

# SPOTLIGHT

## SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 September 2009

“The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that your are not going to stay where you are.”

John Pierpont Morgan

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers

The 52% 5 A\*-C result (with English and Maths) takes Sprowston into the top 25% of schools nationally in terms of value added scores. This is a fantastic achievement for our students, their families, the teachers, support colleagues, Governors, and Children Services colleagues who have all worked so hard to make this happen, under the excellent leadership of the Head of Year, Ms Wood. The overall 5 A\*-C trend since 2006 has seen a substantial year on year increase, with a school record this year of 68% indicating that we continue to enable our students to make good life choices and equip them well for the world of work, training and our Sixth Form.

Best wishes

**Andrew John, Headteacher**

This terms first edition of the SPOTLIGHT Newsletter will be distributed to all students joining Year 7 in booklet form.

Future editions will be available via the school website only at  
[www.sprowstonhigh.org](http://www.sprowstonhigh.org)

# ARTS across the Curriculum

**New Programme for Autumn 2009**

## Gothic

All year 8 students will be visiting the Norwich Playhouse in September to see a performance of *Norfolk's Rose*, a chilling tale of a childhood lost, murder, and betrayal set between the present time and 1800s. The play explores Gothic themes of suspense and the supernatural and sets the scene for our cross curricula project in English and the Arts.

## A Murder Mystery



Who killed Stephen Williams owner of Harpley Hall? Can students solve the mystery? This Maths and Performance Arts cross curricula project will require students to become detectives and to use their numeracy and calculating skills to solve the murder. From the clues they find, can students deduct who, what, where and how the murder was committed?

## Grassroots Theatre Company

Using dance, drama and music as a process towards informing and empowering local communities both in Zimbabwe and overseas, students will see a special performance by the Grassroots Theatre Company in October. Aimed at developing students understanding of fair trade and world debt the performance makes curriculum links with Citizenship and Geography.

## Fusion

This years Community theme 'Fusion' invites students from Partner Schools and Sprowston Community High to work with members of the wider community and Creative Industries to explore ideas around diversity and culture. Workshops in Arts and Media will begin this term with 5 of our partner schools and members of the wider community. See Arts across the Community for further details.

# ARTS across the Community

## Planned Performances & Productions for Autumn 2009

- A Special Live Performance by Singer, Song Writer **Lotte Mullan** (October)
- **The Revenge** – A comic farce by Simon Brett ( November )
- **The Christmas Play** – A Christmas Extravaganza (December)

## Planned Community Partnerships & Extended Activities Autumn 2009

### **Sprowston Community Choir**

Established two years ago, our Community Choir has become a social highlight for many of its members. The choir is open to all age groups regardless of ability. Members meet every Monday evening from 7.00 to 9.00 in the main school hall and new members are very welcome.

### ***Fusion***

Five of our partner schools and members of the wider community will be working alongside our own students to explore ideas around culture and diversity. All groups involved will choose how they want to explore and express their own ideas and thoughts in response to the Community theme – Fusion. Working with artists, performers and film makers the work created will be captured on film which will be screened at our Community Film Festival in the Spring Term.

### **Radio fm**

Workshops begin in September for students who want to be involved in hosting their own one hour broadcast from Exchange Radio station in November.

New opportunities for Year 9 students to work at NR5 Future Radio studios will also start in September. This year the group will be involved in making a heritage and culture broadcast as part of their National Arts Awards.

### **After school and lunch time clubs**

Run by staff and professional artists the new Autumn Term programme will be out shortly.

### **Creative Partners & Industries**

**Student Visits to the UEA,**

6<sup>th</sup> Form and GCSE students will be able to widen their career choices by finding out more about opportunities in the Creative Industries and experience taster courses at the UEA.

**Youth Dance England**

New pilot partnership project with Schools Dance Coordinator for the East of England.

### **Arts College Forums and Groups**

The development of the Arts Status is shared, monitored and supported by stakeholders who are represented on the following groups.

- Student Arts Forum
- Arts Steering Group
- Community Partners
- Arts Governors Committee
- Arts Strategic Management Group

**Margaret Quigley, Director of the Arts Specialism**

## YEAR 7

Welcome to the Year 7 Spotlight! This article is where I get the chance to update you about what's happening in school and to let you know what the Students have been up to. By the time you read this, your child will be firmly embedded in the fabric of the High School and those first days' nerves, I am sure, will be a fading memory. The Year 7's have hit the ground running this year and made a fantastic start. They have already amassed 109 good news slips and they are still mounting up. Special mention goes to **Roxi Yeomans** in 7TP for being the first to get the ball rolling. Next week will see the launch of the S Factor awards, but I will save that for later...

Congratulations also goes out to all entrants for the 'My First Day' poetry competition in which Students were invited to write a poem about their first day at school. Third place went **Connor Whiting**, Second to **Laura Clabon** and the winner was **Jessica Anna Siggins** who's winning poem is shown below.

### **My first Day At High School**

I woke up in the grip of fear,  
The bitter dread,  
Stomach Churning!  
Blood Curdling!  
Tension Rising!

**Nervous!!!**

Arriving at the gates,  
Sprowston Community High School!  
Grins Beaming!  
Teachers Greeting  
Stimulating Students!

**Calm!!!**

Madame Sells is at the Door  
Welcoming us in!  
Her happy smile!  
Her curling hair!  
Her caring voice!

**Safe!!!**

Budging though the dinner queue,  
Its lunch time now!  
Dinner tasty!  
Boys Sporty!  
Girls Chatty!

**Cool!!!**

The end of class  
The big School rush!  
School busy  
Streets busy  
Stupendous day!  
I'm feeling .....

**Fantastic**

By Jessica Anna Siggins

**Mr Bidle**  
**Head of Year 7**

## YEAR 8

Welcome back to Year 8. It doesn't feel like a year since we were all starting at Sprowston Community High. We hope you all had a lovely break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

Before we look ahead to year 8 we thought it was important to look back at some of the successes we had in Year 7.

The data shows that in English, Maths and Science our year group exceeded their targets in all of the three core subjects.

At level 4 we were predicted 72% in English, 76% in maths and 78% in science. We actually achieved 84% in English, 85% in maths and 96% in Science. This is fantastic news and sets us up nicely to enter year 8.

### Africa Alive

The year 7 trip at the end of last year was to Africa Alive near Lowestoft. We had a fabulous day out and all the staff that accompanied the students spoke highly of their behaviour and attitude. We took 150 students and brought 150 back which is always pleasing! Here are just a few pictures to give a flavour of our visit.



### SAS-Go

We are pleased to have teamed up with SAS-Go a new company which has just started up in Swardeston. It stands for Swardeston Adventure Survival and they offer bush craft and survival skills courses.

The website is <http://www.sas-go.co.uk/>.

SAS-Go are sponsoring a competition for all Year 8 students. The prize is a free bush craft course for one adult and one child.

The competition is to do a piece of creative writing around the theme of survival. The entries will be judged by initially by Miss Cook and Mr Sewell who will pass the 10 best on to the director of SAS-Go who will choose the winning entry.

### Competition Task

You are shipwrecked on a Desert island. How will you survive? What will you eat? How will you keep warm? How will you get help?

Your task is to produce a poem or short story explaining how you managed to survive and the adventures that you had. The closing date for entries is Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

### Sprowston Adventure Survival

Alongside the written competition we are also asking our students to consider the skills they need to survive at school. Each week a different aspect of school survival will be monitored as follows by your child's form tutor...

Week beginning	Sept 14 <sup>th</sup>	Equipment
	Sept 21 <sup>st</sup>	Attendance
	Sept 28 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Book
	Oct 5 <sup>th</sup>	Uniform
	Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	Journal

**YEAR 8 continued**

**Journal Signing**

Please check your child's journal each week and sign it or make a comment if you feel that is appropriate. We check journals each week in registration and would like to remind you that as a parent you have a responsibility to check that your child is using the journal and recording their homework.

We are looking forward to building on the excellent relationships we established last year.

**Anna Cook and Pete Sewell  
Heads of Year 8**

**Kett Sixth Form College  
Quiz and Nibbles  
Prizes and raffle**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September  
7pm for 7.30pm**

**Sprowston Community High School  
Cannerby Lane  
Sprowston**

**£4 per head including nibbles  
(students £2)**

**Bring your own drink (alcohol permitted)**

Teams of up to 6 people- all welcome to come along and join with others on the night.

To book your table or place please complete and return the slip below to the school with a cheque made payable to Sprowston Community High School,

Or telephone the school on 485266 or e-mail [askhamc@sprowstonhigh.org](mailto:askhamc@sprowstonhigh.org) to book your table and pay on the night.

.....  
**Kett Sixth Form College Quiz and Nibbles**

**Team name**.....

**Number in team** ..... **Amount paid £**.....

**Contact Number**.....

## **YEAR 9**

I hope year 9 students enjoyed the summer break and made the most of the sunshine! I cannot believe that we are already in Year 9 – time has flown by so quickly. It was not so long ago that these students were tiny Year 7's!

I would like to say a huge “well done” to the year group for their achievements last year. The reports that were issued at the end of Year 8 showed that a large proportion of the students achieved very well. Congratulations.

Overall 66% of the students last year achieved their target levels or better in all of their key subject areas. A further 26% achieved their targets in all but 1 subject. This is an excellent achievement and I am very proud of them for their hard work.

Year 9 is a very important year. It see's the finishing off of Key Stage 3 which is the culmination of 3 years worth of hard work and effort as we strive towards our target levels. It also see's the welcoming of Key Stage 4 and GCSE's! This year group is the first one to complete the whole of Key Stage 3 here with us at Sprowston Community High School. This will be a busy year but a highly successful one!

Welcome back!

**Miss Dawbarn**  
**Head of Year 9**

## **CYCLE SECURITY**

As a healthy school we are committed to encouraging as many of our young people as possible to cycle to school. Cycling is an important source of good exercise and also good for the environment.

To help encourage our students we have spent a considerable amount in recent years creating a secure and well sheltered cycle shed. However this does not make the school immune to crime. It is therefore imperative that all students **LOCK THEIR BIKES.**

Sadly the school cannot take responsibility for loss of any valuable item brought to school including cycles, but the chance of being the victim of a crime is greatly reduced by taking simply measures such as ensuring you use the bike racks provided and securing your cycle thoroughly with a proper lock.

**Mr Reynolds**  
**Deputy Headteacher (Every Child Matters, Inclusion and Student Services)**

## Welcome back to YEAR 10!

Welcome back to a very important part of your career at Sprowston, these next two years will determine whether you go on to sixth form, higher education or the job/apprenticeship that you desperately want! This is where the hard work starts and we are here to help and support you achieve your goals.

I also want to recap on the end of term summer assembly and congratulate students for different achievements. Ms Bygrave awarded certificates to students who were involved in leadership initiatives from the University of 1<sup>st</sup> age. Lead Learners - planning and running an after school club for Yr 7 students were Kim Davis, Katie Piper, Daniel Vince & Thomas Roberts. As well as Peer Tutors - supporting younger students in activities planned by the University fellows during the Summer Challenge were Jasmine Barnes, Jodie Allen, Danni Williamson & Lewis Smith (9SA).



**Shauni  
Sings  
'Ave  
Maria'**

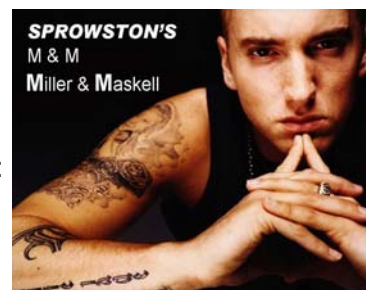
We had superb singing performances by Bianca Gotts & Roma Stanger with their rendition of 'Falling Slowly' and 'Happy' as well as a stunning solo by Siobhan Collingsworth singing 'Ave Maria'. The show was stolen though by Daryl Miller & Adam Maskell performing a superb beat box double act – well done lads!

There were awards given by the core subjects and MFL. English: Michael Painter for achievement and Amber Barden for most improved.

Maths: Ben Applegate for achieving level 8M & Michael Painter level 8H.

Science: Lewis Alexander for achieving level 7M. Spanish: Troy Bennett

French: Kim Davies & Abbie Hampson German: Rebecca Hicks



We also awarded students in each tutor group who had achieved the best relative performance factor across their subjects at KS3 within their given tutor group. This meant that they were achieving above and beyond their expected levels – well done!

Below are the following tutor group winners:

AL: Robert Crick +6  
BG: Connor Steward & Naheed Rahman +5  
FT: Pip Evanson & Sophie Betts +3  
LE: Scott Rallison +7  
LR: Jordan Horth & Andrew Tierney +5  
MG: Hannah Wicks +5  
MP: Ben Applegate +4  
NC: Catriona Lloyd +5  
SA: Maddy Girling +8  
SI: Jordan Neale +7  
WE: Tyler Brittain +5  
YL: Michael Painter +7

**Results for  
Performer  
Tutor group  
Their RPF!**



**the top  
in each  
against**

This is how  
well you have  
performed  
against your  
target  
performance  
levels

## YEAR 10 continued

We also had the results of the summer Bar-b-que challenge with SA coming out on top after a gruelling battle with the other tutor groups!

1152 - 1 = SA  
 1054 - 2 = LE  
 1051 - 3 = MP  
 1018 - 4 = LR  
 959 - 5 = AL  
 945 - 6 = NC  
 942 - 7 = BG  
 924 - 8 = FT  
 922 - 9 = SI  
 915 - 10 = YL  
 877 - 11 = MG  
 804 - 12 = WE



Once again we were very fortunate to be sponsored by 'Friar's Pride'. The 1<sup>st</sup> prize was the Mr Westbury bar-b-que experience with SA having the bar-b-que on the last Thursday of term in the Nick Reeve memorial garden. Many thanks go to Mr Westbury ably assisted by Ms Fuller for organising and cooking the food!

Dan Betts from 'Friars Pride' also very kindly donated donuts to LE & MP as runners up to SA.

## Tanzania girls

Once again we have been sponsoring the 3 girls in their school in Tanzania and Yr9 managed to donate again at the end of the term £268.48 towards the education and welfare of Ngona Victor, Frolina Ezekiel & Pendo Enock. Thank you so much.

I quote from a letter from the Charity received during the summer break – "Thank you for your continued commitment to the children – thanks to you we have seen the education, housing and health of these children improve so much and this could not have been done without your help." This guys is all down to you! I want to continue during KS4 to raise monies to see these girls through another year of education with your support.



I hope you get off to a great start in your chosen courses for GCSE and we look forward to an enjoyable and rewarding year at school.

**Mr Cordeaux, Head of Year 10**

## **YEAR 11**

### **Welcome back!**

Time goes so quickly and already we are in year 11. I am very excited to be taking on the new role of Head of Year and so pleased to be working with such a wonderful year group, one that Mrs Barker was so proud of.

Needless to say it's such an important year and time will go so quickly. We have a lot of information to send out to you and all our students, which will be included within this Spotlight article regularly, so watch this space!

Our GCSE results for last year were exceptional – so we have a hard act to follow, however our year group's tracking (their current performance grades and attitude to learning grades) were very impressive. We now, together, need to focus on what these grades tell us and concentrate on moving forward. Our student's teachers and tutors will be working with them to focus on areas for improvement and I will be also offering intervention programmes and support groups for identified students. We have a range of Support packages available for students this year – which will be advertised to them throughout the first term.

I am keen for our Year 11 to settle back into school life ASAP which is vital to their final year studies. Getting the basics right is important too – such as attendance punctuality, and uniform. With your help these are things we will be focussing on this term.

Our year group finished Year 10 on a high, completing very successful work experience placements and making excellent steps within their coursework and lessons. The main message to send out at this early stage is keep it up!

Remember we are all here within the Year 11 team, to help and support our students and my door is always open to answer any questions the students have. We have an excellent team of tutors in Year 11 and an exceptional Inclusion Coordinator and Behavioural Support person Ms Adams. We have lots to look forward to this year; the prom, leaver's events and achieving our student's full potential.

Good luck for the exciting....and busy....year ahead!

**Miss Sully**

### **For Year Eleven Parents and Students**

Gosh, don't things come around quickly!

The English Language GCSE examination – for which almost all of our students will be entered - is in November.

Paper One Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November in the morning

Paper Two Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> also in the morning

Final date for coursework to be handed in is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Missing pieces of coursework will be a reason for not entering students this time round. So now is maybe a good time to have a conversation about whether your son or daughter is up to date and sure of what s/he needs to do.

There will be a limited number of catch up sessions after school in WS01 on Tuesdays and Fridays from now on for those with incomplete coursework. Additionally, revision material, with plenty of suggested activities, should soon appear on Fronter so it can be accessed at home.

Here's hoping that with your support our students' results can continue to improve!

**Dave Jones**  
**Head of English Faculty**