

# SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN TO PARENTS

### 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

This week's bulletin follows yesterday's announcement from Boris Johnson that schools will remain closed to most pupils until Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, at the earliest. We remain hopeful that we will see all our students back in school then, if all the national efforts go to plan. In the meantime, we will continue to do our best to keep everyone learning and thank you for your support in making this happen.

#### Online Learning at SGS Survey

Many thanks to all of you who replied to our online learning survey. It has provided us with some very useful information which we shall be digesting and considering for the future of online learning. We are committed to providing the best learning experience we can under such adverse circumstances, so your views are invaluable to us.

#### Coming Soon – SGS Ski Trip 2022

Following the unfortunate cancellation of the 2021 trip, we are pleased to announce that a 2022 trip has been arranged. The Tour Leader is Mr Endersbee, and the tour will be released by Parentmail on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7:00pm**, with a £150 deposit required. The 24 places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis – no places can be reserved in advance. If you wish to find out more about the trip, please read the taster booklet attached to this Parentmail. The cost of the trip is £1,200, payable via instalments.

#### School Uniform **CHROMA** SCHOOL · SPORT · BUSINESS

We are pleased to announce that our new uniform supplier is Chroma Sports. They will be offering online sales, as well as operating a shop in Bretton. Chroma Sports is a family run company and have been supplying PE kit for senior students over the last few years. We look forward to working with Chroma Sports and Manager, Mark Wilson. They will make samples available in School for sizing purposes and will attend larger parent events at the School, when such times allow. Further details will follow when the online ordering is fully operational.



#### Ark Microsoft Teams sessions for Parents

Due to the success of the last Teams training sessions for parents, Ark (our IT service provider), are going to run further sessions. We will keep you posted on our parent weekly bulletins and on the '[School Communication](#)' section of the SGS web. The last session was not too in depth and demonstrated Teams on different devices, how to log in and what features School might be using. Ark have several engineers on the session to answer any questions you might have.

[Click here to join](#) a recording of the last parent session.

Another session for parents to look and see how their child logs on, use of assignments, and some basic trouble shooting tips, such as finding and files, will take place on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 4pm**. [Click me to start the session](#)

#### Attendance at online lessons

We have found that attendance continues to be very good for our on-line lessons. Where a student does not attend, the teacher will record that absence in Go4Schools and assign a -1 point, so that you will be able to see it. Once we return to 'normal' school all of these negative points will be removed.

If there is a genuine reason for your child's absence, such as illness or a medical appointment please inform the School as you normally would by calling 01775 765800 and speaking to the receptionist or leaving a message.

#### Post 16 Options at SGS – A message from Dr Leadbeater for parents of Y11 students



As Year 11 students continue to engage with remote learning, they are also looking at their post-16 options, most of them making the important decision of what A levels to study in September.

In recent assemblies, I have invited them to watch our [Overview video](#) to get a flavour, both of the life and learning of students in Sixth Form and to hear directly from them as to how their chosen courses are paving the way for their futures. Choosing subjects for A Level study can be a tricky process. Some subjects are significantly different at a higher level in both content and assessment pattern; other subjects are completely new at A level. The purpose of [videos from our Heads of Subject](#) and the [Subject Information Sheets](#) is to provide information about the subjects and specifications to help students make an educated choice and also to feel the passion of our teachers for their subject.

The [FAQ](#), our [Prospectus](#) and the [Russell Group guide](#) will provide them with additional professional advice on choosing appropriate courses, subject combinations, progression routes into higher education, and much more.

I do hope that our students in Year 11 and their parents will experience, albeit remotely, the vibrancy of our amazing facility and find all the information they need...plus, they will be just one click away from our easy-to-complete [Application Form](#)!

As Mr Wilkinson and I say in our [Welcome!](#) Video, come to SGS to be inspired, challenged and enriched!

## Online TLA – This Week’s Highlights

w/b 25<sup>th</sup> Jan

### Vorsprung Durch Technik?

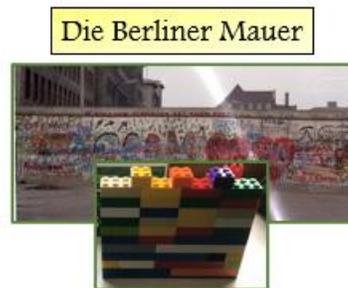
“Year 10 Germanists have started a new topic whereby they need to be able to talk/write about their home and local area. To freshen up this topic, I decided to try something completely different to improve their cultural knowledge of the country by asking students to research and build replicas of these monuments using items that they found in their homes.



Die Siegesäule in Berlin



Der Kölner Dom in Köln



Die Berliner Mauer



Der Brandenburger Tor in Berlin



Der Fernsehturm in Stuttgart

Given just half an hour to complete this task, the results of their work were amazing (you can be the judge yourselves from the examples below)!” *Miss Jahangir, MFL Department*

### **Towering Success!**

"I have been creating a fortnightly newsletter which has been able to continue our Intra-form competitions that we would normally run during tutor time. Using the framework of Channel 4's *Task Master* series, we have set the boys different challenges each fortnight. Our first one involved building the tallest Lego Tower which had to remain freestanding for at least ten seconds. After carefully reviewing video evidence posted on Teams tutor pages, congratulations go to Oliver Baker in 10DGJ who managed an impressive 192cm!" *Mr Wyvill, Head of Year 10*



### **Student Resilience**

"The thing that I am most impressed during this term of online lessons is the resilience and determination shown by the students. Even with all the disruptions they seem determined to do well and know how to continue to improve. Specifically, I wanted to commend the Year 11 historians, for the effort they put into a recent project. This involved independent research and evaluation of the threat posed by opposition youth groups to the Nazi Party. Keep up the good work boys!" *Mr Renwick, History Department*

**The Senior Leadership Team  
Spalding Grammar School**