

SPOTLIGHT

SPROWSTON COMMUNITY HIGH SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR PERFORMING ARTS AND MEDIA



Spotlight Issue 28
February 2012

“Love is a canvas furnished by Nature and embroidered by imagination.”
Voltaire

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Wow!

What a fortnight it has been, Year 11 students have finally finished their actual January exams and ‘Mocks’ and I am very grateful to Mrs Nicklin for her excellent leadership and management of the whole process, superbly supported by Mrs Gent our Exams Officer. It is wonderful to witness excellent teamwork.

Year 11 Students begin their interviews for Sixth Form. It is good to note we have an additional 37 external students applying to join us. Further assemblies will take place to ensure our Year 11 students know all their options next September.

A huge ‘Thank you’ to all our Year 10 Students and parents who attended the Careers Evening. I hope that you all feel well supported. If not, please continue to ask.

We have the wonderful ‘Sprowston’s got Talent’ evening coming up and again wish to thank Mrs Leavold for her excellent leadership of this. The DVD is simply fantastic!

As you know I am always ambitious for our school and have recently visited before and after Christmas two schools in Essex and Yorkshire. It is always good to visit other schools for new ideas and strategies. It also makes one appreciate how ‘good’ we are too!

Have a great half-term holiday!

Best Wishes



Andrew John
Headteacher

Year 10 English Trip to Kings Lynn Corn Exchange

On Wednesday 25 January, Mrs Watts, Miss Lunn, Mrs Trigg, Miss Smalley and Miss Roe took 65 Year 10 students to King's Lynn Corn Exchange to see a production of 'Romeo and Juliet'. Although we were surprised by the style of the production, a good day out was enjoyed by all. The following comments were made by students who saw the production:

Jack Ellis said, *"An outstanding performance! Something for everyone: comedy, great singing, not to mention a lot of romance. A well presented piece of theatre suitable for all ages."*

Billie Bell said, *"This show was aesthetically pleasing and radiated energy. Every cast member gave it their all, to great effect - an enjoyable performance."*

Minty Berekt said, *"A modern, lively, enthusiastic, spontaneous, musical, comical, dramatic, captivating performance of Shakespeare's traditional 'Romeo and Juliet'."*

Nicole Newell said, *"A unique understandable play. A Variety of realistic scenes, actors were very enthusiastic and professional. The songs were a simple twist."*

Melissa Bowling said, *"I thought that the quality of performance was amazing and I really enjoyed the alternative, comic perspective on the traditional play."*



Helen Watts

Deputy Headteacher (Teaching and Learning)



Year 11

Exams

Mocks and real exams have come to an end and I would like to say a big thank you and well done to Year 11 for their efforts. This years exam period has been a long and tiring one.

Mock exam results and reports for Year 11 will be issued on **Thursday 9 February from the Library from 8am**. Good luck.

Revision Evening

On Thursday 23 February 2012 we will be holding a Revision Evening aimed at both students and parents. The evening, which will be from 6.30 - 8.00pm, and will include a brief presentation in the Main Hall, followed by a series of workshops on issues such as:

- The use of mind maps
- Technology based revision
- Dealing with stress
- Active revision strategies
- How to revise in English/Maths/Science

In our experience, the biggest stumbling block to revision is knowing HOW to revise. Hopefully this evening will empower students and parents. We have deliberately placed it before the Easter holidays so that students can use the holiday to put in place some of the ideas they have learnt.

Workshops to choose from:

WS01: Mind mapping: a course in pictures (Mrs Watts)

How to mind map and why it can be an effective revision tool. Simple instructions to get you started, and a variety of examples for inspiration. A general session useful for all subjects. This is a non-subject specific session focussing on suggestions for presenting your revision in a more brain friendly way than the traditional revision notes. Particularly good for visual learners.

WS02: Design and Technology Revision - Skills for Exam Revision (Mr Parker)

Quick, effective revision tips for D&T!

WS03: Preparing a Revision Timetable (Ms Cook)

How do you plan your revision effectively? This session will show you how to prepare a revision timetable to make sure your revision is regular and chunked into manageable amounts.

WS04: Preparing for the Maths Paper (Mr Daunt)

The session will cover Maths GCSE exam question practice. There will be some GCSE questions to tackle and we will discuss the key features required to maximise success.

WS05: Looking after yourself during the exam period (Ms Hewitt)

This session considers simple strategies to keep yourself healthy, maximise your potential and minimise exam stress.

WS06: All you need for English (Mrs Henderson)

Come and get some guidance on how you can prepare for those crucial English exams. Every Year 11 student must revise for the English Literature exam. Many of you will also be re-taking English Language papers 1 and 2. This short session will clarify the skills being assessed in each exam and outline some practical ways you can prepare over the coming weeks.

WS07: All you need for English (Ms Lunn)

Same English session as above

WS11: Geography Revision Advice (Mrs Edmondson)

What is available in Geography to revise from and techniques for revising the heavy subject content and case studies.

WS12: Matching Revision Strategies to Learning Styles (Ms Byles)

This session focuses on the different revision strategies and how knowing which one is more appropriate for your style of learning will help in your revision.

WS14: All Subject Revision Success Using Technology (Mr Crocker)

This session will cover how you can use a PC, IPOD, social networking and other technologies to raise your grade and help you revise in any and all subjects. Variety in revision is proven to have success find out how the technology you already own can help you and your friends achieve more.

WS15: History Revision Website (Mr Bright)

Everything needed to revise for the History GCSE in one place. The presentation will involve explaining the key sections of my website mrbright.website.org and how it can support History GCSE students' revision. I will also flag up other sites outside my subject.

WS16: Using OCR Science Website to access revision materials (Mr Oakley)

This session looks at how to use the OCR website to look at examiners reports, past papers and information which will lead to a full understanding of the exam.

Applied and Additional Science Revision Guides are available at £3

WS17: Exam Advice (Ms Sully)

Ms Sully has marked exam papers in previous years so has an eye for what hoops you should jump through and what simple mistakes students make on their exam papers.

I hope to see lots of you there at the Revision Evening.

Rebecca Dawbarn
Head of Year 11

Pip Smith
Year 11 Inclusion Co-ordinator

