



# The Parish Post

**14th November 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](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...**
- **Curriculum Corner**
- **Let's Pause for Thought...**
- **General Updates**
- **Local Council Update**
- **Online Safety Update**
- **Community Corner**
- **Weekly Awards**
- **Phase Learning Journeys**
- **And Finally...**

## Diary Dates



### ***Term 2***

**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**

**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**

Christmas Jumper Day

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**

**Friday 16th December**

End of Term Service (in school)

End of Term 2

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



**Anti-Bullying Week**

Anti-Bullying Week in England and Wales is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. It will take place from 14th-18th November with a theme of 'Reach Out'.

Bullying affects millions of lives and can leave us feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. And it starts by reaching out.

Whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's reach out and show each other the support we need. Reach out to someone you trust if you need to talk. Reach out to someone you know is being bullied. Reach out and consider a new approach.

And it doesn't stop with young people. From teachers to parents and influencers to politicians, we all have a responsibility to help each other reach out. Together, let's be the change we want to see. Reflect on our own behaviour, set positive examples and create kinder communities.

It takes courage, but it can change lives. So, this Anti-Bullying Week, let's come together and reach out to stop bullying.



### **Children in Need and Fundraising**

As a school, we will be again supporting World Diabetes Day and Children in Need 2022 and will be having a non-uniform day; the themes, which you may want to choose from, will be to wear something yellow, blue or spotty. Children are asked to donate 50p which will be split between the two charities.

World Diabetes Day raises awareness of type 1 diabetes and supports research into curing the condition. Children in Need helps to raise those crucial pennies to help improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

During the day, there will be the opportunity to take part in a raffle in their classroom, 50p a ticket.

Thank you for your support with Roald Dahl Day. We raised £346.79 for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Charity which supports seriously ill children and young people. We hope the winners are enjoying their Roald Dahl books. With your help we can also help to raise money for two great causes. Every penny helps to make a difference. Thank you for your continued support.





### **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 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. Alternatively if parents prefer to drop children at the classroom, children can collect a bagel and then eat this 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.

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.



### **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 7th November, attendance at Spalding Parish was as follows in terms of pupil numbers and percentages with an overall percentage for the week of 92.5%

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:** 449 pupils (out of 553), 81.2% pupils

**At Risk of Persistent Absence:** 8 pupils (out of 553), 1.4% pupils

**Persistent Absence:** 38 pupils (out of 553), 6.9% of pupils

**At Risk of Severe Absence:** 30 pupils (out of 553), 5.4% pupils

**Severe Absence:** 28 pupils (out of 553), 5.1% pupils

This means that the attendance of over 17% 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 ON TIME REALLY MATTERS**  
**Did You Know...?**

In a School Year, If Your Child's 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 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,

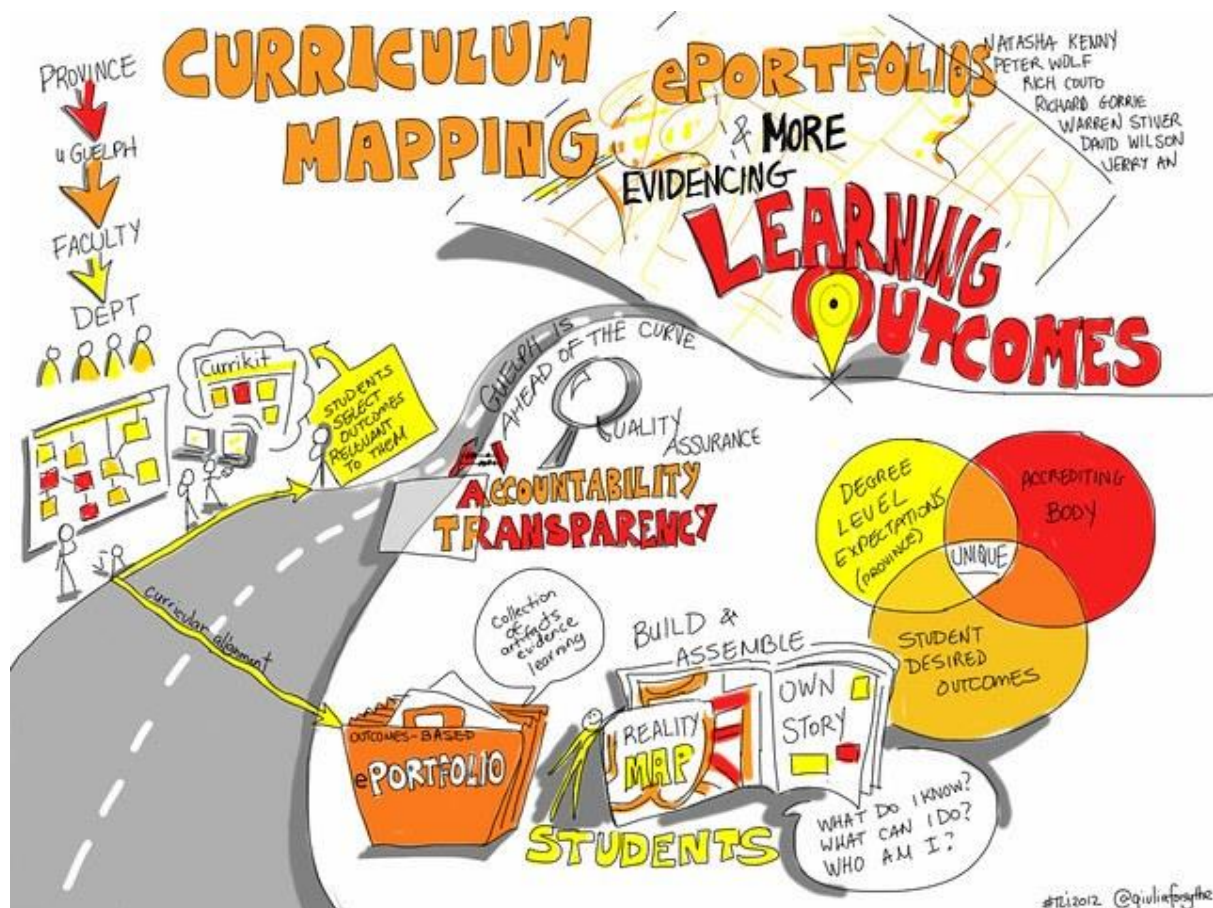
please bring the appointment letter to the school office. Without this letter the absence will not be authorised.

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



We have had another exciting week at school this week including a very interesting and inspiring visit to Year 6 on Tuesday 8th November.

It has often been discussed whether science and faith are compatible. The ‘God and the Big Bang’ (GatBB) project was born out of that discussion, and has been running science and faith workshops

in schools and cathedrals around the country for the past eight years. The project is inspired by the findings of the LASAR (Learning About Science and Religion) Project, which indicated that young people in England commonly struggle to access the view that science and religion are not necessarily incompatible while in school, despite this being something that many scientists accept wholeheartedly.

God and the Big Bang runs interactive workshop days with students from Year 5 – 13, providing the opportunity to discover, discuss and debate the compatibility of science and faith. The events equip young people with the tools they need in order to form their own opinions and engage in rational, exciting, well-reasoned and thought-provoking discussion about the part science plays in God's world.

The talks and workshops are captivating and stimulating, showcasing both cutting-edge science and personal and honest reflections about the intersection between science and faith and the children - and staff - all had an amazing day. Watch this space for more to come about the day in future editions but it was most certainly a fantastic day and one that we were very pleased to be a part of.





## 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:

<b>FS2: Start of Day 8.50am (doors open from 8.40am)</b>	<b>End of Day 3.10pm</b>
<b>KS1 (Year 1 - 2): Start of Day 8.50am (doors open from 8.40am)</b>	<b>End of Day 3.10pm</b>
<b>KS2 (Year 3 - 6): Start of Day 8.45am (doors open from 8.35am)</b>	<b>End of Day 3.20pm</b>

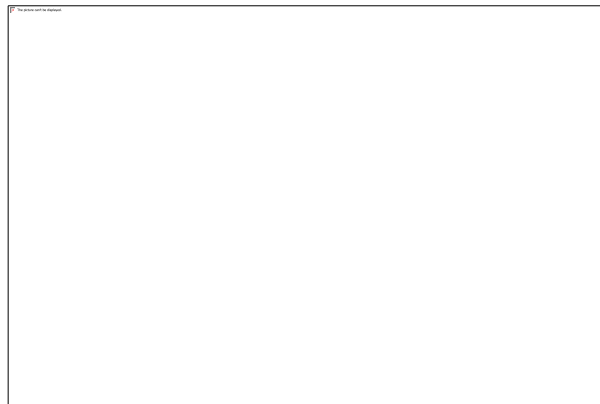
**In a morning the gates will open at 8.30am on a morning to allow time to get onto site ready for doors opening at 8.35am (KS2) and close at 8.55am.**

**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.**



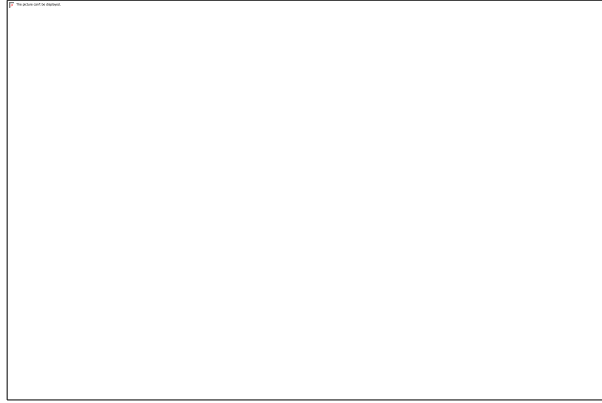
### **Safeguarding**

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.

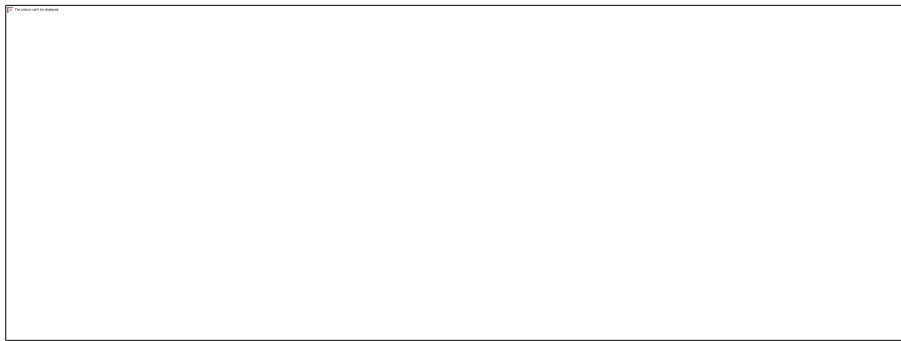
If you have concerns about the safety of any child, please let somebody know.

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)



### **Emily Hill - Staff Governor**

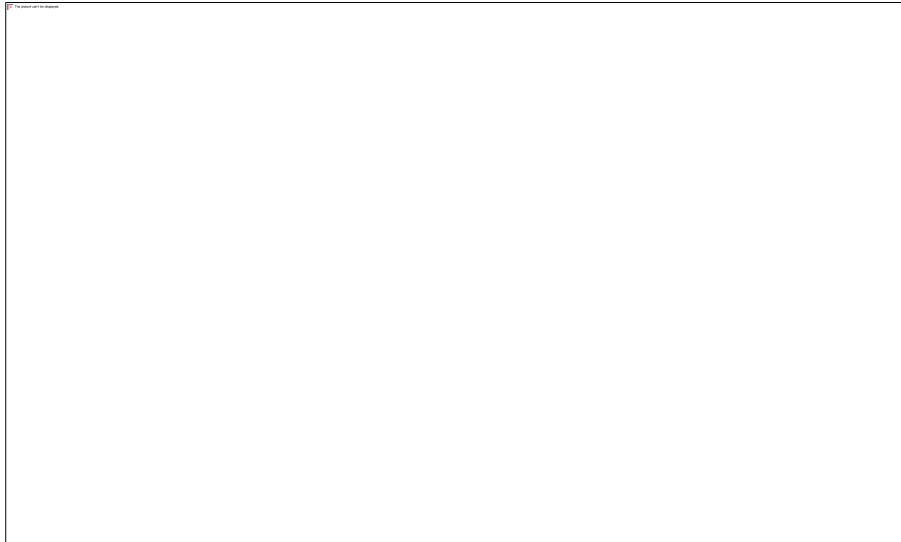
As part of our Achievement for All programme, we are launching a "World of Work" project after Christmas, aimed at raising aspirations of all our pupils. They will learn about different careers and make links between what they learn at school and how it will help them when they are choosing a career.

Part of this will be an apprenticeship programme in Key Stage Two where children can visit local industry, interact with visitors in school and take part in skills workshops linked to that industry.

If you work locally and feel that you or anyone you work with would like to be involved in this project, we would love to hear from you. Please email me on [emily.hill@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk](mailto:emily.hill@spaldingparish.laat.co.uk) to express an interest or find out more. You could help us make a huge difference to the prospects of the children in our school.



## 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.

### **How to combat online bullying**

Outwit the internet bullies with our #WakeUpWednesday guide. We've compiled some top tips for tackling one of the most upsetting online safety threats around - cyber-bullying - in support of this year's Anti Bullying Week.

[https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/combat-online-bullying?utm\\_source=organicsocial&utm\\_campaign=antibullyingweek-wakeupwednesday](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/combat-online-bullying?utm_source=organicsocial&utm_campaign=antibullyingweek-wakeupwednesday)



## Community Corner

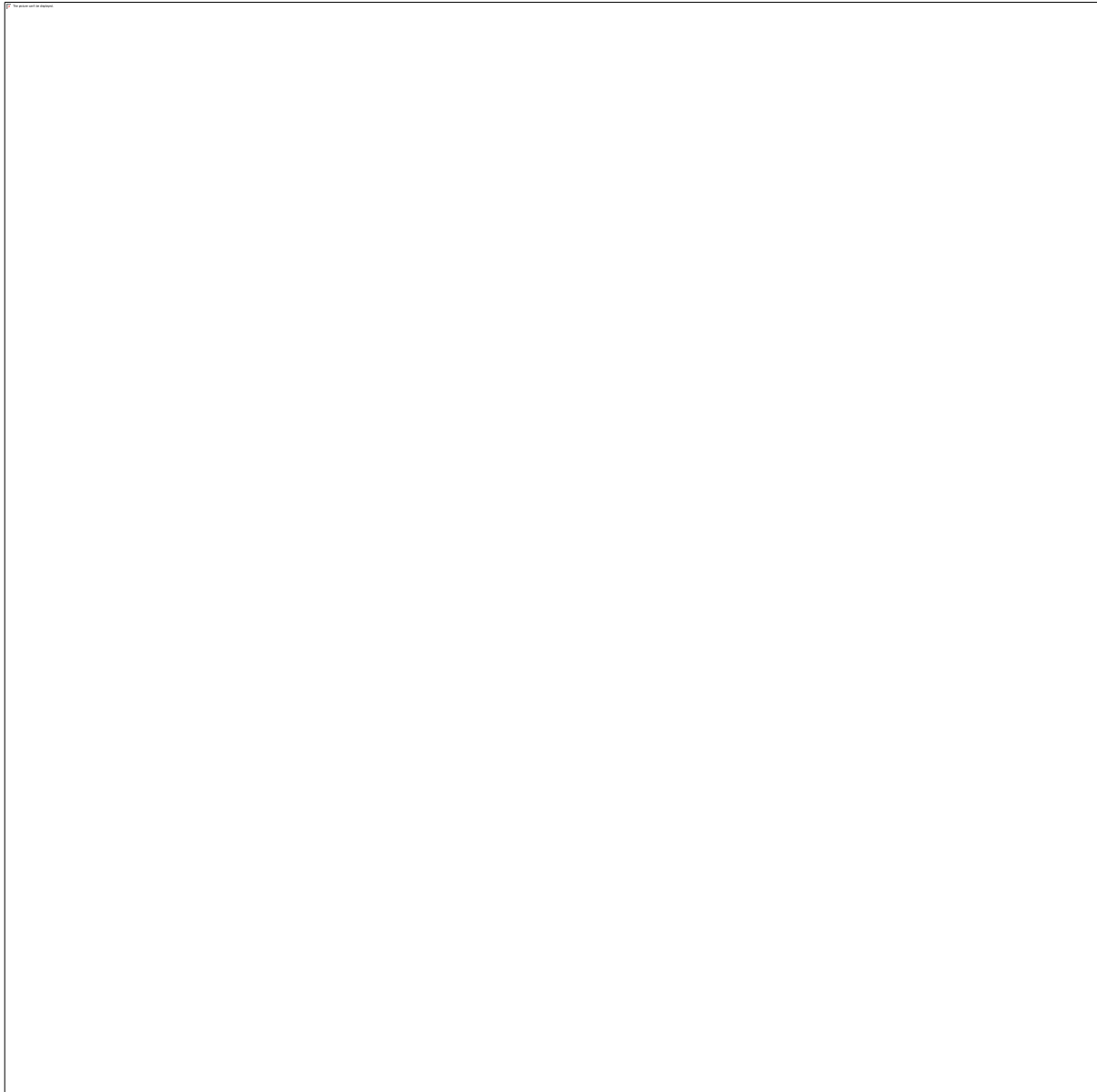


Through the Community Corner, we will aim to share different activities/events happening within the local community that may be of interest to pupils and families of Spalding Parish.

This week it is the turn of the 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:** Olivia (FS2AC), Rory (FS2KB)

**Year 1:** Elouise (Y1CH), Bella (Y1EWSE), Willow (Y1PB)

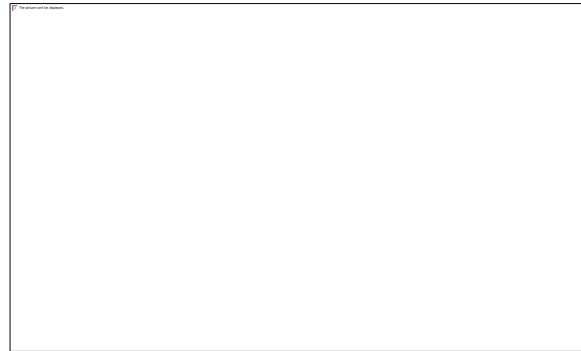
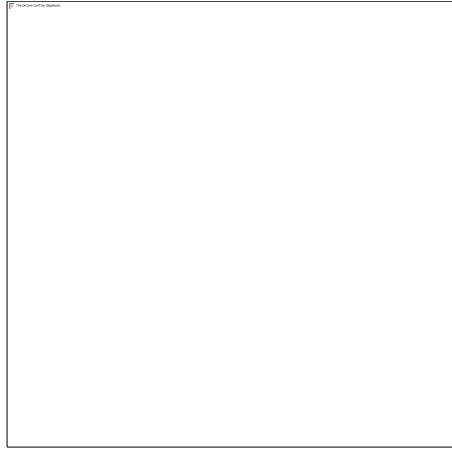
**Year 2:** Eddie (Y2AR), Madison (Y2DO), Dairis (Y2SD)

**Year 3:** Jessica (Y3CC), Fabian (Y3EP), Izabela (Y3SH)

**Year 4:** Narcis (Y4IN), Amelia (Y4KR), Chloe (Y4LS)

**Year 5:** William (Y5RW), Lukas (Y5TS)

**Year 6:** Sophie (Y6AS), Alivia (Y6EW), Richard (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:** FS2KB (91.3%) - FS2KB are our best attender in FS2 this week, well done!

**KS1:** Y2DO (97.4%) – Y2DO are the winners in KS1 this week, amazing work!

**LKS2:** Y3CC (100.0%) – Highest in LKS2 and highest in school for Y3CC this week with 100%, fantastic!

**UKS2:** Y5RW (99.4%) – Y5RW are the winners again in UKS2 with another amazing %, brilliant!

**School:** 92.5% - 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**

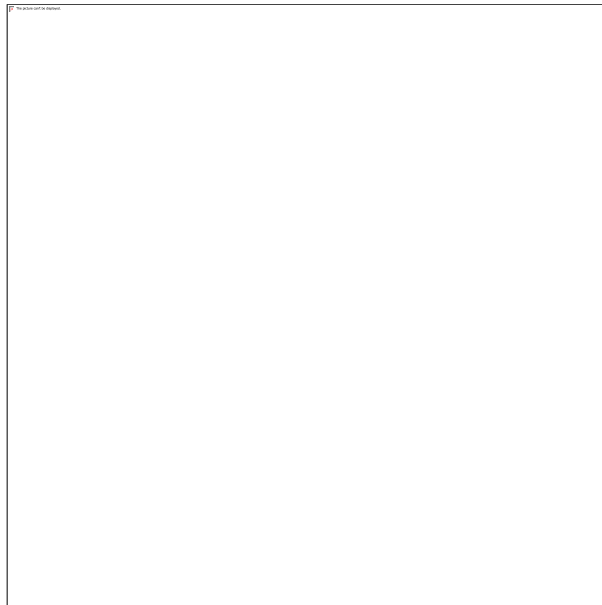
**Challenging Challengers**

**Exciting Experts**

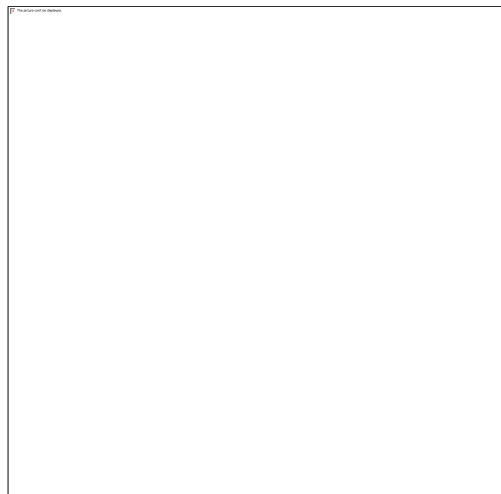
**Dynamic Dynamos**

**Supportive Supporters.**

This weeks winners are **Challenging Challengers** with **506 points** - well done.



## Phase Learning Journeys



### **Foundation Stage**

During the past two weeks we have had great fun celebrating colour. We explored primary colours whilst learning about Guy Fawkes and then as part of our RE, we have learnt about the Hindu festivals of Holi and Diwali.

We have also been continuing to learn lots of new sounds as we become much more fluent readers. Well done everyone for working so hard!

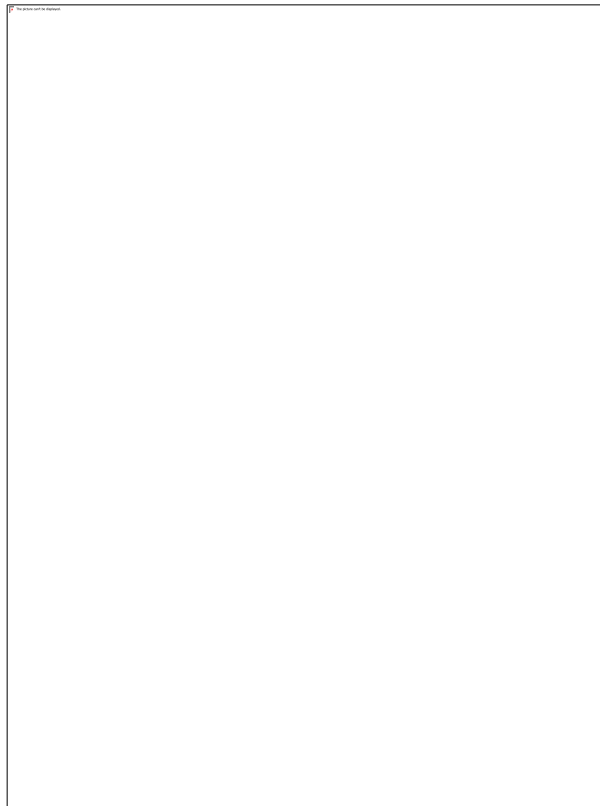
### **Key Stage 1**

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

### **Year 2**

It has been really lovely to see all the children back after the half term break.

This week we have started our Geography unit which is looking at the local area and asks the question "How can we help people know what to do in Spalding?" The children worked together in small groups and have impressed us with their knowledge of local landmarks. We will visit some of these landmarks in a few weeks' time on our local Geography walk.



### **Lower Key Stage 2**

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

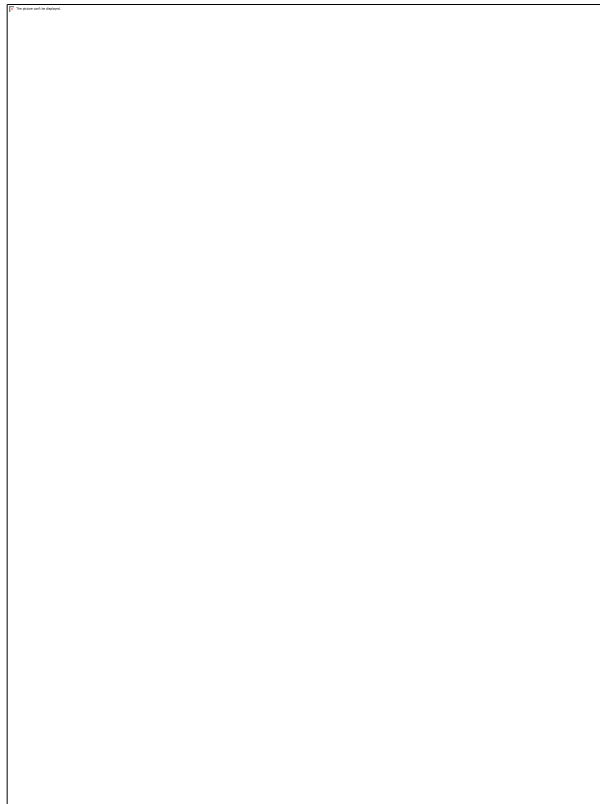
### **Year 4**

We have had another wonderful week in Year 4! In Maths we have been looking at column method and adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers. We have also started to practise our 6 times table this week, we are getting very good at our timetables so please keep testing us and practising at home!

In Science we are looking at how we can protect and classify living things. This week we went outside in our Science lesson to see what living things we could find in our local habitat ready to classify what we had found in the next lesson. There are a lot of living things right outside our window!

Thinking about outside our window, we are studying Geography this term and looking at how we can improve the view from outside our window and in the local community. We went outside and did a scavenger hunt to see what we could find within the school grounds. We looked for certain things such as something recyclable, something that gave us shade and somewhere that keeps us safe, for example. We are excited to continue our Geography topic and look at what we can do to help improve our community!

In English we are looking at narrative ready to write a story. We have been looking at a short animation called 'Origins', I'm sure we can tell you all about it if you ask us! We have been predicting what the story will be about and then looking at the character in the story and how his feelings change throughout. We are excited to dive deeper into this story ready to create our own!



## **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**

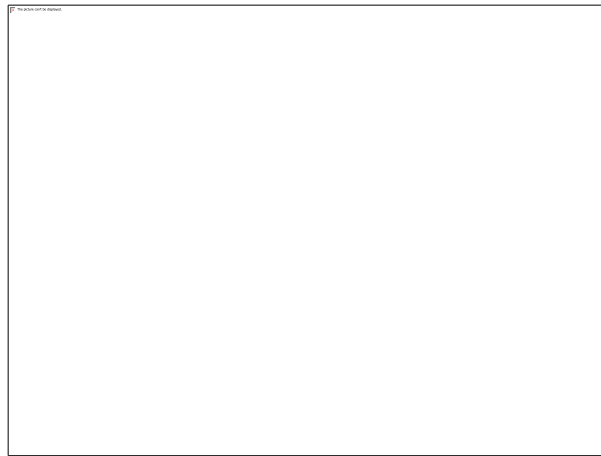
Year 6 have really focused on their History question 'What impact did WW1 have on our local community?' this term. They have been thinking about legacy and what we can learn from events that have shaped the UK. They were very lucky to visit the Parish Church of St Mary and St Nicolas and receive a talk from local historian Alistair Goodrum. They found out about local men who were part of Spalding B Company and fought for their town in WW1. Some of these men lived on the streets we live on today like Queen's Road, Gore Lane and Hawthorn Bank.

The children participated in his talk with some of them becoming the soldiers and telling the rest of the children about their family, where they lived and their occupations. Some working in Hall Place, postmen and a labourer employed by the owners of the Red Lion Hotel.

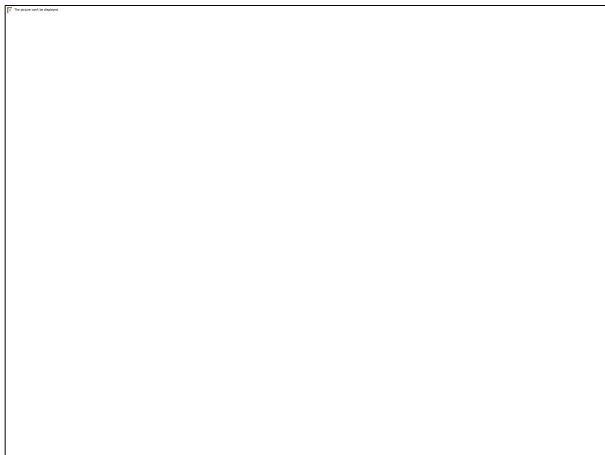
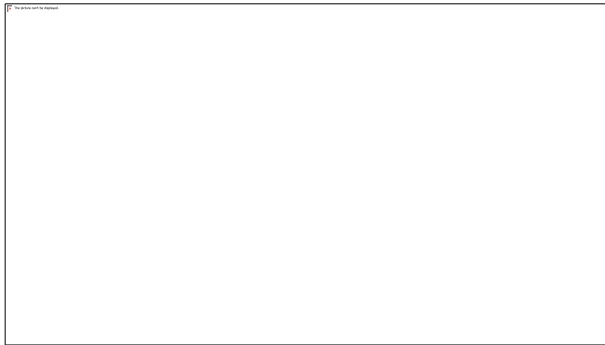
We explored the 263 names on the WW1 memorial in the church and identified key men we had learnt about like Sir John Gleed, Harry Goodrum and Cecil Sydney Adams. Revd. John guided a tour of the church where the children were able to find and ask questions about other WW1 memorials especially the stained glass window on the North Aisle – North wall. A window installed by John Gleed's parents, Sir John and Lady Wilson Gleed, in memory of not only their son John Gleed but their son-in-law Charles Harvey, who lost their lives in WW1.

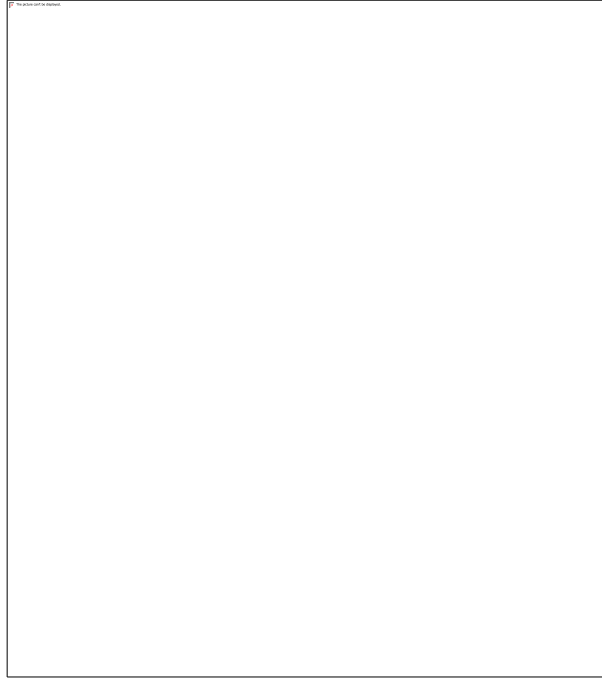
We also spent time having a moment of reflection in Ayscoughfee at the WW1 memorial. Back at school, the children have been reflective and thoughtful to the sources and evidence we have explored. Thinking about the impact of propaganda, white feathers and our local town's history.

Through the study of WW1 texts and poems they have developed their critical thinking and oracy skills. The children have put their history skills into action throughout the whole term, have discussed what is happening in the world today and how we can learn from the events of WW1.









## 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)