



The Parish Post

31st October 2022

Welcome to the next edition for this academic year of the 'The Parish Post'.

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.

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 31st October

Monday 31st October

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 1st November

Deadline for lunches WB 7th November

Wednesday 2nd November

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 3rd November

EYFS Open Morning for September 2023 Admission

Friday 4th November

WB 7th November

Monday 7th November

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 8th November

Deadline for lunches WB 14th November

Science Faith Festival with Year 6 - TBC

Wednesday 9th November

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 10th November

Friday 11th November

Remembrance Day

WB 14th November - Anti-Bullying Week all week 'Reach Out'

Monday 14th November

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 15th November

Deadline for lunches WB 21st November

Wednesday 16th November

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 17th November

Whole School Collective Worship led by Trust CEO

Friday 18th November

Children in Need Event

WB 21st November

Monday 21st November

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 22nd November

Deadline for lunches WB 28th November

Wednesday 23rd November

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 24th November

Friday 25th November

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

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



Welcome Back...

A huge welcome back to all our pupils and families as we embark on Term 2. Term 2 is one of the longer terms in the school calendar but also one of the most significant with lots going on in the build up to Christmas. We are all really excited about the term ahead and about sharing with you all what's happening in school. Remember to read the Parish Post each week to keep up to date on current events.

National School Breakfast Programme

One of the exciting things that we are introducing this term is a new breakfast provision from Monday 7th November.

The breakfast, that will be provided by the National School Breakfast Programme will run from 8.30am each morning (from the gates opening) until 8.45am (ensuring all pupils have time to still get to class). It will be based in the school hall and pupils will be able to collect a bagel and then head round into their classrooms.

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.

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.



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 Term 1, attendance at Spalding Parish was as follows in terms of pupil numbers and percentages with an overall percentage for the term of 95.87%

Good Attendance: 396 pupils (out of 555), 71.4% pupils

At Risk of Persistent Absence: 82 pupils (out of 555), 14.8% pupils

Persistent Absence: 69 pupils (out of 555), 12.4% of pupils

At Risk of Severe Absence: 5 pupils (out of 555), 0.9% pupils

Severe Absence: 4 pupils (out of 555), 0.7% pupils

This means that the attendance of over 28% of pupils was considered to be a concern during Term 1. 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

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.

Harvest

A huge thank you must go to all members of the school community who donated so kindly to our Harvest collection. If you have not yet contributed but would like to do so the collection will remain open until Thursday 3rd November. Agape will then be coming to collect the donations so this can be utilised effectively to support families in need, particularly at these more challenging times.



Parent Pay and School Lunches

As you will know we moved to the Parent Pay system for communication with parents/carers and for payments in June. Thank you to all the parents who have signed up, over 95% of you. If you have not yet signed up or are unsure how to do this, please contact the school office and they will be able to support with this.

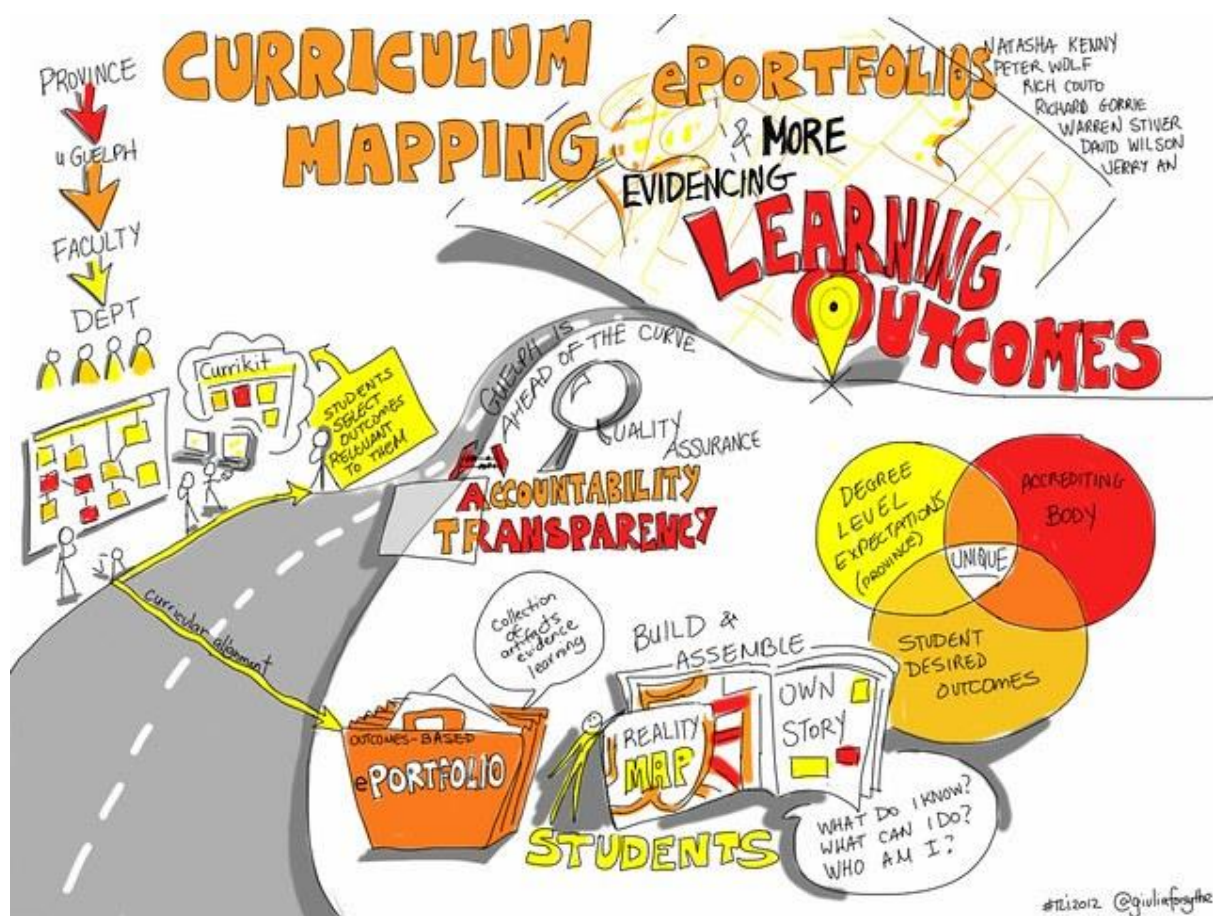
Parent Pay is also the system used to book and pay for school lunches so it is imperative you are signed up in order to be able to do this. The process for booking meals is slightly different to previously so again if you do need any support with booking lunches please get in touch with the school office asap as obviously we do not want pupils to go without lunch.

Unfortunately we are seeing an increasing number of pupils each day who do not have meals booked. As you will know the school kitchen does make fresh school meals each day, however these are made based on orders received and it is simply not feasible to make 20+ meals extra each day just in case. Therefore If you have not booked a lunch for your child we will make contact with you and ask you to bring a lunch in for your child as we simply cannot guarantee that the school kitchen will be able to provide a lunch. If we could please ask for your support in ensuring meals are booked as this will just ensure that pupils are in the best place for their day. As I said earlier please get in

touch with the school office for any support with the Parent Pay system or with ordering meals - we are more than happy to help. Thank you in anticipation.

here
to
help

Curriculum Corner

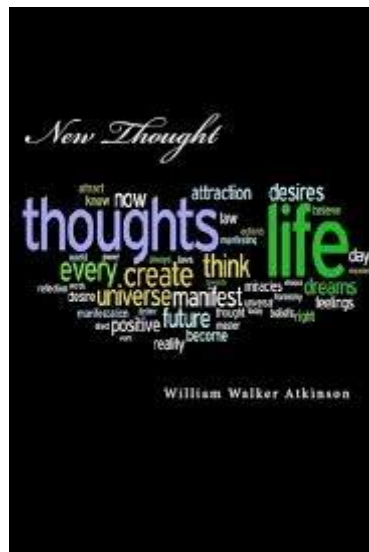


Well what a busy term it has been at Spalding Parish. It has been fantastic to be able to welcome a number of visitors to school as part of our curriculum and also fantastic for many Year Groups to be able to go out of school on trip and visits. It has also been brilliant to be able to talk to the children about their learning and we look forward to being able to sharing more of this during the term ahead.

We are all now looking forward to a very exciting and busy Term 2. I know from working with staff that there are many fantastic learning opportunities planned and again we look forward to sharing these with you in the coming weeks through the Parish Post. Watch this space!



Let's Pause for Thought...

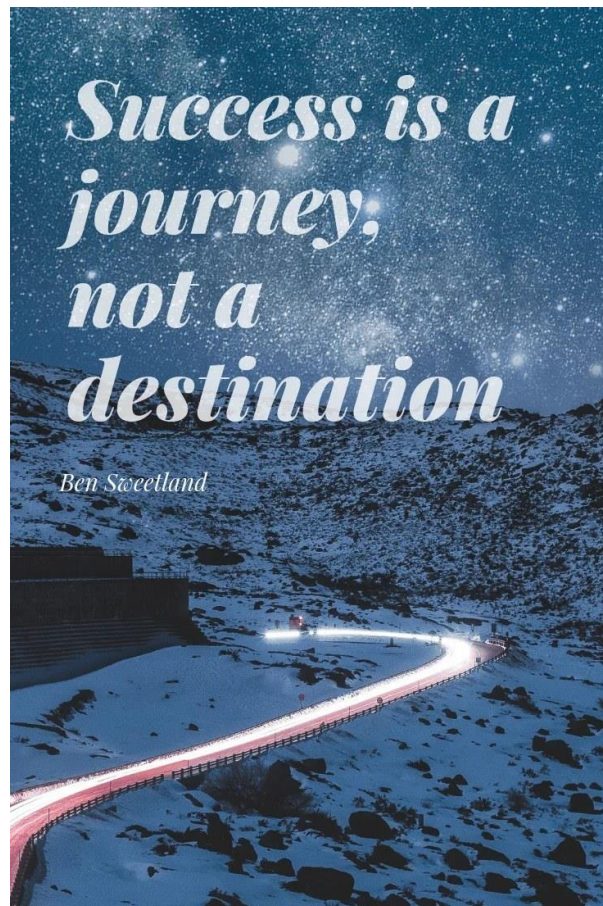


Let's Pause for Thought...

One of the things we often talk about in school is that it is ok to make mistakes because that is how we learn. Indeed we see mistakes as a positive with the only serious mistake being one where no learning is undertaken. This fits nicely with our reflection for this week linking success with action, even if that action is ultimately a mistake.

Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes but they don't quit. **Conrad Hilton**

Don't think that you can't succeed if you make a mistake - keep going - success could be just around the corner.



General Updates (for start of year)



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.

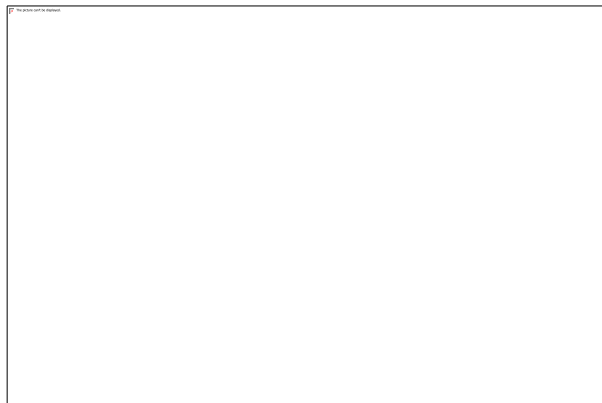


Safeguarding

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.



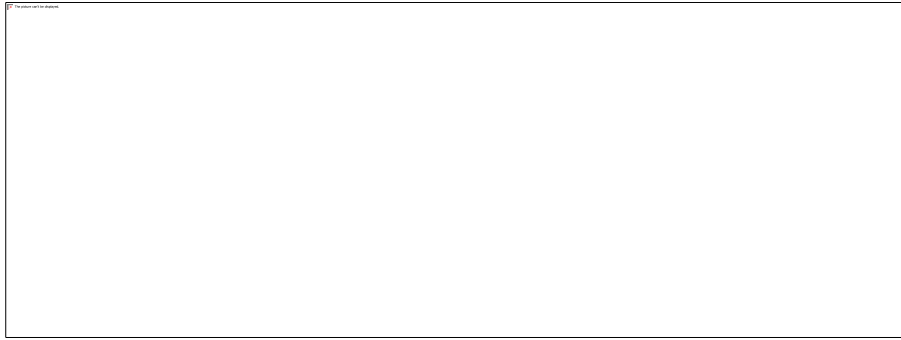
A Plea to Parents/Carers...

SPCEDS is a large and busy school community and we know that parents and carers will sometimes have questions about school and school life. As you will hopefully know, we are keen to support parents/carers with any questions, worries or concerns.

We also know that many of you do follow the Parish Parents page on Facebook and use this as a source of information - for many it is invaluable. Whilst the page has no direct link to school we understand that parents and carers are always very supportive of each other through this page answering questions and sharing information. As such I just wanted to remind parents and carers that if you do have any questions, you can always contact the school with the feedback@spaldingparish.laait.co.uk email regularly monitored.

Similarly if you do need to speak to a member of the staff team, please contact the school office and one of us will be in touch to answer your queries.

Academy Committee Update (previously Local Council)



Academy Committee Update

This week's entry comes from Heather Bafico, a parent of a child in school and our Community Governor.

Heather Bafico

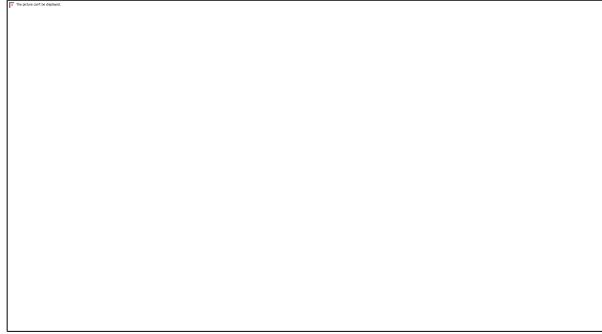
I would like to say a big well done and thank you to Mrs Cooper and to everyone involved in the Monster Phonics day on 12th October. It was fabulous to see everyone dressed as their favourite Monster or Monster colour.

The school came together to listen to the Monster Phonics song and to learn the sounds and actions for each character, as well as hearing the Reading Ambassador Committee share the story of each character. The Reading Ambassadors from Year 6 went into other classrooms to support with activities such as matching words with the correct phonics sound. What a fabulous way to get the whole school working together to achieve!

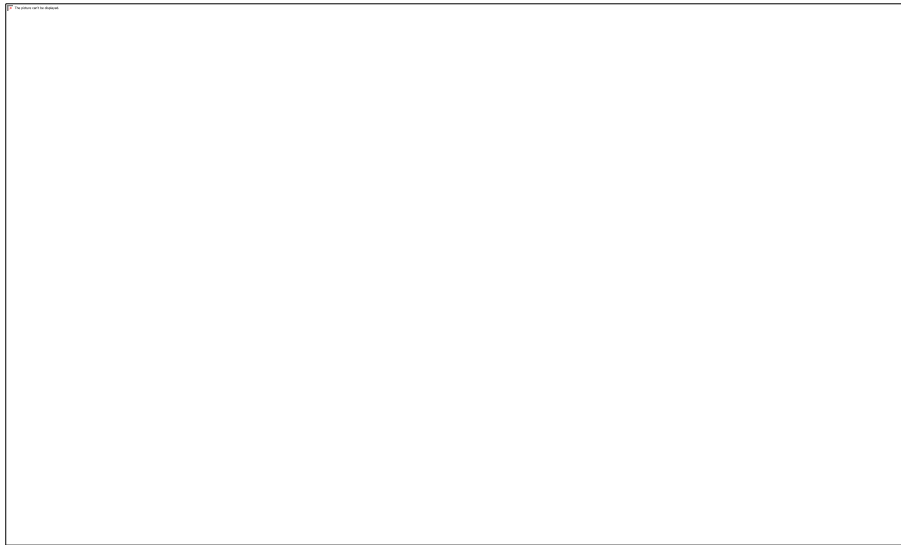
One pupil told me 'I really enjoyed the Monster Phonics day, it was good fun and I liked being able to help other children in school'.

Did you see the photographs on the school Facebook page? You can follow the school community on the 'Spalding Parish Church of England Day School' Facebook page. I am always incredibly impressed with the amazing work of our pupils that I get to see on there.

As parents it is also a great opportunity to be able to sign up to the e-books that are used in school as part of the reading scheme. I also look forward to hearing more about the webinars to support parents at no extra cost. It is fantastic to be able to support our children at home and to get involved and excited about what they are learning.



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.

SEND IT

Ready to receive some info... ...because we're ready to Send It. This Wake Up Wednesday we highlight the Online Safety risks in Send It - a Snapchat add-on which is meant for older teens but is now proving popular with younger users.

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/sendit?utm_source=organicsocial&utm_campaign=nos-wakeupwednesday

Community Corner



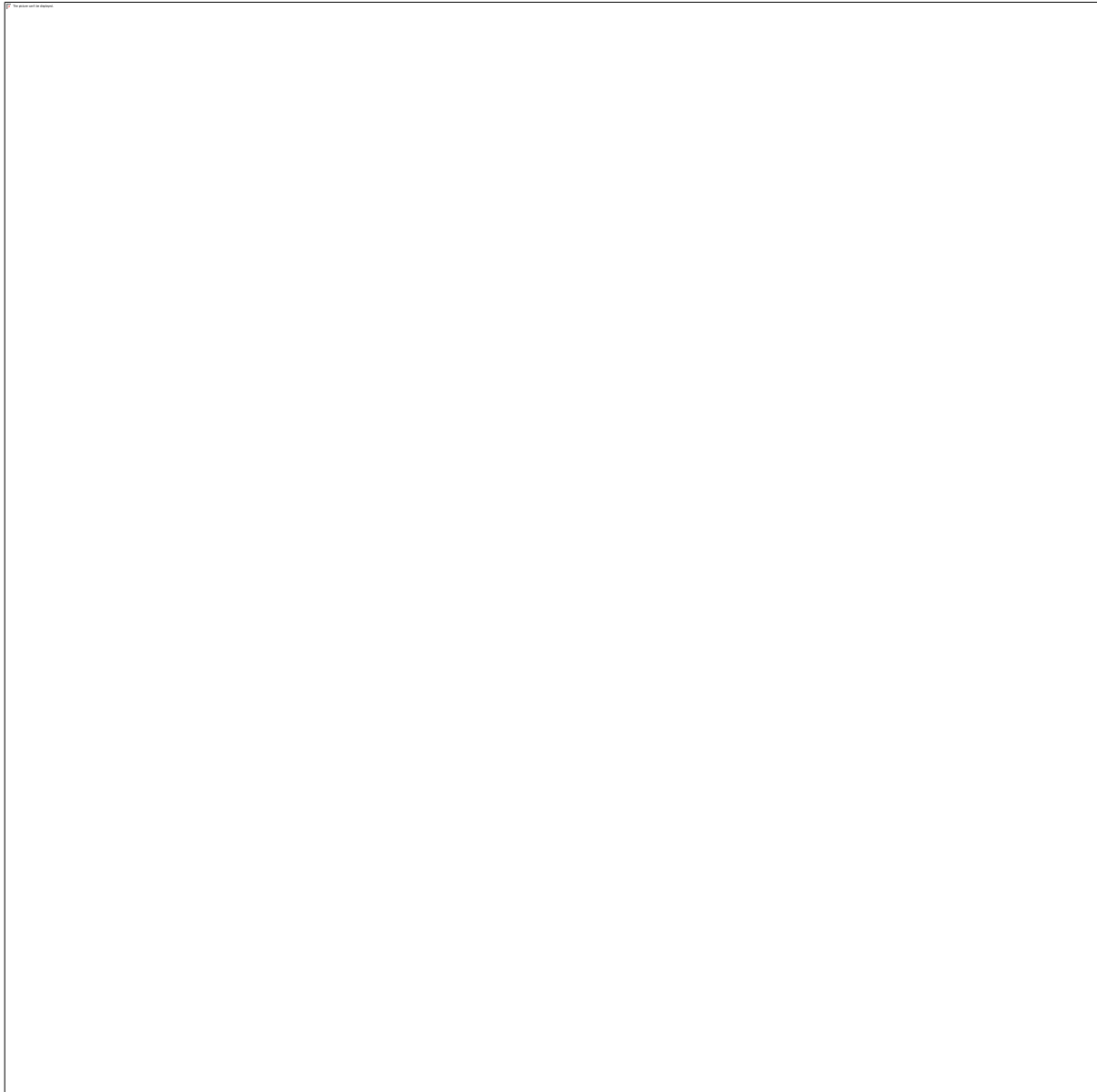
Through the Community Corner, we will aim to share different activities/events happening within the local community that may be of interest to pupils and families of Spalding Parish.

This week it is the turn of the St Mary and St Nicolas Church Choir. We did share this prior to the holidays but boys and girls aged 7 and over are now both welcome so thought we would share again.

[Parish Church Choir Leaflet September 2022](#)



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: Bonnie (FS2AC), William (FS2KB)

Year 1: Freddie (Y1CH), Sophie (Y1EWSE), Joshua (Y1PB)

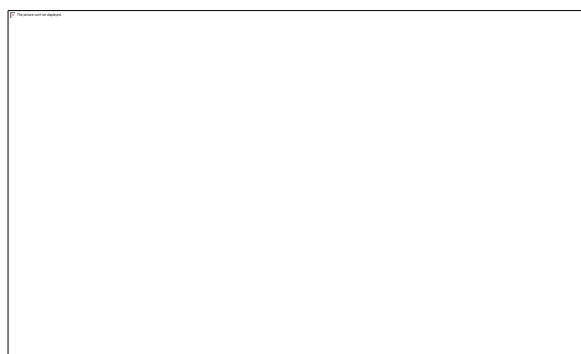
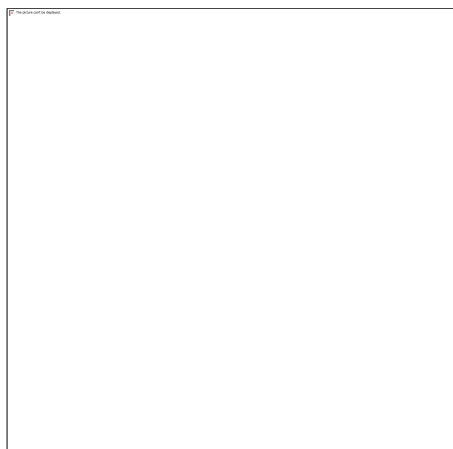
Year 2: Aleks (Y2AR), Liam (Y2DO), Freddie (Y2SD)

Year 3: Henry (Y3CC), Sapphira (Y3EP), Lacey-Anna (Y3SH)

Year 4: Roberta (Y4IN), Sandra (Y4KR), Chloe (Y4LS)

Year 5: Layveena (Y5RW), Sophia (Y5TS)

Year 6: Jenson (Y6AS), Oliver (Y6EW), Adam (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.

FS2: FS2AC (94.8%) - FS2AC are our best attender in FS2 again this week, well done!

KS1: Y1CH (96.6%) – Y1CH are the winners in KS1 this week, amazing work!

LKS2: Y4LS (99.6%) – Highest in LKS2 for Y4LS this week, fantastic!

UKS2: Y5RW (100.0%) – Y5RW are the winners in UKS2 and in school with 100%, brilliant!

School: 94.7% - A slight 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

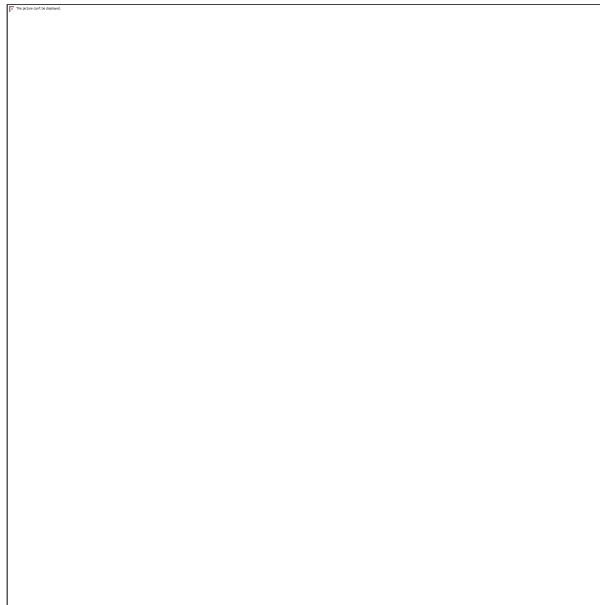
Challenging Challengers

Exciting Experts

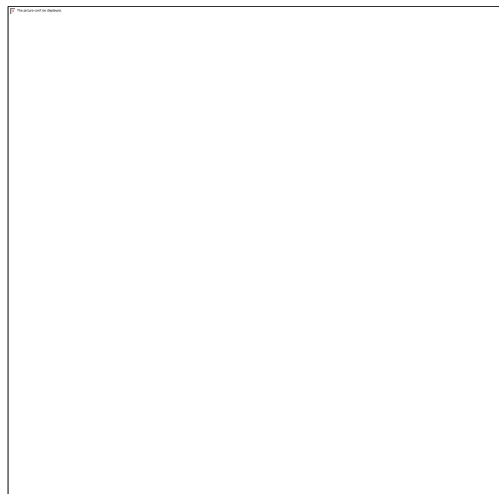
Dynamic Dynamos

Supportive Supporters.

This weeks winners are **Exciting Experts** with **392 points** - well done.



Phase Learning Journeys



Key Stage 1

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

Year 1

Year 1 finished the term with a walk around our school grounds looking for signs of Autumn. We found some beautiful autumn leaves and thought about the difference between evergreen and deciduous trees.

We have finished our learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and have talked about what the two ladies had in common. Although they were both nurses in Crimea, they helped the soldiers in different ways. We enjoyed making some paper lamps in provision so we could act being Florence checking up on her patients.

We also completed our riddle based on the story of the Selfish Crocodile. We have been practising using sounds we have learned in Phonics to write the sentences independently.

Here is our completed poem:

I live in a river.

I am a reptile.

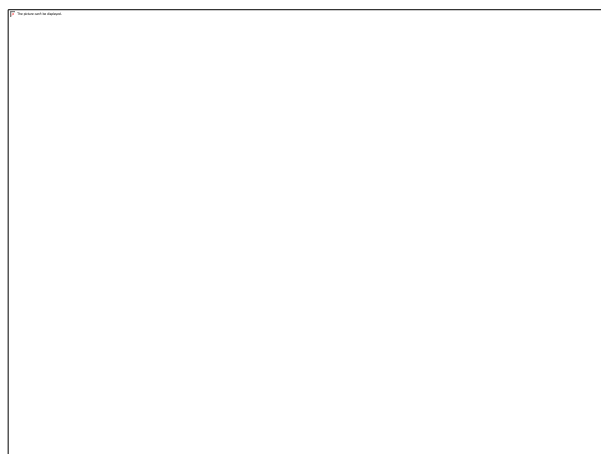
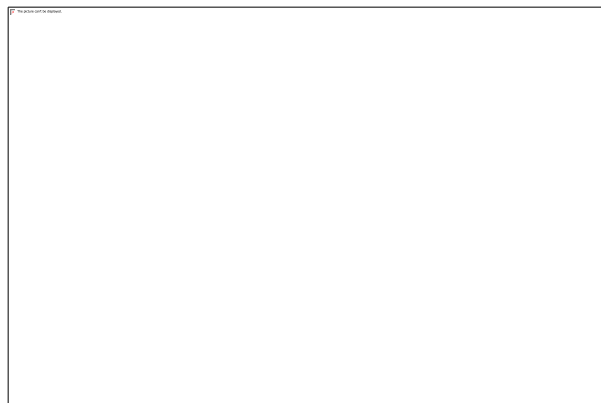
I have a huge tail.

My teeth are sharp.

My eyes are red.

Who am I?

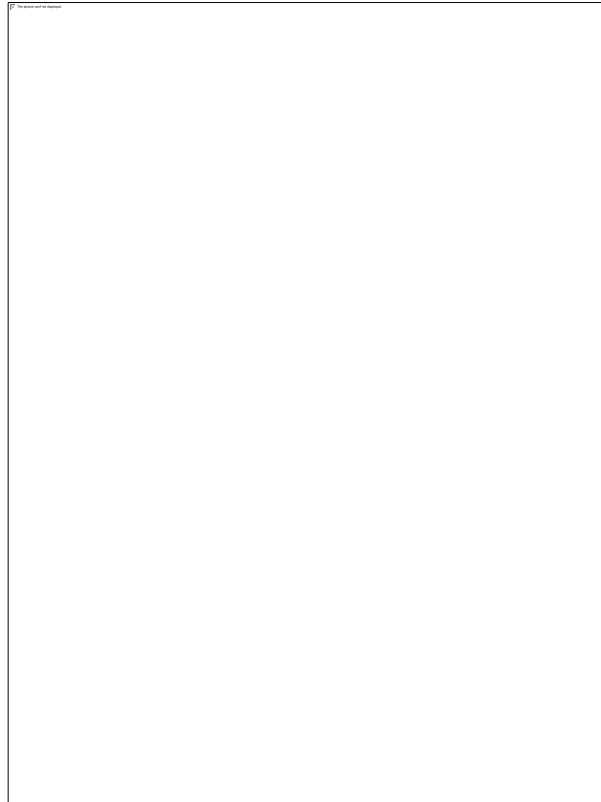
I am a crocodile!

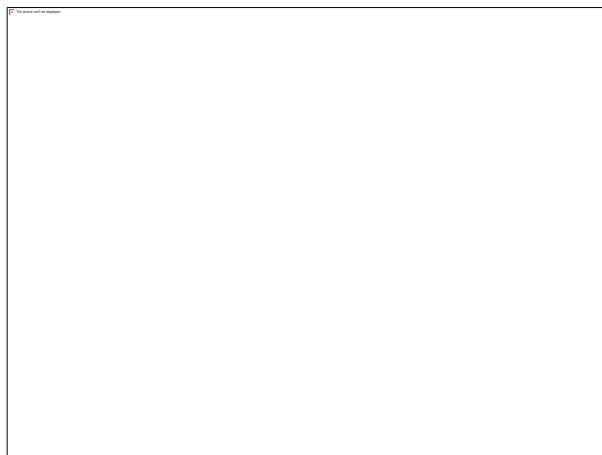
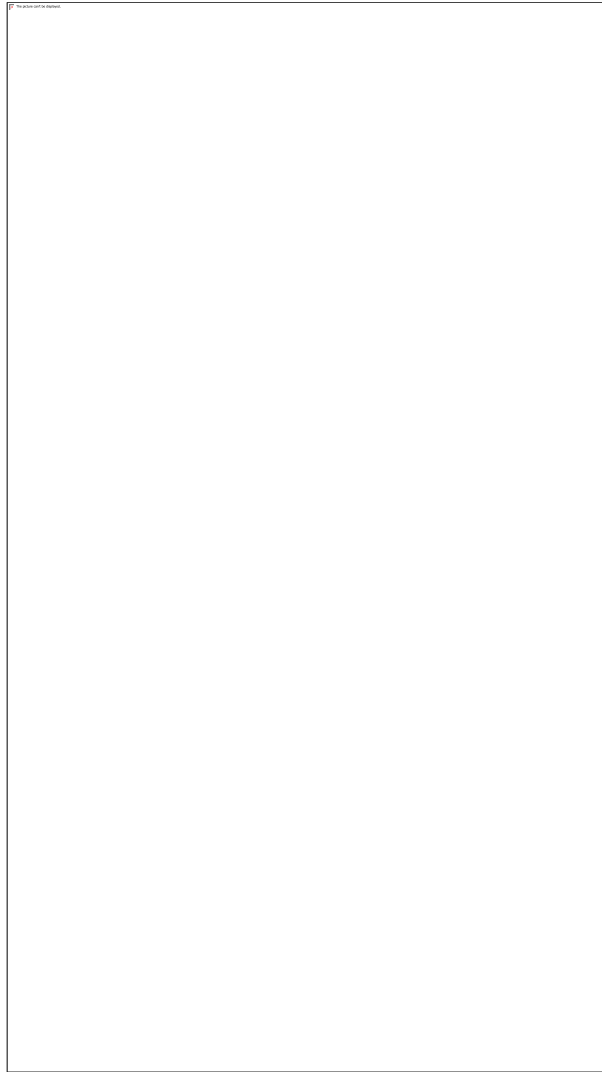


This week in Lower Key Stage 2 our focus is on Year 3 and their learning over the last few weeks.

Year 3

At the end of Term 1 Year 3 had an exciting visit to Flag Fen to find out even more about the way of life in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The children behaved brilliantly and were a credit to the school. During their day they were able to handle and explore artefacts from the time, see boats which have been discovered from the Bronze Age and also sit in a replica round house for a story. The children were complimented on their care when creating their clay pots. It was a day enjoyed by all who went.





Upper Key Stage 2

Year 5's learning over the last couple of weeks is the focus of the Parish Post this week.

Year 5

Year 5 had a lovely last week of term! In English we made brilliant newspaper reports from the Battle of Hastings 1066. The newspapers were about why the Battle of Hastings happened, how the

battle went and what happened after the battle and who was to be the next King of England. The children made sure to add pictures describing what happened as well as some Saxon / Norman themed adverts! We also finished our art project for the term, making some Modigliani inspired portraits using oil pastels.

In Science we went on a school experiment to record human growth between the year groups. We got together in groups and went from EYFS all the way up to Year 6 and collected measurements of arms and legs (and more) to compare across the age phases trying to notice any trends in growth.

Lastly, we finished the week off with our termly visit to the Church of Saint Mary and Saint Nicholas to share our appreciation for the harvest festival, sing some festive hymns and listen to the lovely stories from Reverend Aileen. Overall, we had a fantastic last week of term that made us a lot of memories!



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 or the Year Group emails.

EYFS - FS2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Key Stage 1 - Y1@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk or Y2@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Lower Key Stage 2 - Y3@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk or Y4@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk

Upper Key Stage 2 - Y5@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk or Y6@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk