

# SPOTLIGHT

SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR PERFORMING ARTS AND MEDIA

Spotlight Issue 18 July 2010

Your schooling may be over, but remember that your education still continues. – Author Unknown

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

We've come to the end of an incredibly busy and successful year at the school. We have lots to celebrate including a VERY successful OFSTED Inspection in December with 16 out of 23 'Good' judgements. As you know we have been working really hard since then to ensure our satisfactory grades become "Good" very quickly through an explicit Action Plan. It has been an excellent team effort.

We say Goodbye to around 13 support and teaching colleagues who are leaving us at the end of July.

Dave Jones  
Liz Servant  
Steve Westbury  
Holly Pearce  
Malcolm Capel  
Juliet Hayward  
Julia Drury  
Kate Campbell  
Karen Dawson  
Gina Brown  
Sheila Pearce  
Tom Pateman  
Vera Beames  
Edwina Gibling

I wish to particularly 'Thank' on your behalf the hard work, commitment and the dedication of two senior colleagues Mrs Beames (Assistant Head for KS3) and Mrs Drury (Director of The Kett). They have both been excellent servants to so many students and provided an excellent pastoral service to thousands of families over the years. May I wish both all the very best in their retirement and thank all colleagues who are leaving, for their service to our community.

*Continued...*

I also wish to 'Thank' on your behalf the hard work of all our support and teaching colleagues and wish them a happy and restful holiday when it comes.

During the holiday we have the release of the public examination results for GCSE's and 'A' Levels, so hopefully I will see you then!

I intend to notify you of all new colleagues joining the team in Septembers' Spotlight. May I 'Thank you' for all your excellent support and wish you and your family a superb summer holiday....

Best Wishes



Andrew John  
Headteacher

### **Playing For Success North Walsham Rugby Club**

10 boys completed 10 weeks at the Tackle Learning Programme at North Walsham Rugby Club and their celebration event took place on July 8th and it was a celebration with variety. These sessions took place on Thursdays after school and their aim was to improve basic skills.

The boys began by showing us the New Zealand All Blacks 'Haka' and then performed a 'Haka' of their own which they had choreographed the previous week. This was followed by a five-a-side tag rugby game. Several of the boys are hoping to continue playing rugby with the club's junior teams next year.

Each of the students then talked to the audience of parents and teachers about the work they had been doing, proudly showing their photographs of their dens; their cooking; their small fire making; man hunt etc. These tasks were all designed to help the group develop their communication, team work; literacy and numeracy skills as well as develop their confidence with ICT.

Finally, they all received a certificate and badges for their work. Jack Slater won the rugby ball for the number of points he had gained for his effort and work over the ten week period but it seemed to me this was a group of "winners" who had all learned something about themselves by taking part and completing the programme.



Vera Beames  
Assistant Headteacher  
Key Stage 3 Achievement/Attainment

## YEAR 7

### The End is Nigh!

It's hard to believe that this is the final Spotlight that I will be sending to you as Head of Year 7, where has the year gone? It seems like only yesterday that I stood up and addressed the Parents Intake Evening outlining the journey ahead. It has been a fabulous year with much to be positive about; the way in which the Year 7 quickly settled and immersed themselves into the culture of the school; the academic success of the year group, the sporting achievements, arts events, dance, music and so much more; not withstanding the sheer mass of good news slips picked up across the year group.

As we now approach the summer holidays and the impending move up to Year 8, it is an important time for reflection on the past year; you will be shortly receiving the third and final report, which will include, alongside the subjects report, the Personal Statement, Tutor Report and Head of Year comment. I would suggest taking the time to read through the report with your child in consideration of ensuring they are best prepared for the increased demands of Year 8.

### End of Year Celebration Assembly

In recognition of the success of Year 7 over the past year, it is with great delight that I am able to invite you to the end of year assembly taking place on Tuesday 20th July. This will be a wonderful event comprised of student performances and the awarding of prizes for excellence. I sincerely hope you will be able to attend.

### Student Reward Trip

In recognition of the wonderful attitude of our Year 7 students, I have been able to award places on a special reward trip to 12 lucky Year 7 students. Selected by their Form Tutor for 'Outstanding Contribution to Form' the winners will be spending an afternoon at the Sainsbury's Arts Centre. After a picnic lunch on the field at the UEA, the students will be offered a guided tour of both the main gallery and the "Henry Moore Textile's" and the "Unearthed Exhibitions". For those not lucky enough to have been selected, it is worth considering that the gallery is open right through the summer and with a good cafeteria, walks by the river and free entry, it makes for a great summer day out.

### Gifted and Talented Day

On Wednesday 30th June, I was able to offer some of our Gifted and Talented students a special day out at the NCFC study centre. Twenty five of our top high flying students were invited to a day at Carrow Road which included a morning completing an 'Apprentice' style challenge, followed by a ball skills session led by the NCFC coaching staff. The day was a great success and we had a great time as you can see in the photos below.





### The Summer Challenge

As the summer challenge draws to an end the final winners will be announced this week in assembly, with the winning form will receiving the big prize. Consisting of a morning off timetable with fun based activities provided by the UFA and a special picnic lunch in the school garden, it really will be a prize worth the effort the students have put in.

Last week saw the students competing to create the best item from a newspaper. Each form was given one newspaper and instructed to create 'something' from it and the results were fab! The winning form with an excellent football pitch idea was 7HA followed second by 7TP with their 'Be Proud Poster' and 7SC in third. Photographs of the winning entries below





Darren Bidle  
Head of Year 7

## YEAR 9

I cannot quite believe that we are finally at the end of Year 9 already. It has been a challenging and emotional year for many different reasons. We have had many successes including the preference process, good end-of-year test results, an Ofsted inspection and the brilliant Alton Towers trip. I would like to thank Year 9 for their hard work in what has been a long and tiring year.

I am thoughtful of the fact we end this year with one person sadly missing. Charlie Smith was a well liked and popular member of the year group. Members of the year group and his close friends are currently working on a project to plant a garden of memorial for him in the court yard of the school. His friends have decided to change the raised flower bed into Charlie's garden. It will contain a benched seating area, a tree and many varieties of flowering and fragrant plants. His friends are busy finalising the design of the garden. I would like to sincerely thank those students who have given up their time to finalise the plan for the garden. It has been a difficult yet rewarding process that will leave the school with a lasting memory of Charlie.

In the final week of term we will be holding a special celebration assembly to finish the year and key stage off with a bang! During this assembly we will celebrate the successes we have experienced this year and look back over the last 3 years.

I hope that you have a relaxing break over the summer as when we return we will start the seriously hard work of GCSE's!

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



## YEAR 11

Farewell to Year 11

I cannot believe I have been with you now for a whole school year – time has gone very quickly indeed. The time you have all been waiting for is upon us, and Year 11 is ready to move onwards and upwards!

### **Final weeks**

The final few weeks of term were very successful for our Year 11's; they worked very hard on their exams and behaved exceptionally throughout. A lot of loose ends had to be taken care of – such as the returning of books and locker keys etc. Can I ask all Year 11's to return anything they still have to school before the end of term – this includes any library books and locker keys

### **Exams**

Exams have finished – and now it's the wait for the results. This year the GCSE results will be released slightly earlier so be ready to come to school and collect your envelop on Tuesday 24th July 2010. If you are unable to attend school to pick them up we will send them home to you on that day. Students and teachers alike have worked so hard over the last 2 years and I wish every one of you the very best of luck for the big day!

## Prom



The prom was another big success for the school and the students. It is a real community event which we are thrilled about, I was amazed at how many parents, teachers and other students turned up on the evening to see the Year 11s arrive. The students looked amazing and so did Sprowston Manor (Elizabeth Florists did us proud). Thanks to Amy Edwards and Oliver Joyce (our Head Boy and Girl) for presenting the Prom Awards – they were brilliant. Thanks also to Ms Henderson and Mr Pateman for the fantastic entertainment!!!! The prom will leave you all with wonderful memories I am sure – thank you for making it such a special evening

## Leavers Assembly

That was a hot day! Thanks to all students and staff involved in the Leavers' Assembly; without you and the wonderful acts it would not have happened. You all looked wonderful - even those who were up for the Media Exam in the morning (well most of you looked wonderful anyway)!!! Special thanks to Mark Cotter for supplying the photos for our slide shows and of course the Prom Video – the highlight of the assembly every year!

## Thank you and Goodbye

Sincere thanks to Julia Owens, Dawn Adams & Elaine Nicklin for all of their support this year, especially over the last few weeks. There is a great deal of work that goes on behind the scenes I can tell you!

Thanks also to the wonderful tutors who have been a great help over the last year for me and over the last few years for Mrs Barker. They are a good team and very supportive to me, Dawn Adams, each other and of course our students.

Thanks also to my mentor this year – Liz Wood. She always keeps me sane and gives me excellent advice.

My last thank you is to all of you – both Year 11 students and parents/guardians/carers. I have been thrilled to work with you all over the last year and will sincerely miss you all so much.

Kate Sully  
Head of Year 11



## Circle, Square, Sphere

As part of the BTEC Art & Design brief for the unit on 'Cafe Culture', Year 10 students have created some amazingly inventive sculptures. All of them meet the brief exceedingly well and all of them take different forms as their starting point to produce something unique.



## INSPIRE 2010 at the Norwich Theatre Royal

Well done to all the students who took part in the, 'Inspire' performance at the Norwich Theatre Royal. Sprowston students gave a terrific performance at the Norwich Theatre Royal in the first Norfolk Schools Dance Festival, as they confidently performed an exciting mixture of jazz and contemporary styles to Nina Simone's 'Sinnerman'. Many thanks to Ms. Rea and Mrs. Bedder for organising the event



News Flash.....

Two exceptional Performance Arts Companies visit Sprowston next year.

We have been incredibly lucky to secure visits to our school in the next academic year from two highly renowned performance arts companies; Ballet Rambert, who will be running workshops in Sprowston in October and the ever popular, West End production of 'Hairspray' whose members will be visiting our school in February. These visits really are a tribute to the hard work of our Arts staff team and we would like to say a big thank you to our creative partners; Norfolk Dance and The Theatre Royal for offering these exceptional opportunities to us.



**Ms M Quigley**  
**Assistant Headteacher**  
**Director of Specialist Arts**