing maturity towards the safety rules within school. Lessons within the Year 10 zone are focused and an enjoyable place to be.

The top tutor groups so far for attendance with 96% are Form 8, Form 9 and Form 10 (Miss Donaldson, Mr Clack, Mrs Fuller). Our students' resilience at this time continues to astonish us and so many of our students really are showing such a drive to succeed within their studies.

At the time of writing, Year 10 have achieved a brilliant 138,745 Achievement Points! Well done Year 10! This continues to demonstrate the fantastic effort which the majority of our students are putting into their classwork and home learning tasks. Our top 3 students so far this academic year for Achievement Points are: 1st Patrycja Garbacz (1950 points), 2nd Michal Chamera (1800 points), 3rd Rebecca Bembridge (1545 points). We also have 39 students who have received no negative points at all since September, which is something to be proud of.

Miss Moore, Mrs Caress and Mr Bamber

Superprize draw winners for year 10:

1st Felicity Hession

2nd Emily Broom

3rd Maria Buscu

4th Olivia Ball

5th Sarah Lamming

6th Hannah Barnes



Year 11 News

The Year 11 students have continued to work incredibly hard, we are offering a substantial timetable of Interventions for all subjects and the students have blown us away with their attendance to these sessions, both at lunch time and after school!

The top tutor group so far for attendance is still Form 3 (Mr Hayter). Attendance is vital every year of school, but never more crucial than for this year's Year 11. Attendance for the whole of Year 11 stands at 91.9% and although we are always striving to be above 95%, in the current circumstances we appreciate that our students are doing their very best.

So far this year, Year 11 have achieved nearly 100,000 positive points! Huge well done to all our Year 11 students! Top Students in the year so far are Caine Darnell (1540) and Vanesa Skoda (1595). Congratulations to them!

The Year 11 Team hope that all of our students take some time to rest over the Christmas Break ready for the hard work to continue in January.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

Miss France, Mrs Lammin and Mr Bamber

School News

CHRISTMAS 2020 NEWSLETTER

As we come to the end of the term I have been so impressed with how our students have embraced the changes in their curriculum, school day and the Government rules in order for us to safely open our school community. Face coverings are now a part of the school uniform and must be worn in all communal areas and our students have been fantastic in implementing these rules.

Our students have continued to achieve some wonderful outcomes in lessons and it is always a pleasure walking our school site and seeing the amazing learning that is taking place. Thousands of achievement points are being awarded by teachers and it is brilliant running the weekly reports and seeing the positive way our students have continued to embrace their education.

I'd like to remind all students regarding their safety when travelling to and from school. Students on cycles and scooters should be conforming to the Highway Code. I have included some key pieces of information below;

You should wear

- a cycle helmet which conforms to current regulations, is the correct size and securely fastened
- **At night** your cycle **MUST** have white front and red rear lights lit. It **MUST** also be fitted with a red rear reflector (and amber pedal reflectors, if manufactured after 1/10/85). White front reflectors and spoke reflectors will also help you to be seen. Flashing lights are permitted but it is recommended that cyclists who are riding in areas without street lighting use a steady front lamp.
- **Cycle Lanes.** These are marked by a white line (which may be broken) along the carriageway. When using a cycle lane, keep within the lane when practicable. When leaving a cycle lane check before pulling out that it is safe to do so and signal your intention clearly to other road users. Use of cycle lanes is not compulsory and will depend on your experience and skills, but they can make your journey safer.
- You **MUST NOT** cycle on a pavement.
- You **MUST** obey all traffic signs and traffic light signals

You should

- keep both hands on the handlebars except when signalling or changing gear
- keep both feet on the pedals
- never ride more than two abreast, and ride in single file on narrow or busy roads and when riding round bends
- not ride close behind another vehicle
- not carry anything which will affect your balance or may get tangled up with your wheels or chain
- be considerate of other road users, particularly blind and partially sighted pedestrians. Let them know you are there when necessary, for example, by ringing your bell if you have one. It is recommended that a bell be fitted.

You **MUST NOT**

- carry a passenger unless your cycle has been built or adapted to carry one
- hold onto a moving vehicle or trailer
- ride in a dangerous, careless or inconsiderate manner

Spalding Academy operates a logging system of incidents of poor behaviour cycling to and from school and can issue bans if needed. We do however know that the majority of our students cycle to and from school safely and represent our school fantastically.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. I look forward to seeing all students back in January 2021 for what promises to be a successful year for Spalding Academy.

Best Wishes,

Mr I Billingham
Assistant Headteacher

School News

SMSC

The students have been involved in a variety of activities this term in their SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) Form time sessions. The main topic has been the importance of supporting mental health and the dangers of substance abuse but the students have also been taking part in National Awareness weeks.

Parliament Week 1st-7th November which is a national week to encourage students to learn about the democratic system, the main parties and leaders, how politicians are elected and how laws were made.

During Remembrance Week the students learnt about the importance of the Commonwealth during World War One. As well as learning the personal stories of those that fought in World War One.

The following week was Road Safety Week 16th-22nd November, this is very important to us as a Trust. The students learnt about safety concerns especially as the cold dark nights draw in. Visibility on the roads as they walk or ride home was a key focus as well as the dangers of using their mobile phones whilst crossing the road. Students also learnt about the effects that alcohol and drugs can have on driving and the importance of wearing a helmet whilst cycling.

PSHE

Next term in an assembly for Y7 and 8 female students, discussions will take place about puberty and how this will affect the female gender. The annual assembly involves teaching students about menstrual products. As part of the assembly students will be handed a tailor made leaflet, samples from the TAMPAX company and free packs of menstrual pads. Students have been made aware of the National programme in which free menstrual products are available in school and it is important that no student across the Trust is affected by period poverty. Students have been made aware that the following items are available:

Moon cups

Reusable pads

Non-applicator tampons

Applicator tampons

Menstrual pads

These items are available from the medical room, Year Leads, Heads of House, Mrs Ryan and Mrs Sharpe.

In addition Yr9 have also had an assembly to discuss topics relating to Sex and relationships. Currently Year 9 and 10 students are learning about Relationships and Sex Education in Tutor Time as part of the SMSC programme which was outlined in the letter sent to parents and carers in early November. This programme is in line with the Department of Education guidance regarding Health Education as well as Relationships and Sex Education that was made compulsory from September 2020.

On Wednesday 18th November Year 9 had two presentations from external speakers. We were extremely fortunate to be able to book Catherine Kirk and Positive Health who have a depth of experience in communicating these issues to secondary students in an age appropriate way. Students had two presentations, the first was discussing the importance of contraceptives in preventing sexual transmitted infections and the second presentation discussed consent as part of promoting healthy relationships.

Following these talks we have also signposted students to places where they can seek support such as

Safeguarding, Year leads, Heads of House, Kooth, NSPCC, Childline.

Key Stage Four – Term Three

A great start back for our KS4 students with both year groups studying literature texts.

Year 11s have been reading the Shakespearean play, 'Macbeth' and although they have been restricted through Covid in any ability to perform dramatic scenes the students have still embraced the text with enthusiasm. The Elizabethan language did initially appear to be a challenge to understanding the text, however, with translations into modern speech on power points, and the teacher explaining key scenes as they progressed, this problem became less of an issue by the end of the play.

As a Department we are keen for the students to complement their skills in both subjects with homework and lessons reflecting a Language and Literature element. Many of the techniques are transferrable between the two exams and this dual approach helps to eliminate boredom and embellishes the information the students have already acquired.

Next term we will be focusing on revision for their PPE's - both Language and Literature - no rest for our diligent Year 11s!



Year 10 have been focusing on the Dickensian novella, 'A Christmas Carol.' A very apt text before we break up in December.

The students have recognised the morals Dickens was imparting to his readers and realise how his key themes are still relevant in our world today. Many interesting discussions have been listened to regarding injustices in society and whose responsibility it is to support the less fortunate in the future.

Next term we will be focusing again on the poetry anthology as well as integrating some Language lessons into the scheme of work - a challenging term but one I am sure will encounter much enthusiasm from the students.



National Poetry Competition

We were lucky enough to receive a range of fantastic entries for the 'Vision' poetry competition across all year groups. The overall winner for Spalding Academy was Lola Mallen-Wallace from Year 8 but you can read all of the highly commended and winning entries below:

*The raging rocky fire spread
Like rolling waves,*

*The magma made a big bubble and then
Burst spewing everywhere,
Suddenly a faded smoky image appeared*

*In the air, of the devil
I felt scared, no worse petrified!*

By Ben Patman

*I went outside,
To see the sea,
My eyes catch upon a sight,
But something about this light,
Gives me a fright,
Something isn't right.*

*I look aside,
To my surprise,
Lied beside me,
Is a girl...
Her eyes pure white.*

By Everita Kude

Year 7
Highly Commended
Ben Pateman.
Everita Kude
The Winner
Ruby Mycock

*You are perfect,
So, respect yourself,*

*Listen to your words of advice,
Now look in the mirror twice
Do you see it?? You are beautiful,
Your life may not be some fun musical...*

*But who knew
I'm always here for you!*

By Ruby Mycock

*Verses written about many things
Individuals make theirs unique
Some are strange but all have a meaning
Inquisitive minds create many things
Old poems create new inspiration
Never underestimate the power of words.*

By Christopher Knibbs

*Is it a life that we made but cannot be?
Is it a future in which we cannot see?
Or where black and white meets the eye,
Where we imagine a bright blue sky.*

*Do the lights blind your mind?
Or what is it you will find,
To be the rise or fall of humanity
Looking into this can cause insanity.*

Year 8
Highly Commended
Darcie Dickinson
Christopher Knibbs
The Winner
Lola Mallen - Wallace

I have a Vision – Darcie Dickinson

*Is it the unforeseen judgement of your face?
That can change your style and taste
Or does it replace your originality
And stop everyone's individuality?
No-one will ever know
If our Earth would regrow
You may answer these questions
While others will give suggestions*

*Tomorrow may be the death of us all
Or new-borns will be able to crawl
But it is up to us to make this call,
While hoping we don't cause our own downfall*

*In the world this year things are going wrong
Had our lives stolen by COVID 19
And had protests about equality
Various things make us hope for a better year
Even though everything isn't going our way
All the things that've happened have brought
us together
Venturing out is causing a hassle
In the world at the moment
Some things will never go right
In our world at the moment
Or ever for that matter
Next year will be a better year.*

National Poetry Competition

I saw the world as so incomplete

*The world went into lockdown on the 21st March.
It gave us all a chance to recharge.
The people I saw clapping at 8
And the long time I couldn't see my mates
All the places I couldn't see.
And if I went out I would receive a fee.
Wearing a mask is weird.*

But when its all over we all cheered.

*But I cant remember the world.
Seeing the mother and children's pain.
Going to school and using our brain.
Refugees flooding the street.
The world was so incomplete.*

By Emily Watson

Year 9
Highly Commended
Ellie Wilton
Chloe Slipper
The Winner
Emily Watson

My Future – Rebecca Bembridge

*I don't envision a life filled with fame,
Nor a life of money that's just filled with pain,
Instead I see myself sitting in a cottage loving life,
Reading Edgar Allen Poe in a café with my wife.*

*I don't envision sitting still,
Instead swimming in foreign waters like I have
gills,
I don't envision PTA meetings with little treats,
Instead sitting in a forest playing ukulele with
drum beats.*

*I don't envision a simple life,
Nor being on the edge like a man trembling with
a knife,
My vision is a life willed with happiness and peace,
Not stressing about my house lease.*

*My vision is to always be feeling true joy,
As stress free as a child playing with a toy,
My vision.*

*I see the hills disappear in the distance,
Where the stars shine bright and dance.
As the blue sky fades,
The birds become less dazed.
The trees rustle through the wind,
As the world continues to spin.*

*Without these eyes,
My vision dies,
The darkness becomes thy hell,
But there is no-one to tell.
For my nightmares become lonely,
'Til I wake and all is bright.*

*I look through the window
To see the black widow,
Spinning the web of silk,
As I tilt my head from the corner of my eye,
I see this wolf, howling with the cub resting
on her foot.*

*Without these eyes,
My vision dies,
The darkness becomes thy hell,
But there is no-one to tell.
For my nightmares become lonely,
'Til I wake and all is bright.*

By Chloe Slipper

*I had a vision,
a vision where our world turned in to a Utopia.
A colourful sunset glowing in the sky,
Singing birds ready to fly.
The sunlight gleaming on the waves,
Grassy green hills and mountains with caves.
A world that's respected, loved and adored.
It's a Utopia , and that's assured...*

By Ellie Wilton

Year 10
Highly Commended
Alexander Brooke
Rebecca Bembridge
The Winner
Lily Mallen - Wallace

National Poetry Competition

Vision By Alexander Brooke

Coming back wasn't easy,
No one said it would,
6 months locked at home,
Shock to reality.

Sat at home, online school,
No more acting like fools,
Coming back wasn't easy,
No one said it would.

We had a 6 month holiday,
But now its time to stay,
Maybe its going to be easy,
Its starting to look good.

Starting to get an eye opener,
For all the work we have missed,
The 6 month holiday,
Is starting to look like bliss.

Looking back at the time I spent,
All that time on the Xbox,
No one said it would be easy,
As I sit watching my life fade away.

No one said it would be easy,
No one said it would.

My vision,
Goes white and then red to make white and red
Which are the Polish colours, just like stopping during reversing
President, president that's my feature Job Poland,
Poland that's my country and I want to be their leader,
Leader with a first lady with beauty,
Beauty just like a role model which gave me vision
A vision that is someone that I am friends with.
Poland Poland vote me so you can choose your 2040 President

By Karol Ceymar

Vision By Lilly Mallen – Wallace

Vision is a ghostly thing.
It opens minds and closes mouths,
It spreads futures with wings,
But lives with lies and truths.

Vision is the sight through eyes,
It closes with death,
But opens with life,
It ponders the mind with images,
That makes vision run wild.

Vision is a gift,
But is also a curse.

Year 11
Highly Commended
Freya Congreve – George
Karol Cejmer-Wilczak
The Winner
Lynda Alves

An inner vision
The vision of a version
But never the same
Everyday
A different decision
We walk around so proud
It's almost hard to see
Our heads in the clouds
Thought of sunken dreams
We don't see
Were on a ledge
Falling closer to the edge
We can't afford to trip
Won't be able to grip
The sense
Of security
That I once felt
Tightening the belt
On Society
Pulling lightly
But don't talk
Confirm?
Conform
Reform
Retrace
Replace
The world
It's going to take your heart
Things will fall apart
Won't be able to fix
You'll notice too
We're running out of glue.
By Freya Congreve-George

Winning Poem By Lynda Alves

My vision, my vision of this world is getting increasingly blurred. There are too many dangers in this life, a society that is increasingly dangerous to get close to.

Our lives are like a half-broken bridge, between comings and goings. Always an unresolved obstacle. My vision is getting more and more blurred, an apple tree with rotten apples. With a blue sky above to disguise.

Fictional obstacles that easily become true, because the world made them real. Bad nights with dark monsters, beautiful moon with bright stars.

My vision is getting more and more blurred; the world is making my vision look like this. Society being damaged by itself, people questioning why and they are the reason. My vision is getting more and more blurred, discussion over discussion, fight over fight.

My vision is getting more and more blurred, but I look up to the sky. I feel a sun shining on my face. At night I watch the stars and the beautiful moon in the sky.

I am in love with heaven, I am passionate about it because every day I realise that the society is getting worse but the sky is always attempting to be more charming.

My vision is getting more and more blurred, but *I'm trying to clear it.*



Drop Everything and Read!

Year 7 have now experienced two DEAR events. These involve starting a lesson with a special session of reading with their teacher, designed to widen the students horizons and allow them some time to explore new ideas about the curriculum. DEAR 1 took place on Wednesday 14th October and was very successful. It has just been followed by DEAR 2 on the 24th November which was equally inspiring.

We will be doing more DEAR reading next term, and gradually all departments will have a turn. The students and teachers can't wait!



R.E. News

All students made a great start back after half term and were quickly into their studies.

Year 7 students have continued looking at the Religion of Hinduism and made some lovely henna and rangoli designs. In the next topic will be looking at Animal Rights and thinking about ethical uses of animals in society.



Year 8 have now completed their first unit on Justice around the World and made some fabulous T-shirts originally designed to advertise Desmond Tutu's campaign to end Apartheid in South Africa. However, this year students wanted to link this to Black History month and the on-going issues surrounding equality and the Black Lives Matter Campaign.



Year 9 have completed their first unit on Good and Evil which links to the GCSE specification and will now begin to study 'Peace and Conflict' and the implications this has on everyday lives around the world. Some of the topics they will look at are Soldiers and War, Peace, Forgiveness, Extremism and Pacifism linking these to both religious and non-religious views.

Year 10 have made an excellent start to their GCSE in Religious Studies and have now completed their first ethical unit on 'The issues of Relationships' and have moved on to continue their studies with the study of 'Belief and Teachings of Christianity'. Students are making good progress and are enjoying the course.

Year 11 Students are three quarters of the way through the course and have now begun the last ethical unit 'Issues of life and death' where they have been trying to answer questions such as; When does life begin and what happens when we die. We will soon be looking at the social and moral implications of abortion and euthanasia, with only the study of World Religions, Islam, to complete.

Finally, from all the staff in the Religious Studies department we would like to wish you all a lovely relaxing Christmas break.

Mrs Watt

Students of the Term

The History team are very proud of the amazing work our students have put in this term! Well done to those students selected for your classes 'Student of the Term', your post-cards will be arriving home soon!

What is a new incentive is the KS3 and 4 'Student of the Term' award. Within the department, if you have been selected as a class's student of the term, you are entered into the respective KS3 or 4 Student of the Term prize draw! So, BIG congratulations to:

| KS3 Students of the Term | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Finlay Slayven | Isabel Drew |
| KS4 Students of the Term | |
| Timofej Kabak | Raluca Gheorghe |

Year 11 Revision

Year 11 revision sessions have seen AMAZING numbers so far, with our highest number of 31 attending to the most recent, at the time of writing...

A reminder to all that History Revision is being ran every Wednesday after school in G25, from 3:30-4:30!

History Revision 100% Attendance Term 1b

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Emily Brown | Maria Chantre |
| Ana Da Silva Moreira | Raluca Gheorghe |
| Erin Langford | Milly Long |
| Libby Mayne | Vanesa Skoda |

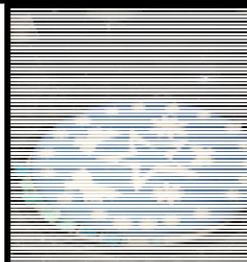
Well done to those above for their 100% attendance at Revision this term.
Keep it up!

Food Technology News

This term has been another very different term for Food with students unable to cook at school. To ensure that students are still learning plenty of cooking skills, cooking has been set as homework. Once again students have excelled at this challenge and have sent their teachers pictures of their creations. Year 9 have also excelled with a 90% pass rate in the Certificate of Food Safety exam.

Year 7 have made some very impressive carrot cakes this term as part of the picnic project.

This term Year 8 have been making their own Celebration cakes and have really excelled with some amazing cakes.



Year 9 have been looking at staple foods and seasonality of foods and also creating different dishes like this Stir fry.



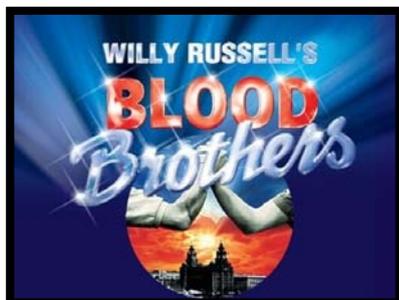
Performing Arts News

Year 10

Students continue to work hard completing their Component One coursework. This term they have been studying the play 'I Love You Mum, I Promise I Won't Die' by Mark Wheller. This play tells the real life story of 17 year old Daniel Spargo-Mabbs, a young man who died of an accidental overdose of MDMA at a rave. Students have been exploring how the style of Verbatim Theatre has helped tell this story in an effective way, that allows the audience to learn from the people involved in the incident.

Again, we have been blown away by the maturity and empathy that our students have shown while learning about this issue and they have been engaging in vital conversations about the effects of drug culture on young people in our society.

Next term we will be moving on to Component Two, where we will be exploring the classic text 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell.



Year 11

Now that the students have explored many different repertoires in preparation, they are participating in a practice exam which is covered in Component Three.

Students are given a stimulus, with accompanying information, and they must build a devised performance of their own using all of the skills and knowledge they have acquired over the duration of the course.

It is impressive to see our students choosing to explore hard hitting topics like domestic violence, eating disorders, racism, disability and the impact of social media. We are so proud of how socially conscious our students are and how they are presenting these ideas through theatre. The work on their real exam will begin in January.



Star of the Term



Below are students who have shown excellent teamwork, effort and commitment to Performing Arts. They are recognised with a badge that they wear on their blazers for the whole school year.

| Term 1 | | | |
|---------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Year 7 | Fraser Pringle | Lee Jay Peacock | Harvey Barnes |
| Year 8 | Jasmine Sinclair | Sam Robinson | Finlay Slayvern |
| Year 9 | Kodie Worth | Sophie McFarlane | |
| Year 10 | Jessica Thorpe | Mia Reeves | |
| Year 11 | Ben Parr | Abi Cowling | |

Music News



It is with great pleasure that we can announce that practical music is back at Spalding Academy!

After a long wait we want to congratulate our wonderful young musicians who have been extremely patient in waiting to get back to enjoying music as a practical subject again. They have been fantastic at adapting to the procedures that we have in place to enable a safe teaching and learning environment. The Music Department are extremely proud of the enthusiasm shown by all and the excitement that all of our students have brought to their practical music lessons has been wonderful to see. Well done to each and every one of our students, it really is brilliant to hear music being played once more.

Mr S Barrett + Mr J Spires (Music Department)

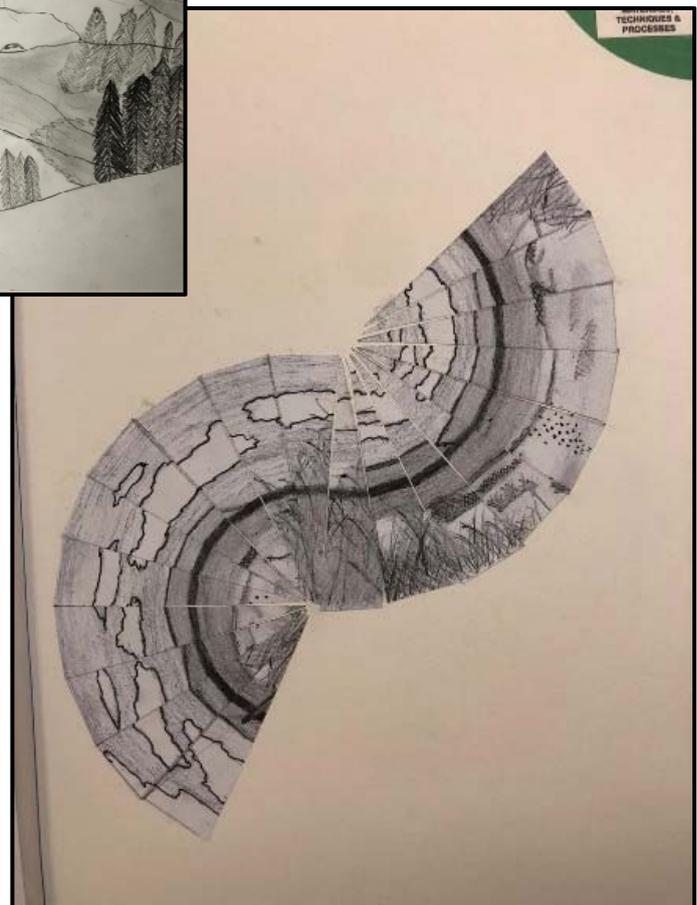
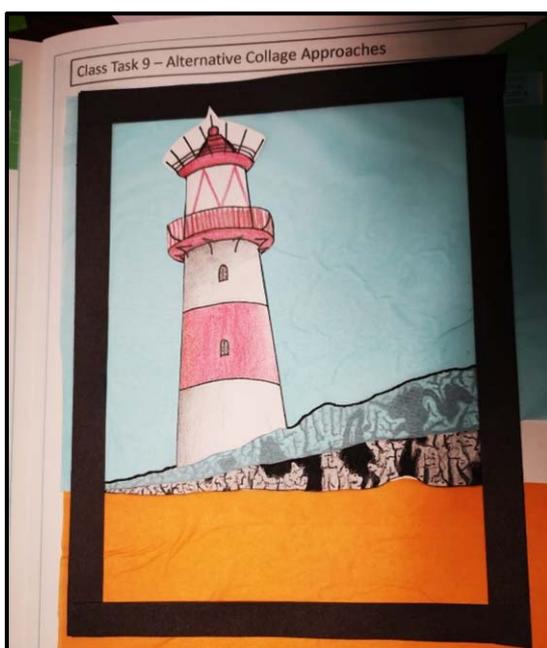


Art & Design News

BTEC students have taken 'A Day Out' topic and created individual responses, referencing David Hockney, John Piper, and others.

The classes are filled with enthusiasm and we have been delighted to see the students work this term, included 'Joiners' of photographs, and Lino prints of boats and beach huts.

Although it might be a while before we can get out and enjoy an ice-cream, the students are making the most of the escapism theme.



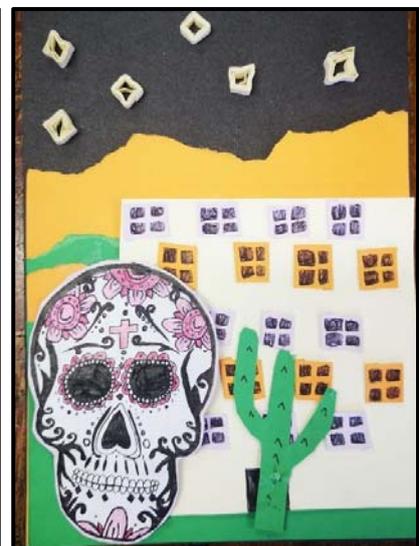
Art & Design News

Key Stage 3:

Year 7 were set the task of making a scene from shapes, and they have delivered a range of colourful masterpiece, from under the sea, to up in the stars.

Year 7 have delighted us with their work so far, including collages of fruit from magazines to practise colour work.

In Design and Technology, Year 7 and 8 have been creating 3D Card relief Sculptures, based on Chinese Lunar New Year and Día de los Muertos, featuring candy skulls and lucky dragons.



Careers & Guidance Update

CAREERS EDUCATION GOES... Year 11 Careers Guidance Meetings

Virtual

As part of the careers programme across the Trust, a large number of our students benefit from one-to-one guidance meetings with an external Careers Advisor. With Year 11 students starting to make Post 16 choices, it is important that they utilise these meetings to discuss their thoughts about future pathways. There are so many options available to students at all ability levels which can be overwhelming to some.

This year, thanks to modern technology, we are still able to offer this important service to our young people, virtually! In preparation for the meeting, students are asked to complete a questionnaire to get them thinking about possible career destinations. This information is shared with the Careers Advisor who will have a basis to start her conversation.

The Careers Department are also seeing students on an individual basis. These meetings are proving highly beneficial to all those we are seeing. Confidence, focus, aspirations and motivation are so important, and we work specifically with the individual to tailor the advice. It is amazing to see students leave with direction and laid out step-by-step goals for them over the coming years.

Those students interested in Colleges for their next steps will be having Teams meetings with local Colleges to support their applications and also answer any questions they have. Those applying for Sixth Forms are being provided with links to the relevant websites, to look at subjects and entry requirements. We are all hopeful that they may still be able to visit their establishment of choice at some point in the New Year, but we are working hard to continue in establishing virtual relationships to ease anxiety and nerves.

Future Nurse Webinar

The Future Nurse talk was available to students in Years 11, 12 and 13. The aim of the talk was to give students who are interested in going into a Nursing Career, information about access routes, course and entry requirements. There were also two cases studies; 'A day in the life of a Student Nurse' and 'A day in the life of a Registered Nurse in practice'.

Several students took advantage of this fantastic opportunity to find out about the best routes for them into their chosen career. Darcy Birch, a Year 11 student had this to say about the event: *"Throughout Year 10 I had no idea of what I wanted to do when I left school, then lockdown happened and this turned my school life upside down. Coming back in September was daunting and before I knew it there was talk of Sixth form, College, and Apprenticeships and it was time to start really thinking about what I wanted to do after Year 11.*

Every week our Careers Adviser, Mrs Barber, would post on 'Show My Homework' "Job of the week". I started to look at the jobs and was intrigued by becoming a Children's Nurse. I had also experienced a few operations and my time in hospital was always made easier by the care and attention I received by the nurses that took care of me. I signed up for the NHS Future Nurse event and took part in the online discussions with both students and qualified professionals. I was able to ask questions and gain a further insight into the role of becoming a Children's Nurse. Hearing real life stories and experiences helped me to realise that this career was one that I was interested in.

I have also signed up for another virtual NHS event in early December and I have applied for Bourne Academy Sixth form".



Careers & Guidance Update



Apprenticeships and careers with the Armed Forces webinar

Amazing Apprenticeships hosted an exclusive Webinar with the Armed Forces to explore the apprenticeship opportunities available within the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. This Webinar was available to students in Years 11, 12 and 13.

All three services were recently listed in the top 10 of the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers (British Army secured #1, Royal Navy secured #3 and Royal Air Force #10) which is a phenomenal achievement. Students had the opportunity to speak with leads from each of the service areas to understand more about the vacancies and opportunities that they have and how you can access them.

Sam Henderson, a Year 10 student had this to say about the event: *"I enrolled to attend The Armed Forces Apprenticeships Webinar, organised through the school Careers Department. This was a 1-hour Zoom webinar with around 1000 attendees from across the country.*

It was hosted by senior officers from the three services - the Army, Navy and Royal Air Force. It gave insight into apprenticeships and the different trades on offer. It also gave information about career progression, different roles on offer and the benefits that come with a military career.

Whilst I'm interested in a career with the Royal Marines, it still gave valuable insight into other options which I'd not previously considered such as more specialist roles. I was able to post questions beforehand to the hosts which were answered during the webinar".



Careers & Guidance Update



Aspiring medics embrace inspiring programme

Medic Mentor is a non-profit national medical organisation who specialise in supporting students in Year 10 and upwards, get into Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry, and award students with merit-based scholarships to study at University. Medic Mentor is run by a UK-wide network of volunteer doctors who provide UCAS support and teach students how to become successful future Doctors, Vets, Dentists and NHS leaders. There are many opportunities to take part in various activities, such as virtual work experience and virtual medical society meetings.

It is a truly inspiring organisation. But don't take our word for it - two of our aspiring students, give us an overview of their experience with the programme so far...

"My experience so far has been an amazing one. I have had the opportunity to get an insight into a real clinical setting where doctors deal with lots of different medical scenarios. I have really enjoyed taking part in the simulations. They have allowed me to observe what happens in a medical situation and how the whole healthcare team work together. My favourite part about the simulations is how realistic they are, making it feel as though I am observing a real life medical situation. I have had lots of opportunities to ask questions to leading doctors, junior doctors, nurses and even surgeons, helping me to gain lots of knowledge of their journeys and advice into medicine.

The Medic Mentor family has offered me lots of support through the reflective journal. The journal contains multiple homework tasks and a reflective cycle to follow to ensure I am making the most of my experience and reflecting on the skills used by the doctors and nurses.

Overall, the experience has been amazing. Being able to observe doctor's dealing with challenging situations has opened up my mind to the qualities of a healthcare profession and what the job entails."

Tilly Szarawarski (Aspiring Dentist - Year12 - Bourne Academy)



Careers & Guidance Update



Medic Mentor

Motivating Medical Minds

Aspiring medics embrace inspiring programme

"The Medic Mentor community is teamed with the University hospital of Birmingham; they were very welcoming and it was extremely easy to sign up to. I am an aspiring Biochemist and took advantage of the virtual work experience. Once a month, on a Saturday, I spend six to seven hours shadowing professionals, giving me a true insight of the myriad of jobs involved in being a doctor. The work experience also shows realistic procedures and the diagnostic time frames of a patient in an A&E setting. It is a 6 month programme offering a certificate at the end which will help you to apply for universities, especially any in the medic mentor group.

I have also joined a group of aspiring doctors and nurses across the country on this journey, with all different takes on medicine and different levels of knowledge. I am part of the virtual medical society where, on a Tuesday, we talk a little about subjects that are important in today's climate i.e. the new organ donor system; and discuss things that doctors need to know before going into the profession.

The Medic Mentor community also have groups for aspiring dentists and vets. So if you are aspiring to be a medic, I would honestly advise you to join the Medic Mentor community and learn a little about the subject you're interested in."

Phoenix Beckwith (Year 11 - Spalding Academy)

It is wonderful to see our young adults getting involved and benefiting from these opportunities. They recognise that this is the type of extra-curricular activity that will complement and enhance any university and job applications in the future. It shows determination, commitment and initiative - all key skills required in the world of work!

If you are interested in getting ahead in your medical career, have a look at the Medic Mentor website <https://medicmentor.co.uk/>

Careers & Guidance Update

Business Links and Contacts

At Spalding Academy we are always looking for new ways to support young people to make informed choices about their future by encouraging greater collaboration between education and employers.



Currently we are wanting to develop our database of local/regional links with employers/employees and industry and wondered if staff may be able to help?

Do you have any contacts with local business or people who could help with things such as:

- offering work placements or work place visits
- support with Mock Interviews or CV guidance
- delivering assemblies or talks to small groups of interested students
- attending Careers Fairs

If you think you have a contact be it friends or family who may be able to help could you help us develop a link by:

- email us their contact details if appropriate
- or pass on our contact details
- ask if they are interested
- or ask them to link with the academy via LinkedIn.



Safeguarding Information

Safeguarding Booklet

This booklet is located on the school website in the Safeguarding section. The booklet is designed to inform parents/carers about how to protect their children whilst they are using some of the more popular social media apps. Also please be aware that a lot of apps do have an age limit of 13+.



Kooth

All students at Spalding Academy have received an assembly from a member of the Kooth team to explain what the service is about. Upon entering the assemblies all students were provided with a Kooth card.

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online support for young people. Below is the link to Kooth, this link is also on our school website in the Safeguarding section.

<https://kooth.com/>

Healthy Minds Lincolnshire

Healthy Minds Lincolnshire provides emotional wellbeing support for children and young people up to 19 years old (25 if special educational needs/disability or leaving care).



Children and Young People

We will provide evidence based brief interventions either as a one to one, small group sessions, online CBT or sign posting to other more suitable services (depending on the need). Vulnerable children and young people will be given priority.

Parents and Carers

We will offer support and advice to parents and carers. The web address is:-

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/ewb

Safeguarding Concerns

If you as a parent/carer ever have any Safeguarding concerns, please do contact the school and in the first instance ask to speak to Mrs M Ryan – Safeguarding Manager.

However, if Mrs M Ryan is busy, you can speak to the appropriate Year Lead for your child; From September this will be :

Year 7 – Mrs D Cousins

Year 8 – Mrs J Ditchburn

Year 9 – Mrs N Ward

Year 10 – Mrs S Caress

Year 11 – Mrs M Lammin

Behavioural team - Mr B Sinclair & Mr I Billingham.

Safeguarding Information

There has been another round of highly inappropriate horror-based content on various social media platforms, and no doubt there will continue to be periodically. The LSCP is looking at a focus on parental control over the Christmas period.

It is important that children and young people feel confident in disclosing to adults when they see or experience something which upsets them or makes them feel uncomfortable - whether that is to talk to a trusted teacher, family member or through Childline or Kooth - and that they do not feel worried that the app will just be taken away from them.

Please encourage parents/carers and staff to be mindful that this sort of thing exists and to always be available to talk about it and reassure them, and to always discuss when they feel uncomfortable online.

Please use and share the support material below on parental controls for apps such as YouTube, Netflix, Xbox, PlayStation and a variety of other popular services presented by Internet Matters and also a reminder that TikTok has recently updated their parental controls so parents/carers can have more control over what their children are doing online.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54974813> - news article on parental control updated by TikTok from last week

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/resources/for-parents?lang=en&appLaunch=web> - this has info on how to 'pair' and account (to allow monitoring)

School Information

Spalding Academy Uniform Shop

The shop will be open every week during term time including during the holidays as well, apart from a 2 week closure for the Christmas holidays w/c 21st December and w/c 28th December and Good Friday.

The opening hours will be as follows:

Wednesday 3pm - 6pm

Friday 8am - 11.30am.

Orders can be placed online via ParentMail for collection at the shop.

Details can be found on our website (Academy Life/Uniform Shop

The shop will accept payment by debit/credit card . (No cheques can be accepted).

Students in receipt of free school meals will receive 50% discount on all items purchased from the uniform shop.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about it please email

uniformshop@spaldingacademy.org.uk or phone

[01775765639](tel:01775765639)



Attendance – The Myths and Truths!

Mrs Marks the Attendance Manager, tells us about the myths and truths that surround attendance.

Myth - Authorised absences (e.g.medical appointments) do not affect a student's attendance figure.

Truth - Any absence will affect a child's attendance figure, other than school trips (including sports activities where the student represents the school), job or college interviews and university visits.

Myth - Following the Isle of Wight decision, schools are now able to authorise leaves of absence during term time.

Truth - Lincolnshire continues to actively discourage any leave of absence during term time. Prosecution may still take place for persistent absence (attendance below 90%).

Attendance

Once again we are pleased to say school attendance has been good in term 2.

At the date of going to press, 702 students have achieved 100% attendance in term two, which again is well up on the same time last year. These students will receive free a cookie and drink on their yard at break time, early next term. This will continue throughout the year for those who maintain 100% attendance.

Please be aware any student who needed to self-isolate, will still receive their reward if they have 100% attendance.

Well Done

Please could we remind parents/carers the following:

Parents are required to contact the school on each morning of any absence before 8.30am, providing a reason for the absence. To report an absence please call (01775 722484 - Option 1) text on 07860 055665 or email attendance@spaldingacademy.org.uk. However, if illnesses continue for longer than five days, medical evidence will be required, eg doctor's appointment card, prescribed medicine packet (with the label), and emailed to the above address.

Should there be any suspected Covid-19 symptoms in your household, it is most important the school is informed immediately.

We ask that routine medical appointments be made out of school hours or in the holidays. No medical appointments will be authorised unless evidence, hospital letter or text from the GP/dentist is forwarded to the Academy by email. Providing these retrospectively (after the appointment) is acceptable.

We do not authorise any holidays in term time and Fixed Penalties will be issued. **Please be aware if you are booking holidays abroad at any time in the current climate, your family may have to isolate for 14 days on your return.**