

SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

WEEKLY BULLETIN TO PARENTS

5TH FEBRUARY 2021

This week's bulletin is relatively short, but we would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all that you are doing to support your sons' and daughters' learning during this challenging time. We have one more week until we can take a break from timetabled online learning, and it is worth noting that the majority of students have been tremendously resilient over the last five weeks; For this they must be congratulated!

Year 10 and 12 Trial Exams – Postponed

Given the current COVID situation and the ongoing uncertainty about the way in which students will return to school after the publicised March 8th date, we have taken the decision to postpone the Y10 and 12 Trial exams. These were originally planned to take place across a two-week period from Monday 15th March. It is still our intention for students to sit these important assessments this academic year in Term 5 or 6, and we will come back to you with more details of when once we know.

Keep passwords secure

Just a reminder to all parents, that students are asked to keep their computer passwords secure. Please would you reinforce the point that passwords should not be shared with anyone.

Safer Internet Day with Lincolnshire.gov.uk

This year in the UK, Safer Internet Day explores reliability online and separating fact from fiction. Safer Internet Day will be celebrated globally "Together for a better internet". There will be a live event on Safer Internet Day Tuesday 9th February at 1:30pm. It takes a look at how social media and gaming can have a negative influence on mental health. The event can only be entered through clicking on the link below. The chat function will not be activated, and it will last approximately 20-30mins. **Although students will not be able to attend the live event due to being in lessons**, parents can click on the link at 1:30pm on Tuesday. <https://youtu.be/UwzG2BDLF2c> . It will be available to watch via the same link after the event.

There is also a Parent Awareness session around Online Safety that is available to watch at your leisure by clicking the following link [Online Safety for Parents](#). It covers how Online safety is taught, positives of the internet, popular apps and how to safeguard.

Online TLA – This Week's Highlights

Musical Improvisation

"I have been super impressed by our students; they have had a lot thrown at them over the last year, but without hesitation they have shown maturity in taking responsibility for their own education and adapting to the situation they are in. This is extremely evident in Music, and other practical subjects, when we cannot use the tools and instruments that we would like to. However, the students have adapted to the situation admirably and adopted music technology like it has never been absent in their lives. Whether they have been using the apps and programs by themselves or alongside musical instruments, the students have not skipped a beat in continuing to create and perform increasingly impressive pieces of music." *Mr Burns, Music Department*

Adding Dimensions to Art Lessons

"The Art Department have used some of the Government catch-up funding to buy Adobe Creative Cloud licenses for our KS4 and KS5 students. This allows them to access the full suite at home. Using Adobe Illustrator, I have been able to share my screen with the Y10 GCSE Art & Design group to show them step by step how to create a Pop Art self-portrait in the style of Roy Lichtenstein. What has been a positive experience in challenging times is the way in which pupils have been able to share their screens in return so that I can give praise and support in real time to help the pupils improve their work. Here is an example of the work of Justinas Butkus." *Mr Wyvill, Art Department*



Law Maturity

“My success story this week is the level of engagement of the Year 12 Law students. We have been covering some very sensitive issues in our topics on the law and morality and the law and society. They have approached all the areas with an increased level of maturity and some really deep thinking, giving some incredibly well-considered and fully justified responses. I am very excited to read their assessments next week (I even got most to turn their cameras on!)”

Ms Dearing, Head of Law and Politics

**The Senior Leadership Team
Spalding Grammar School**