

TERM 1 NEWSLETTER - 2024

SPONNE NEWS

The official newsletter of Sponne School

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... And more!

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The NMPAT Fellowship Award Finals



The Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust Annual Fellowship Award finals took place on the 8th of October with eleven Y13 students performing to win either an instrumental or vocal award. This followed a first round of competitive auditions throughout September.

A panel of adjudicators awarded the Shirley Grant Vocal Fellowship to Oliver from Sponne School. Congratulations Oliver!



Dear Parents and Carers

As we near the end of our first half term after a long summer, and my first as the new Headteacher, I would like to express my gratitude for the warm welcome that so many of you have extended to me. It is very much appreciated.

This half term has been a difficult one for our entire school community. Nothing can ever prepare you for the passing of a young person and Anna's loss has been felt by all. Anna was loved by so many who have shared memories of a young person who was kind, a good friend and extremely good fun. She is described by all as very witty and charming and will be truly missed.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again express my heartfelt condolences to her family and all who knew her. The journey of grief is not linear and I want to reassure you that support will continue for all who need it. As we navigate these most tragic of circumstances, I have been struck by the way in which the school and wider community has come together to support one another. This is truly a testament to the strength of the Sponne family, one I am very proud to have joined.

Thank you.

School Update

This half term has seen a flurry of activity in all aspects of school life. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7's and watch as they settle in. Despite the transition from Year 6 to 7 being a daunting prospect, they have risen to the challenge, adapting to the new routines really well and I am delighted to see that they are already making good progress in their learning.

For Year 11, mock examinations are on the horizon and will be taking place shortly after the half term. Whilst any exam can be a source of trepidation, I encourage our students to use these as an opportunity for learning; to practise revision techniques, time management and experience with timed assessment. This will prove vital experience and help to guide their journey towards their summer exams. If there is any support that your son/daughter needs at this time please do not hesitate to make contact with their form tutor.

Along with a flurry of academic endeavour, we have also seen many extra curricular and enrichment activities taking place. It has been a wonderful opportunity for me to learn more about our pupils, their interests and talents. I am delighted that Sponne offers such a varied and creative programme. I hope you enjoy reading all about these and join us in celebrating achievements.

Once again, I would like to thank everyone, staff, students and parents for their very warm welcome. I have been very impressed with the school and its community and I look forward to working alongside you all in the years to come.

Thank you for your continued support in enabling the success of all of our students here at Sponne.

Mr Graham Forbes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Forbes'.

Headteacher

Parking outside of school

Please park considerately and legally outside of school. We have had a few incidents recently where our neighbours' driveways have been blocked and issues with cars being parked too close to the pedestrian crossing. You **MUST NOT** park on the crossing or in the area covered by the zig-zag lines.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Music News

NMPAT Performance

The week commencing 14th October, Year 7 experienced a fantastic opportunity to see a professional group of musicians from Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust playing string instruments. The group performed a range of tunes from Mozart, film and pop music.

A great response from our students. Some of our brave souls had a go on the violins, violas, cellos and double basses during break time afterwards, assisted by the performers and Sponne string students.

A massive thank you to NMPAT, Kate Bickerdike, our string peripatetic teacher for organising the event and Sponne staff who helped to make it run smoothly.

We are planning to offer some more beginner groups in selected orchestral instruments to help more students to join our orchestra.

Year 7 parents will receive an email to register their interest. Parents of other year groups are also welcome to contact Mr Bugby for further details. CBugby@sponne.org.uk

Solo Performance - Rotary Club

Well done to A level Music Students, James Woodman and Oliver Parks for excellent solo performances last Saturday. We had the privilege to perform alongside the famous Cwmbach Male Choir from Wales in a concert at St Lawrence Church Towcester, hosted by the Rotary Club. The audience in the church was full and we were well entertained with an impressive variety of musical styles. We are very proud of James and Oliver and how well they performed.



Other News

A Day of Inspiration at Sponne school with Baron Professor Robert Winston



On Thursday, Sponne Sixth Form and Year 11 science students had the incredible opportunity to hear from the world-renowned scientist, clinician, and broadcaster, Baron Professor Robert Winston! Over 270 students plus staff were captivated by his fascinating insights into scientific innovation, his ground-breaking work in fertility, and his journey as a leading figure in the scientific community.

The session was not only informative but truly inspiring with Sponne students asking thought-provoking questions to make their teachers proud.

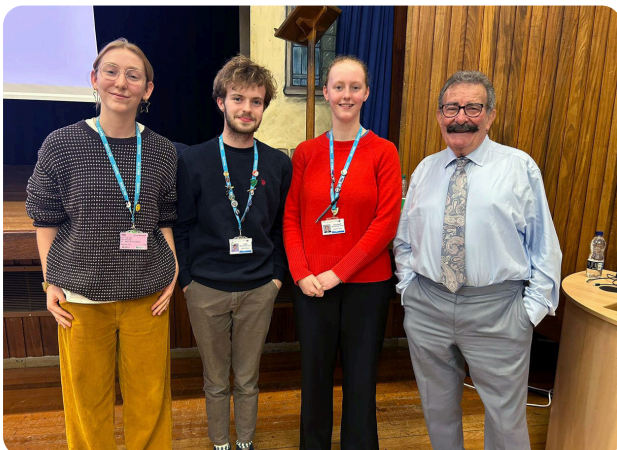
After a lively Q&A, Professor Winston spent the afternoon with Year 5 and 6 students at Towcester CE Primary school, where he sparked curiosity and excitement about science in the next generation.

Leadership at Sponne school stated, 'We feel immensely privileged to host such a distinguished guest and extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Celia Stanworth from our science department for organizing this unforgettable day'.

Review by Enzo Burgazzi (Year 13):

Sir Robert Winston is undeniably one of the most acclaimed figureheads in the modern era of science, renowned worldwide for his profound and detailed knowledge of the scientific field. During his lecture he seamlessly intertwined the complexities of the world of science with the intricate nature of morality. Sharing insights of his pioneering work into pre-implantation genetic diagnosis and explaining how he and his expert team managed to develop the first ever successful IVF treatment, doing what many considered impossible.

What struck me most was this man's humility. Despite his numerous awards and ever present seat in parliament, Professor Winston remains grounded and respectful. He took time to engage with students before and after the talk, offering valuable advice on personal development and his scientific knowledge. I must admit, I didn't know of Sir Robert Winston prior to the lecture, but in the space of under an hour, it became clear he is truly a remarkable man who's deserving of all the praise he has received. Furthermore I would like to finish by stating how much of an honour it was to hear him speak.



Air Ambulance Visit



Earlier this term, we had a special visit from The Air Ambulance Service. During the Year 8 assembly, the students learned about a free to join children's club called #TheCrew.

Should your young person wish to join or if you'd like to learn more, please visit

<https://theairambulanceservice.org.uk/childrens-air-ambulance/the-crew>

Staff Walk

18 members of staff, one husband and two dogs made the 8 mile walk from Edale, up onto Kinder Scout and then back down Jacob's Ladder on the 12th October. A somewhat gruelling climb set the early tone for the day but rest at the top, lunch and cake to celebrate Dave and Marie's 60th/64th birthday saw us all rejuvenated for the easier paths that came after that. Spirits stayed high and the beautiful clear skies made for a really positive atmosphere even as fatigue started to kick in. The thought of a hot meal and pint of something nice in the pub got us through the final miles.

Satisfied with our day's efforts and suitably fed and watered we hopped back in the bus for a jaunt back down the M1 - bus karaoke helped the miles pass quickly. All in all, a brilliant day out and fantastic chance to spend time together in the great outdoors!



Lit in Colour



On October 23rd, Sponne students had the honour of performing at the prestigious 'Lit in Colour' Bloomsbury Festival. Following their success in the scene-writing competition, playwrights Emily C and Bella, joined by Emily T and Lucas, had the remarkable opportunity to present their award-winning script. We are immensely proud that our students not only exhibited exceptional professionalism but also shared the stage with esteemed professional actors, writers, and dramaturgs, who were highly complementary of their talents. This extraordinary experience will undoubtedly be one they cherish forever, and Miss McGlen is confident it marks the beginning of their promising acting journeys. We couldn't be prouder of them all.

To read their scene please follow this [LI_NK](#)



Sponne School : #HelloYellow



World Mental Health Day...



World Mental Health Day was celebrated on 10th October. This year schools, companies and communities came together and promoted the Hello Yellow campaign and supporting Youngminds #HelloYellow. The day was about coming together to talk about mental health and show everyone that mental health matters. Talking about our mental health can help us cope better with life's ups and downs. Our Sixth Form students also sold cookies to raise funds

for young minds. The day showed our young people they're not alone and it's ok to seek support for mental health.

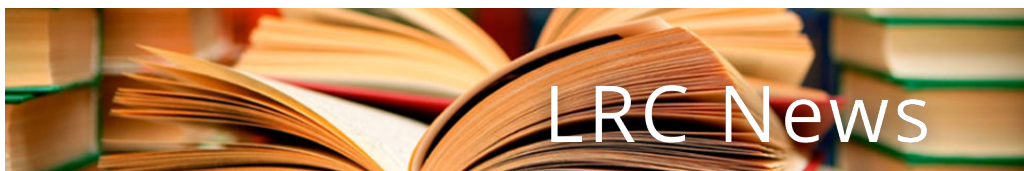
Our Wellbeing Team Mrs. Brookbank, Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Lopes met with students during lunchtime. The team promoted the day, shared resources and asked the students to share thoughts on the following question 'What am I grateful for today?'. The students were asked to display their answers on yellow tags along the yellow brick road for the school community to appreciate. These have now been moved onto a display board in the Wellbeing Hub to showcase our students' voices to all.

If you have any worries about your child's mental health please don't hesitate to contact safeguarding@sponne.org.uk

Or

youngminds.org.uk

Parents Helpline Free 0808 802 5544 from 9.30am-4.00pm Monday to Friday



Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is the reading programme we use to help Year 7 and 8 students improve their reading, vocabulary and comprehension skills. Almost all students have now completed their first reading assessment which establishes the optimum reading range for improving their learning. As soon as they finish a book, students are encouraged to answer questions about it by taking a multiple choice quiz and earn points for every quiz they pass.



We've been so impressed at the progress students have made so far, particularly **Lily Phillips, Arthur Kukeli, Jake Hodges, Riley Thomas, Camden Oakes, Lillie Rutter, Oscar Venn, George Song, Paige Hodgkinson and Bryony Emm**, who have all found their way onto our Star Reader display for term 1 for having passed several quizzes and passed every one they've attempted! Our Year 7 students have already amassed a total reading

word count of 8,874,363 and have passed 398 quizzes between them. Other Y7 top quizzers this term are **Lennox Barnett, Jake Cowley, Ryan West, Charlotte Porter, India P, Ayaz Muzeyev, Afiyah K, Gabriel Ellis and Toby D**. They have all passed over 5 or more quizzes each. We also have several students who have achieved the milestone of reading more than 250,000 words! These include **Arthur Kukeli, Lennox Barnett, Eleanor Rumbell, Alice Ramplin, Riley Thomas, Miller Hartley and Gabriel Ellis**.

Year 8 students, who have only had one LRC lesson this term, have read a total of 3,584,268 words and passed 94 quizzes. Of our Y8 star readers, **Lillie, Paige and George** have also surpassed 250,000 words read, so well done to them! All students who achieve 100% in a quiz and who meet their AR points targets receive rewards, including Sparks and small stationery prizes. Well done to all of our students for their outstanding effort this term!

To find out if any of your books at home have an AR quiz, go to www.arbookfind.co.uk.

LRC Book Group

The LRC Book Group has now begun for this year. Our first meeting was on 18th October and our next meeting will be on Friday 13th December. We meet at lunchtime on the penultimate Friday of every term to discuss our favourite books, any topical issues around reading and we also have a short book quiz, where students can win book prizes. All year groups are welcome to join.



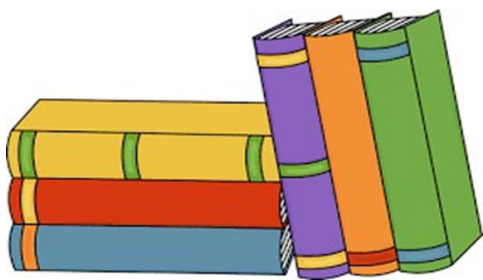
Reading for Pleasure



Whilst it's only Y7 & Y8 who participate in Accelerated Reader, it is lovely to see so many students continue to enjoy their reading, including **Rory Castle, Michael Adjei, Isaac Pang, Lexey Hawkins, Tyler Merry and Ejona Xheladini**, to name a few. We have created a Reading Recommendations board, where students can share their top book choices with other students.

If you have any suggestions, please email them to jromain@sponne.org.uk

Sponne Reading Revolutionaries



We are a group of students who are promoting reading for pleasure across the school. We meet at registration during the first Monday of the month. We share ideas about reading competitions, promotions and recommendations. We've recently spoken to Year 7 students in assembly about our group.

Our next project will be to organise a Christmas book drive for the Towcester Toy Bank, so watch this space!

We would love to have new students from any year group joining us: Please speak to Miss Rowlands, Mrs. Halling or Mrs. Romain - or just come along at registration on **Monday 4th November to T5**

Geography Revision Resources

GCSE and A-Level Geography Revision Resources are now on [Linktr.ee](https://linktr.ee)!

The Geography department has set up a [Linktr.ee](https://linktr.ee) account with useful links to support your child's GCSE or A-Level studies.

Simply click on the link for a one-stop shop of helpful revision websites all in one place, including [Sponne's Geography Resource Hub](#) as well as links to quizzes to test knowledge, such as BBC Bitesize and Tutor2U.

Use our Linktr.ee to help with homework, revision and to find information about your child's course.

Whilst it isn't an exhaustive list, there's plenty of resources to help you and your child get started with their geography revision, so we hope you find it a useful starting point.

Mrs Warr - AFL for Geography

English School Chess Championship

On Wednesday 9th October, a team of 6 students represented the school in a qualifying event for the English Schools Chess Championship 2024/25 hosted at Stowe School.

The team was as follows:

Will Tollervey (year 12), James Brown (year 10), Daniel Thomas (year 13), Jacob O'Mahoney (year 12), Charlie Russell (year 11) and James Turner-Pim (year 8).

After narrowly failing to qualify last year, Sponne won 2 out of their 3 matches and have successfully qualified for the regional stage of the competition to be held Spring 2025. If successful, they will go on to represent the school in the National Final.

The results were as follows:

Round 1: Stowe A beat Sponne, 5 - 0.5

Round 2: Sponne beat Stowe B, 4 - 2

Round 3: Sponne beat Wycombe Abbey, 4 - 2

An excellent team effort. Congratulations to the team.



Sponne Environment Club

Sponne School's Environment Club started to make changes in the school's community last year with many projects aiming to reduce consumption, reuse resources and help sustain the nature and wildlife within Sponne. Although our projects have started small, we have ambitious aims this year to make an even bigger impact.

Bookcase Swap Shop



Last year, we utilised a bookcase in the sixth form area to act as a book swap for year 12 & 13 students, encouraging our classmates to donate their unwanted books to the book swap, giving them new use and preventing them from ending up unused in landfill.

Choosing to read a used book over a new book reduces the number of trees felled for paper and results in less than one fifth of the carbon emissions.

We were also aiming to encourage reading in older children who no longer have the structured time during form to "flip" through a book. It took some time to gain traction but now our book swap seems well used. We are aiming to create book swaps for all students at Sponne this year and make the school's reading even more sustainable, please ask your Sponne children to watch this space.

Revision Guide Donations - Recycling Revision Books

With help from the LRC, we also organised a Revision guide donation table for GCSE and A-level study aids.

This encouraged students finished with their exams to donate their exam revision resources, allowing students in need of revision books to help themselves. We were aware that these can be extremely expensive, especially when students need one for each of their GCSE subjects

This allowed all students to have access to materials that would help them get the best grades possible.

It is a core objective of the Environment Club to lead the way for the school to be imaginative in every possible way to enhance recycling.

Green Fingers

Throughout last year, we were eager to plant some greenery around the school to make the area pollinator-friendly, especially as spring neared.

Stat point: 42% of pollinator species have become less widespread over the long term in the UK so we were passionate about making even a small change to our local environment.

We raised money through a sixth form mufti day for World Wildlife Day, allowing us to raise awareness for the world's wild fauna and flora and purchase our own flora.

Our pollinator-friendly plants were planted at the front of the school's GUTP building.



Bug Paradise



Along with the plants for our local pollinators, we also made a bug hotel for the insects that are also an important part of wildlife.

Bug Hotels are imperative for the continued survival of urban insects. Ladybugs, arachnids, woodlice and other common British insects will thrive in the nooks and crannies of the hidden spaces provided.

Hot on the footsteps of earlier members of the Environment Club, who made such a structure, we established a bug hotel to promote biodiversity in the school grounds.

Our first project of this school year was a Halloween Costume donation. 40% of Halloween costumes are only worn once so we wanted to give students the opportunity to reduce the amount of materials they use and allow them to have a new costume for Halloween without

having to pay for it. Also, donating last year's costumes instead of throwing them away helped us not contribute to the 85% of halloween costumes that eventually end up in landfill.

Eco club is also planning to take care of our school's environment through litter picking. The next project on our ever-growing list is to create a litter picking rota so we can clean up Sponne as well as raise awareness of the impacts to the environment that littering causes. We hope to encourage students to find a bin for their wrappers rather than using school grounds as a place for waste.

To Finish

We are super pleased to have welcomed so many new members to the club who are all passionate about making a change within Sponne School and the wider community. Below are some comments from some of our members.

"I like going to this club because I enjoy helping the environment and getting to be part of something that is so exciting." - Ella Smith, year 8

"I feel looking after the environment is the most significant and crucial challenge of our generation. I hope that by joining a club I can learn how we can look after our environment better and maybe help the situation." - Claire Sopko, year 8

Thank you for reading our little section of the newsletter.
Jude Wildsmith-Lister and Amelia Thomas

COMPUTING

PART OF THE BUSINESS & INNOVATION FACULTY

TOUCH TYPING



Reasons to Touch Type

- Increases productivity
- Reduces fatigue (time spent typing)
- Learning how to type, means you can focus on the content, you are typing
- Reduces the risk of developing RSI (repetitive strain injury)
- And, it engages most parts of your brain, helping to activate new memory muscles and build more active and strong cognitive connections that in turn will enhance your overall brain capacity and function.

LEADERBOARDS
AS OF 20.10.24

EXERCISES COMPLETED

Form	Completed
10SC	8445
9KAS	7928
10RHB	7312
10KP	7176
10SJG	6936
9OW	6863
10SLB	6454
10MG	6170
9PG	6138
10RB	6134
10JAS	5736
9AMT	5265
9JDG	5215
9CJW	5196
9BM	5081
9NC	5037
8CML	4674
8CCM	4467
8KAM	4415
8CRS	4331
8AMG	4029
8PL	4015
8STW	3986
8EH	3602
7RMS	1361
7LHM	1353
7EL	1321
7JLW	1076
7SJA	1001
7ERL	902
7TN	842
7KJ	642

SPEED WPM

Form	Speed (WPM)
10SC	39.2
10RHB	37.34
9OW	37.25
9PG	35.39
10JAS	34.72
10KP	33.4
9CJW	32.88
10SLB	32.41
10SJG	32.38
8KAM	31.48
9NC	31.37
9AMT	31.33
10MG	30.65
9JDG	30.61
10RB	30.1
8CCM	29.91
9KAS	29.22
9BM	28
8CRS	27.62
8EH	26.76
8PL	26.34
8CML	25.79
8AMG	25.73
8STW	25.13
7RMS	19.73
7EL	19.53
7TN	19.39
7JLW	18.83
7LHM	18.37
7SJA	16.76
7ERL	16.11
7KJ	15.8

ACCURACY %

Form	Accuracy (%)
7JLW	94.76%
8EH	94.44%
7ERL	94.36%
8CML	94.16%
7KJ	94.14%
7EL	94.11%
8CRS	93.88%
10SC	93.75%
8PL	93.69%
10RHB	93.45%
9BM	93.20%
7RMS	93.05%
9JDG	92.80%
10JAS	92.72%
8AMG	92.70%
10KP	92.61%
9NC	92.53%
7TN	92.48%
9CJW	92.46%
10RB	92.31%
7SJA	92.27%
8STW	92.27%
10MG	92.25%
8CCM	92.20%
9PG	92.17%
7LHM	92.15%
10SJG	92.02%
9OW	91.81%
8KAM	91.67%
9KAS	91.20%
9AMT	90.71%
10SLB	89.71%



Sponne PE want to hear from You

pestudentachievements@sponne.org.uk



Let's Celebrate

Sponne PE know many of our students compete in a variety of sports outside of the school environment, whether that's Martial Arts, Gymnastics, Dance or Horse Riding we want to hear from our proud parents.

Please scan the below QR code to provide us with the information of your child's success, so we can share and celebrate with you.



Sports News

U18s Netball County Cup

Congratulations to the first team on finishing runner up at the U18 Netball County Cup which means they have once again qualified for the Regional Finals in February. In addition, a massive well done to the second team who had a tough but enjoyable day and finished in 8th position. Well done everyone for your hard work and commitment.



Girls Football Day at Sponne

On Tuesday 15th October we had a Girls Football Day at Sponne. A huge thank you to Joe Gaskell from Northampton Town FC for coming and taking coaching sessions with over 150 girls throughout the day, across Years 7 - 11. Well done to all the girls that took part - it all looked (and sounded) like great fun.



Year 7 District Cup Football

The Year 7 girls had another home game this time in the District Cup Football competition against Guilsborough with a 8-1 win!

For some of the girls it was their first ever game, what a fantastic way to start! Well done to our coach Miss Tulloch & thank you to Seb, Sammy & Ollie our officials for the match.



U13s Girls National Cup

U13s Girls National Cup - Round 2 v Rugby Free School
9 - 0 Win!

The girls had yet another fantastic game on a quagmire of a pitch! They showed talent, skill and fantastic teamwork. We are so very proud of their achievements! They also had loads of fun doing celebratory mudslides after the game...even Miss Tulloch joined in!

Captain: Zara
Players Player: Tilly
Coaches Player: Naiara



KS2 SEND Boccia Competition

Its been a busy week for our Sports Leaders. Students from Y8-11 went to Daventry Leisure Centre to help run the District KS2 SEND Boccia competition.

We are very proud of them all especially as for some it was their first time being a sports leader!



Year 7 & 8 Dodgeball

Our Year 7 and 8 students competed in the School games tournament against a number of other schools in the county. There was some strong opposition in both competitions, but also the mantra of not forgetting to "dodge, duck, dip, dive and..... dodge!"

Well done to all 4 teams and in particular the Girls A-team who came 2nd and have qualified for the final next year!



Year 11 County Cup

Year 11 Girls - County Cup Football v Campion
1-0 Win!

A very competitive game with end to end shots and some fantastic saves by Chloe. In the end Sponne came out on top with a great goal by Lily - well done girls!

Captain - Lily
Players player - Ava & Leah
Coaches player - Chloe



Fishing Personal Best



Well done to Leo in 8 AMG who managed to land a whopping 32lb Carp after a busy day fishing at Dog Lane.

Leo can be seen here with this magnificent fish, the biggest he has managed to hook by some considerable distance.

When asked, Leo said that hauling in this giant, 'was not too tricky'.

The location has been the site of some magnificent captures, but there are not many competitors at his age that have enjoyed this level of success.

Sponne Sports Leaders

On Thursday 3rd October we had a brilliant morning with Sponne Sports leaders at Blakesley. We actually had blue sky and sunshine!

Year 9 leaders ran multi-skills activities for years 1 & 2 and years 3 & 4. Lots of fun was had by all!



Girls Hockey

A great win for our girls in a District league match against a strong Moulton side. Our team was made up of mixed year groups and despite a slow start, the girls soon found their rhythm and had a number of shots on goal. After an end to end game, we came away with a 3-1 win!

Players player went to Imogen M and Coaches player to Vicky G.



Year 10 boys County cup rugby

Our Year 10 boys took to the pitch in October, for their first round match of the U15 County cup tournament. They were switched on from the first whistle and made every tackle count throughout the whole game. There were some stand out performances in the forwards from Brandon B and Dillon W, who were straight up at the opposition every time. There was also a phenomenal kick and chase from Rylan K, to score an exceptional try in the second half! Sponne dominated from start to finish in their opening match and this was reflected in their well deserved 40-0 win!

Roll on round 2 in December!



National Schools Equestrian Association Championships

From Friday 18th - Monday 21st October eight Sponne students took part in the National Schools Equestrian Association Championships. Qualifying for Nationals to compete against hundreds of other schools at Addington Manor, the squad excelled themselves in achieving both team and individual national reserve champion titles.

Seven of the students qualified in the show jumping regional points league and came 2nd in the national finals at the first time of qualifying, jumping 7 rounds of show jumps over 4 different heights. The show jumping teams also came 5th in the Novice show jumping championship and 11th in the Intermediate championships. Congratulations to Ava P, Annabelle R, Alice A, Olivia W, Tilly W, Grace W, Evie M & Indie L who survived some dreadful weather and each jumped their very best rounds, some personal highest ever courses ridden. Congratulations to year 7 Tilly in her first competition for Sponne.

Additionally, the Individual National Reserve champion went to Annabelle R in the combined training championship, successfully competing in dressage and show jumping.

These results are incredible and an amazing achievement at such a high standard of competition. Well done to everyone for all the hard work and team spirit to secure these results for Sponne.





Sponne Sports Leaders - Football

On Thursday 17th October our Sponne Sports Leaders hosted a football festival for our cluster. A superb day, filled with great skills, sportsmanship, new friendships, smiles and laughter!

We are so proud of our students, they are simply brilliant.



U14s Girls County Football

Another superb performance from our Year 8s & Year 9s on Wednesday 16th October.

Sponne 9 - 0 Weavers

Captain - Holly

Players Player - Naiara

Coaches player - Annabelle & Naiara

Goals from: Neve 2, Hannah 2, Holly 2, Maisie 1, Alyssa 1, Isla 1

Thank you to Seb our referee, Sammy & Ollie our linesmen, Miss Tulloch coach, Mr Cornelius for the amazing photos and all our supporters.



Year 7 Boys Rugby

Our Year 7 boys took to the pitch on Tuesday 22nd October, to play in their first ever District match against Campion. It was a great performance from both sides, with some excellent ball carrying, tackling and rucking. Having gone behind in the opening minutes by a fast break and a try from Campion, the boys had to quickly settle into their roles on the pitch. It was a very evenly matched game between the 2 schools and Sponne came away victorious, with a try in the closing minutes of the game, to win 3 tries to 2.

Coaches players were Charlie M and Louie D.

(If you would like to be involved and join the rugby squad, then please come to training on a Thursday from 3:15-4:15pm.)



Year 10 Girls Netball



A great win for our girls in a District match against EWS. This was our first (long awaited) match of the season in the league and the girls were glad to get back out on court. Sponne set the tone from the first whistle, and movement in the centre third and up the court to our circle was excellent. Our shooters were on form from the very start and made it hard for the EWS defence to gain any rebounds. Defensively the girls marked tightly and kept opportunities for the opposition to score to an absolute minimum.

Final score: 20 - 10.

Coaches player: Olivia B.

Well done girls, a great start back!

School Staff County Championships

On Friday 18th October, 11 members of staff represented Sponne School at the School Staff County Championships football tournament. It was hosted by Abbeyfield School and Sponne fielded two teams - The Dragons and The Eagles. Both put in excellent effort and performances with the Dragons coming away with the overall win in a hard fought final against Wootton Park - a 1-1 draw that went to penalties. Sponne put away all 5 of their penalties with goalkeeping heroics from Jamie Hollamby ultimately securing the prize.

A great event, looking forward to going and defending the title in a year's time!



Extra Curricular Clubs

Monday

Staff Meetings

Trampolining (RB) Hollick Hall, Hockey (ANS/BMM) PE Dept

Tuesday

Wednesday

Football (JMH/STT/BMM/SC) Field, Girls Football (RB/AMT) Field, Running Club (JDG) Field, Fitness Club (SJA) Fitness Room

Netball (FW/ANS/HJM) Courts, Girls Rugby (SJA/AMT) Field, Boys Rugby (STT/JDG/CCM/JSP) Field

Thursday

Friday

Badminton – Sports Hall

Multi Sports Club (FW), Year 7 & 8 Monday & Wednesday
Year 9, 10 & 11 Tuesday & Thursday, Friday – Inclusive Games Club (RB)

Lunchtimes in the Sports Hall

Don't forget
your
trainers

All Clubs are open to all students from all years unless otherwise stated. Just turn up!





SPONNE FOOTBALL

24/25

WEDNESDAYS

3.05 – 4.25PM



Reasons to get involved

- Have fun
- Release stress
- Make friends
- Get exercise
- Improve skills
- Play in a team
- Challenge yourself
- Represent the school

Extra Curricular Football

Football clubs run on Wednesdays after school, and have been extremely well attended, particularly by Year 7 Boys, and Girls across various years! These sessions are for ALL students, whether to have fun, get extra exercise, develop their skills, and also for those wanting to represent the school in fixtures, be it Friendlies, District Cup, County Cup or even National Cup.

Courtesy of Northampton Town Football Club, we had a pair of tickets to give away for their fixture against Leyton Orient. A total of 79 students were placed into a prize draw, for being most committed attendees at football club, and the winner was **Iker E in 7KJ**, who got to see a hugely important 1-0 win for the Cobblers, in some glorious sunshine!

To keep up to date, week-to-week, with all things Sponne School football, we recommend you visit (and bookmark) the following;

- Notices bit.ly/SponneFootballWeek
- Instagram [SponneFootball](https://www.instagram.com/SponneFootball)
- Twitter (X) [@SponneFootball](https://twitter.com/SponneFootball)

Futsal

Futsal is the FIFA-recognised form of small-sided indoor football - typically faster and more intense than football, played with a heavier and smaller ball. We have been delighted with the response from Year 7 Boys, to get involved with two taster sessions offered during October, 50 students have attended and engaged really well with the sessions. More sessions will follow in term 2.

Shin Pads

Shin pads play an important role in injury prevention as they are intended to protect the shin from injury. “Micro” or “Mini” shin pads may therefore increase the risk of injury due to the smaller amount of shin covered compared to larger sized shin pads. We advise that when considering the protection offered by shin pads, **safety is prioritised by ensuring a good proportion of the shin area is covered** and therefore protected.

Football Officiating & Coaching

We are keen to support any student who is interested in refereeing. Students who are in Year 9, or above, can find some information here; bit.ly/Referee2324. Similarly, we are also keen to support students who want to develop their knowledge of football coaching. Also for those in Year 9, or above, information can be found here; bit.ly/Playmaker2324

Grassroots Football

We are always keen to recognise and share stories about students and their Grassroots football. If you have anything for inclusion in a future football newsletter, please visit <https://forms.gle/8PErnaCncRyWKK9N8>. Alternatively, you can email football@sponne.org.uk.

School Results

Our teams have had a busy term 1, results from our fixtures, can be found in the table below;

Date	Team	Event	Oppositon	Result	PoTM	Goals
Wed 25 Sep	U12 Boys	County Cup	Manor (h)	5-0 Win	(Player Vote Coaches Vote) Albie T Theo R & Charlie S	Wynne B x2, Kyle R, Theo R & Albie T
Thu 26 Sep	U13 Girls	National Cup	Abbeyfield (h)	17-0 Win	Ella H Anya K	Hannah x4, Zara x3, Ella x3, Hollie x2, Alyssa, Neve, Naiara, Millie, Annabelle, Anya & Tilly
Thu 26 Sep	U16 Boys	County Cup	MAA (h)	4-2 Loss	Marco M-M	Josh M, Josiah C
Tue 1 Oct	U16 Girls	National Cup	Sharnbrook (h)	Opponent Conceded	N/A	N/A
Wed 2 Oct	U14 Boys	National Cup	Warriner (h)	3-0 Loss	Arainn S Alex B	-
Thu 3 Oct	U13 Boys	County Cup	Kingsthorpe (a)	7-0 Loss	Harry B & Albie T Finley S	-
Mon 7 Oct	U13 Girls	National Cup	Rugby Free School (a)	9-0 Win	Tilly Naiara	?
Tue 8 Oct	U15 Boys	County Cup	MAA (a)	5-0 Loss	Ben M	-
Wed 9 Oct	U12 Girls	District Cup	Guilsborough (h)	8-1 Win	?	?
Wed 9 Oct	U16 Girls	County Cup	Campion (a)	1-0 Win	Ava & Leah Chloe	Lily
Thu 10 Oct	U14 Boys	County Cup	NIA (h)	4-1 Win	Alex B Logan D	Leo B x2, Arainn S, Jake S-F
Wed 16 Oct	U14 Girls	County Cup	Weavers (h)	9-0 Win	Naiara Annabelle	Neve x2, Hannah x2, Holly x2, Maisie, Alyssa, Isla
Wed 16 Oct	U14 Boys	District Cup	DSL V (h)	Opponent Conceded	N/A	N/A
Tue 22 Oct	U13/14 Boys	Commitment Cup	/	Fixtures yet to be played, at the time of publication		
Wed 23 Oct	U15 Girls	District Cup	Parker (h)			
Thu 24 Oct	U13 Girls	District Cup	MAA (h)			



Iker E, from 7 Kur prize draw winner, received two tickets to watch Northampton Town vs Leyton Orient for high commitment to our Football Club sessions!



Darts Club

Term 1: 24/25



Hand-eye Coordination
Mental Arithmetic
Stress Relief
Social Skills
Concentration
Teamwork
Strategic Thinking

- Darts Club has been incredibly well attended this term, and is currently OVERSUBSCRIBED.
- Taster sessions have been offered for all Year Groups, and the Club now meets every Thursday
- Students who are interested or would like more info, should speak to Mr. Cornelius in D16.



sponnedarts.weebly.com

Darts Club attendees are welcome to bring their own darts into school. BUT... They **must be** in a named case. And handed into D16 BEFORE the school day starts.

Thursday
3.05 - 4.15pm
in W9
darts@sponne.org.uk

Autumn Term Update

What have we learnt about?



PSHE Lessons

Year 7 Relationships Sex Education - Building healthy relationships, including anti-bullying

Year 8 Drugs Education - SVSA, Laughing Gas & Edibles

Year 9 Relationships Sex Education/Citizenship Education - Gang Life and Internet Safety & Harms - Cyber Security

Year 10 Either Relationships Sex Education - Healthy Sexual life or Careers Education - Personal Career Development

Year 11 Careers Education - Next Steps

Year 12 Citizenship Education - Being a Safe Driver

Year 13 Financial Education - Finance for Life



Tutorial Sessions

Year 7 Relationships Sex Education - How to be successful and Health Education - Basic First Aid & Prevention of Infection

Year 8 Health Education - Responsible Health and Relationships Sex Education/Citizenship Education - Belonging and Community

Year 9 Study Skills

Year 10 Internet Safety & Harms - Keeping data safe

Year 11 Careers Education - Preparing for Change

Year 12 Study Skills

Year 13 Careers Education - Planning for UCAS

Extra Curricular

Year 11 Trip University & Apprenticeships Fair in Leicester

Year 10 Careers assembly - Introduction to work experience

Year 11 Careers assembly - Northampton College talk and lunchtime drop in

Year 12 My Pink Trainers - Road Safety presentation

Year 11-13 - Professor Winston Talk

Coming Up

Year 8 'Wasted' tour production

Year 11 MK and Moulton College assemblies/drop ins

Year 12 Work Shadowing Launch

Year 13 First Gear - Drink/Drug Driving presentation

Year 11-13 Creative Careers Fair



Change of Details - Go4Schools

If you need to update any of the contact/address/email/telephone information we have on record for your child, yourself or any of the other contacts we have, you can do this directly via Go4Schools.

If you log in and click the drop down arrow next to your name in the top right hand corner and select 'settings' you will be taken to the screen below.



Complete the details in the box and press send.

My settings

Manage your account and settings to make GO 4 Schools work better for you.

Your login email address is:

[Update contact details](#)
[Manage your communication settings](#)
[Change your GO 4 Schools password](#)

Update contact details

Use the form below to notify the school about changes to your telephone number, email address, etc.

Send

Manage your communication settings

- Automatic daily summaries of homework are sent after 16.00.
- Automatic daily/weekly summaries for behaviour are sent after 18.00, as configured.
- Detention updates are sent by the school as required.
- Attendance updates are sent by the school as required.
- School messages are sent as required.
- Consent messages are sent by the school as required.
- All messages will also appear in your Online Inbox.



TRAIN TO TEACH
**OPEN
EVENT**

Thursday 7th November 2024

Open evening 5pm - 7pm

GUTP House, Sponne School, Towcester, NN12 6DJ

Please email gutprecruitment@sponne.org.uk with your name and subject of interest to register your attendance

WE OFFER PGCE COURSES WITH QTS IN:

- Business Studies
- Computing
- Design-Technology (including Food)
- English
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- MFL (French, German, Spanish)
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- PE

*Bursaries likely available for some subjects. Awaiting DfE announcement , eligibility criteria applies

www.gutp.co.uk

Essential School Equipment



All students should have the following equipment...

- A Pencil Case (this must be transparent for students taking exams)
- Black Pens (at least 3, not gel)
- Blue Pens (at least 3, not gel)
- Purple Pens (at least 2, not gel)
- Pencils (at least 2)
- Pencil Colours
- Pencil Sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Maths Set (Compass, Protractor)
- Scientific Calculator
 - Recommended Casio fx-83GT PLUS or fx-85GT PLUS
- 3.5mm Wired Earphones

If you have any issues with this please speak to your form tutor!



Please remember to bring a reusable water bottle to school with you



Drinking water :

- 💧 Improves energy levels and brain function
- 💧 Improves concentration and focus
- 💧 Prevents headaches
- 💧 Is healthy for joints and teeth and helps circulate blood!

Stay Hydrated!



Dates For Your Diary

School Closed

Friday 25th October 2024

Half Term

28th October - 3rd November 2024

TERM 2

School opens Monday 4th November 2024

Blencathra Trip

Tuesday 5th November 2024 to Friday 8th November 2024

SSCO KS2 Cross Country

Thursday 7th November 2024

Y7 Tutor Group Photos

Friday 8th November 2024

Y13 Progress Evening

Thursday 14th November 2024

Year 11 Mock Exams

Monday 18th November 2024 to Friday 22nd November 2024

Christmas Concert

Monday 16th December 2024

Berlin Trip (Y10 & Y12)

Tuesday 17th December 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024

Christmas 2024

School closes Friday 20th December 2024

Christmas Break

Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025

TERM 3

School opens Monday 6th January 2025

Spring Half Term

School closes Friday 14th February 2025

Half Term Break

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2025

Please see our website for a full list of events and term dates.

<https://www.sponne.org.uk>