



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer,

24th April 2026

It has been another busy week in college. I had a very enjoyable rewards breakfast this morning with a group of students. This is a fortnightly event and gives an opportunity for us to celebrate the successes of our students, whether that be academically, within their extra-curricular pursuits or for displaying the values of our college. Please continue to contact the college via [positivenews@sirharrysmith.com](mailto:positivenews@sirharrysmith.com) to inform us of your child's achievements outside of school so that we can celebrate these with them too!

Well done to our Year 9 students who have today completed their mock exam period. I am very proud of how exceptionally well they have behaved during their first experience in the main hall.

This week we celebrated Mrs Warrenner, who many of you may remember from your own time at college, for achieving 30 years of service at the college! She first joined the college in April 1996 and has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of students since that time. We would like to publicly thank her for her tireless dedication to the college community.

I cannot stress enough the importance of students attending college and arriving on time. It is especially crucial that those students in Years 11 and 13 attend every lesson with their exams now so imminent. Please encourage your child to attend all of the revision sessions that are on offer in preparation for the exam season.

As we previously mentioned, we have been trialling a new centralised "late to lesson" detention system. Students that were recorded as having 10 late to lesson marks or more were expected to attend a 40-minute detention with the Deputy Principal, Miss Wahlandt, on a Tuesday after school. This has been a successful initiative and moving forwards will be introduced for all students who are recorded as having **five late to lesson marks or more**. Students will be identified on Monday morning and parents/carers will be notified on Monday afternoon if this involves their child/children. Staff will also be notified on a Monday and will escort the identified students from the end of Period 5 to the gym where the detention will be held. Thank you for your support with this. As a reminder, parents/carers can view their child's attendance, lesson by lesson, via Edulink.

Our Sixth Form students enjoyed a visit to the University of Lincoln earlier this week which gave them a valuable insight into university life and Further Education.

Next week we look forward to trips to the Naseby Battlefield, Ely Cathedral and a team of our students competing in the Peterborough Schools Trampolining Competition!

Best wishes for a relaxing weekend.

*Dawn White*  
*Principal*



# The Importance of Being on Time

At Sir Harry Smith, we place great importance on punctuality and starting the day in a positive way. Form time begins promptly at **8.30am**, so students should be in their form rooms and ready to begin the day at that time, rather than just arriving through the school gates.

Arriving on time helps students settle quickly, receive important notices and information, and begin lessons in the right frame of mind. Good punctuality also supports positive routines, strong attendance, and good preparation for the world of work.

We would also like to remind families that students arriving later than 9.00am are given an unauthorised attendance mark. This affects their overall attendance percentage and can have a negative impact on their attendance record.

We would like to thank the vast majority of our students who arrive each morning on time, in a positive frame of mind, and wearing the correct uniform. Their excellent attitude and readiness to learn make a real difference to the positive atmosphere across the school.

By continuing to work together, we can ensure that every student makes the best possible start to each school day.

**Mr Treliving.**



# Sea Cadets: St George's Day Parade

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April T.S Falcon Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets had the privilege to be able to be part of the St George's Day parade at the Cenotaph in London.

A contingent of 19 cadets took part and two of those cadets are from SHSCC: Jessica and Matthew from Years 8 and 9 respectively.

All cadets were outstanding throughout the day, I hope you will join us in congratulating all the cadets for their behaviour and conduct shown throughout the day, showcasing the organisations' and Sir Harry Smith's school Values. They are a credit to our unit and to the college.

**Wisbech Sea Cadets.**



Pictured are Jessica and Matthew, with Maths Teacher, Mr Ashworth, who is also active in the Sea Cadets.

# Celebrating Success Beyond the Classroom

At Sir Harry Smith, we are always incredibly proud of our students—not only for their achievements in school, but also for the amazing things they accomplish beyond it. Some of the most inspiring stories we hear come from what our students choose to do in their own time, and we would love to celebrate even more of these successes as a school community.

Our students are involved in a wide range of activities outside of school, and these experiences play a huge role in shaping their confidence, character, and sense of responsibility. Whether it's raising money for charitable causes, giving their time to volunteer in the local community, or achieving success in sports, music, dance, or other pursuits, these accomplishments deserve to be recognised.

We know many of our students are making a real difference—perhaps organising fundraising events, supporting local initiatives, competing in sporting competitions, or developing talents and skills that go far beyond the classroom. These moments not only reflect individual dedication and hard work, but also embody the values we are proud to promote as a school.

We would love your help in sharing these stories. If your child has achieved something outside of school that you think deserves recognition—big or small—please do let us know. You can send details to our dedicated email address: [positivenews@sirharrysmith.com](mailto:positivenews@sirharrysmith.com)

We will aim to highlight as many of these successes as possible on the TV screens around school and in future newsletters.

By celebrating these achievements together, we can continue to inspire one another and showcase the incredible contributions our students are making every day.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Mr Treliving.**



# Speak Out Challenge

On Tuesday, a group of 25 Year 10 students were involved in an in-school oracy workshop led by The Speakers Trust – an educational charity specialising in delivering public-speaking workshops to state schools across the UK. The day was a huge success, with students eagerly taking part in all the activities thrown their way by our brilliant facilitator, Mark. Each student was tasked with creating a final speech to be performed in the afternoon, with the best performers being given the opportunity to create a speech for the Peterborough regional Speak Out final. There were a range of well-delivered, interesting speeches from students at the end of the session – on topics ranging from self-confidence to war to how to avoid burning your house down! With their enthusiasm and articulacy, the students involved were a credit to the school.

## Mr Molyneux.



# University of Lincoln Trip

We took Year 12 students who are interested in attending university as their preferred route for their Post-18 options to Lincoln University on Wednesday. This provided them with the opportunity to understand what it's like to be an undergraduate student. They spent time in the lecture theaters taking part in key workshops about the UCAS application process, student finance and choosing the right course and university. They took part in a comprehensive campus tour which exposed them to the incredible facilities that the university has to offer them.

This was the second in the series of university visits we provide for our Sixth Form students. Each year we take students to Northampton University, Lincoln University and Bedford University to provide them with invaluable experiences to help them make informed decisions about their futures once they leave Sir Harry Smith Community College Sixth Form.

To support all students across the college and provide them with information about Post-16, Post-18 and career opportunities we are hosting our bi-annual careers fair in July. We have over 30 apprenticeship and university providers in attendance along with over 40 job and career providers from across a wide range of sectors. This is a huge organisational and operational task. If you work for an organisation and would like to be involved in the day, please do get in touch with our Careers and Guidance Manager, Mrs Curtis: [acurtis@sirharrysmith.com](mailto:acurtis@sirharrysmith.com)

**Mr Smith.**



UNIVERSITY OF  
LINCOLN

# Academy21 Free GCSE Revision Live Sessions

We wanted to advise that Academy21 are running FREE GCSE Revision Live Sessions for all Year 11 students - Academy21 student or otherwise!

These sessions go through practical preparation tips, as well as content for individual English, Maths and Science papers.

to take advantage of this excellent resource, please visit this link:

<https://academy21.co.uk/gcse-revision-lessons/>

Mr Thornton.

# Academy 21

The Online Alternative Provision Experts



# Extra-Curricular Activities

We have a rich and varied choice of extra-curricular activities available both at lunchtime and after school. During lunch, pupils can join clubs that foster creative, academic and sporting interests—such as music meet-ups, computing and informal sports or fitness challenges. After school, the programme expands further with structured opportunities in team sports, performing arts (drama, choir and band), academic enrichment (e.g. homework support, subject-based clubs), and leadership or service initiatives. These activities not only give students time to pursue interests outside the curriculum, but also help build friendships, confidence, and skills such as teamwork, time management and self-expression.

All activities are free of charge (except swimming at The Manor Leisure Centre)

Students to just come along (unless stated on the activity)

## Extra Curricular Activities Summer Term 2026

LUNCHTIME CLUBS	
<b>MONDAY LUNCHTIME</b>	
Performance	Practice rooms available
Christian Union	Mrs Grey - Olive 5
SSD Homework Club	Mrs Grant - Yellow 11
Multifaith Prayer Room	Purple 15
<b>TUESDAY LUNCHTIME</b>	
Performance	Practice rooms available
SSD Homework Club	Mrs Grant - Yellow 11
Multifaith Prayer Room	Purple 15
Pokemon	Mrs Cutler - Blue 32
Debate Club	Mrs Ibrahim - Orange 05
<b>WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME</b>	
Basketball (KS3)	Miss Tyson
SSD Homework Club	Mrs Grant - Yellow 11
Multifaith Prayer Room	Purple 15
<b>THURSDAY LUNCHTIME</b>	
Choir	Olive 5
Volleyball	Miss Ponder
Pokemon	Mr Ashworth Gold 21
SSD Homework Club	Mrs Grant - Yellow 11
Multifaith Prayer Room	Purple 15
<b>FRIDAY LUNCHTIME</b>	
Basketball (KS4)	Miss Tyson
SSD Homework Club	Mrs Grant - Yellow 11
Multifaith Prayer Room	Purple 15
Djembe Drumming Club (Year 7)	Olive 5

# Extra-Curricular Activities

## Extra Curricular Activities Summer Term 2026

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS	
<u>MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL</u>	
Trampolining	Miss <u>Ponder</u> - Gym
<u>AJS Astro</u> (small)	
Netball Recreation	Miss Tyson & Miss Lee
Creative Writing	Library until 4:00pm
<u>TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL</u>	
Cricket	Mr <u>Rothery</u>
Tennis	Mr <u>Tymon</u>
Cheerleading	Miss <u>Ponder</u> - Gym
Year 11 R186 Intervention	Miss Tyson & Ms Hunt - Gold 03
PE Department Detentions	Miss Tyson - Gold 03
Homework Club	Library until 4:15pm
<u>WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL</u>	
<u>Warhammer</u>	Mr Curtis Colbalt
Science Revision (Year 11)	<u>Colbalt</u>
School Band	Olive 5 & 10
Homework Club	Library until 4:15pm
<u>THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL</u>	
Athletics	Mr Smith & Miss Goodall
Rounders	Ms Hunt
Year 10 R184 Intervention	Mr <u>Tymon</u> - Gold 03
Art Club (KS3)	Miss Aldis - Magenta 07/09
Maths Revision	Gold 01
Dungeons & Dragons	Gold 19
Homework Club	Library until 4:15pm
Book Club	Library until 4:00pm
<u>FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL</u>	
PE Staff & 6th form use of facilities	
Swimming at the Manor Leisure Centre	(3:30pm to 4:30pm) <i>This will be at the discounted price of £2.90</i>

# Useful Information

*Congratulations*



## **Congratulations to Mrs Warrener**

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Warrener for her remarkable 30 years of dedicated service in our school community. Her commitment to supporting students, staff, and families has made a lasting difference, helping to shape not only academic success but also the values and confidence of countless young people. Congratulations on this incredible milestone.

## **30th June – Art Exhibition**

Our fabulous Art Exhibition will showcase our students' wonderful artistic achievements from this year.



## **7th July – Sports Awards**

A celebration of sporting success at Sir Harry Smith this year, with guest speaker **Mark Sagers – former England hockey player, talkSPORT presenter and BBC broadcaster**. Mark has interviewed some of the very best, including Muhammad Ali and Tiger Woods, and is a wonderfully entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. He has covered all of the major sporting events worldwide including several World Cups, International Cricket and won a Sony Award for his work on the Grand National that never was.

## **8th July – Summer Concert**

Our musicians will showcase their talent one final time this year.



# Useful Information

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



Social media influencers are people who have established credibility in a specific industry and have the power to influence other people's decisions. Most commonly associated with YouTube and Instagram, 'influencers' will usually have a large number of followers and be viewed as authentic by their audience. It is for this reason that many influencers are often paid by big companies to promote their products in the hope of persuading their followers to purchase those goods.



## What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'INFLUENCERS'



### AN UNREALISTIC PERCEPTION OF BODY IMAGE

Some of the most popular social media influencers often depict themselves as having the 'perfect body' and are paid to promote items such as health supplements or swimwear, which young people believe can help them achieve the same look. What is not always realised is that these images can be edited or filtered and aren't always a true-life representation. Your child may feel like this is what they need to look like and in some cases, become obsessed with their body image, which could contribute towards a lower self-esteem or even becoming depressed if they can't achieve the same look.



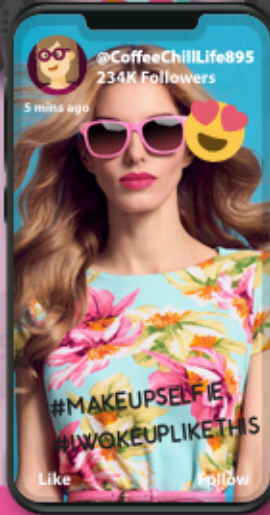
### BECOMING UNREALISTIC ROLE MODELS

As children become more and more involved on social media and identify who their favourite people are to follow, they may come to see social media influencers as role models, particularly if they are attracted by the lifestyle they see online. This could lead them into developing potentially unrealistic expectations of life and in some cases, using their role models as an escape from reality, particularly if they feel like their own life isn't very fulfilling.



### ENCOURAGING BAD HABITS

Although many social media influencers will get paid to advertise brands and their products, they will also post their own material online too, usually depicting their daily life or an activity for example. This may have both desirable and undesirable consequences, with influencers able to inspire both good habits, such as healthy eating, exercise or kindness. However it may also encourage children to adopt bad habits, such as drinking, smoking, swearing or even criminal behaviour, particularly if these are seen to be endorsed by the influencer.



### THE NEED TO HAVE EVERYTHING

Many social media influencers will take photos or videos of themselves wearing the latest fashion or jewellery which companies want them to promote. They may also be provided with the latest gadgets to promote or, if they are children, toys to play with in order to persuade their followers to purchase them. Many children will be keen to buy these items in order to keep up with the latest trends however if they get left behind, they could be made to feel inadequate or inferior by other children who do have them.



### AUTHENTICITY OF ENDORSEMENTS

Social media influencers hold a lot of persuasion with their audience and are often looked up to by younger followers. Many children will see them as credible, authentic and trust what they see online. However, some influencers may not always believe in the product they are promoting and therefore can mislead their followers, abusing their level of confidence in them. Your child may therefore find themselves looking up to people who are disingenuous or who feign interest in activities that they themselves do not actually care about.



## Safety Tips for Parents



### FOLLOW WHO THEY FOLLOW

A good way to see first-hand who may be influencing your child is to create your own social media account and follow the same people they do. This will give you a strong indication of what is shaping how your child behaves, what they like and what they are taking an interest in.



### TALK ABOUT ROLE MODELS

Role models can play an important part of your child's life, particularly outside of the home. Talk to your child about who they look up to and why. Remind them that not everybody online is who they seem to be and if you do have concerns that your child is being negatively influenced, work with them in finding more positive alternatives.

### BUILD THEIR SELF-ESTEEM

It's important that your child is aware of how unrealistic perceptions of life can be depicted on social media and that it is easy to be deceived. Discuss with your child how images can be heavily edited, cropped or manipulated to create artificial scenarios and that often the lifestyles that people display on social media isn't always realistic or in fact the truth.



### DISCUSS REALISTIC VS UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

If you notice your child has suddenly taken a strong interest in the way they look, or you find they are a lot more body conscious, then it's a good idea to speak to them about why they feel that way. If they seem unhappy, try to build their self-esteem by talking to them and listening to their concerns, helping to build their confidence through praise and positivity. Remind them that looks aren't everything and not everything they see online is actually a true depiction of real life.



### ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENT THINKING

Social media influencers can be quite powerful individuals who hold a lot of persuasive power so it's important to encourage your child to think independently about everything they see and engage with online. Talk to them about the dangers of blindly following others and in keeping an open mind when viewing content. Teach them to always question people's motives online, especially when they see individuals are promoting a brand or product which they are likely to have been paid to advertise but may not necessarily personally endorse.



### Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



# Key Information

## Term Dates

### SPRING TERM 2026

START OF TERM	Monday 5th January 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026

### SUMMER TERM 2026

START OF TERM	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday (college closed)	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Monday 20th July 2026

## Contacting Us

Please visit our website to find out the best way of contacting the person you would like to get in touch with. Please do remember that if you are contacting a member of our teaching staff, they will have teaching commitments during the day so please bear with them. If you would like to meet with a member of staff then please do arrange an appointment first.

In any cases of an emergency, please call the school on **01733 703991**.

## Social Media

Please be sure to follow us on social media. We have Facebook pages for Sir Harry Smith Community College, Park Lane Primary School, New Road Primary School and the Aspire Learning Trust.

