

SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Term 1 2018

Goodness me what a wonderful term this has been! It has been full of exciting events and wonderful news, much of which is outlined in this edition of our newsletter. We have also welcomed several new staff to the school (have a read of their comments inside) as well as lots of new students in Year 7, Year 12 and some of the other year groups too. Welcome one and all! There has been so much going on this term already, Prize Givings, trips to the theatre and galleries, sports fixtures galore, PTA Disco, Sponsored Walk, Open Day, Bags2School, Language Fest, the Sports, Music and Drama Presentation Evening just to mention a few and on top of this the Geography Association Worldwide Quiz team were declared the winners at last night competition! We have also had the very positive news this week from the DFE about our provision Progress 8 and Attainment 8 data for this year. We have included a summary of the wonderful results achieved by our Y11 and Y13 2018 within our newsletter. Needless to say we are all thrilled to bits that their achievements mean that we are ranked third highest in Lincolnshire for Progress 8 and sixth for Attainment 8. A tremendous result and well done to everyone involved.

Have a well-earned rest next week, don't forget we have an Inset Day on Monday 29th October and we look forward to seeing you all at the PTA Family Bingo night on Friday 9th November!

MK Anderson

Headmistress

HMI Research Visit Summary - A full explanation letter has been sent via parentmail.

Extract from recent letter:

As you are no doubt aware from the national media, Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools (HMIs) are reviewing the current framework for school inspections. HMIs have approached around fifty schools across the country to help with their research into the validity and reliability of lesson observations during inspections by Ofsted. The High School is one of the schools approached to help. I must stress that this is not an inspection of the High School and that the HMIs will not give judgements or feedback about the school, staff or students. Two HMIs will be conducting joint lesson observations across the English (am), Art and Design, Drama and Music (pm) on Tuesday 30th October.

Everyone at the High School is absolutely thrilled with the provisional GCSE Progress 8 data published by the DFE this week. Our P8 score of +0.65 places us as the third top ranking school for progress in Lincolnshire and highest in Spalding. This is combined with an Attainment 8 score of 65.5 ranking the High School sixth in Lincolnshire. This is a testament to the hard work of our students along with commitment and support from parents and staff. Well done to everyone!

SHS Excellent Progress 8 and Attainment 8 Data.

WELL DONE YEAR 11 2018!

96.5% of GCSE students achieve Grade 4 and above in Maths and English

58% of A Level students achieve A*-B grades

2018 GCSE Results

These figures are provisional and will be confirmed when the DFE publish national data in late 2018

Proportion of all grades 7 to 9 (A/A*)	46%
	706 grades 7-9/A*-B including 163 grade 9s and 13 A*/A**
Progress 8 score	+ 0.65 Above Average / Band 1 (provisional)
Attainment 8 score	65.5 (provisional)
Pupils who've achieved grade 5 or better in English and Mathematics GCSEs	79%
Pupils who've achieved grade 4 or better in English and Mathematics GCSEs	96%
Pupils entered for the English Baccalaureate	93.6%
Pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate at grade 5+	69%
Pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate at grade 4+	84%

2018 A Level Results:

WELL DONE YEAR 13 2018!

These figures are provisional and will be confirmed when the DFE publish national data in late 2018

Proportion of all grades A*-B	57.8%
Average grade per entry	B-
Average points score per entry	35.69
Students achieving 3 or more A Levels A*-E (or equivalents)	95%
Number of students entered	121

Student destinations:

80% of our students went on to university including those universities and subjects listed below. 83% secured a place at their first choice university. 6% of students took up apprenticeships; 10% went into employment and 3% took up scholarships, foundation Arts courses and trust placements.

YORK	Business and Management with a Year in Industry
DURHAM	Liberal Arts
BIRMINGHAM	Psychology
LEICESTER	Medicine
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	Geography
EDINBURGH	History and Classics
DURHAM	English Literature
CARDIFF	Archaeology and Ancient History (Integrated)
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	Anthropology and Law
LIVERPOOL	Egyptology and Ancient History
LOUGHBOROUGH	Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry
SHEFFIELD	Mechanical Engineering with Spanish
LEEDS	Fine Art
NEWCASTLE	Modern Languages
BRISTOL	Mathematics
QUEEN MARY LONDON	Medicine

New staff

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff to Spalding High School :

Miss H Jones -Teacher of PE

My first term at Spalding High School as a PE Teacher has flown by! It has been full of new experiences and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know more of the girls and members of staff as the weeks have progressed. It is a lovely school to be part of with some extremely talented individuals! I feel proud to work at such a friendly, welcoming and supportive school and I'm really looking forward to the rest of the academic year.

Miss H Lee -Teacher of Geography

It is hard to believe how the first half term break of the year is nearly upon us! As the saying goes, 'time flies when you are having fun', and that sentiment has certainly summarised my time at the High School so far. I have received such a lovely welcome from staff, and have been amazed to find how enjoyable and rewarding it is to teach the hard-working and respectful students I have found in my classes. The school environment has certainly made me feel very much at home, and I look forward to working within this community and getting to know my students more as the year goes on.

Mr B Love - Assistant Headteacher

As a step-parent of a student that has recently benefitted from Spalding High School's excellent teaching and pastoral care and who is now confidently taking her next steps at university, I had already seen first-hand what an exceptional school this is. It was perhaps for this reason that I jumped at the opportunity to be part of the School when the post of Assistant Headteacher was advertised last February. Happily, the School has not disappointed and I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome that I have received from students, staff and parents alike. The School is characterised by dedicated teaching, a collaborative partnership between pupils and staff and a warm community atmosphere. It has been a pleasure working with the students and I have been impressed by their energy, curiosity and vivacity. That, and their stationery fanaticism, which has, in turn, prompted me to buy a pencil case for the first time in 16 years of teaching! I look forward to a fantastic year and helping the School build upon its already strong track record.

Miss L Pettefar - Teacher of English

What a warm and welcoming place Spalding High School has proven to be. Students are helpful and eager to share their knowledge - both academically and when I need advice about procedures. My tutor group, 8N, are a wealth of knowledge! Staff have been supportive and friendly, making my settling in very easy. I already feel like a well-established member of the school - though I have only been here for five weeks. The English team has made me feel very valued. Thank you everyone for making the transition to a new school so very pleasant.

Mrs J Pryke - Midday Supervisor

I joined Spalding High School in September as a Lunchtime Supervisor and initially I was nervous, but I have to say this is the best school I could have chosen. Not only were the staff welcoming, but the pupils are so friendly and welcoming too. After a conversation with some of the girls, we discussed colours of tops and I have recently been wearing different coloured tops relating to condiments. I have found mayonnaise, mustard and ketchup coloured tops so far!

Mrs R Reynolds - Science Technician

I have worked in a local Secondary School for nine years and at a FE College for three years but over the twelve years in education, I have never worked in such an establishment where all staff are so accommodating and supportive towards new staff. On a regular basis, I am asked how I am getting on from different members of staff. If I am unsure of any school procedures I can always find a member of staff to ask. The Science team are amazing and so supportive of the Technicians and value what we do. The students really matter and are supported outside of the classroom too with extra support at lunchtime. Over the previous four weeks I am gaining confidence and finding my way around and enjoying the experience of working at the Spalding High School.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT



The Music Department has been very busy so far this year, Y10, Y11 and Y12 Music groups performed at the Sport/Music/Drama presentation evening as well as during the Lower School and Upper School Prize-Givings. Performances included “I Know What you Did Last Summer” by Shawn Mendes, “Jealous” by Labrinth and “All We Do” by Oh wonder. Flo Rudd in Y11 also performed a flute solo during the Lower School Prize-Giving. We are now working hard towards the Christmas Concert, Church Service and GCSE Presentation Afternoon. Meanwhile, Y7 will be performing Iggy Pop’s “The Passenger” for the Y5 and 6 Open Day and Y8 have been working on Coldplay’s “Clocks”.

Mr Garbett

OUTLOOK EXPEDITION

On Friday 13th July 2018 a group of 17 students and two staff set off on the adventure of a lifetime to spend 28 days in Peru and Bolivia, as part of an expedition offered by Outlook Expeditions. The students were supported in planning their itinerary while confidently managing a tight budget, booking accommodation and organising transport within both countries. A fabulous itinerary included spending time camping in the Amazon rain forest, visiting Machu Picchu and travelling across the salt plains of Bolivia in 4x4 vehicles.

A highlight for the students was the opportunity to work at the Azul Wazi project, a boys’ orphanage, close to the Incan city of Cusco. During time at the project the



students built concrete foundations and pillars for a new bathroom and spent time with the children.

Many gifts were kindly donated before the expedition began which we were able to be shared, much to the delight of the children living there. Many challenges were faced during the visit including extremes of temperature, high altitude, long journeys and numerous creepy



crawlies in the jungle. The group demonstrated great resilience in overcoming difficulties and grew in confidence throughout the visit. Travelling on expedition can be a life changing experience and the students developed many personal skills alongside gaining a greater understanding of the difficulties faced by people in developing countries. We hope to have ignited a spark for future travel in our students and the desire to have a positive impact on others around the world.

YEAR 13 PHYSICS TRIP

This year's physics trip to RAF Cranwell's Isaac Newton lecture was led by Jim Al-Khalili, the author of the book 'What's Next?'. It was an inspiring talk for the Year 13 students and touched upon many topics of physics, engineering and biotechnology and their possible application in the future to come. This included the possibility of wormholes in the galaxy, leaping across space-time, and explaining how Einstein's theory of relativity does not rule this prospect out. This was especially intriguing as it is only a concept used in Hollywood movies, however knowing that Einstein's theory of relativity predicted the existence of black holes, which were not discovered in his time, leads to the belief that it may be very possible worm holes are somewhere out there too. Another topic that was mentioned as Mr Al-Khalili's idea for the future, was the idea of 'Quantum Bio-engineering'. This concept included the combining of Quantum engineering, nanotechnology and genomics and how apparent they will become in our future as technologies develop. Time travelling, human teleportation, existence of aliens and much more was mentioned that kept eyes open and ears wide throughout the entire lecture. Overall it was an inspiring talk which was more than well worth the time it took out of our school day.

By Y13 Physics Students

BAGS2SCHOOL

We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who contributed to the Bags2School collection. We raised £244.00.

We really appreciate your support and as there will be another Bags2School event next year please start collecting now!

Thank you again.

Mrs F Barats and Mrs C Somers



MATHS CLINIC

Maths Clinic is every Thursday lunchtime in room 21 during the second half of lunch: 1pm week one, 1.25pm week two. We welcome all students from all year groups. Come and receive help with any topic you find difficult or with your homework. Alternatively, if you would just like a quiet place to complete your mathematics homework this is the place for you!

Maths Masterclass for Year 11 students is every Tuesday lunchtime at 1pm, also in room 21. The topic for the session is on a poster outside room 21, along with the signup sheet. We hope to see you there.

Mrs Martin

KS3 MATHS CLUB

It's been an exciting first half term for our new maths club! We must credit at least half of its success, to those who have consistently attended beaming with enthusiasm and ready to tackle a challenge on a Wednesday Lunchtime in room 21 at 1pm. Maths Club is open to everyone, so come along to find out what it is all about. As for the house points gained from Maths Club, at the moment Johnson are just edging ahead. There is more fun to be had, riddles to be solved and house points to be won next half term. And we can confirm the return of origami, riddles and some Christmas themed fun to be had. See you all soon.

The Year 13 Maths Prefect Team

NUMERACY

In the new term Year 7 can expect to start the highly anticipated Numeracy Ninja's. This regular dose of numeracy will aim to improve key skills that will be used in all subjects. This will hopefully be something that our Year 7's will enjoy, and they will be able to immediately see their progress through the different belts achieved. We will be on the lookout for top achievers and students who are making the most progress.

Mr Ganger

NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE

Spalding High School has teams and individuals across a range of year groups competing in the National Cipher Challenge, supported by the Mathematics Department and Miss Ashley. The Cipher Challenge is a nationwide, online codebreaking competition which has been running since 2002, and regularly attracts entries from teams at over 700 UK schools and colleges. More than 5,000 students are already taking part so far in 2018. The prizes are presented at an awards ceremony at Bletchley Park (where the Enigma code was broken). It is not unknown for winners to meet members of the secret world of GCHQ at the awards dinner despite their busy schedules.

The competition is structured as a series of encrypted messages which tell a story. This year the competitors are trying to unravel the story of a 145-year old Russian diary. Find out more at www.cipherchallenge.org - it is still not too late to get involved.

As the weeks go by, the challenges will keep getting harder. Stick with it and you will be in with a good chance of winning a prize, as other less tenacious cryptographers around the country drop out...

Miss Ashley

U16 NETBALL

The U16's took part in their district tournament on Tuesday 9th October. They faced 4 other local schools, with the top 2 teams winning a spot at the county tournament. Their first two games were against Bourne Grammar and Bourne Academy, both very strong teams. The tight knit squad managed to hold both teams to a draw, meaning the next two games were a must win! With 2 wins and 2 draws the U16's finished second, giving

them the opportunity to compete at the county finals in November. Well done to all the girls involved!

U14 NETBALL



After a couple of unfortunate losses in previous weeks, the U14 team came out strong in their district tournament. After 7 hard fought games, the girls finished in 3rd place, just missing out on a spot at the county finals, but a tournament they should be proud of none the less!

U13 TENNIS



Alice Gamman, Elizabeth Buck, Lois Boothby and Hannah Willis all took part in the county round of the U13 national tennis cup, where we travelled all the way to Twycross. Alice and Hannah convincingly won their singles matches but with both teams evenly matched, it all came down to the doubles. Elizabeth and Hannah put up a good fight but

came short against the oppositions serve. Alice and Lois looked to be on top but unfortunately with the wind not their side, both doubles matches were lost and we were knocked out of the cup. A very well done to all 4 girls, they are already looking to making amends in next years competition!

Miss K Dixon

EQUESTRIAN

The riding team went down to Forest Edge on the 8th September to compete in the JWS, as a last chance to qualify and final practice before the National Championship in October.

In the 75cm Milly Hastings put in a good performance just missing out on placing, The 85cm team came 5th, and the 95cm and 105cm team came 2nd, both qualifying for the National Championship in October with Freya Yomens coming 5th individually in the 95cm.

Last weekend I went down to Bishop Burton College to compete on my new horse, Bob. Bob is having to step up and fill big shoes due to an injury to my other horse Vernon. After a good performance in the 95cm and 105cm, we just missed out on placings. Next stop is the national Championships in October half term.

Amy Whittington

SPONSORED WALK 2018

The whole school sponsored walk took place on the afternoon of Friday 28th September and was about 5 miles. The weather was very kind to us and the atmosphere was really great on the walk, with almost the whole school taking part. In total, pupils raised a fantastic £8,646; two pupils raised an amazing £190.00 each, they were Abigail Armstrong and Chloe Matthew. The money will be used to improve the School environment and fund projects suggested by pupils through the School Council. We also supported Macmillan Coffee Morning on the day and staff and pupils baked and bought cakes to share after the walk. We have donated £1,000 to MacMillan Cancer Support.

CHANGES TO MORNING ENTRY/EXIT POINTS TO SCHOOL

We constantly review our site security and safeguarding and are making some changes to the entry/exit for Y7-Y11 students with effect from Term 2. We will trial the new arrangements and evaluate how they go. This coincides with plans for upgrading the school fences and entry/exit points and is part of on-going work to the site.

- Matmore Gate access will be shut for all students in Y7-11 before 8.40am. Any Y7-11 arriving at this gate before 8.40am will need to walk around to the front drive entrances of the School.
- Yr 12-13 students and staff will still be able to access the site from Matmore Gate using the coded gate.
- All Y7-Y11 students arriving in school between 8am and 8.20am must now enter via the School Reception front door and stay in the canteen until the bell goes at 8.20am.
- The green front gates will be shut until 8.20am. Enter via reception.
- When the bell goes at 8.20am the front green pedestrian gates will be opened and students may enter the site and go to their form base.
- The green front gates will be shut at 8.55am. Latecomers will need to enter via reception.
- The back and front pedestrian gates will be shut (but not locked) at 4pm.
- Staff supervision of entry and exit points will also increase.

OPEN DAY 2018

With lots of help from our wonderful new Year 7s and Sixth Form Prefect Team we were thrilled to welcome around 700 people to the High School Year 5 and 6 Open Day this week. The School was buzzing with excitement and eager smiling faces to welcome our potential new families and pupils to the School. 7C, J and N opened with a fantastic rendition of Iggy Pop's 'The Passenger' and Roisin, Maria and Evie, spoke brilliantly and with confidence to a packed hall at both presentations (well done girls). Our Head Girl Emily Smith also spoke from the heart about her seven years at the school. We had lovely chats with our visitors and are grateful for all the positive feedback received. Thank you for joining us on this special day and we look forward to working with you soon. Please do check our website as the Year 7 form groups will be adding information about induction and transition on a regular basis.

DATES FOR DIARY

19 th October	End of Term 1	28 th November	Y12 Parents' Evening
21 st October	Drama & Arts Trip to Milan	03 rd December	Y11 French & Spanish Orals
30 th October	Start of Term 2	03 rd December	PTA Xmas Film Club 4.30pm
02 nd November	Y8 Arts Day	04 th December	Christmas Craft Fair
02 nd November	Drama Trip Key Theatre 5pm	05 th December	Christmas Craft Fair
07 th November	Sixth Form Information Evening 7pm	06 th December	Christmas Craft Fair
08 th November	Young Rotary Cooks Competition 5-9pm	11 th December	Sixth Form Panto
09 th November	PTA Family Bingo 6.30pm	13 th December	Christmas Concert 7pm
15 th November	Y11 Parents' Evening	14 th December	Bring-A-Tin Day
16 th November	KS3 Sleepover	14 th December	KS3 Yule Ball
22 nd November	GCSE Presentation 2pm	20 th December	End of Term 2
27 th November	Y10 & Y11 Drama Trip (Woman in Black)	20 th December	Senior Prizegiving 2pm
		20 th December	End of Term 2