



# The Parish Post

**28th November 2022**

Welcome to the next edition for this academic year of the 'The Parish Post'. Due to technical issues with Sway last week this is a double issue this week.

The focus will be to share aspects of the children's learning journeys each week across the different Phases and Year Groups. This may be subject specific or across the curriculum. We will also celebrate 'proud moments' across school alongside sharing general updates with parents/carers - #proudtobeParish.

We are keen to receive any feedback regarding your thoughts and also with regards to the content you would like to see included each week. Please get in touch at [feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk).

***Wholly inclusive, striving for fulfilment, empowering the flourishing of our world.***

In this week's Parish Post



- **Diary Dates**
- **Read all about it...**
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- **Weekly Awards**
- **Phase Learning Journeys**
- **And Finally...**

## Diary Dates



### **Term 2**

#### **WB 28th November**

##### **Monday 28th November**

Whole School Collective Worship

##### **Tuesday 29th November**

Deadline for lunches WB 5th December

##### **Wednesday 30th November**

Whole School Collective Worship

##### **Thursday 1st December**

##### **Friday 2nd December**

#### **WB 5th December**

##### **Monday 5th December**

Whole School Collective Worship

##### **Tuesday 6th December**

Deadline for lunches WB 12th December

KS1 Performances

##### **Wednesday 7th December**

Whole School Collective Worship

KS1 Performances

##### **Thursday 8th December**

Festive Thursday

Christmas Lunch

KS1 Performances

**Friday 9th December**

**WB 12th December**

**Monday 12th December**

Whole School Collective Worship

KS2 Carol Concert

**Tuesday 13th December**

FS2 Performances

**Wednesday 14th December**

Whole School Collective Worship

**Thursday 15th December**

Christmas Celebrations

**Friday 16th December**

End of Term Service (in school)

End of Term 2

[Read all about it...](#)



### **It's Almost Christmas...**

At this very busy time of year, all at Spalding Parish Church of England Day School are preparing to celebrate the Christmas season and the coming of Jesus Christ. Over the course of the next few weeks there are a number of events planned for pupils, families and the whole school community to come together and rejoice at this very special time in the Christian calendar.

**Tuesday 6th – Thursday 8th December** – ‘Bethlehem Bake-Off’ performances (morning and early evening) performed by our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils.

**Thursday 8th December** – ‘Festive Thursday’ for whole school community including Christmas Crowns, our SPCEDS approach to Christmas Jumper Day this year.

Rather than Christmas Jumper Day we have framed the day as ‘Festive Thursday’ allowing children (and adults) to wear any item of clothing, maybe even a favourite item of clothing for the festive period. This might be something with a bit of sparkle, a favourite football shirt or something Christmas themed - the focus is on clothing that makes the children feel happy so we can really enjoy our a 'Festive Thursday' together. In readiness for this the children will also create 'Christmas Crowns' in school prior to the day which can then also be worn as part of our festivities. Our focus is on celebrating together and including all and we hope this approach will support this. We will undertake a collection for Save the Children but please only donate if you can afford to.

**Thursday 8th December** – Christmas Lunch for whole school community, including Governors and member of the Clergy Team of St Mary and St Nicolas.

**Monday 12th December** – Key Stage 2 Carol Concert at St Mary and St Nicolas Parish Church (7.00pm onwards) including a range of seasonal hymns and lessons shared by our Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils.

**Tuesday 13th December** – EYFS Nativity Performances (morning and afternoon) performed by our EYFS pupils.

**Friday 16th December** – Christmas Service at Spalding Parish Church of England Day School (AM).

The Christmas season doesn't really start until our Christmas performances and our Carol Concert have taken place, showcasing the talents of our pupils and the staff who work with them. We are also really excited to be able to undertake these events after a number of years where this simply wasn't possible. These events bring our community together to enjoy our favourite carols, remind us of key Christmas messages and instill a real sense of pride in the achievements of all. As such we hope parents, carers and members of the Spalding Parish family will be able to join us during this period of celebration.



### **Termly Reports**

It has been a very busy couple of weeks reading all of the children's reports - all 552 of them. It is always such a pleasure to read the reports and see the children's achievements but also their next steps. It never ceases to amaze me just how hard the pupils work and how much they achieve even in a relatively short amount of time. My thanks must also go to the teachers for the work that does go into this.

As you may know I do aim to write on each child's report at least once over the course of the academic year and this term my focus has been on EYFS, the newest pupils to Spalding Parish, and Year 3, following their transition to Key Stage 2. In the Spring I plan to focus on Years 1, 4 and 5 and then in the summer Year 2 and Year 6 pupils will be in focus.

Reports will be coming home to parents and carers on Friday and we hope you find these useful too, both in sharing the key objectives undertaken as part of our core curriculum alongside next steps for development. Whilst we are not holding formal parent consultations at this point in the year - we undertook this in September in order to support transition - if you would like to know more about how to support your child, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Similarly, if you would like to discuss your child's progress please get in touch.

Our next formal parent consultation will take place in March where we will then share our Spring Termly reports. We will also undertake our Annual Parent Questionnaires at that point. Thank you.



### **National School Breakfast Programme**

Just a reminder re the breakfast provision that we have introduced for the benefit of all families.

The breakfast, that is provided by the National School Breakfast Programme runs from 8.30am each morning (from the gates opening) until 8.45am (ensuring all pupils have time to still get to class). It is to be based in the school hall and pupils can come into school via the hall, eat in the hall and then head to class through school. Bagels need to be eaten in the hall before the pupil's head to class please and parents cannot escort pupils through school.

Should you prefer to drop your child off at the classroom door, children can alternatively collect a bagel from the hall and then leave via the external door and eat their bagel on the way to class via the playground. Registration times remain the same so please bear this in mind when arriving at school in a morning. Children in Key Stage 2 need to be in class for 8.45am with pupils in Key Stage 1 and EYFS in class by 8.50am.

The National School Breakfast Programme is funded by the Department for Education and run by Family Action to support schools in England to provide children with a healthy breakfast at the start of the school day. Family Action is committed to supporting child development, and believe a healthy school breakfast, without barrier or stigma, can set up children to succeed and give them the very best chance to learn.

Please be aware that as a school we do need to also consider the food standards and this is also reflected through the breakfast programme. As such the recommendations are half a bagel for pupils in Key Stage 2 and a quarter of a bagel for pupils in Key Stage 1 and this is reflected in the orders received by school.

This is obviously a new initiative at Spalding Parish and we are hoping that this will be a real positive addition to our provision. We would just ask whilst we establish the provision at school that you bear with us, particularly in case of any delays in the early days or weeks. We would also appreciate any feedback with regards to this.



## **Parking**

Just another reminder re parking on and around the school site. Firstly parking on the school site is for staff only. With a staff of almost 80, this will ensure that staff are able to park easily and therefore be ready for the start of the school day. The only exceptions to this are visitors to the school, e.g. Trust staff, supply teachers and external agencies who can then access the visitor bays, people with a disabled badge who can then use the accessibility parking and vehicles as part of contracts with the Local Authority such as taxis bringing pupils to school.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who do try to be considerate when parking around the school site. Thank you too to our families that do walk to school or park a little further away and then walk as this does reduce the congestion around school. If I could please ask that we are considerate to the local community when we are parking as we have had a number of concerns raised, both by neighbours and school families, about the parking around the school site including the potential impact on pupil safety when walking to and from school. Thank you in anticipation.



## **Attendance Update**



A huge thank you must go to parents and carers and also the pupils themselves for your efforts re school attendance this term and for also ensuring children are in school on time. It is an area that remains high priority at Spalding Parish and one that we continue to work on given the direct link between good attendance and high achievement.

Recently released Government guidance classifies attendance using five categories: Good Attendance, At Risk of Persistent Absence, Persistent Absence, At Risk of Severe Absence, Severe Absence with percentage bands for each as follows.

**Good Attendance:** >95.00%

**At Risk of Persistent Absence:** 90.00% - 94.99%

**Persistent Absence:** 70.00% - 89.99%

**At Risk of Severe Absence:** 50.00% - 69.99%

**Severe Absence:** <50.00%

During the week beginning 21st November attendance at Spalding Parish was as follows in terms of pupil numbers and percentages with an overall percentage for the week of 92.2%

Data for the week shows the following although it should be acknowledged that a day of absence in a one week period does mean that attendance for that pupil will only be 80%.

**Good Attendance:** 433 pupils (out of 552), 78.4% pupils

**At Risk of Persistent Absence:** 16 pupils (out of 552), 2.9% pupils

**Persistent Absence:** 50 pupils (out of 552), 9.1% of pupils

**At Risk of Severe Absence:** 27 pupils (out of 552), 4.9% pupils

**Severe Absence:** 26 pupils (out of 552), 4.7% pupils

This means that the attendance of over 21% of pupils was considered to be a concern during the week. Whilst we appreciate that children cannot help being ill and neither would we want them in school ill, attendance at school is high priority and as such we need to be doing all we can to ensure pupils are attending school as much as possible. A table showing the potential impact of absence from school is below.

Your child's education is our primary focus and given the extensive research proving a direct link between good attendance and good outcomes, alongside the national attendance guidance for schools, we do follow all absences up. This is not about singling anybody out but simply carrying out our statutory duty as a school and as such I would ask for your support in communicating with us in a positive way. We aim to work closely with parents and carers to support with improving attendance where this is causing concern and potentially impacting achievement. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

**ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY**

**Did You Know...?**

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year ...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	72 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	152 Lessons
was 85%	28 Days from School	244 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	304 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	384 Lessons

**GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY MATTERS**

**GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON TIME REALLY MATTERS**

**Did You Know...?**

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day by ...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3 Days from School	24 Lessons
10 Minutes	6 Days from School	48 Lessons
15 Minutes	9 Days from School	72 Lessons
20 Minutes	12 Days from School	96 Lessons
30 Minutes	18 Days from School	144 Lessons

**PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE**

Please remember if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, you should inform school by 9.30am that day in line with our school procedures. Please contact school on each day of absence unless otherwise agreed.

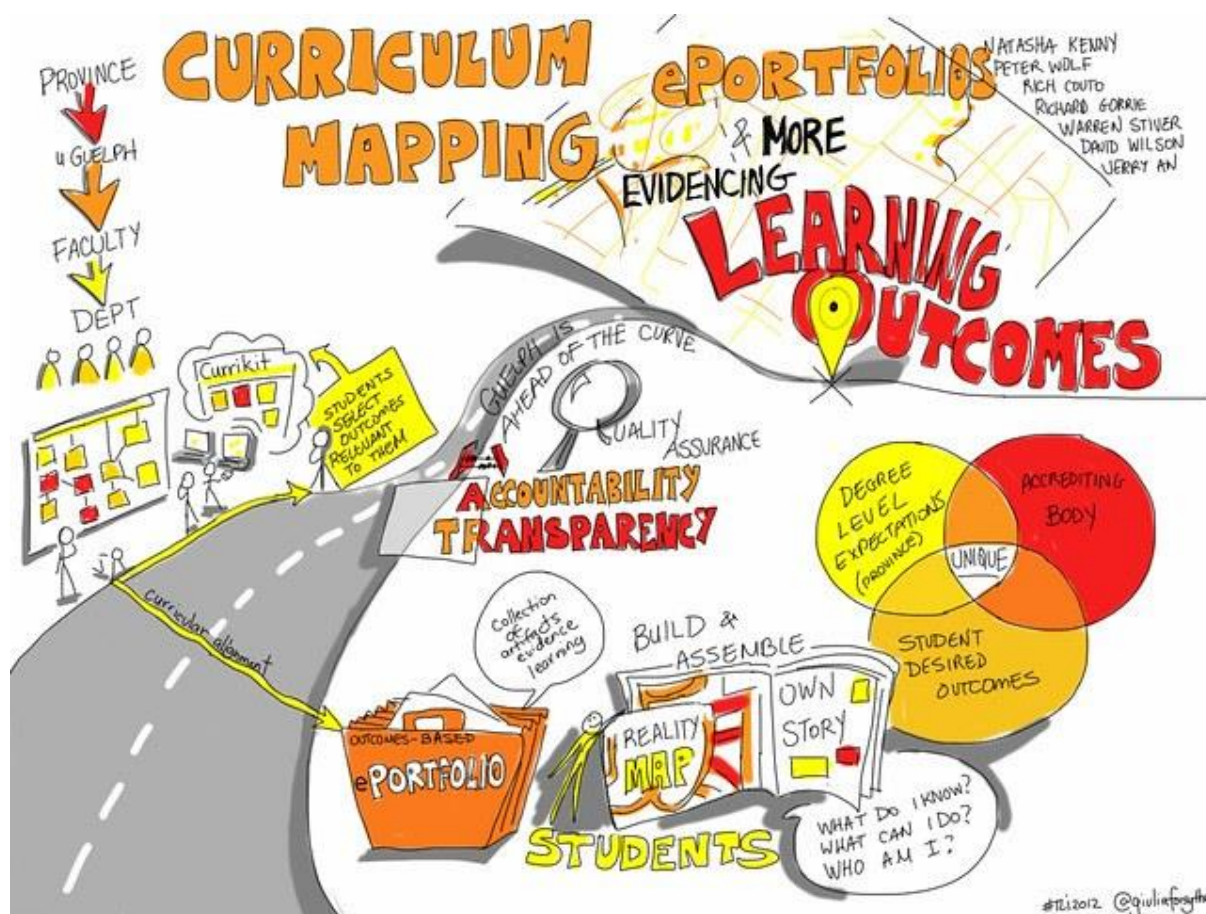
Also please remember that routine dental and medical appointments should not be made during school time. It is preferable and much more beneficial for pupils if appointments can be made either at the end of the school day or during school holidays. If you do have to make an appointment for during the school day, and we do appreciate that there are times when this may be necessary, please bring the appointment letter to the school office. Without this letter the absence will not be authorised.

**We are also seeing an increase in leave of absence requests. Current Government regulations mean that absence from school can only be authorised for “exceptional circumstances” for which there is very clear established criteria, again set by the Government. It is therefore highly unlikely that time off school will be authorised during term time.**

**Requests for term time absence, for any reason, must be made at least 10 days before the absence, except in emergencies, by booking an appointment with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.**

Should an appointment not be made, and in line with our safeguarding procedures and Government regulations, we will contact you with regards to your child’s absence in order to clarify fully the reasons for absence. Should the absence be unauthorised this may lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued. This may also be the case with regards to the increasing absences that we are seeing at the beginning and end of terms.

## Curriculum Corner



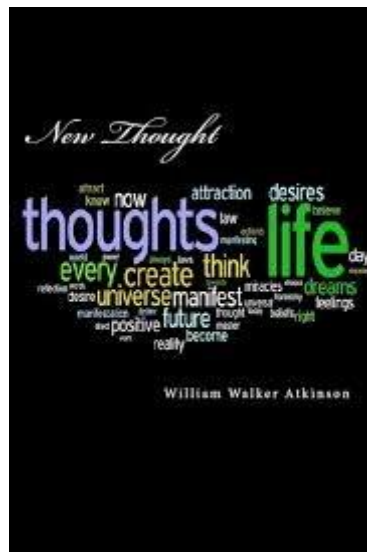
The focus at this point in the term has turned towards Advent and Christmas and the Christmas presentations that we look forward to sharing with parents and carers as part of our celebrations. The children, supported by the staff, have all been very busy learning new songs and new hymns and practising words as part of the events. We look forward to welcoming you into school and into church during the final two weeks of term to celebrate with you.

In the meantime if you could please support your child in learning any words they have be it songs, a speaking part, a poem to read, this would be very much appreciated. We would also appreciate it if all children could attend evening events on their allocated date please as all children do have a part to play in these events and it genuinely wouldn't be the same without the whole community present.

If you have not yet received a letter re tickets for our Key Stage 1 production please get in touch with the school office. Letters re the FS2 production should be with you by the end of the week and again please get in touch if you haven't received by that point. Thank you in anticipation.



Let's Pause for Thought...



**Let's Pause for Thought...**

As a school one of the things, we are clearly focused on is ensuring pupils are looking to the future. This includes raising their aspirations for a positive future and also the importance of resilience and perseverance alongside their part in making a change.

*it's never too late to be who you might have been.* **George Eliot**

Keep going, you will get there in the end.



## General Updates



### **COVID-19 Guidance**

Whilst we are hopefully looking forward to an uninterrupted school year, it is clear that COVID-19 remains with us. However, the current guidance remains very much the same as it was prior to the summer break. If you do have any questions around this please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**From 1st April 2022 the guidance around COVID and testing has been amended, as was previously outlined on the COVID road map and our transition into 'Living with COVID'.**

Covid is now specifically referenced in the guidance around the control of infectious diseases and there is no separate COVID guidance. Section 3 is related to management of infectious diseases, COVID being detailed within the section about Respiratory Infections. Section 4 of this guidance references actions to be taken should there be an 'outbreak'. For ease, the link to the document is below with the guidance being as follows.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-3-public-health-management-of-specific-infectious-diseases>

Essentially – COVID will be treated as we would any other infectious illness. Staff and children will be encouraged to stay at home if they are unwell. Where there is a positive COVID test, the timescales as below are advised:

- 5 days for staff and 3 days for pupils.

Further to the above, children/staff with a temperature, should not return to school/work whilst they still have a temperature, but can return with mild cold symptoms and if they are otherwise well enough to be at school/work.

### **Start and End of Day Routines - Reminder**

Thank you for your support in ensuring pupils are at school on time, it is very much appreciated and does ensure pupils are ready for the start of the day. There does seem to have been some confusion around timings for the beginning and end of day which are as follows:

**FS2: Start of Day 8.50am (doors open from 8.40am) End of Day 3.10pm**

**KS1 (Year 1 - 2): Start of Day 8.50am (doors open from 8.40am) End of Day 3.10pm**

**KS2 (Year 3 - 6): Start of Day 8.45am (doors open from 8.35am) End of Day 3.20pm**

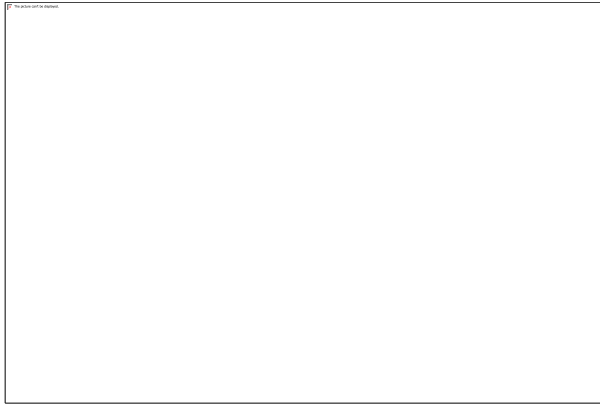
**In a morning the gates will open at 8.30am on a morning to allow time to get onto site ready for doors opening at 8.35am (KS2) and close at 8.55am.**

**Similarly, on an afternoon, the gates at the end of the day will open at 3.05pm ready for end of day at 3.10pm (KS1) and close at 3.30pm.**

These timings do need to be adhered to at the beginning and end of day to ensure our safeguarding requirements are met so we would appreciate your support with this. If you do have any concerns, please speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

**When on the site please be courteous and stand away from the classroom windows and doors as pupils will still be learning until the end of the school day.**

**If we could also please ask that school equipment, including the gym equipment on the playgrounds, is not used at the beginning or end of the day. We appreciate that this is very tempting but use needs to be supervised by school adults so if you could please ensure your children do not use. This will ensure that pupils and families are able to stay safe.**

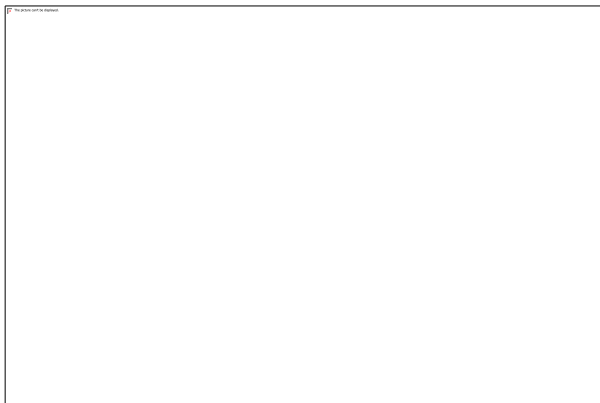


### **Safeguarding**

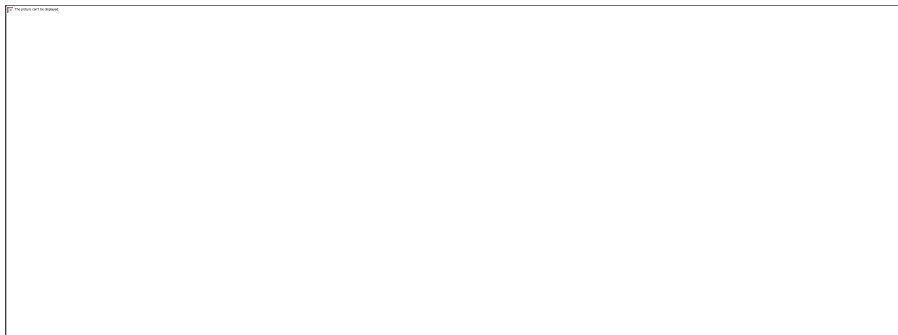
Safeguarding is an important part of our work with children and young adults so we will keep this reminder in each edition of the Parish Post. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us.

If you have concerns about the safety of any child, please let somebody know.

Diane Mulley and Emily Hill are the designated safeguarding officers within the school. Similarly if you do require any support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



### **Academy Committee Update (previously Local Council)**



### **Emma Rains - Chair of Governors**

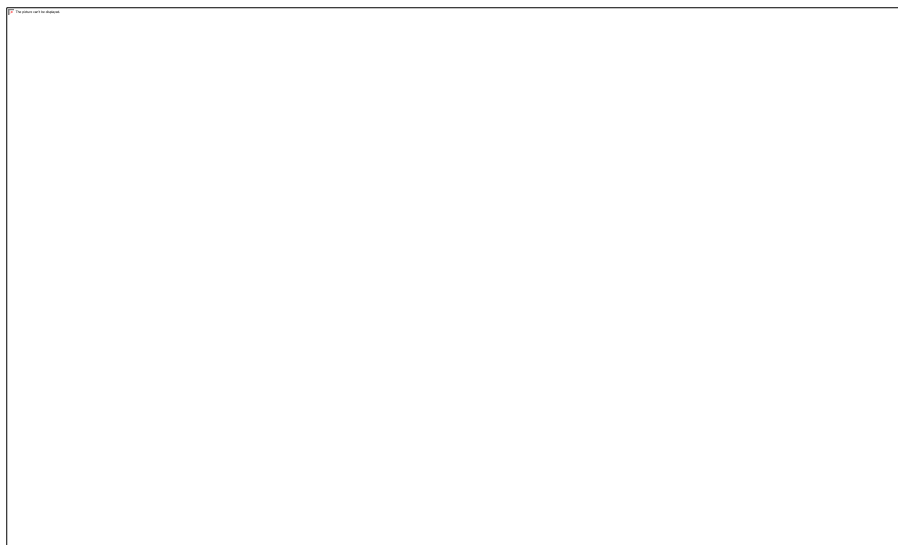
This term certainly seems to be flying by with lots of exciting events happening in school and still to come. Children in Need day was a great success with fantastic donations made to both Children in

Need and Diabetes UK. Thank you to you all for your contributions. With the lead up to Christmas there are lots of exciting events still to take place with FS2 and KS1 Christmas performances and the KS2 Carol Concert as well as Festive Thursday and the always popular Christmas lunch!

The Academy Committee have recently met to finalise our roles for this academic year and have ensured that our priorities match the priorities identified by the school. We will be meeting again during this term to put together a calendar of activities we plan to undertake to support our links with the school. If you would like to know more about the Academy Committee, please do pop into the school office who will be able to pass on any messages or queries to the Committee.



## Online Safety Update



A regular addition to our weekly Parish Post is the Online Safety Update. Each week we will post some tips and suggestions just to support keeping children safe online. For this we will also share key tips from National Online Safety and their Wake Up Wednesday materials. If you do want any further details with regards to this or would like any further support please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

### **Tik Tok**

What's trending on Tik Tok? With new features being added and potentially dangerous new trends to stay aware of, this week's #WakeUpWednesday guide reassesses the ever-popular social media platform for possible online safety hazards.



[https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/tiktok-2022?utm\\_source=social&utm\\_campaign=nos-wakeupwednesday-guide](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/tiktok-2022?utm_source=social&utm_campaign=nos-wakeupwednesday-guide)

## Community Corner

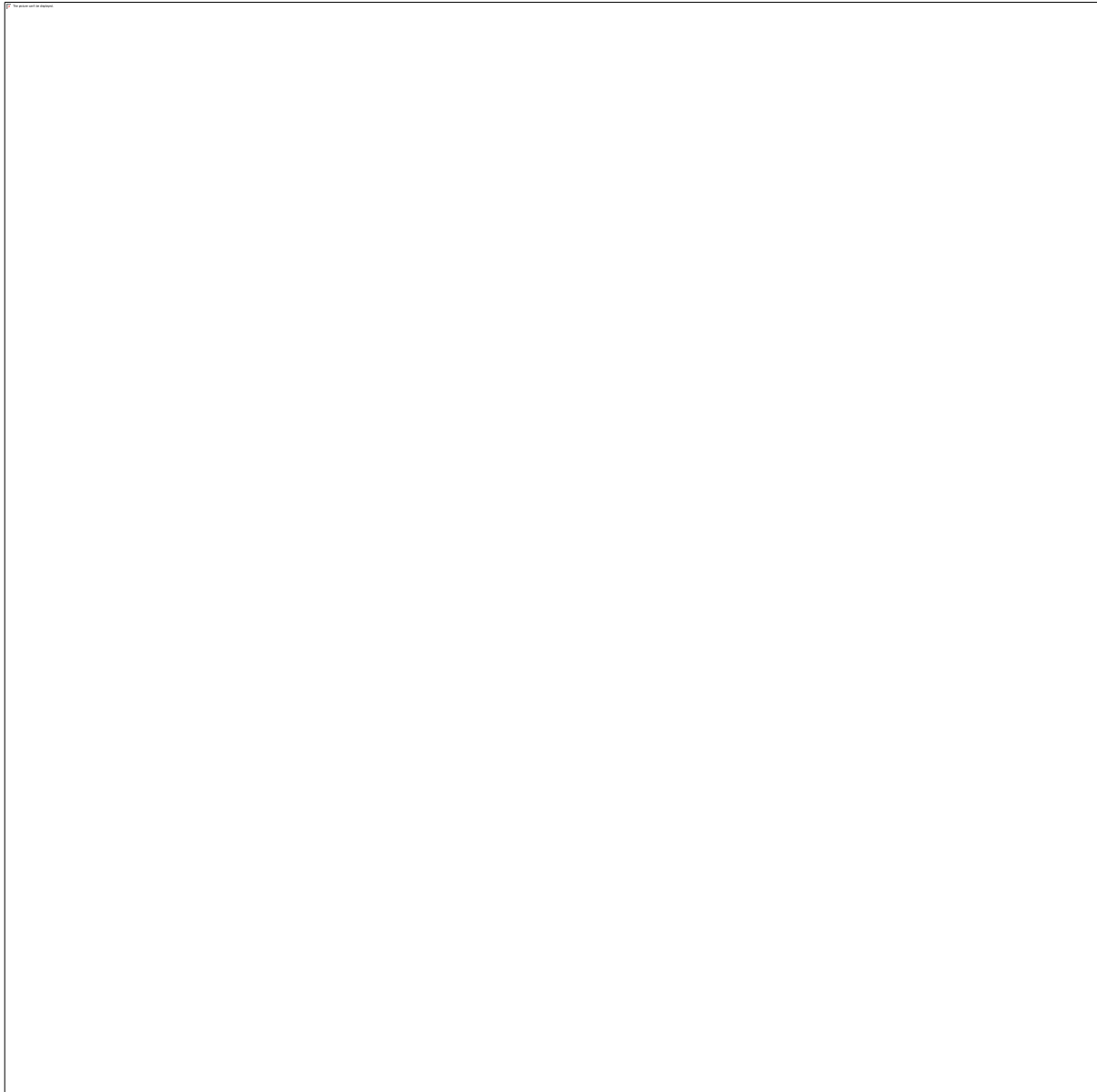


Through the Community Corner, we will aim to share different activities/events happening within the local community that may be of interest to pupils and families of Spalding Parish.

This week it is the turn of the Broad Street Methodist Church and their Warm Spaces initiative. Anybody is welcome to come and use their warm, welcoming, safe space on Mondays between 10am and 4pm from Monday 7th November. The church lounge will be open offering free hot drinks, activities and people to chat to throughout the winter months.



## Weekly Awards



### **Head Teacher Awards**

Each week pupils in school are nominated for Head Teacher Awards celebrating their achievements be it academic success, sporting success, fantastic manners, role model behaviour or indeed anything else worthy of note. We look forward to celebrating all of our award winners over the course of the academic year.

**FS2:** Honey (FS2AC), Natalia (FS2KB)

**Year 1:** Elouise (Y1CH), Oscar and Oscar (Y1EWSE), Ethan and Archie (Y1PB)

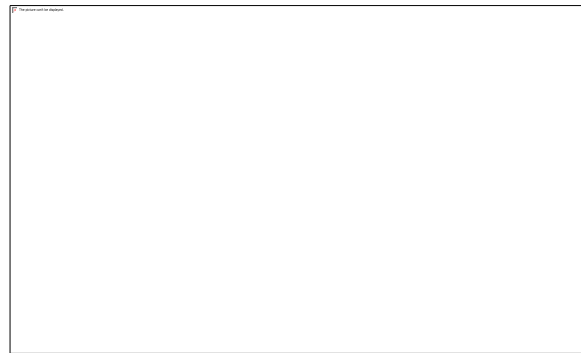
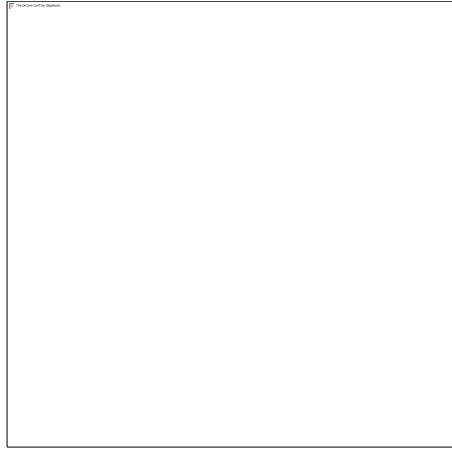
**Year 2:** Ava and Stiyana (Y2AR), Charlie (Y2DO), Freddie and Charlotte (Y2SD)

**Year 3:** Andrei and Alex (Y3CC), Lacey and Darcie (Y3EP), Isaac and Teegan (Y3SH)

**Year 4:** Emilia and Lola (Y4IN), Bryan and Oscar (Y4KR), Mikey and Elise (Y4LS)

**Year 5:** Freddi and Leyton (Y5RW), Valerij and Maksims (Y5TS)

**Year 6:** Tyler and Karolis (Y6AS), Konrad and Daniel (Y6EW), Cassidy and Jess (Y6KB)



### **Attendance Awards**

Attendance and punctuality are attributes that are essential as children grow up and this is the time of their lives when they learn them.

A number of weekly and termly incentives and awards are in place to reward pupils who attend regularly and who are punctual for school at the start of the school day.

Our weekly attendance awards celebrate the class with the highest attendance in each Phase.

### **14th-18th November**

**FS2:** FS2AC (95.5%) - FS2AC are our best attender in FS2 this week, well done!

**KS1:** Y1EWSE (97.1%) – Y1EWSE are the winners in KS1 this week, fantastic!

**LKS2:** Y3CC (98.7%) – Highest in LKS2 and highest in school for Y3CC again this week, superb!

**UKS2:** Y5RW (97.6%) – Y5RW are the winners again in UKS2 with another high %, brilliant!

**School:** 93.6% - A slight rise this week however still some work to do if we are going to reach the Government target of 97.0%.

### **21st-25th November**

**FS2:** FS2AC (94.2%) - FS2AC are our best attender in FS2 again this week, brilliant job!

**KS1:** Y2DO (94.4%) – Y2DO are the winners in KS1 this week, amazing work!

**LKS2:** Y4IN (99.2%) – Highest in LKS2 and highest in school for Y4IN this week, fantastic!

**UKS2:** Y6AS (95.3%) – Y6AS are the winners in UKS2!

**School:** 92.2% - Another decline again this week. We need to really focus on attendance to reach the Government target of 97.0%.

### House Points

Each week pupils are awarded house points as a reward, with a weekly winner from our 6 SPCEDS House Teams:

**Spiritual Solvers**

**Positive Promoters**

**Challenging Challengers**

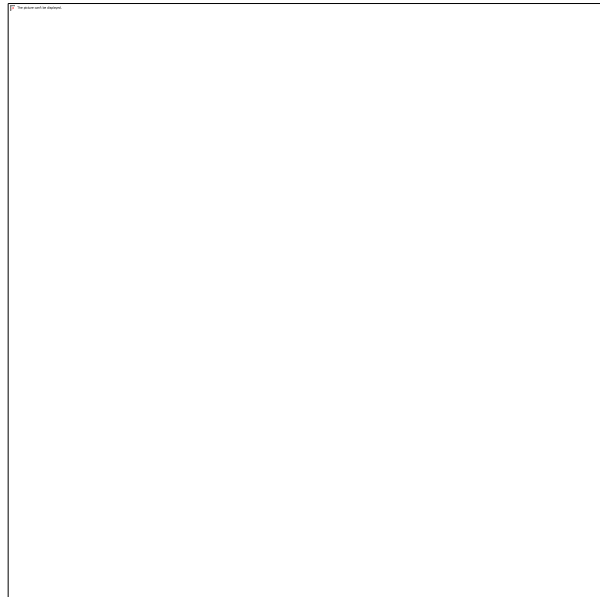
**Exciting Experts**

**Dynamic Dynamos**

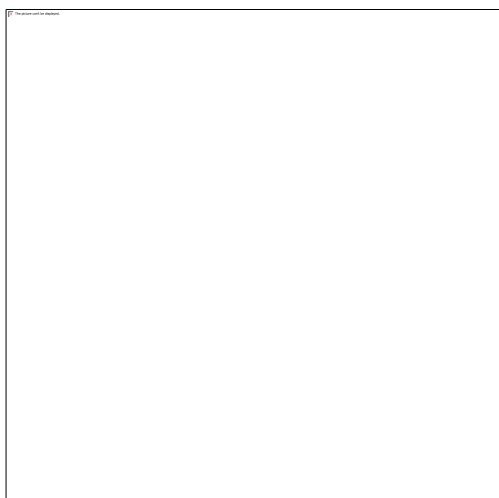
**Supportive Supporters.**

Last weeks winners were **Positive Promoters** with **472 points** - well done.

This weeks winners are **Spiritual Solvers** with **966 points** - well done.



## Phase Learning Journeys



### **Key Stage 1**

A visit to both Year 1 and Year 2 this week to hear all about their learning over the last fortnight.

#### **Year 1**

This week Year One have been continuing our Geography learning. Our big question is 'What is it like to live in Spalding?'. We spotted lots of different buildings around town including shops, a bank, a theatre and a museum. We looked at the river and how it cuts through the centre of town.

The children said " It is good to live in Spalding because there are places for eating and drinking."

"Spalding is good because I can buy sweets in Tesco!"

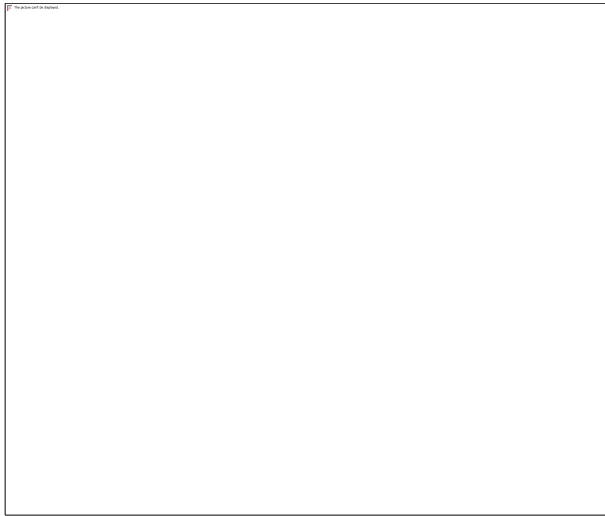
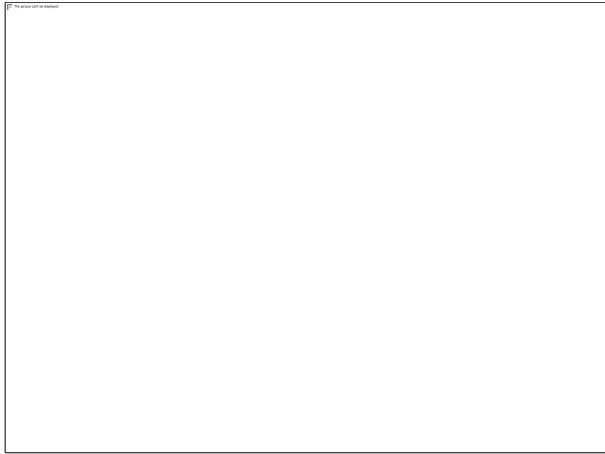
"It is kind of windy in Spalding."

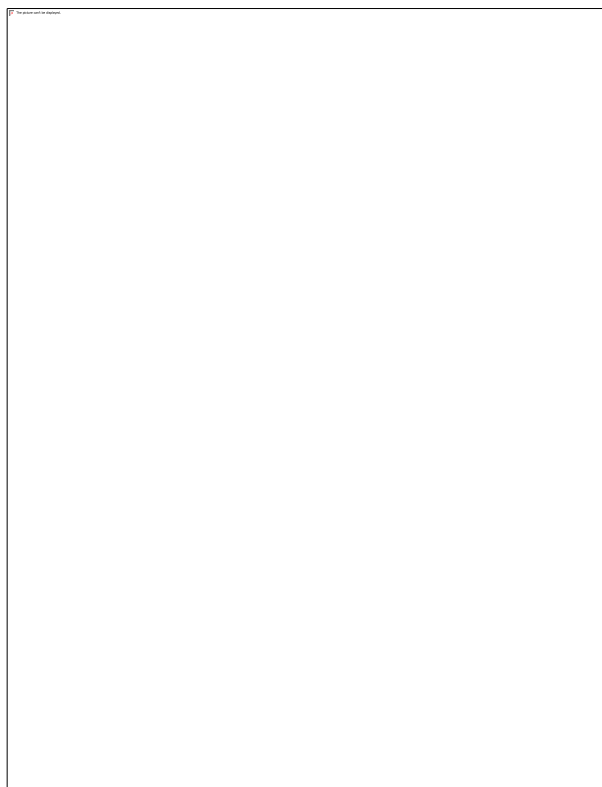
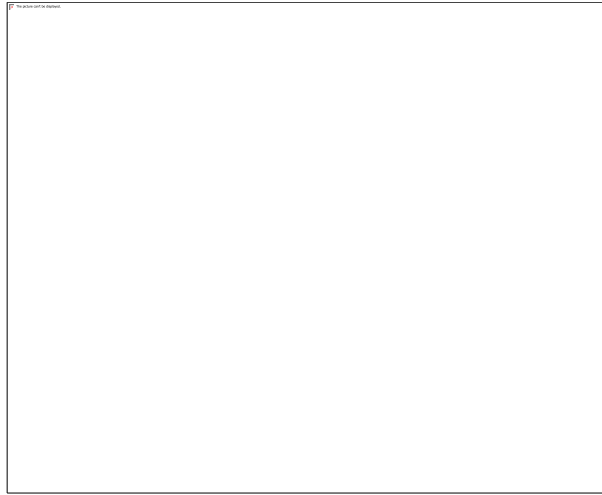
We will now continue our learning journey back at school by creating our own town maps.

#### **Year 2**

We enjoyed our Computing lesson recently learning all about decomposition. We created our own hand jives and wrote down the step by step instructions so these could be followed. At the end of the lesson we all performed our own unique hand jives.

Finally, rehearsals have started for our Christmas play "Bethlehem Bake Off." The children were sent home before the half term break with their lines to learn and are doing a great job so far. Any support you are able to give to help the children learn their lines and encouragement to speak in their loudest voices (yes we want them to be loud at school!), would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you.





## **Lower Key Stage 2**

This week in Lower Key Stage 2 our focus is on both Year 3 and Year 4 and their learning over the last few weeks.

### **Year 3**

Year 3 have been learning about the Holy Trinity in RE. We have used the format of 'The Grace' prayer to create our own version to use to encourage one another daily in our classrooms. We thought about the representations of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

We are looking forward to our visit to the church to search for symbols of the Holy Trinity.

### **Year 4**

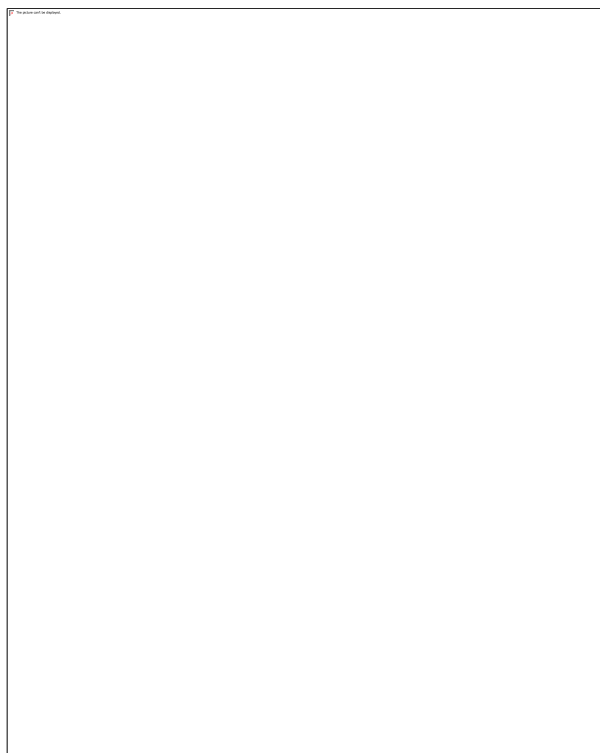
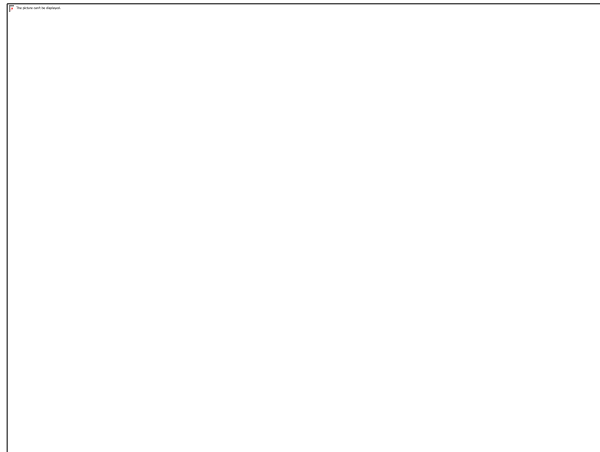


We have had another brilliant week in Year 4! The children have been working hard in Maths, we have now moved onto our Multiplication and Division unit – so far we have been looking in detail at each of our times tables – please test us at home!

In Science, we have been looking at how we can classify different animals and creating our own classification keys.

For our English lessons we have been looking at a short film clip called 'Origins', it is all about a little robot trying to find his way home. We have worked hard to include lots of exciting vocabulary and fronted adverbials whilst writing an ending for the story. Our stories will all be published in a book we will create together to go on our class bookshelf. We can't wait to read and celebrate our fantastic work.

In Geography our focus is 'How can we improve the view from our window?', last week we walked around the school and noticed there is quite a lot of litter! We think we can help to improve our views and our local area. We have contacted and written some questions for the Wombles who will be coming in to talk to us about all they do - very exciting!



## Upper Key Stage 2

Year 6's learning over the last couple of weeks is the focus of the Parish Post this week.

### Year 6

What an excellent day we all had taking part in this thought-provoking workshop based on God and the Big Bang! It gave us lots of opportunities to think about big questions, discuss, listen and debate our views on the compatibility of science and faith. The day was designed around us forming our own opinions.

We started in the hall and were introduced to our guest speakers, their roles in the world of Science and their faith. Through a thirty-minute talk we were introduced to the faith and Science links of one key speaker. She talked about her passion for having an impact on climate change and how her faith brought her together with others to march to make a difference. We were given key questions to think about and decide in the first instance whether we agreed, disagreed or were not sure. For example, 'Can God and Science work together?'

Throughout the day we were able to take part in three exciting workshops, which kept us thinking and questioning further. Our experts in Science and faith, took us on a journey through their field of Science which included weather, seaweed and climate change.

In Workshop 1, we thought about 'Why does the moon look bigger on the horizon?' A question asked for 2000 years and there is still no answer. Revd Dr Dave Gregory located our school with what3words – gather, major and dining. This led to a great discussion giving our three words for planet earth including: wonder, perfect and fragile. As a group we discussed the greenhouse effect and our experiences of hotter days. We also shared a poem we wrote during the heat wave, which Revd Dr Dave Gregory was so impressed with.

In Workshop 2, even though our expert was a scientist of seaweed we explored the world of bubbles through lots of exciting experiments. The children came up with fantastic vocabulary to describe the bubbles we saw: pearlescent, fragile, translucent, sphere etc. We were able to change the shape of bubbles, hold bubbles, give bubbles power to explode and set bubbles alight. By changing one rule we could make a bubble a cuboid, hold the bubbles by wearing gloves, explode lids off film canisters and watch the adults set the bubble mixture on fire.

In the final workshop, we investigated 'Who? What? Why? Where? And How?' through exploring the creation of life – evolution and the Bible. We created a timeline going back 4.5 million years to the present day. Each time we asked questions and discussed big ideas. How could a poem be true? Maybe it is not days but over a longer time period. We explored DNA and found that we share 90% with cats AND 50% similarity with a banana. The children demonstrated great understanding of different religions and the ability to discuss big questions that still do not have answers today.

To complete the day, we met altogether again in the hall and our key speakers answered questions that we posed. We were able to look again at the big questions we started with and see if anyone had changed their minds to agree, disagree or not know. What a thought-provoking day it was! It will be the great foundations for when we study this further in the summer.

## And Finally...

Please remember if you do have any queries or concerns to come and speak to one of us, either the class teacher on the door or a member of the SLT on the playground each morning and afternoon.

You can also get in touch via email, using [feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:feedback@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk) or the Year Group emails.

EYFS - [FS2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:FS2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk)

Key Stage 1 - [Y1@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y1@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk) or [Y2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk)

Lower Key Stage 2 - [Y3@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y3@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk) or [Y4@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y4@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk)

Upper Key Stage 2 - [Y5@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y5@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk) or [Y6@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:Y6@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk)