

# Academy News

*Sir Robert Pattinson Academy*

Newsletter Issue 135  
Spring 2026

## Department News

Maths Circle Graduation  
Football trip to Celtic FC  
Ole Ole with MFL

**Mr D Hardy**  
**Headmaster**



**Sir Robert Pattinson  
Academy**  
*Sapientia et Doctrina*

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to our end of spring term newsletter. This edition covers a multitude of successes, experiences and new endeavours which our students have grasped with both hands. I hope you enjoy reading about their exploits since Christmas.

In many regards, the Academy continues to go from strength to strength and this is only possible with the support of our families who pick up and drop off at show rehearsals, sports fixtures and excursions. Thank you for your continued support.

Happy Easter from all of us at SRPA.

Best wishes

Mr D Hardy - Headmaster

## Forthcoming Events

### April 2026

Monday 1	End of Term
Tuesday 21	Start of Term 5
Wednesday 29	Year 8 Parents' Evening

### May 2026

Friday 22	End of Term
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### June 2026

Monday 1	Start of Term 6
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## Term Dates

### Term 4

23 February 2026	02 April 2026
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### Term 5

21 April 2026	22 May 2026
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# Staff Changes

## New Teaching & Support Staff

Miss P Nicholls  
Mr D Musson  
Mrs T Newby  
Mrs S Thomas  
Mrs K Lown  
Mr G Nightingale

Teacher of English  
Senior Pastoral Leader  
Exam Invigilator  
Exam Invigilator  
SEND Administrator  
Exam Invigilator

## Leavers

Mrs D Evans  
Mrs F Bissett  
Miss K Darroch

Exam Invigilator  
Exam Invigilator  
Teacher of History

# Art, Design and Technology

## Celebrating Our Students' Achievements!

As we approach the end of another busy term, it is important to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements of our students in the Art, Design and Technology Faculty! Recognising these accomplishments not only boosts student morale, but also reinforces the value of hard work and dedication within our academy community.

This term, our students have excelled in various projects and competitions, showcasing their creativity and commitment. From stunning artwork to innovative designs, we are proud of each student's efforts. We invite parents to continue supporting their children as they embark on new challenges in the upcoming term. Together, let's celebrate their hard work and dedication!

### Engaging Learning Experiences in KS3

In our Key Stage 3 curriculum, we are thrilled to see our students engaging in a diverse range of practical activities across Art, Design and Technology.

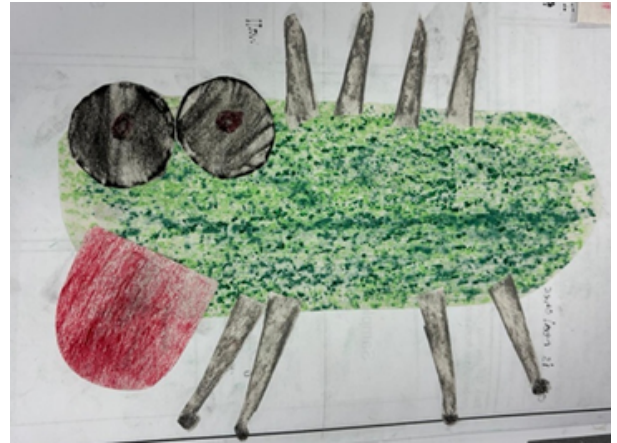
**Year 7:** Students have been working with metal in Design and Technology, exploring food commodities and cooking with fruits and vegetables in Food, whilst experimenting with printing techniques in Art.

**Year 8:** Our Year 8s have been casting in metal Design and Technology, learning about doughs in Food and creating 3D media in Art.



# Art, Design and Technology

**Year 9:** Students have delved into electrical systems and control in Design and Technology, worked with food commodities in Food and explored texture in Art.

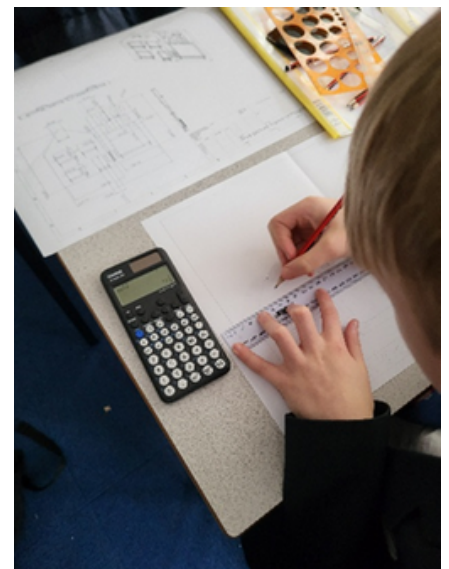


These hands-on learning experiences not only foster creativity and critical thinking, but also prepare students for future challenges. We are excited to see how these skills will benefit them as they progress in their education!

## Progress in Year 10 and Year 12

Our Year 10 and Year 12 students have shown remarkable dedication since the start of the academic year, completing most of their theory work for examinations and their NEA. They are now focused on producing their portfolios, which will represent over 50% of their final grades. It is inspiring to witness their growth as they work towards their personal targets.

Additionally, our Year 10 Engineering Design students are on track to complete the first 30% of their course by early May. The commitment and educational maturity displayed by our students are commendable.



# Art, Design and Technology

## Community Engagement through the Lincolnshire Project

Our Subject Champions, with the support of Mr Hamzeh and Mrs Watson, have done an amazing job raising £400 for the Lincolnshire and Notts Air Ambulance by selling Christmas tea light holders. It was heartwarming to see staff and students come together for such a worthy cause, demonstrating our commitment to our wider community.

Currently, the Subject Champions are working on the Lincolnshire Show Project, visiting local farms and companies to gain insights into the agricultural industry and how it generates our food commodities. This project not only enriches their learning experience, but also fosters a sense of empathy and awareness of real-world issues.



## Culinary Excellence in Action

We are thrilled to highlight the achievements of our talented students in culinary arts! Will Gant, one of our exceptional Year 11 students, reached the semi-finals of the national Future Chef competition run by Springboard, where he had the opportunity to develop his dish with a professional chef and was judged by a Michelin Star chef.



# Art, Design and Technology

Year 11 students Caleb R and Olivia B have completed a 10-week course at Lincoln College, honing their practical skills. Their commitment culminated in a passing out ceremony at RAF Waddington with the Red Arrows Squadron. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the opportunities available to them in the culinary field!



## A Creative Collaboration for the School Play

A huge thank you to Mr Webster, Mrs Watson and our dedicated art teachers for their incredible work on the academy show! They have produced stunning props, scenes, posters and programmes, dedicating countless hours to bring the production to life.

The collaborative effort involved in this project highlights the importance of teamwork and creativity in the arts.



We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to parents, pupils and the wider community for their unwavering support. Your involvement is crucial to our work, and we look forward to continuing this creative educational journey together. Wishing everyone a restful break, and we can't wait to see you all back, ready to embrace new challenges and opportunities!

# Business and Computing

Our Year 13 Business students attended an engaging A-Level Grade Booster workshop in Manchester, hosted in a modern multiplex cinema and delivered by the expert Tutor2u subject team.

Throughout the day, students developed key examination-focused skills, including breaking down complex case studies, applying business theory with greater confidence and improving their ability to structure high-quality examination responses. They also had the opportunity to collaborate and interact with other A-Level Business students from across the region, sharing ideas, tackling practice questions together and strengthening their preparation for their final examinations.



# English

As always, this term has been another bumper one for our English students, who have demonstrated a wonderful aptitude and appetite for all things written.

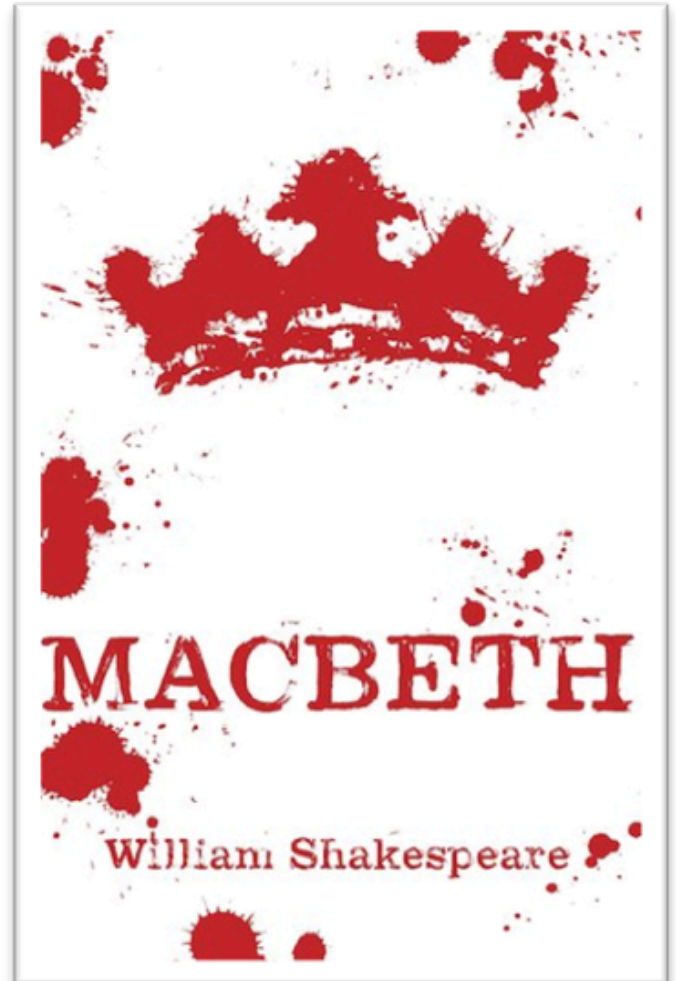
In Year 7, we have completed our work on the War novel, *Private Peaceful*, a story about family, sacrifice and loss. In Year 8, students have studied William Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and explored the theme of nature in fiction and non-fiction writing. In Year 9, students have engaged with different types of media – videos, audio clips, newspapers, articles, and much more besides – prior to developing their own speaking and listening topics which they delivered to members of their class.

The array of topics on display this year was truly jaw-dropping, with titles including 'The Importance of Art', 'How Animals are Treated in Captivity', and the 'Role of Artificial Intelligence' in modern society. Such topics were not only eye-opening, but fascinating for staff and students alike.

Elsewhere, in Year 10, students have finished their reading of the GCSE Literature text, *Macbeth* and begun to explore Language Paper 2, which looks at non-fiction texts from across time.

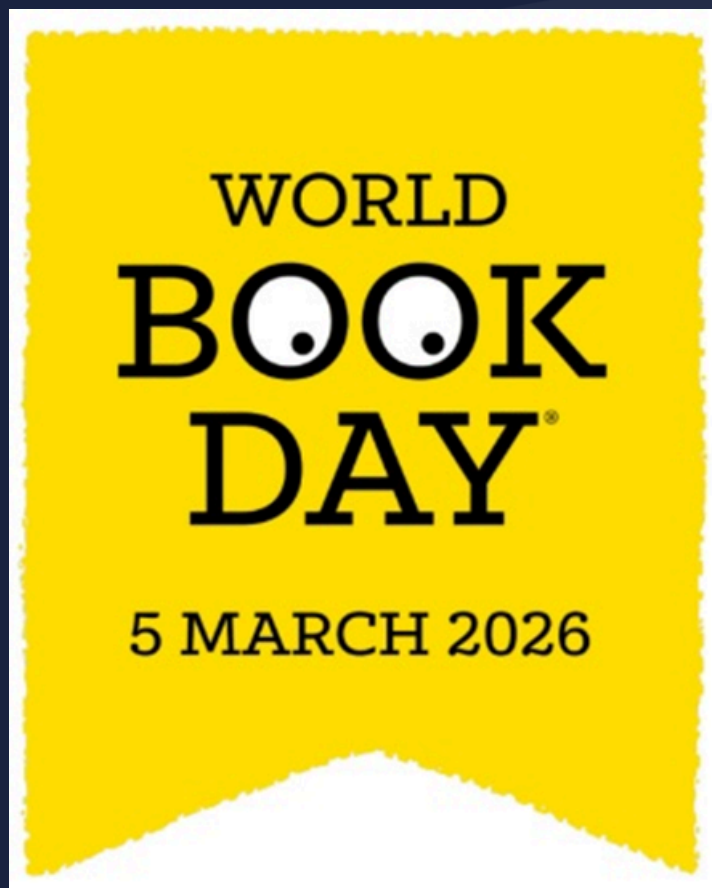
In Year 11, students have been working hard revising for the forthcoming summer exams and the high numbers of students attending English revision on a weekly basis is great to see.

At Key Stage 5, Year 12 are also working hard on their A Levels and this term, Literature students have been working on *Love Through the Ages* and Shakespeare's *Othello*, whilst in Language, students have considered the role and impact of technology and gender upon language. Year 13, in contrast, are preparing for their forthcoming examinations and have been completing their NEAs (Non-Examined Assessments) on a variety of fascinating and insightful topics.



## World Book Day

This term, students across the Academy have taken part in World Book Day, an event brilliantly organised by Mrs Murdoch and Mrs White. This saw them engage in a variety of activities designed to inspire a passion for reading. Activities included reading brand new texts, writing book reviews, a treasure hunt, and student assemblies. These events were supported by staff across the Academy, who put posters up on their classroom doors to give students their own book recommendations.



## National Year of Reading 2026

On the back of World Book Day, it is important to flag 2026 as the 'Year of Reading', which is a campaign to encourage the daily habit of reading aimed at helping stop the decline of Reading for Pleasure. Throughout the year, there will be reading campaigns to encourage students to develop a love of reading, which will be promoted in the library by Mrs White and Mrs Lakin, our two wonderful librarians.

For more information please see the following:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/parents-urged-to-read-more-to-boost-childrens-life-chances/>

For details and statistics about Reading for Pleasure, see:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/reading-for-pleasure/> and <https://www.goallin.org.uk/>

Any encouragement to support students with their reading would be most welcome!

## Library Facilities

The SRPA Library is well stocked with a selection of fiction and non-fiction books, as well as sections on careers, GCSE revision, popular magazines, graphic novels, and verse novels. There are iPads for homework, and a printer is located in the library for students to use. We also have a suggestion box where students can leave their recommendations for any books they would like to see stocked in the library. The library is open from 8.00am onwards for Rise and Read, and at both breaks. Chess is very popular at social times, whilst some students are now beginning to play Dominoes, Uno and Connect 4. It is a great social hub and a calm and welcoming environment for all.

## Young Writers UK

The two latest books to be published by Young Writers, *I Have A Dream* and *Stranger Sagas*, include work by some of SRPA students. These two books add to the twenty-nine books already published in the last five years (!). Two of our students have gone on to have other work published outside of school.



# Mathematics

## Year 11 Maths Circles Graduation Event

On Monday 16 February, six Year 11 Mathematicians were invited to attend their Maths Circles Graduation Event in Nottingham, at the Council House. After three years, they have come to the end of their journey on the programme and deserved a celebration! The venue was very grand and fitted the occasion perfectly.



Axiom Maths are the creators of Maths Circles, and you can find out more on their website: [Axiom Maths — Helping children realise the potential of their power](https://www.axiom-maths.com). The Year 11 pupils have dedicated their time to attend Maths Circles every Friday after school, studying Blocks 1-11 and the Final Block this academic year. This graduation event was the first of its kind, and our Year 11 pupils are among the first to ever complete all Blocks on the programme.

When we arrived at the venue, we received a warm welcome from Axiom Maths and students were given their own special lanyards for the day; they only wished they could have taken them home. However, Axiom Maths made sure to send all our students home with a branded pencil and notebook to thank them for their attendance and commitment to Maths Circles here at SRPA.

We began by heading to a side room to take photographs of students in graduation caps – Mr Evans and Mrs Morrell couldn't help but get involved too!



We settled in with a Mathematical problem about dividing shapes into two congruent halves using grid lines – students slowly but surely managed around six solutions! We discussed what congruent meant, and a strategy for trying to find all solutions systematically.

Next was the free lunch: lots of fancy sandwiches, crisps, and sweet baked treats – the onion bhaji sandwich was a particular favourite. Maths Circles events always include a good spread! Axiom Maths is an educational charity, so this lunch was provided free of charge, and students and staff really appreciated it.

An alumnus of the old-style Maths Circles spoke to us after lunch, sharing their path to becoming a mentor in Year 12 for younger students in their school on the Maths Circles programme. We would welcome our Year 11 graduates as junior mentors for our programme when they are in Year 12 in RP6th. Sharing their experience would be invaluable, and they would act as fantastic role models for Year 7 mathematicians embarking on their Axiom journey. Many Year 11 graduates have already expressed an interest in mentoring next academic year – volunteering mentor hours could count towards Duke of Edinburgh awards, or the RP6th Skills and Character Diploma.

We then heard from a representative from MEI Integral, an educational charity who create resources and deliver courses for gifted mathematicians at GCSE, A Level and beyond. They shared opportunities for additional support in A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics, but also for any student looking to study Mathematics at university and wishing to take an entrance exam such as TMUA or STEP. Please contact Mrs Morrell if you'd like to know more (email address below).



Finally, and most importantly, students were awarded their graduation certificates.

# Modern Foreign Languages

## MFL Careers Fair at LSST

The MFL department took fifteen of our fantastic Year 9 linguists to take part in a careers event at LSST, focusing on where languages can take you in the future. We had the privilege of listening to some fantastic speakers, from a range of industries, who have used their knowledge of languages in their everyday jobs.



Our speakers included intelligence officers from the RAF, where we had a taster session in Russian and found out more about the crucial role of linguists within the armed forces. We also had some inspirational talks from the fashion and retail industry, and a great talk from an employee from John Deere, who had travelled all over the world thanks to his job in selling agricultural machinery. We all came away inspired to continue with our love of learning foreign languages.

## Year 9 Spanish Olé Olé

During Term 3, our Year 9 Hispanists have been learning about the topic of food, so we thought that we would put our newly-found skills into practice with a visit to Olé Olé and the chance to sample many different Tapas dishes. We had a very warm Spanish welcome from the owner, Amador, and his staff and set about sampling a range of the wonderful traditional tapas dishes we had been learning about, as well as practising the Spanish phrases we had been learning. The food was amazing, and everybody tried something new.



# Performing Arts

This year marks my fourth annual production at Sir Robert Pattinson Academy, each year, I am blown away by the talent and commitment of our students. This year, we had our largest ever cast and crew; there were over 100 students who worked tirelessly to entertain you.

Our Year 7 students have been a wonderful addition, throwing themselves into the show with endless enthusiasm. However, it has also been wonderful to see our more experienced performers supporting them through the long hours. Watching the students lean on each other no matter their year group, forming unique friendships and creating a compassionate environment is often a reminder for why I do what I do.

Being a part of the production is not just about getting together to sing and dance, but to grow bonds and create community. It was a privilege to work with them every week, so I thank you for supporting them in being part of the show.

Mr Ward and Miss Tonks have joined the Performing Arts department this academic year and have been phenomenal in their support of the show. Mr Evan's team of students backstage has grown significantly, a testament to his enthusiasm for showing students that you don't have to be a performer to love being part of the show.



As always, we are saying goodbye to some very special students this year. Firstly, to Year 13, who were my first cohort of GCSE students, I cannot believe you aren't going to be here next year. We have achieved so much in the last four years, and you have been integral to the success of the department. I thank you for your commitment, humour and strangely, your brutal honesty in all things.

Secondly, to some of Year 11 who have decided their path takes them away from SRPA, I wish you the very best in all that you do. You have been incredible, and I will save your personal thanks for when you actually leave because otherwise, this 'Director's Note' may become more of a letter.

I must make a special mention to Harry P and Izzy K, who end their time with us this year. Some of you may not be aware but Harry taught himself how to work our lighting system, often figuring things out live and effortlessly translating my ramblings into wonderful lighting design. Izzy has also mastered a music system that is, quite frankly, a different language to me and has been instrumental in the teaching of the songs these past years. The three of us have developed a secret language through these shows and I am just hoping you've written a manual by the time you leave for the next generation you have been training so wonderfully. Both of you should be incredibly proud of your persistence, leadership and talent. Thankyou for all you have done.

Miss France



# House Values

We have currently raised more than £2000 for the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire air ambulance through the Community Fun Run as well as the Year 7 disco. The disco was a great success, with various dances being led by the House team, Mr Whitley and Mr Evans!

The new games we have brought in have been well received – with the tin can alley taking a thorough beating as well as our velcro dartboard.



Looking ahead, the SSLT are working with Tudor House to collect donations of paper, pens and crayons etc for the Rainforest Ward at Lincoln County Hospital. We will be putting the message out for donations very soon and hope to make some young people's lives that little bit brighter while they are in hospital. Parents can donate items to the academy or alternatively can make a donation through ParentPay.

The SRPA hoodie is now available on the Uniform Direct website for Year 11 to celebrate their final year in school. Details have been sent to Year 11 parents and we look forward to students celebrating their successes and taking a memento of their time in SRPA. As well as this, the Community team are looking forward to the Year 11 prom to celebrate Year 11 with some sparkle and music. Students always make an impression with their entrances as well as the outfits and we cannot wait to see them all in their finery.

With the warmer weather approaching, we hope to host further fundraising events to help support our chosen charity further. Watch this space for further details.

# House Values

The winter term has been full of competitive spirit, teamwork and students continuing their roles in leadership schemes. The House sporting and academic competitions continue to engage students, and the uptake continues to be high. House Captains and Form Representatives have led student voice along with recruiting for House competitions. There has been a specific focus this term on aspiration and attendance with Year 8 and Year 10 being our focus year groups.



	Football (7-a-side)	Football (7-a-side)	Football (7-a-side)	Rounders (9-a-side)	Rounders (9-a-side)	Netball (7-a-side)	Tennis (4 players per team)	Badminton (4 players per team)	Basketball (5-a-side)
	<i>back field</i>	<i>behind science</i>	<i>front field</i>	<i>front field</i>	<i>front field</i>	<i>netball courts</i>	<i>tennis courts</i>	<i>sports hall</i>	<i>gyms</i>
Term 1	Y11	Y8	Y9			Y10			
Term 2	Y7	Y10				Y9		Y11	Y8
Term 3	Y7	Y9				Y8			Y10
Term 4		Y8				Y7		Y10	Y9
Term 5				Y8	Y9		Y10		Y7
Term 6				Y7	Y10		Y9		Y8

Term 1	Elite House Chess
Term 2	House Chess
Term 3	House Maths Challenge
Term 4	House <u>SpellingBee</u>
Term 5	House <u>Bakeoff</u>
Term 6	House STEM

## House Sporting Competitions

This term, the Academy has continued with the sporting House competitions. Over 300 students have represented their House in various sports, some trying new sports and representing their House for the very first time. Our wonderful Sixth Form students continue to use their extra curricular and enrichment time to support the running of the events and continue to be aspirational figures to our younger students. Our sixth formers showed commendable leadership skills through their conscious efforts to referee football games fairly with confidence and pride showing what true leadership RP6th looks like.

Unfortunately, due to weather conditions, the term three events were unable to go ahead. Year 11 are now prioritising their mock examinations and therefore do not take part in House competitions for the remainder of the year. However, the term 4 events were met with enthusiasm and engagement by KS3 and Year 10. The results are:

**Year 7 House Netball results:**

1st Lancaster, 2nd Windsor, joint 3rd Tudor, Stuart and York

**Year 8 House Football results:**

1st Windsor, 2nd Tudor, 3rd Lancaster, 4th Stuart, 5th York

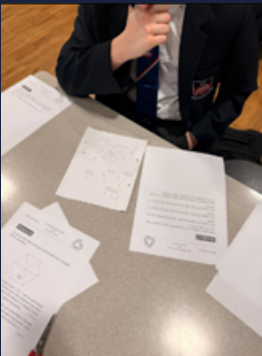
**Year 9 House Basketball results:**

1st Tudor, 2nd Stuart, 3rd York, 4th Lancaster, 5th Windsor

**Year 10 House Badminton results:**

1st Stuart, 2nd Tudor, 3rd Lancaster, 4th York, 5th Windsor

## House Academic Competitions



Term 3 saw the House Maths challenge take place which involved students of all abilities from all Houses and year groups. Mr Roberts did a phenomenal job of running the competition and it was lovely to see students learning for fun. Students who took part had a genuine joy for maths and were supported by Sixth Form students who, like Mr Roberts, have incredible talent in mathematics. Students completed various challenges, and it was great to see a collaborative approach across all year groups and Houses.



Term 4 saw the House SpellingBee take place in the library, led by Mrs White. Students from all Houses and year groups participated and it was wonderful to see students helping each other out and encouraging each other to try their best, even when they had moments of doubt! The teamwork seen in the House SpellingBee showed the very best of our students as they represented the Academy's core values of aspiration, engagement and community with pride.

## House Captains:

House Captains continue to act as leaders for their House and year group and have made wonderful efforts with both the House sporting and academic competitions. House Captains have also taken part in leading student voice and continue to be a point of call for many students across the Academy.

## Student Voice:

During the Winter term, we have had our second round of student voice. Form representatives collected student voice from their R2L groups and then met with their House Captain and SSLT member to collate the responses. This term, the focus was on reflection and aspiration, where students answered the following questions:

Term	PD Day Value
Term 2	Community Respect
Term 4	Reflection Aspiration
Term 6	Engagement Environment

- Are there any extra-curricular clubs in school time or after school that you would like to participate in?
- Are there any school trips you would like to run? This must be linked to an academic subject.
- Are there any extra rewards you would like the Academy to put in place for students who go above and beyond in lessons and clubs?

The SSLT links have collated these responses and have found the trends and common themes from students' feedback. Selected House Captains and Form Representatives are due to meet with Mrs Gilbert in the last week of term to discuss the outcome of their suggestions. Students have pre-prepared for their meeting with Mrs Gilbert by working with SSLT on how to ask questions appropriately, how to challenge and discuss views that they have strong opinions on and how to debate topics respectfully.

## Aspiration and Attendance

This term, the attendance team wanted to explore the relationship between low attendance and year groups. Year 8 have a slightly lower attendance rate than other year groups and, to explore why this might be, we created a 'day in a life of a Year 8 student' scheme. For the final week of term, several Year 8 students were given a Year 10 buddy to have daily catch-ups and check-ins with. We hope from this we can gain a deeper understanding of some of the potential barriers students in Year 8 face. It was wonderful to see our Year 10 students taking on a nurturing and leadership role and in turn it was great to see Year 8 students becoming comfortable with their Year 10 mentor and discussing their day-to-day activities. Next, we will analyse the feedback from students and respond by continuing to support students and their attendance at the Academy.

## Aspiration and Personal Development

This term, SSLT Aspiration Lead Jessica C has presented some exciting opportunities for our students to expand their leadership skills. Jessica is looking at Personal Development lessons across the Academy. Jessica thrived in lower school, both academically and socially, and now wants to use her own experiences to inspire others. Next term, Jessica will be working with selected Year 10 students and will explore their thoughts and views on Personal Development lessons. Jessica will lead an initiative where Year 10 students help to deliver Year 8 aspects of Personal Development. This will increase leadership skills for our Year 10 students and enable them to experience aspects of the education system from a different perspective.

# House Values

This term, we have continued to strengthen our academy's commitment to the value of Respect, ensuring that it remains a visible and meaningful part of daily life for all pupils. One of the key ways we have done this is by embedding the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) into our weekly bulletin.



Each week, students are introduced to a different child's right, along with a short explanation of how it connects to their own experiences in school. This ongoing focus helps pupils understand that respect is not only about how we treat one another, but also about recognising the rights and dignity of every individual, both locally and globally.



Alongside this, our pastoral and behaviour teams continue to work closely with students who require additional support in understanding respectful behaviour. During Behaviour Hub time, pupils may be provided with targeted reflection booklets on topics such as sexual harassment, homophobia and racism. These resources are designed to educate, challenge misconceptions, and encourage thoughtful reflection. By guiding students through these materials, we help them develop a deeper understanding of the impact of their actions and the importance of treating others with fairness, empathy and respect. Although much of this work happens quietly and consistently behind the scenes, it plays a vital role in shaping a respectful school culture. We remain committed to ensuring that every student feels valued, heard and supported as we continue to promote respect in all areas of academy life.

# House Values

One of the most notable developments is the introduction of Demonstrating Values, a unified approach to celebrating positive behaviour. Replacing the previous Core Value cards, this new system brings all our values together into a single reward worth 10 house points. Since Term 1, students have already earned more than 12,650 house points through this initiative, which is an exceptional accomplishment.

We are also pleased to share that, in response to student feedback, the popular horse-racing activity will return as part of our Full School Assembly event. This, alongside our established celebrations, will help make the occasion even more memorable. During the assembly, we will recognise a wide range of achievements, including House Point Champions, Demonstrating Values Raffle winners, Governors' Awards, Values Trophies and Headteacher's Ties.

In addition, we have a dedicated Rewards Afternoon for Expert Learners planned, offering further opportunities to celebrate outstanding effort and commitment. Termly attendance trophies will also be awarded to the top forms, who will keep them proudly for the following term.



Miss Hett recently delivered an assembly to RP6th focused on the importance of engagement and the positive impact it has on students' learning and future opportunities. She highlighted how active participation both in lessons and in wider academy life helps students develop confidence, deepen their understanding, and build the skills needed for success beyond the academy. The assembly encouraged students to take ownership of their learning, contribute meaningfully to discussions and make the most of the opportunities available to them as senior members of the academy community

# House Values



## Engagement turning into Success

### Sophie Wells

Sophie Wells is an English para-equestrian who won three medals at the 2012 London Paralympics, three at the 2016 Rio Paralympics, two at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics and two at the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Completed her GCSEs and A-levels (Biology, Physics, Sport) at Sir Robert Pattinson Academy in 2008.

Wells has never wanted her disability to define or restrict her, wanting to prove it's about ability – not disability. Wells was the first Para rider to compete in both able bodied and para major championships in the same year (2010 and 2011)



As part of our continued focus on engagement, students were recently challenged to think creatively and collaboratively through a design-based task that asked them to imagine themselves as part of a food focused development team on PD Day.



This activity encouraged them to apply problem-solving skills, consider real-world design processes, and work together to develop and refine ideas mirroring the kind of engagement and initiative we value across the Academy.

It was a strong reminder that, when students participate actively and think ambitiously, they not only deepen their learning, but also build the confidence and curiosity that drive future success.

# House Values

This term saw the launch of the Clean Canopy Competition. The Green Team had noticed the gulls flocking to the canopies at the end of breaks, and this was because of the food available. Working together with the Engagement lead, an idea was approved so that each year group's canopy is scored each day, after break two, out of 20. Scores are collated each day and displayed in the student bulletin each week. The winning year group have an extra 20 mins of break on the last day of term, ensuring they get first dibs in the lunch queue. Already, pupils have been volunteering to clear up their areas and there has been a noticeable improvement in the cleanliness of all areas.



Here are the first week's results:

Week 1	m	t	w	t	f	Average
Year 7	20	10	17	17	7	13.0
Year 8	20	17	17	19	16	16.1
Year 9	19	15	20	19	17	16.5



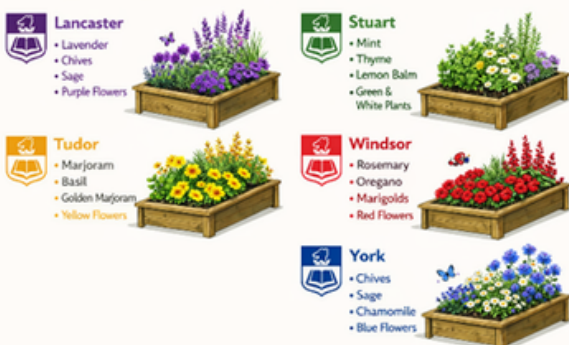
Garden work:

BE OAKS, an external charity, contacted our Academy to donate plants, seedlings and a growing plan. The very generous offer was gratefully accepted and currently seedlings are germinating, ready for planting in the spring.



These plants will then go towards the academy grounds, mainly the RCC garden and the 6th form planters, but also around the main entrance. This exciting addition will allow us to apply for a National Eco-Schools competition for the first time. We are aiming for the 6th form planters to look like this: and for the RCC garden to look something like this:

## PLANTER IDEAS BY HOUSE



# House Values

The Green Team have also been sanding the benches, in readiness to be varnished in the RCC garden (before and after shots):



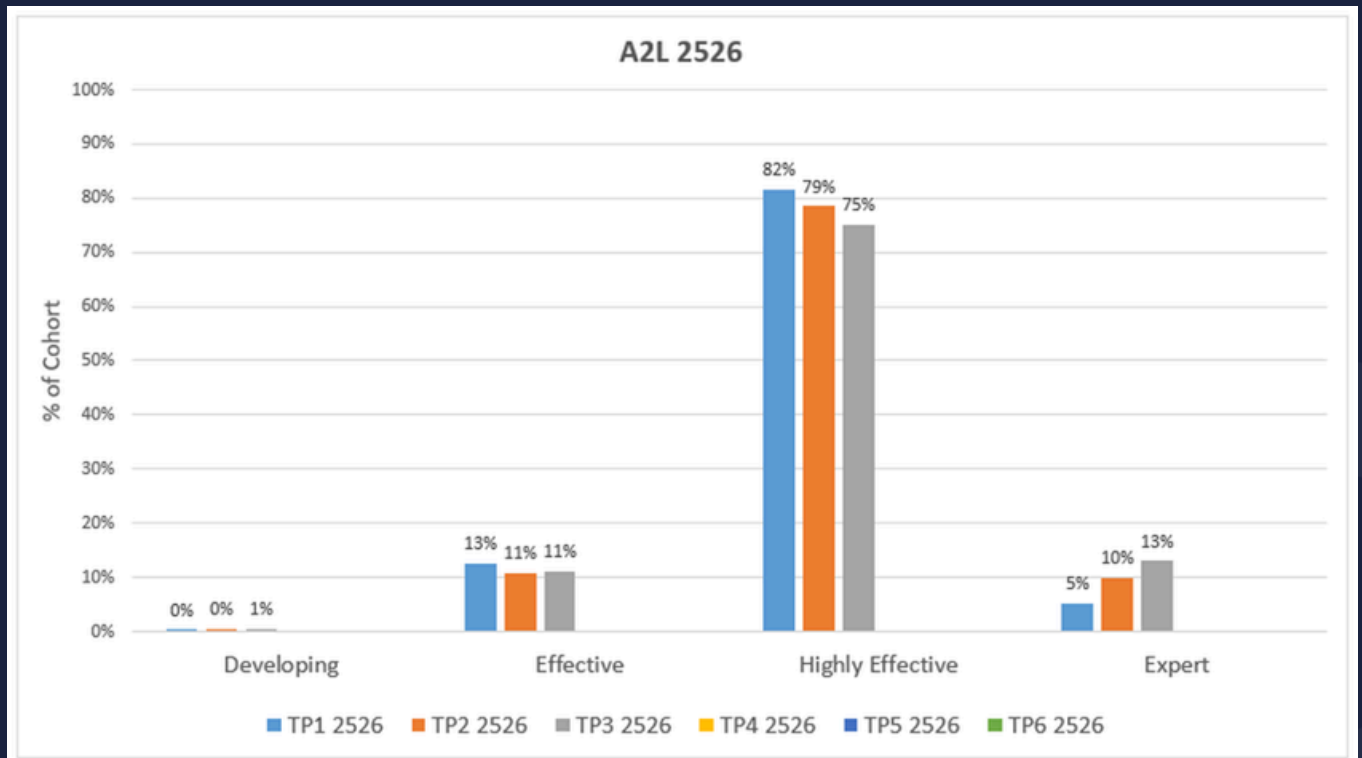
With term 5 approaching, so does the environmentally themed day for Years 7-10. The four lessons include: the recycled parachute drop, design a planter, building a strong structure using the least materials and the Bananas game. These lessons are designed to be fun, interactive and to help pupils learn about environmental issues.

Here is an example of the Bananas game where pupils discuss carbon footprints of everyday items. In the lesson, they are asked to compare 2 things and where their carbon footprint comes from. They must then work out which one has the highest footprint.



# House Values

Our third A2L assessment sees a similar pattern with the number of Expert Learners continuing to grow each time. The vast majority of pupils in the academy are working as Highly Effective Learners.



Very little separates the five houses in terms of numbers of Developing, Effective, Highly Effective and Expert Learners. Tudor House top the charts for the most Expert Learners, but the difference is minimal across the houses.

## Anti-Bullying

This term, our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have continued their important work in supporting pupils and promoting a culture of kindness across the academy. After reviewing the types of concerns being raised, the ambassadors noticed a significant pattern: many pupils were seeking help with friendship worries. Feelings of loneliness, uncertainty within friendship groups and worries about being left out were far more common than direct bullying reports.

In response to this, the ambassadors have thoughtfully adapted their weekly meetings. Our Wednesday Break 1 session has now become The Friendship Space – an open, welcoming environment where any student can come for support, company, or simply a calm place to spend their social time. The Friendship Space is designed for pupils who:

Find friendships difficult to navigate

Prefer a quieter space during busy social times

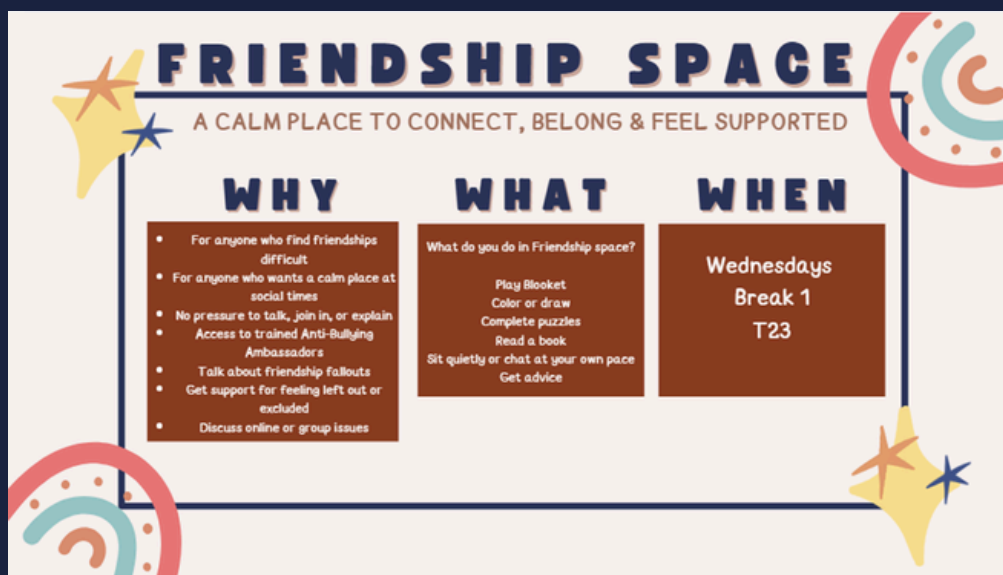
Want a no-pressure environment with no expectation to talk or join in

Would like access to trained Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Need support with friendship fallouts or feeling left out

Want to discuss online or group issues in a safe, supported setting

We are delighted to share that attendance has already increased and we have seen new friendships forming as a result. Pupils have commented on how reassuring it is to have a space where they can simply “be” without judgement.



Alongside this, we continue to monitor our antagonistic behaviour log closely. Any repeated or targeted behaviours are reviewed and, where necessary, recorded as bullying. Robust sanctions and tailored behaviour interventions are put in place to ensure that all pupils feel safe, supported, and listened to.

We are proud of the ambassadors' proactive approach and look forward to building on this positive momentum next term.

## Pride

This term, Pride has been supported at SRPA through both the Proud club at SRPA and the delivery of whole school assemblies for LGBT+ History month.

In Proud club, students have engaged in a range of creative and educational activities, delivered by staff and trained student leaders. Four students from the group have stayed behind after school for a series of training sessions, focusing on their delivery of engaging sessions to other students. We have used the acronym 'LEAD' to consider how best we might 'Listen, Educate, Action and Do' things to help members of the community – essential topics have been covered such as supporting others with coming out and handling homophobia in social circles. With new confidence, student leaders have delivered presentations in Proud club on this and other topics too, such as their own gender and sexual identities. Feedback from other students have been enormously positive, especially with older Key Stage Five students helping out those in lower years with the management of situations they have learnt from themselves.

In whole year group assemblies, students from Years 7 to 11 received a recap on the historical issues faced by members of the community and were introduced to some new case studies of LGBT+ trailblazers they should also be aware of. Students were reminded that less than one hundred years ago, students and adults that were a part of the community would have been discriminated against for their identity and may not have received the support they do now. They heard of challenges arising for athletes like Tom Daley, as they travel to countries where it still isn't legal to be publicly out as LGBT+, alongside challenges faced by staff and students at SRPA. They were reminded where support is available to them and what positive allyship can look like as they grow up.

The support of LGBT+ issues across the Academy continues to grow, and we look forward to seeing what will be achieved by the Proud club and the wider school environment as we look to the Summer term.

## Ready to Learn (R2L) Programme

This term, our Ready 2 Learn programme continued to offer students a purposeful and engaging start to each day, with a strong focus on broadening their understanding of both the curriculum and the wider world. Students attended weekly assemblies that explored a diverse range of themes, including Aspiration, Holocaust Memorial, Mental Health, National Apprenticeship Week, National Careers Week, World Book Day, Pride History and our SRPA Environment Value. Each of these assemblies aimed to deepen students' awareness of key historical events, promote inclusivity, celebrate reading and highlight pathways for their future.

Across the week, students also took part in regular activities designed to strengthen cultural awareness and support core learning habits. They spent time keeping up to date with current events through curated news content, allowing them to connect their classroom learning to real-world issues. Our Drop Everything And Read sessions continued to nurture a love of reading by giving students dedicated time to relax with a book of their choice. In addition, students reviewed their attendance and behaviour data at regular intervals, helping them recognise their successes and identify areas for improvement. The weekly quiz brought an element of fun and friendly challenge, while our student bulletin and Job of the Week feature introduced a range of opportunities both within and beyond school.

Since the winter break, the Job of the Week highlighted a particularly rich selection of careers, giving students insight into professions such as zoo veterinarian, actor, biomedical engineer, careers advisor, dental hygienist, electrical engineer, forensic scientist, game designer, health visitor, international aid worker, job recruiter and lighting engineer. Each feature was designed to spark curiosity and help students imagine different pathways they might wish to pursue in the future.

We have been extremely pleased with the enthusiasm students have shown throughout the term and we look forward to building on this momentum as we continue to develop the Ready 2 Learn programme.

## **Dr Caroline Johnson MP holds Debate at SRPA.**

Earlier this term SRPA hosted a debating competition led by our local MP, Dr Caroline Johnson. Students were tasked with creating their own legislation and arguing why it should be implemented in the UK.

We hosted schools from across the constituency from Year 12 and Year 10 who put forward a range of topics such as social media age restrictions, environmental laws and many more. Our own students selected and wrote their own proposals with Year 10 focusing on SEND needs and the policy of shorter waiting time for SEND pupils needing additional support. Year 10 had a thorough explanation of why and how this policy could be implemented suggesting additional training for SENDco teachers and the positive impact this could have.

Secondly, Year 12 focused on banning conversion therapy across the UK. They noted how positions from the government had already condemned this, but the legislative ban had not yet been implemented.

Both groups debated excellently and were able to put forward clear and well-justified arguments leading to both teams finishing 3rd in their year group debates.

# Physical Education

## Football – County Cup – Year 11 v Spalding Academy

Monday 26 January

The Year 11 team put in a brilliant performance against a good Spalding team with a 6-0 victory. Within the first 20 seconds Brian B scored after a defensive error. By half time, SRPA were 4-0 and looking comfortable with 2 goals from Harry S, and another from Brian B. Harrison C worked the left-hand side of the pitch brilliantly with Luca H and 2 more goals from Josh V and Ollie G increased the margin of victory. A solid performance from Josh V in midfield and a tight defence. An excellent team performance played in the right spirit. MOTM Luca H.

## Year 8 Girls' 5 a side Tournament @ PCLA

Monday 12 January

The Year 8 girls travelled to PCLA to take part in the Year 8 Girls' Southside tournament. With only three teams entering, SRPA played their first game against PCLA coming out 3-0 victors. The second game against Branston ended in a 1-1 draw. After two more 0-0 draws against both teams respectively, SRPA ended the night 2nd which qualifies the team to go through to the Lincolnshire 5-a-side finals night.

## Lincoln Basketball Tournament @LSST

Wednesday 21 January

The SRPA U13s Basketball team travelled to LSST to take part in the Lincoln Year 8 Basketball tournament, In a busy evening of back to back fixtures, the SRPA team went undefeated throughout the entire tournament, winning 8 out of the possible 8 games and, more impressively, only conceding 6 baskets. Well done to the whole team who took part. We now eagerly wait for our first fixture in the Junior Basketball league this year.

## Jr NBA U13s Fixture v Carre's Grammar

Wednesday 4 February

The SRPA U13 Basketball team hosted the first game of the Jr NBA league against Carre's Grammar. The team played exceptionally well coming out with the win with the result ending 39-24. Special mention to Jude A and Tyler R who stepped up and showed great leadership and determination to ensure that the team came away with the win.



## Year 7 Girls County Cup vs King Edwards VI Grammar School

Monday 9 February

The girls delivered an excellent performance in a convincing 5-1 victory over King Edward's Grammar School. From the opening whistle, the team showed strong teamwork and high energy both in and out of possession. We created many chances and came in at full time 5-1 victors meaning we move on to the next round in the county cup. A superb hat-trick from captain Amelia S and a brilliant brace from Alani P secured us the victory!



## **Year 11 League match V Will Farr**

**Tuesday 24 February**

In a tough game, and with a few key players not available, the team worked incredibly hard but found themselves overrun in the midfield against strong opponents. At half-time we found ourselves 2-0 down. We changed the formation and set about creating more chances but, again, the midfield struggled to stop them getting through. A consolation goal scored at the end of the game made it 5-1 after some great play down the left wing.

## **Year 8 Girls' Indoor 5 a side Finals**

**Monday 2 March**

SRPA hosted the Year 8 Girls Indoor 5-a-side Finals on Monday 2nd March. Visitors included Priory Pembroke, Branston and William Farr. The girls put in a great showing, winning two games out of three, scoring 7 goals and only conceding 1 throughout the tournament. This left us in 1st place.

## **Year 7 Girls' Netball Match v William Farr School**

**Thursday 26 February**

The Year 7 girls played their first match against William Farr. This was a great experience for all the girls, allowing them the opportunity to really take ownership of their playing positions and understand the tactics as the game progressed. Unfortunately, the girls did not win on this occasion. Well done girls for playing in your first match. We look forward to the next. Player of the match was Esmae S.

## **Year 7 Girls' Netball Match v LSST**

**Wednesday 4 March**

The Year 7 girls netball team played their second netball fixture of the year against LSST. Even though they lost, they played really well as a team and kept spirits high. The girls played really well and all felt really positive about their performance and their improvement. Player of the match was Esmae S.



## **Year 8 Girls' Netball Match v LSST**

**Wednesday 4 March**

The Year 8 girls played LSST in their third fixture this year, with injuries within the squad they knew this would be a tough fixture. The game was end to end throughout with the girls leading by one goal at the end of the first three quarters. In the final quarter, the girls really came into their own and increased their lead, eventually winning 28-19. Well played girl's incredible win. Player of the match was Lily C and players' player was Harriet E.



## **Year 11 Boys' Football V Bourne Grammar**

**Tuesday 10 March**

In a tough game, Bourne quickly scored a well-worked goal in the 6th minute to take an early lead. Unfortunately, the onslaught continued and, by half time, SRPA found themselves 4-0 down. At half time, formation and tactics were changed and, for the first 15 minutes of the second half, we looked brighter and troubled the Bourne defence. However, some quick passing and accurate through balls from their defence saw another 2 goals go on, and, in the final minutes, a long-range shot hitting the top corner finished our demise. Bourne Grammar won deservedly 7-0 and go through to the next round.

## **Year 7 Away Vs Queen Elizabeth High School**

We took our Year 7 football team to QEHS for a league game. In the windy conditions, the team fought incredibly well with an exceptional performance from Preston H scoring a brace and winning a penalty, which Rex B slotted home neatly to seal a convincing 3-0 victory.

## Year 8 Girls' 7 a side at Lincoln Christ Hospital school

On Monday 16th March, we took our Year 8 girls to an outdoor 7-a-side competition. We were drawn in league 1 with the hosts LCHS and Branston. Our first game was a one-sided game against LCHS; however, we struggled to find the back of the net. Lily B scored the winner with a strong volley into the top corner. Giving us a 1-0 win. Our second game in the group stage was with Branston. After many meetings with Branston we knew this would be a tough game. We fought hard and well and, although we had chances to kill the game, the result ended 0-0. Due to Branston beating LCHS 2-0 they made the final on goal difference, meaning we entered the 3rd place play off against William Farr. After another hard-fought game, an unfortunate bounce let the William Farr Striker tuck one in the back of the net. A late 1-0 loss left us in 4th place. However, still lots of positives to take into our next fixtures.

## Glasgow Celtic Football Tour, 13-15 March 2026

### Day 1

41 travelled to Glasgow on Friday 13 March for our Celtic football tour. The first event on the itinerary was games against St. Ninian's High School. One of our U14 teams played at the high school, with the other U14 side and the U16 side travelling to Celtic's Barrowfield training facility, for their games.







The first team to play were narrowly defeated 2-0, but left the school in good spirits to visit the Barrowfield training centre where the other teams were playing. The second of our U14 teams played in the dome used by Celtic FC Women for their games and secured a huge 10-2 victory. The U16 team won 6-5 in a very entertaining game.

We then travelled to our hotel for check-in and some down time, before our evening meal to end a long day.

## Day 2

Following breakfast on Saturday 14 March, the touring party made the short journey to the local bowling alley, where the students enjoyed some friendly bowling competition. We then headed back to the hotel for lunch before making the journey to Celtic Park for the top of the table Scottish Premiership fixture between Celtic and Motherwell. The students enjoyed the game and the atmosphere. Despite Motherwell taking an early lead, we saw Celtic score three goals to win the match 3-1.



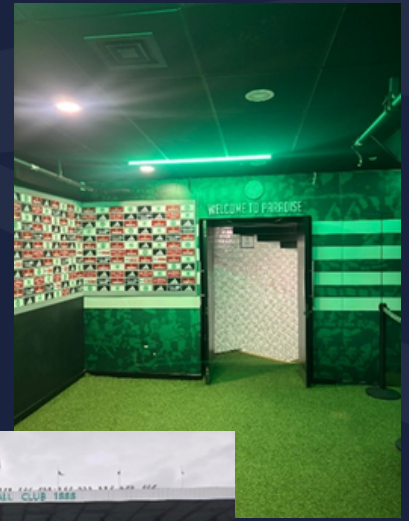
Following the game, we headed back to the coach to head to Lennoxtown Training Centre, where Celtic's first team train. The students enjoyed training sessions led by Celtic FC coaches, before heading back to the hotel for an evening meal before bed.



### Day 3

Following breakfast and room inspections, we checked out, loaded the coach and headed to Celtic Park for a stadium tour and visit to the club shop. During the tour, students were taught the history of Celtic, from the club's formation, to the success of the Lisbon Lions in 1967, right up to the present day. Students saw the trophies, medals and historic shirts in the boardroom, saw the changing rooms, walked out of the tunnel, sat in the dug-out and the directors' seats.





“  
CELTIC JERSEYS ARE NOT  
FOR SECOND BEST,  
THEY DON'T SHRINK TO  
FIT INFERIOR PLAYERS.  
”  
- JOCK STEIN



Following this, we headed to our final training session before heading home. The students were a credit to the academy and everyone had a fantastic time.



# Check out the latest news, along with a new and updated calendar on our website.

[www.srpa.co.uk](http://www.srpa.co.uk)

Compiling each term's newsletter is a big, but exciting job. It is really important that we celebrate all the excellent work that goes on at the Academy and we would like your feedback about our newsletter. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We welcome your thoughts!

Please use the QR Code to leave any feedback.

Or email: [enquiries@srpa.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@srpa.co.uk)



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