

SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL

WEEKLY BULLETIN TO PARENTS

19TH MARCH 2021

Introduction

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers that have supported the two-week CV testing programme. Every parent that volunteered, had to undertake 2.5 hours of virtual training and all 12 parents volunteered to do at least two days, and some the whole two weeks. In reality, no one knew quite what to expect, other than the Government guidance that had been thrust in our direction, followed by multiple deliveries. Our support staff and parents worked fantastically well together, over two testing sites. Without our parent volunteers and support staff, the programme would not have run so smoothly and actually ahead of schedule.

There was minimal disruption to teaching and learning and the students were true to SGS form and just got on with minimal fuss! We are very pleased to report that the vast majority of SGS students have been sent home with their self- testing kits this week!

Thank you again!

Mrs H Wild

Homework Policy – Full Reinstatement

As part of our student transition strategy, we previously wrote to inform you that homework expectations remained limited for the first two weeks of students returning to School. This transition period has been deemed a success, and as planned we will reinstate our full homework policy as of Monday 22nd March (average of 15 mins per Y7-9 lesson, 20 mins per Y10-11 lesson, 45 mins per Y12 lesson, and 60 mins per Y13 lesson). Full homework policy details can be found on the School website.

Revision Focus and Resources

With plans beginning to solidify for remaining Year 11 and 13 assessments, we have followed Government guidelines to stop teaching new GCSE and A-level content as of the Easter break. This allows sufficient time and focus to support students in reviewing prior content to best prepare them for remaining assessments that will contribute towards their TAGs.

To support the broader principles of revision, I wanted to remind students and parents of the Revision Centres we have available, that contains advice and resources:

- [Revision Centre Team](#) (accessible to students via Office 365 accounts)
- [Revision Support Web Page](#) (accessible to parents and students)

Departments will also provide subject-specific revision resources and advice, which includes the utilisation of appropriate time over the Easter holiday period.

Mr Endersbee, Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning

Self-Testing Kits

All students that have taken part in the on-site CV testing, should have received two boxes containing 3 kits in each box, with a set of instructions on the day of their last on-site test. Please contact cvtesting@spaldinggrammar.lincs.sch.uk if your son/daughter has not received their kits.

Tests should be taken on Monday and Thursday morning and the results reported via the Government website and the school form, as per the headmaster's letter dated 15 March.

If your son/daughter has not yet consented to the test programme and would like to be included, test kits are available from reception at lunchtimes.

Students are encouraged to continue the testing process over Easter, for which they will receive additional kits. Further information will follow.

CV Testing for parents, households, and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread of CV. Please note that our tests should only be used for our students and that tests for families should be collected from other sites.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests

To find out more on school household testing visit [Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

School uniform during the colder months

Just a reminder that a plain v neck (non-logo) jumper is acceptable during the colder months. Students are expected to go outside for fresh air at break and lunch, so please remind students to bring a coat if it is forecast to be cold. The wearing of hoodies under blazers to, from and during school, is still not part of the accepted school uniform. Students have been made aware.

Chroma Sports

CHROMA

SCHOOL : SPORT : BUSINESS

Chroma Sports are our new online uniform suppliers. Please see their [website](#). Due to lockdown, there is some difficulty with sourcing the two tone blue reversible PE tops until Mid May. In the meantime, we are doing our best to collect second hand SGS logo'd items.

PFA Update

Virtual Quiz II

Following the success of the first PFA Virtual Quiz in January, we are pleased to announce that a second quiz will take place on Friday 26th March. Details can be found in the accompanying poster. We hope you can join us for a FUNdraising evening!

Virtual Raffle

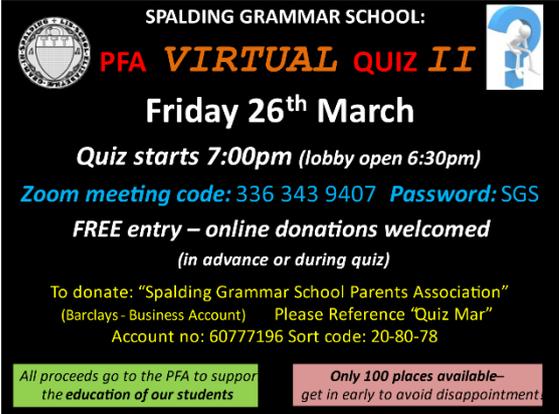
We have also taken the decision to delay the launch of the Virtual PFA Raffle, with the intention of postponing the draw until after Easter. We will keep you updated!

We are always grateful to receive prizes, so please contact communications@spaldinggrammar.linc.sch.uk, if you feel you can add to the prize excitement!

Outgrown School Uniform

If you do have any items of P.E kit that are outgrown, we always have families looking for SGS logo clothing, in good clean condition. Please would you send it in with your son in a sealed carrier bag. It can be left on the table near reception, or on a Friday, we will put a collection table by the Priory Road pedestrian gate.

We just ask parents in need of uniform, to make a donation to the PFA. By recycling outgrown uniform, not only supports the environment, but also helps to raise funds, which will benefit the whole School.



SPALDING GRAMMAR SCHOOL:
PFA VIRTUAL QUIZ II
Friday 26th March
Quiz starts 7:00pm (lobby open 6:30pm)
Zoom meeting code: 336 343 9407 Password: SGS
FREE entry – online donations welcomed
(in advance or during quiz)
To donate: "Spalding Grammar School Parents Association"
(Barclays - Business Account) Please Reference "Quiz Mar"
Account no: 60777196 Sort code: 20-80-78
All proceeds go to the PFA to support the education of our students
Only 100 places available – get in early to avoid disappointment.

TLA – This Week’s Highlights

A Rewarding Experience

“I take pleasure from spending time organising the English Department’s Student of the Week. Each member of staff nominates a student that has stood out that week, and I collate these and share with Mrs Harrison-Wild to be communicated via our School publicity. I enter the Go4Schools positives and then write up raffle tickets; the raffle will be drawn at the end of the year to celebrate student achievement in English.

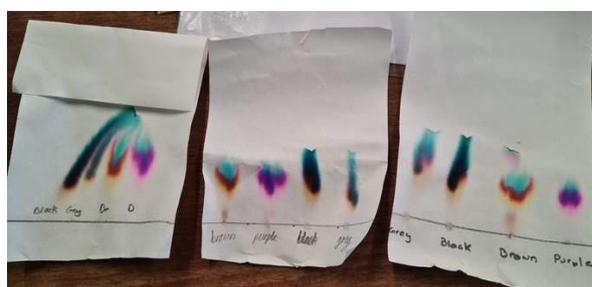
In my capacity as Head of Year 8, I am piloting exactly the same system as above with Year 8 students too. The students who gain large numbers of positive points (i.e. 25, 50, 75 etc) are praised in our Year 8 assemblies and newsletter. It is fantastic to see the positive response to these rewards, both from the students who receive these, and the inspiration it gives other students to strive to achieve them too”

Mrs Durno, Teacher of English and Head of Year 8

A Colourful Culprit!

“In Year 7 science we have been looking at separating mixtures and in our first lesson back in the lab we used chromatography to find out who had graffitied on the walls. They were given four possible culprit pens and had to use chromatography to separate the inks in the pens to compare with the culprit pen. It was wonderful to see them back in the lab and doing practical work and good to know they hadn’t lost any of their practical skills during lockdown.”

Mrs Harris, Teacher of Science



Business and Economic Analysis

“Over the last few weeks it has been pleasing working with both the Year 12 and Year 13 A level economic students analysing and evaluating real-life economics. With the Year 12 students we have been looking at the trade cycle and analysing data to suggest if a country is going to be in a period of growth or decline and the reasons why. As a group they are developing the skills to develop causal links and explain how one change in the economy can lead to particular effects.

The Year 13 students have been analysing the interactions between suppliers and business customers to explain issues they may occur between them. In addition, they have looked at how changing from our reliance on oil and gas to using sustainable electricity will benefit the environment but may affect some businesses.”

Mr Morris, Teacher of Business and Economics