

Spalding High School Newsletter



Term 3 2020

Here we are already at the end of Term 3; the time has just flown by!

Well done to our Year 11 and Year 13 for coping with the stress and strains of mock examinations. Lots of lessons to be learnt and still time to get last minute revision and exam technique sorted before the real examinations.

Good luck to everyone in their exam preparation for the next three months.

The highlight of the term has been the Junior Production of Honk! What a wonderful performance and so good to celebrate the talents of our younger students. I won't say too much more here as there is a full report inside so please read that for more details.

Another highlight of the term was the Ofsted Inspection (YES! Really!!) As you have seen from my message home last week, the students (and staff) did the School proud and came together in a way that showed what impressive young people our students are. Thank you also of course to the staff who were supportive of each other and the students. We look forward to seeing the report.

Have a restful holiday.

Mrs M K Anderson

Headmistress

District Swimming Gala

On Tuesday 21st January, a selection of Spalding High School students went to the Deepings School to represent the School in the district swimming gala. We had three teams across all age groups, all girls swam exceptionally well against some tough competition.

The Year 7 girls came 3rd overall, the Year 8/9 girls came 1st and finally the Year 10/11 girls came 1st winning every race and relay!

Well done to all the girls who competed.

Miss Pascoe



East Midlands Floor and Vault Competition

On Saturday 1st February, the Spalding High School Gymnastics Team travelled to Stamford Junior School for the East Midlands round of the floor and vault competition. The girls had been practicing their routines since September and all performed exceptionally well on the day. The U14 team came 5th with a score of 116.2 and the U19 team came 2nd with a score of 118.3. Well done to all the gymnasts who competed.

Miss Pascoe





Our Year 7s and 8s have been successfully completing numeracy work in form time, through completing their Numeracy Ninja booklets. All forms are doing fantastically well! Impressively, all forms have improved on their Term 1 results, increasing their already high averages, no easy feat.

Cumulative averages are as follows:

Year 7

7C	52.7
7J	51.7
7N	49.9
7P	51.9
7S	49.9

Year 8

8C	56.2
8J	57.9
8N	57
8P	55.2
8S	58



Keep up the great work!

Mr Ganger

Term 3 was full of mathematical enrichment, with 209 students competing in the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge on 7th February. This is a national competition that is aimed at Years 9-11, although we also invite some top set Year 8 to enter it (and to put a little friendly pressure on their older peers...). We should find out the results soon after half term. Next term Year 7 and 8 will also be preparing for the Junior Mathematics Challenge on 30th April, and a team of Year 8 and 9 students will travel to Peterborough to compete in the Team Maths Challenge on 12th March. Good luck to everyone taking part. We also continue to be grateful to our 6th form Maths Prefects who run their wonderful Mathemagicians Club for younger students every Wednesday lunchtime, and to our dedicated Year 11 helpers who have been joining members of the maths department every Thursday lunchtime in R21 for Maths Clinic. Remember, if you need any help with anything mathematical, Maths Clinic is here for you to come and sort it out - open to all year groups.

Miss Ashley

National Apprenticeship Week 3rd - 9th February

Students and staff have been finding out more about apprenticeships during National Apprenticeship Week. As the range of apprenticeships on offer continues to increase, it is important that students know what apprenticeships are and where to look for opportunities at the age of 16 and 18.

We welcomed four former Spalding High School students into school during the week to talk to our students about local apprenticeship positions.

Below in the centre is Kate Amess, Commercial Executive Apprentice at BGL Group, with four of our Year 13 students.



At the end of the week, three former High School students talked to a group of students in Years 10-13 about their apprenticeship roles at CAT in Peterborough. Pictured below (left the right) with Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader in school, are Ellie Dawson, Supply Chain Apprentice, Sophie Neal, Data Analyst Apprentice and Anna Viller, Sales/Marketing Apprentice.



There is information for parents and students on our website in the 'Careers Education Information' section. Please contact Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader, for more information about apprenticeships.

Toad Abode!

Earlier on this year tiny toads were spotted roaming the corridors of Spalding High seeking shelter. The girls of 7S came to their rescue and embarked upon a toad-housing mission. In Design and Technology, we researched some potential designs that the girls could make at home. The following lesson this is what came in!



Meanwhile, Mr Ellis had been researching Toad Abode structures created from recycled wooden pallets. He came up with a fantastic set of plans, created flat pack kits and the girls set to work one lunchtime to assemble them in our workshops.



The very kind Mrs Neale from Design and Technology set to work staining the huts ready for the outside world.



After a quick photo shoot the homes were then proudly placed in various locations around the school. Well done 7S! Great team work.



Mrs Hagon – Design and Technology

Robotics!

On Saturday 11th January the Spalding High School robotics team competed in the regional championship of the First Lego League. They had worked during lunch times at school to design and develop their robot to solve various missions, such as to be able to operate a crane.

In our last round, having successfully scored all of the 285 points we had planned for, we dared to be great with a mad gamble to launch our robot onto the bridge, which in itself was successful. Our robot had, however, a mind of it's own when it came to repeating one of the previously reliable missions. We missed out on a top place in the finals and scoring 315 points by mere mm. In the end we came a valiant 5th. We won the cup for having the best strategy of all of the teams.

A big thank you to Park Air Systems in Market Deeping for buying our kit for us and for hosting the competition!

Abbie Gillespie 9N

Maisie Youngs 9N

Charlotte Pool 10S

Natalia Hulley 9S

Katelin Verrells 9C



CyberFirst



Huge congratulations to Sophie, Imogen, Arshdeep and Abigail in Year 8 after their amazing performance at the National GCHQ CyberFirst semi-finals on the 8th February. They achieved an amazing feat to reach the semi-finals beating thousands of teams to get there. We had an amazing day in Ipswich at BT's research and development centre in the UK. We were fortunate enough to get a tour of some of the amazing technological developments that BT are working on and the girls performed brilliantly during the day to reach 21st place in the semi-finals for the entire midlands region (from the Welsh border all the way to Ipswich).

To achieve this they had to complete online Computer Science challenges in Code Breaking, Cyber Security, Encryption and Networking. They did this all off their own backs and in their own time, dedicating hours to breaking these puzzles. We are so proud of their achievement and there is a certificate that will be going up outside T5 to celebrate their achievement.

Year 7 we are looking at you to replicate this amazing success next year when you get the chance to take part!



Photos courtesy of Spalding Guardian

HONK!



Working with our lower school on 'Honk' has been an absolute pleasure over the last few months and watching some really quite unsure and reticent students transform themselves into boisterous and in some cases quite abusive farmyard animals has been remarkable. We have had lots of laughs during rehearsals and the musical really has been fun to put together.

The final performances were outstanding and one audience member commented 'This is not a lower school show!' due to the professionalism and talent displayed by our wonderful cast.

All of the cast have done an absolutely fantastic job with the creation of characters, adopting animal characteristics to their physicality and voice on top of their success managing the difficult music. We are so very proud of all of them!

Our Honk Band also featured many of our gifted student musicians, supported by a mixture of established players. We are very grateful and thanks go to all of them joining in.

Thank you for supporting the show, and we hope to see you all at future performance events.

Mr Garbett and Mrs Fisk



Women and Girls in Science

Mrs Anderson led the school assemblies this week to mark the United Nations Women and Girls in Science Day on 11th February. It was also prompted by the BBC news report by Hazel Shearing titled "Seven female scientists you may not have heard about – but should know about". In the report Ms Shearing describes how both the Science National Curriculum and GCSE Science specifications in England and Wales are distinctly short of content about the contributions of women to science. The National Curriculum makes no reference to female scientists and only two are made reference to at GCSE compared to the contributions of forty male scientists. Of course here at the High School, that does not hold the staff back and female contributions in the fields of Science, Geography, History, Mathematics, Technology and Computer Science amongst others, are promoted at every opportunity and not just in the classroom and in assemblies; just look at the names honoured in our five School houses. We also touched upon the notion of feminism and that the concept is about women having equality (politically, socially, professionally, economically and personally with men) and therefore as Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie promotes in her book "Everyone Should Be A Feminist".

Mrs Anderson challenged students to redress the imbalance and send her a short summary (like the ones in Ms Shearing's report) based on research they had conducted on a female scientist they had found interesting. We are building the precis pieces into a document for our website and also to send to Ms Shearing as well. Below are the first ones that have been sent in.

All photos courtesy of Google



Claudia Alexander (1959-2015)
Planetary Scientist

The Canadian born planetary scientist began working for NASA's Jet Propulsion lab in 1986 and later became the project manager of NASA's well known Galileo mission to Jupiter. In managing the final phase of this notable project, she oversaw the process in which the spacecraft entered Jupiter's atmosphere and was an enormous part of the whole mission which resulted in the discovery of 21 new moons (orbiting Jupiter) and discovering the presence of an atmosphere on one of these moons (Ganymede).

Alexander had an undeniable passion for mentoring young children and encouraging their love of science. She spent a substantial amount of time developing the enthusiasm of young girls in areas of science and was a clear advocate for women in the STEM based subject areas.



Dame Rosemary Cramp (1929-)
Archaeologist

Dame Rosemary Cramp is a British archaeologist who worked as a fellow and tutor at the University of Oxford before becoming a lecturer at Durham University in 1955. She specialised in Anglo-Saxon archaeology and her work excavating at Monkwearmouth-Jarrow resulted in the discovery of the remains of seventh century buildings. In 1971, Dame Rosemary Cramp was appointed Professor of Archaeology, making her the first female professor at Durham University.

Georgie Van-Dyke 11S



Nora Lilian Alcock (1874-1972)
Plant Pathologist

Despite having no formal higher education, Nora Alcock secured a post at a Plant Pathology Laboratory in Kew Gardens. The skills she developed allowed her to become the first government appointed plant pathologist in Edinburgh, where she focused on using healthy seeds to increase food production.

Her notable work extends to how she taught botany to prisoners of war, during the Second World War.

Georgie Van-Dyke 11S

Marie Curie



Even before I arrived at Spalding High School I knew all about Marie Curie and she was one of my biggest inspirations as she was the first female scientist to win a Nobel Prize and not only this she was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes in two separate fields. In 1903 she and her husband Pierre Curie won the Nobel Prize in physics along with Henri Becquerel for her study into spontaneous radiation and in 1911 she received a second Nobel Prize in the field of chemistry for her work in radioactivity. Marie Curie ultimately died from radiation poisoning after discovering two elements in the periodic table, polonium and radium.

This female scientist is who really sparked my interest in science and hopefully in the future I would like to be a female scientist working in the field of Neurobiology. I think it is so important to recognise these scientists as their contributions to the fields of science are just as significant as any man's contribution to the fields. This is how I believe all scientist should be viewed as, man or women, everyone should be treated equally because it is unfair to deem a valuable discovery as merely nothing just because it was a woman who made the discovery.

Scarlet O'Hara 9C

Henrietta Swan Leavitt

Henrietta Swan Leavitt was an American astronomer, who worked at the Harvard University Observatory. Her job there was to measure and catalogue the brightness of stars, from looking at photographs. She discovered the relation between luminosity and Cepheid variables, stars that pulsate giving off varying light. This discovery allowed scientists to create the first "standard candle", which is a device used to measure how far away distant galaxies are. After her death, Leavitt's discovery allowed Edwin Hubble to establish that the universe is expanding.

Roisin Williams 8J

Rosalind Elise Franklin

Rosalind was born on the 25th of July 1920 at Notting Hill, London. She had five more siblings and they were all Jewish including her and her parents. She is a well known chemist & learnt about crystallography, she understood molecular structures of DNA, RNA, viruses, coal and graphite. Rosalind took a life changing photograph that provided key insights into a DNA structure. Other scientists used the photograph as their own and took credit of the discovery. However, after learning about how genetic information is passed down from parent to child, she learnt that she had Ovarian Cancer. She worked until the last second ignoring the fact she had lots of surgeries and lots coming up. Unfortunately, she died on the 16th of April 1958 at Chelsea, London aged 37. She helped discover many things in our world and she will continue to be respected as a great scientist.

Sierra Moore 7P

Louisa Martindale

I researched Louisa Martindale and found that she was a British Surgeon who had a distinguished life and career in medicine, carrying out over 7000 operations. In 1906 Louisa became the first woman GP in Brighton and later became the senior surgeon of New Sussex Hospital for Women. Eventually she became a specialist in the early treatment of cervical cancer by X-ray and she later lectured extensively throughout the UK, the United States, and Germany. In 1915 during WW1 she served at the Scottish Women's Hospital at the Abbey of Royaumont as a locum doctor for a short time.

Grace Webb 7P

Dates for your Diary

25 th February	Y13 Parents' Evening	13 th March	7C & 7J Geography Trip Snipe Dale Y8 Languages Day PE Assessed Practical Departs
26 th February	Sixth Form Application Deadline	16 th March	PE Assessed Practical Returns
27 th February	Y8 Curriculum Evening	18 th March	Y8 Parents' Evening
3 rd March	Norway Meeting 6:30pm	22 nd March	Y12 Geography Field Study Departs 2:30pm
4 th March	Y9 Option Form Deadline	23 rd March	Y10 Work Experience Starts
5 th March	Y10 Parents' Evening	24 th March	Y11 RS Day Y12 Geography Field Study Returns 8:00pm
6 th March	PTA Bingo 6:30pm	27 th March	Y7 Egg-stravaganza
10 th March	7P & 7S Geography Trip Snipe Dale	1 st April	Y10 Work Experience Ends
11 th March	7N Geography Trip Snipe Dale	2 nd April	Norway Trip Departs End of Term 4
12 th March	Y11 & Y13 Photos 9am		