



The Parish Post

7th October 2022

Welcome to the next edition for this academic year of the 'The Parish Post'. Apologies for the delay this week but I was out on training all day Friday with limited internet access.

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...**
- **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 1

WB 10th October

Monday 10th October

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 11th October

Y3EP and Y3CC Trip to Flag Fen

Deadline for lunches WB 17th October

Wednesday 12th October

Monster Phonics Day (see separate letter)

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 13th October

Friday 14th October

Y3SH Trip to Flag Fen

WB 17th October

Monday 17th October

Individual Photos

Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday 18th October

Wednesday 19th October

Whole School Collective Worship

Thursday 20th October

Year 4 Trip to The Collection Museum, Lincoln

Friday 21st October

Church Service at St Mary and St Nicolas

End of Term 1 (School Reopens on Monday 31st October)

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

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

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



Photographs

Just a reminder that individual photos are scheduled for Monday 17th October. Photos of pupils attending Spalding Parish will be undertaken during the day, including sibling groups where all the

siblings attend school. If you would like a photo taken will younger or older pupils who do not attend here, this can be undertaken prior to the start of the school day between 8.15am and 8.45am in the school hall.



Local Community

Over recent weeks we have had a number of concerns raised by our neighbours in the local community about inconsiderate parking and also lack of respect for property. Whilst we do fully appreciate that the area around the site gets incredibly busy at the start and the end of the day, we would ask that you please park courteously and with consideration to people living locally. A number of our neighbours have been able to get their own cars out due to cars parked over drive ways so please just bear this in mind if you do drive to school. We have also had a number of our neighbours raise concerns about damage to their properties and more specifically their gardens. Again if you could please be aware of boundaries of properties so that we can show some consideration to our local community.

Please also be aware that the school car parks are for staff only with the small car park at the front of the school utilised by Local Authority taxis so they can drop pupils safely. As such we would ask that parents do not use the staff car park to ensure the safety of all.

Thank you in anticipation.



Lunches

Just a quick reminder re hot lunches as we have had a number of instances this week where children have not had lunches ordered and have no packed lunch. Hot lunches for any week need to be ordered via ParentPay by the Tuesday night prior by midnight so for example meals need to be ordered by Tuesday 25th October for the week beginning 31st October.

Should a meal not be ordered which subsequently means a child does not have a lunch, a member of school staff will contact you to ask you to provide a packed lunch for that day as whilst the kitchen may have some spare food each day this is not excessive with meals cooked to order. As such we have no capacity to provide lunch. A packed lunch will then also have to be provided for any other days meals are not ordered. With this in mind I would just ask you all to check carefully that meals have been ordered once you have placed an order. Should you have any difficulties ordering, please contact the school office.



Harvest Church Service

On Friday 21st October at 10.30am we are holding our Harvest Church Service at St Mary And St Nicolas. As part of this service we are asking the pupils to bring a donation of food for our Harvest collection. This will be donated to the Agape Food Bank.

As you may be aware the Agape Food Bank has already started preparing for the Winter months ahead and as such have compiled a list of preferred items. If you could please send in an item from the list this would be very much appreciated.

UHT Milk, Sugar, Rice, Pasta, Ready to Serve Custard, Gravy Granules, Tinned Foods (including puddings). If you could please also look to check the item has a decent use by date.

Agape are always very grateful of any donations and we look forward to sharing our Harvest gifts with them. If you would like to join us at our Harvest Service, you are more than welcome.

Thank you in anticipation.



Parent/Carer Questionnaire

Thank you so much to those of you who did complete the parent/carers wellbeing survey - we look forward to sharing the results with you all. However we do recognise that there were a number of difficulties accessing the survey and can only apologise for this. We have been assured that this has now been resolved.

The Trust has now released a parent/carers survey to gauge parent/carers views. The survey can be found by following this link -

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/56KBC65>. The survey will be open until the 21st October.

Thank you in anticipation.



Website

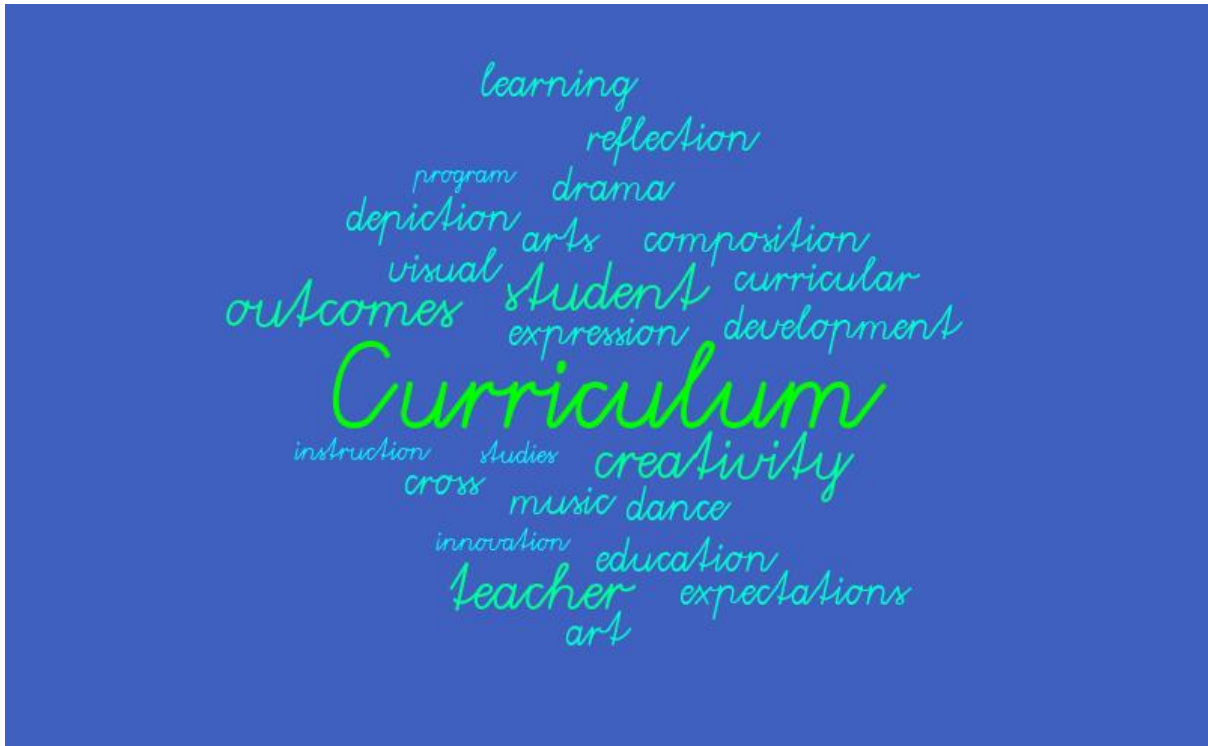
Over the course of the summer break we have also been busy updating the school website to reflect the staffing changes and also the changes to email addresses. The website is a really useful source of key information about school containing information about a whole range of aspects from what

your child will be learning over the course of the academic year to all of the newsletters and information letters that are sent home. Key dates can also be found here.

We know that parents and carers are keen to keep themselves up to date with what is happening in school alongside what the children are learning so please do keep checking in with the website which can be found here:

[Spalding Parish C of E Day School - Home](#)

Curriculum Corner



This week in Curriculum Corner the focus is on National Poetry Day. National Poetry Day is a UK wide celebration of poetry celebrated on the first Thursday of every October. As such this year National Poetry Day was celebrated on the Thursday 6th of October. The first National Poetry Day was undertaken in 1994 and since then there have been lots of fantastic themes that have been celebrated over the years. This year the theme was on The Environment and Children across school explored and wrote their own poems linked to the environment in school, our local community and in their homes.

As a stimulus for the day and their own poetry writing, pupils considered the poem 'The Word Bird' by Sally Crabtree. The poem itself is a poem about the Word Bird singing the world into existence. It was chosen as a stimulus as it is a simpler poem for children of all ages to be able to adapt, whilst touching on a deep theme, that of creation.

The Word Bird

In the beginning nothing was heard

All was silent, not a word

'til the word Bird sang

And the world began

She sang the rivers, she sang the streams

She sang the sky and she sang your dreams

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began..

She sang the sunlight, she sang the hours

She sang the rainbows, she sang the flowers

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began..

She sang the meadows, she sang the trees

She sang the hills, she sang the leaves

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began..

She sang horizons, she sang deep seas

She sang the shore, she sang the breeze

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began..

She sang the evening, she sang twilight

She sang the moonshine, she sang the night

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began..

She sang the wonder, she sang the stars

She sang all creatures in this world of ours

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began

She sang the love and the feeling that starts

Of happiness deep in the well of our hearts

Oh the word bird sang

And the world began

The world began

when the word bird sang.

Sally Crabtree

The children were amazing and all engaged fully with the day. One of our key priorities in school is that of developing vocabulary and this really allowed opportunities for that within all classrooms. Some of the classes wrote poems together as a class whilst in others, children created their poems individually, supported by the stimulus they had chosen to use. All of the poems created were extremely powerful, meeting the brief of 'The Environment'. As such we are very proud to be able to share some of them with you below. We have also created a display in school so the next time you are in school please take a look.

It was certainly a case of **#ProudtobeParish** but also a definite case of **#ProudtobeParishPoets** with much to celebrate.

Thursday 6th October 2022

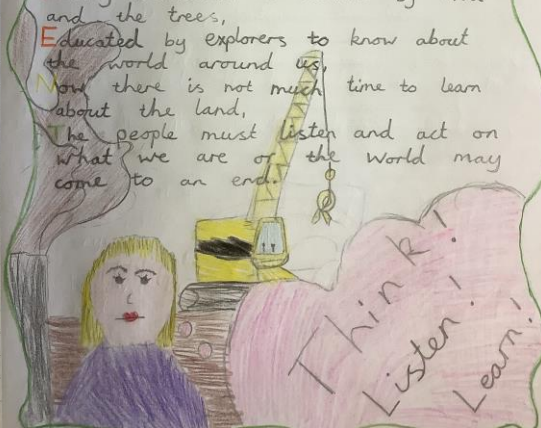
WALT: National Poetry Day,

Save Our Disastrous Planet!

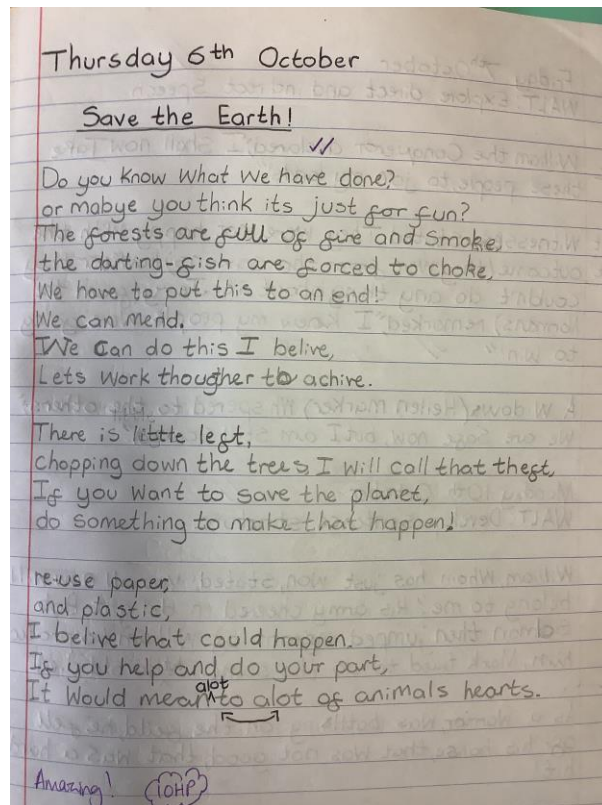
The thriving jungle is being cut down,
And replacing the trees with a human-filled town,
Stop this madness, stop the smoke,
Don't fill the river with handguls of litter,
All the marine wildlife, all the fish will have their lives lost,
And every life we take we'll be the cost,
We're threatening our lives and every critter,
We can stop this, we can stop life being bitter,
All the humans can make a pledge,
We can ~~save~~ stop life falling off the edge,

ENVIRONMENT

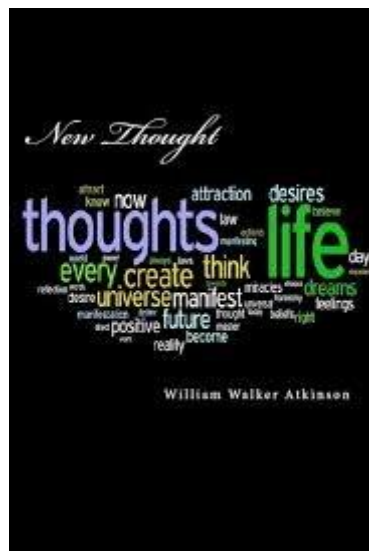
Electricity has started to change the world,
Never changing right for wrongs,
Versions of rivers are dirty and reproducing no more,
Interfering with God's world,
Restoration has not happened for long,
Offering help to the world and everyone around,
Next generations of wildlife and more may be gone,
Many standards to achieve by God and the trees,
Educated by explorers to know about the world around us,
Now there is not much time to learn about the land,
The people must listen and act on what we are or the world may come to an end.



Think!
Listen!
Learn!



Let's Pause for Thought...

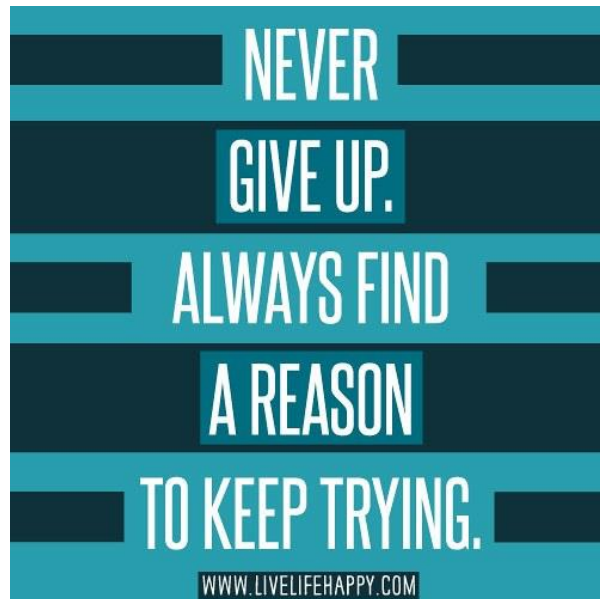


Let's Pause for Thought...

Following on from National Poetry Week I know all the staff were super proud of the children's efforts and achievements. Even when things are difficult, pupils can be relied upon, on the whole, to have a go and give things a try and this is such a positive attitude for life. This also links well to our thought for this week.

*No matter how many mistakes you make or how slow you progress, you're still way ahead of everyone who isn't trying. **Tony Robbins***

Keep trying - you will get there in the end.



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.



Attendance - a further reminder

As we continue the return towards normality, attendance continues to be closely monitored, particularly given current absences.

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.

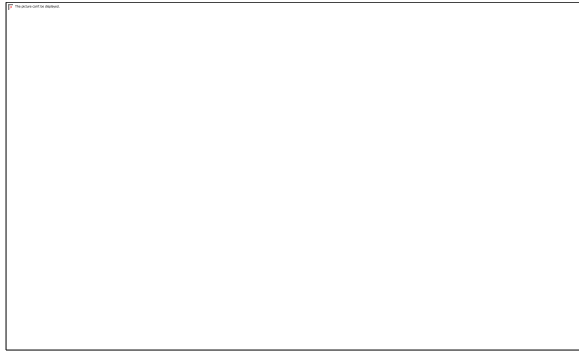
Also please remember that routine dental and medical appointments should not be made during school time. It is preferable and much more beneficial for pupils if appointments can be made either at the end of the school day or during school holidays. If you do have to make an appointment for during the 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.

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. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

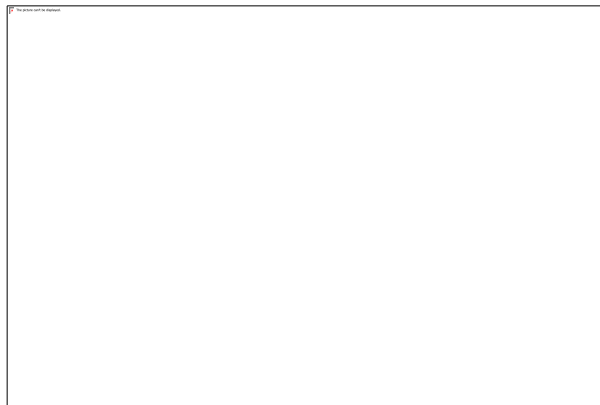


Safeguarding

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.



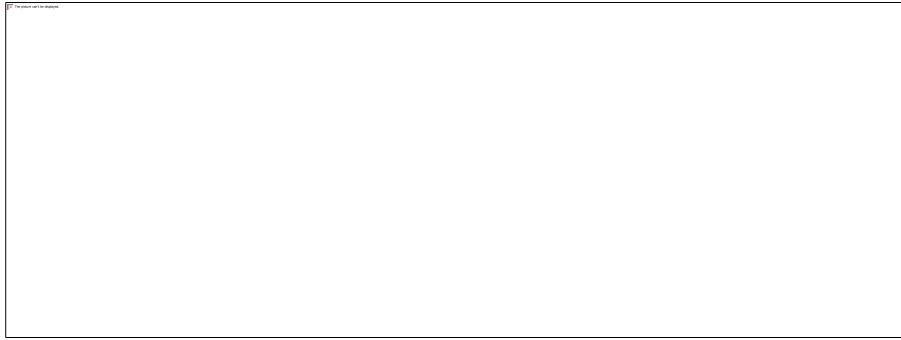
A Plea to Parents/Carers...

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)



Getting to know the Academy Committee

Emma Rains - Chair of Governors/Parent Governor

I grew up in Spalding, attending SPCEDS as a child myself and then Spalding High School.

I studied for a BA Dual Honours degree in Geography and Sociology at Keele University. Following the completion of my degree I worked in management for a Logistics Company before making a career change and going onto complete my PGCE and Qualified Teacher Status via the Open University. I have been a secondary school teacher in a local school for the last ten years. Education is my real passion and the progress and development of students. I am a strong believer in education for all and the way it can transform people's lives.

I am pleased and excited by my Parent Governor role at SPCEDS and grateful to have an opportunity to continue helping shape and support the fantastic work that is carried out by all involved in the school.

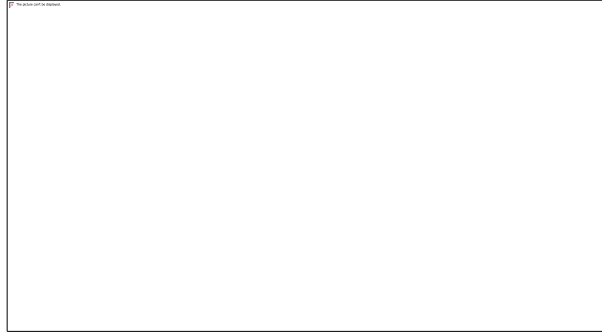
I am married with three children, two who attend SPCEDS and one not yet school age. I enjoy cooking, reading, crafts and spending time with my family and friends.

Heather Bafico - Community Governor

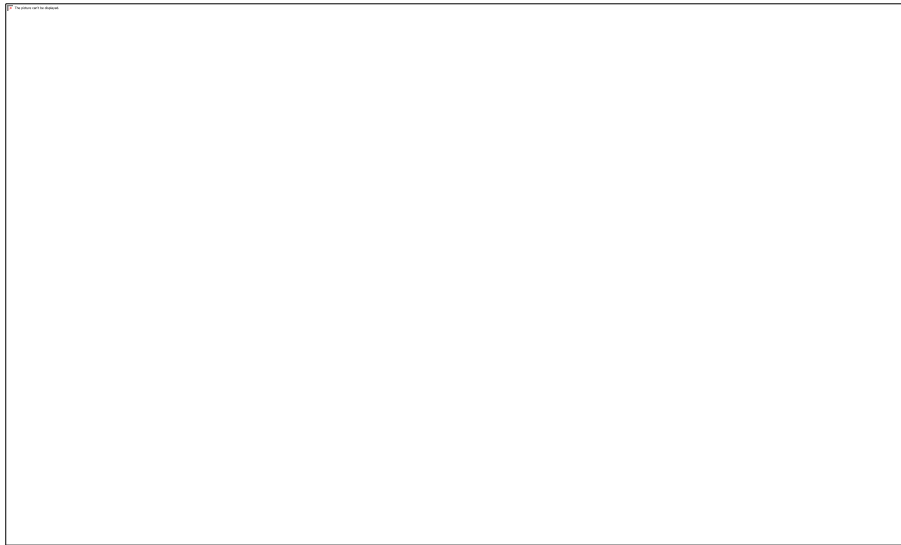
Originally from Mansfield in Nottinghamshire, I moved to Spalding 11 years ago. I studied Biology at the University of Leeds and I work in Retail Management.

I have been a volunteer at SPCEDS since my daughter started school here. I thoroughly enjoy listening to children read, it's a pleasure to watch them grow in confidence and develop their skills.

I am looking forward to developing links between the school and our local community and helping to support our school to deliver their best for all pupils.



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.

Be Real

As a social media app based on authenticity, Be Real has been dubbed as an 'anti-influencer platform'. Does that mean that Be Real has fewer #Online Safety risks than its glamour focussed rivals? Read our #WakeUpWednesday guide to find out.

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/bereal?utm_source=organicsocial&utm_campaign=wuwbe-real

Community Corner



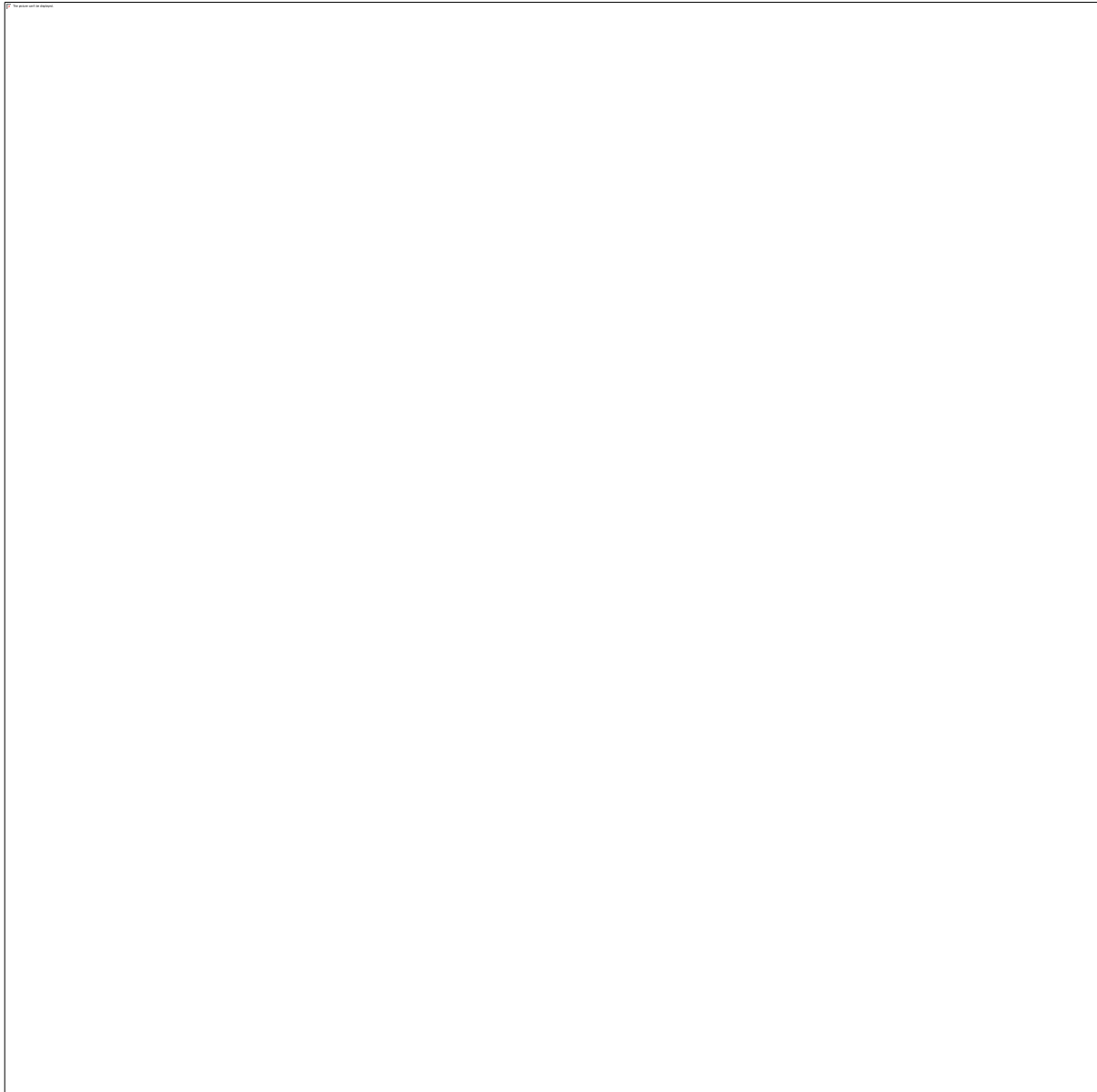
Through the Community Corner, we will aim to share different activities/events happening within the local community that may be of interest to pupils and families of Spalding Parish.

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: Olivia (FS2AC), Oskar (FS2KB)

Year 1: Abigail (Y1CH), Bella (Y1EWSE), Bella-Rose (Y1PB)

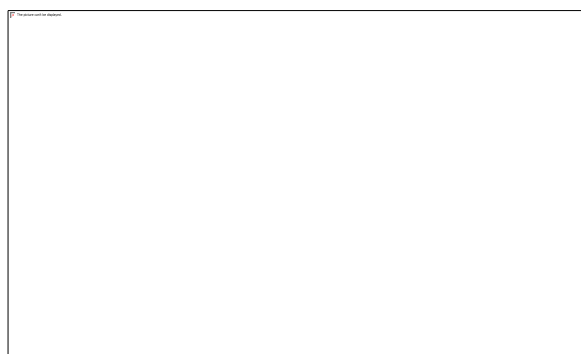
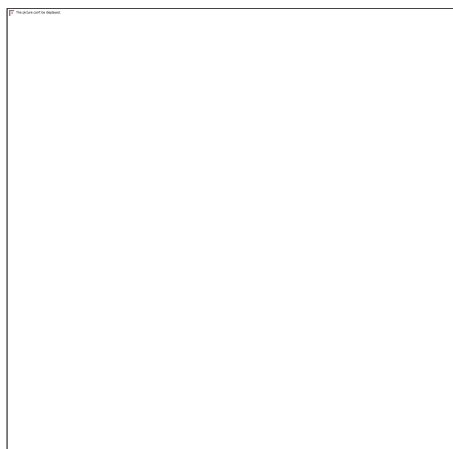
Year 2: Mason (Y2AR), Finley (Y2DO), Charlie (Y2SD)

Year 3: Yanitsa (Y3CC), Fabian (Y3EP), MaryAnn (Y3SH)

Year 4: Oscar (Y4IN), Tilly (Y4KR), Caroline (Y4LS)

Year 5: Milana (Y5RW), Ella (Y5TS)

Year 6: Aleksandra (Y6AS), Ravyn (Y6EW), Erikas (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 (96.8%) - FS2AC are our best attender in FS2, well done!

KS1: Y1PB (98.9%) – Y1PB are the winners in KS1 this week, amazing work!

LKS2: Y4KR (99.3%) – Highest in LKS2 for Y4KR, fantastic!

UKS2: Y6KB (99.4%) – Y6KB are the winners in UKS2 and across the whole school this week, brilliant!

School: 96.8% - A positive increase this week, well done all. Attendance this week is well on track for 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

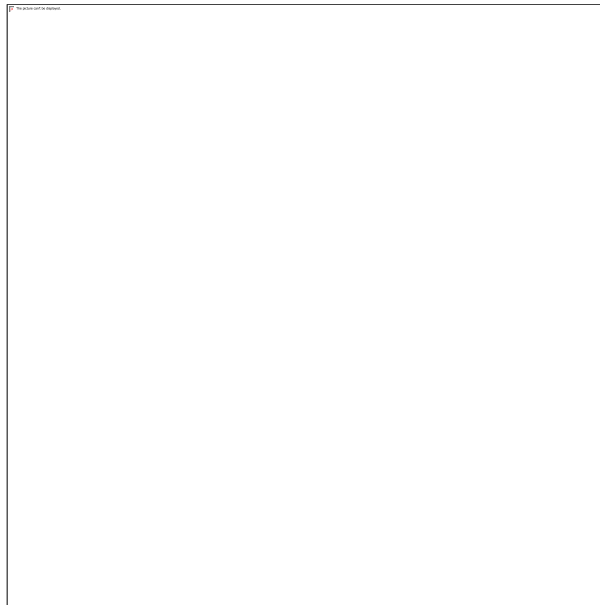
Challenging Challengers

Exciting Experts

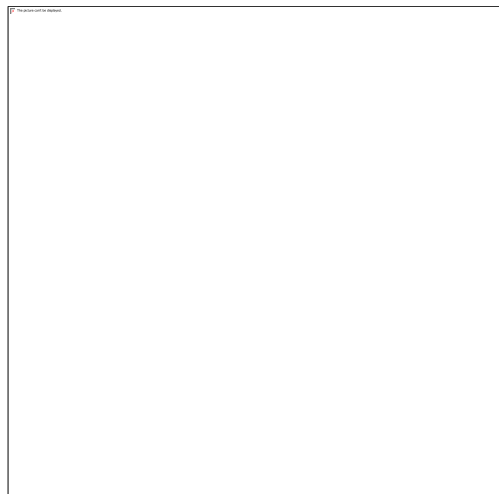
Dynamic Dynamos

Supportive Supporters.

This weeks winners are **Spiritual Solvers** with **299 points** - well done.



Phase Learning Journeys



Foundation Stage

This week we have welcomed Rev. John to talk to us all about what he does. He brought a fabulous memory box that had all sorts of objects such as a photograph from when he was a child, a photograph of when he got married and even a cassette tape! It was fabulous that we got the

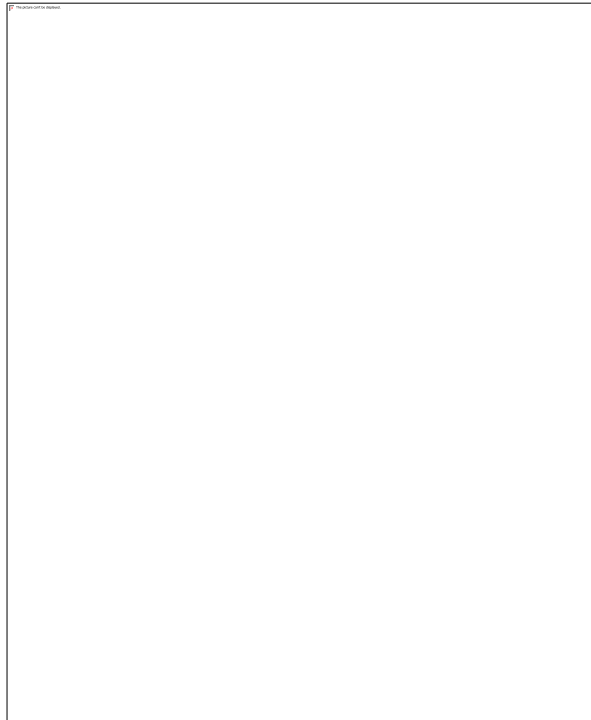
chance to ask him questions about his life and it helped us to understand a bit more about the past and present. We look forward to sharing our own memory boxes with each other.

Key Stage 1

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

Year 1

In Year One we have been continuing our learning about numbers and place value. We enjoyed counting back from 10 to blast off the rockets we made. In Science we showed what we know about parts of the body and the senses making some lovely playdough people. We have now learned about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and are looking forward to our workshops next week to find out more about their work. In our dance lessons we have used streamers to express our responses to music through movement.



Lower Key Stage 2

This week in Lower Key Stage 2 our focus is on Year 3.

Year 3

Our Year 3 writers have been working really hard to produce some excellent information texts for Year 2 to use in their Science work. The children received a letter from their old Year 2 teacher requesting their help - such a privilege to be asked! Our Year 3 children rose magnificently to the task and wowed us with their incredible work. They are looking forward sharing their writing with Year 2 very soon!



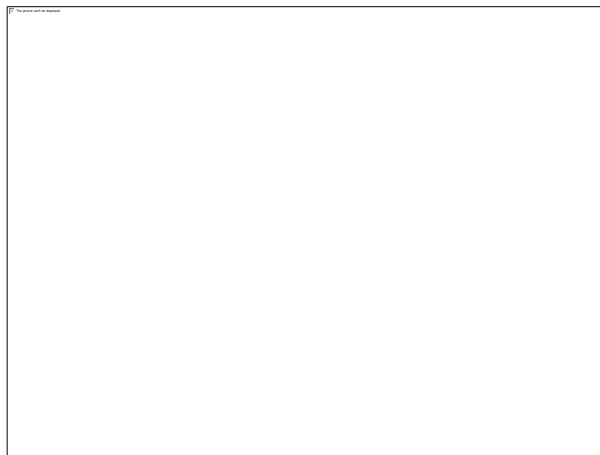
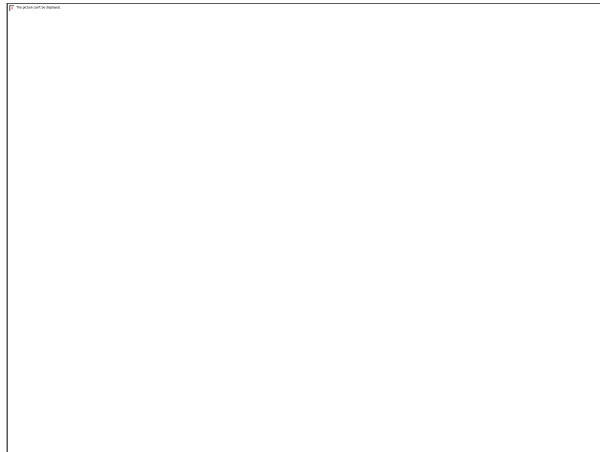
Upper Key Stage 2

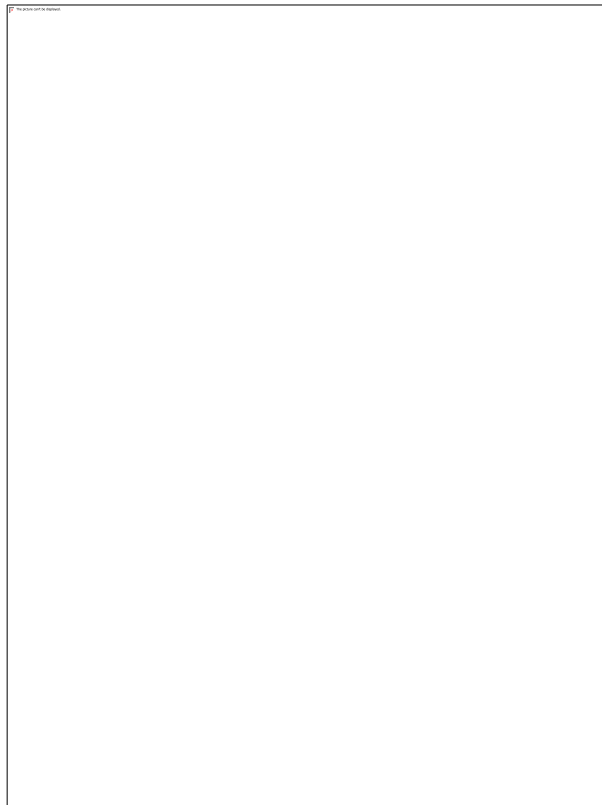
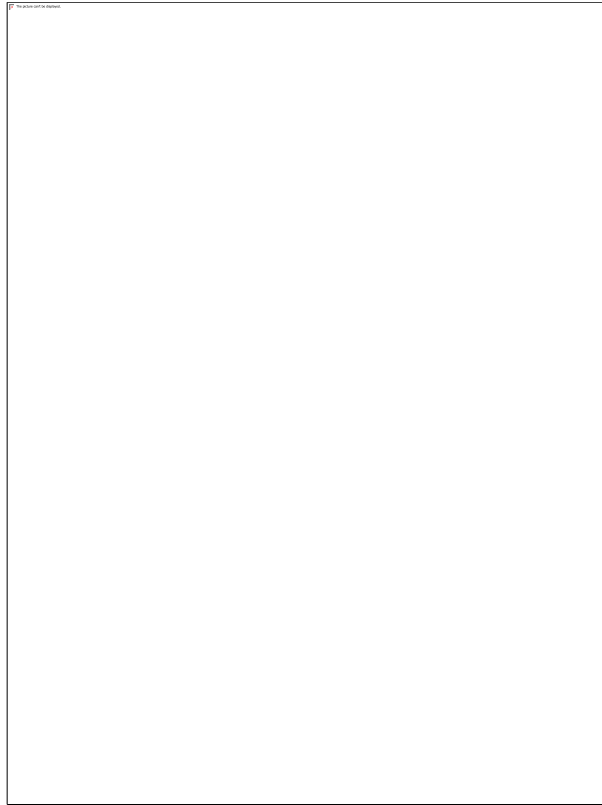
Year 5's learning is the focus of the Parish Post this week.

Year 5

We've had a great couple of weeks in Year 5! We celebrated National Poetry Day with children writing poems of their choosing about environmental issues and their understanding of what part we play in caring for our planet. We were inspired by speeches from Sir David Attenborough and Greta Thunberg – both courageous advocates of the earth. We explored and unpicked two poems which fed our ideas for our own writing, resulting in some thoughtful and inspiring poems of our own.

Then in Art we have been inspired by Adriani Modigliani. We have explored many of his paintings in detail, thoughtfully considering his composition and proportions and have then used these discussions to influence our own work. We have also been experimenting with oil pastels! Having a go with a range of techniques that we will use when drawing our portraits next week! We can't wait to share our final masterpieces with you!





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