

TERM 2 NEWSLETTER - 2024

SPONNE NEWS

The official newsletter of Sponne School

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Trinity College London Music and Drama's hall of fame



James from Y12 has been recognised in the Trinity College London Music and Drama's hall of fame.

The following has been taken from their social media post recognising James' achievement:

"My advice to anyone learning to play any instrument is to practice and if possible join bands or music groups. Joining the school bands really helped to push me in the music I was playing and also improve my musicianship.

Some great advice from James, a brilliant young musician recognised in our Class of 2024 Hall of Fame.

James began learning the saxophone in Year 7, during Covid, which meant learning an instrument via virtual lessons! Despite this being a difficult time, James achieved distinction in Grades 1, 2 and 3 in Saxophone, with hopes to continue this for Grade 4.

In This Issue:

Sports News

- Sports leaders
- Girls Football
- Boys Rugby
- Equine eventing challenge

Music News

- Music
- Trinity College London Music and Drama's hall of fame.

Other News

- Accelerated Reader
- Tate Gallery Visit
- Year 12 Road Safety Event

... And more!

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with latest news



[SponneSchool](#)



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Dear Parents and Carers

As we arrive at the end of the Autumn term, there is much to celebrate. Our students have demonstrated remarkable focus and determination in their studies, which has been wonderful to witness. Alongside academic success, we have seen many make the most of a vast array of enrichment experiences including residential trips, educational visits, and inspiring talks from guest speakers. Their enthusiastic participation in these activities reflects an eagerness to extend learning beyond the classroom.

On Monday, December 16th, our school came together to celebrate the season with a breath-taking Christmas Concert. The evening showcased the incredible talent, creativity, and teamwork of our students across all year groups. It was a heart-warming performance and a night to remember. Congratulations to all those involved; it was a wonderful evening.

A huge thank you goes to our dedicated staff who invested countless hours rehearsing with the students to help them shine on stage.

Special thanks must go to Ms. Turton for her work with junior choir and Mr John for accompanying the senior choir, Mrs. Moseley for technical support and Miss Noble and Mrs. Lecoche for their front-of-house support and during rehearsals. Special thanks also to Miss Bickerdike and Mr Flemming from the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Service for their support with the String Orchestra and Brass Band. To our Musical Directors, Mrs. Underwood and Mr. Bugby, your commitment and attention to detail made this event a resounding success, thank you. Evenings like this epitomises everything that we are trying to achieve here at Sponne and it was fantastic to see so many of our students involved.

Earlier this week, I was also very privileged to receive a cheque from the School's PFA for £13,000. This exceptionally generous donation will contribute to the purchase of a much-needed new school minibus. The PFA have worked tirelessly, raising an incredible total of £35,000 to make this possible and we are truly grateful for their hard work, dedication, and unwavering support.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all our families for your continued support. Your partnership is vital to our success as a school community, and we truly value the relationship we share with you. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Danielle Gautrey as our new parent governor to our local governing body, congratulations.

I wish you all a restful and joyful festive break. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday, January 6th, to start the New Year together.

Mr Graham 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.

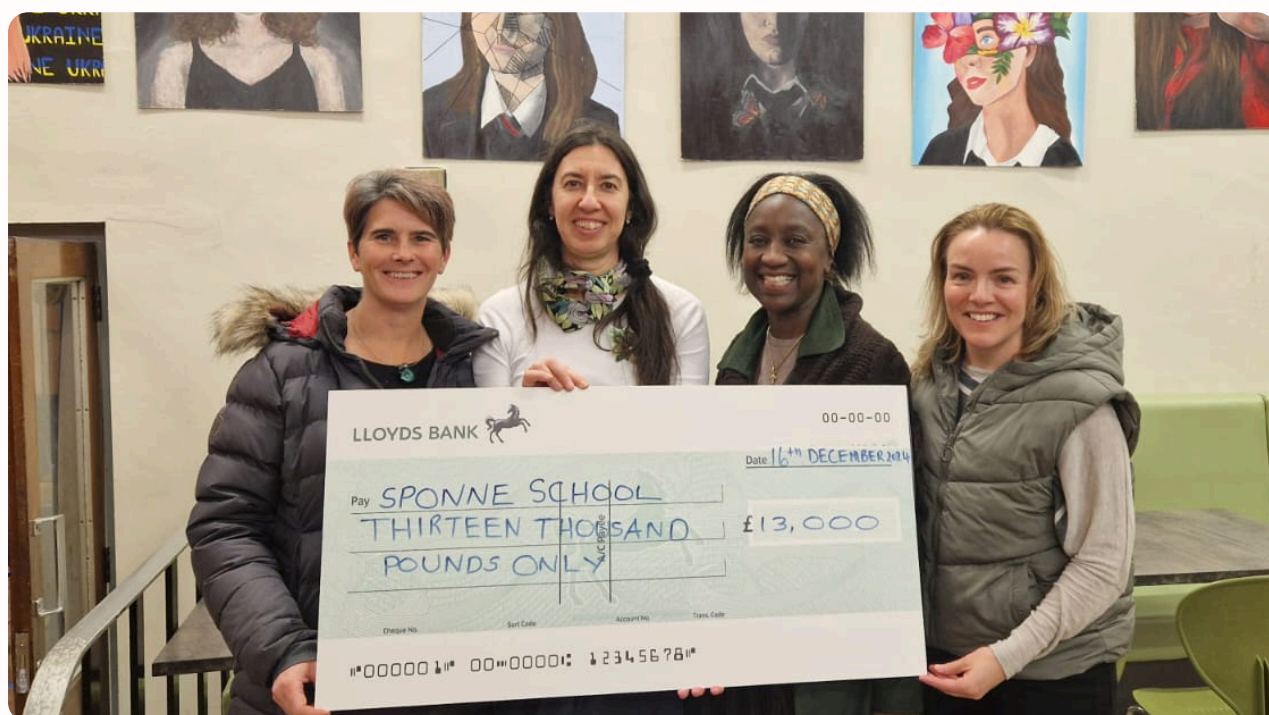
Thank you for your co-operation.

Music News

Sponne Christmas Concert

Congratulations to all Sponne musicians who performed in the Christmas concert to a packed hall on Monday evening. The event showcased all the enhancement groups at Sponne and really demonstrated the amazing musical talent of the students. At the end of the concert the PFA were able to present a cheque to Mr Forbes for an additional £13,000 of fundraising towards a new school minibus. This brings the total amount raised to an incredible £35,000.

Thanks to all who have supported the fundraising in whatever capacity and especially to the PFA committee.



Festive Music

It has been an exceptionally busy time for all the Sponne Musicians, being involved in multiple events in the community in the last couple of weeks. These have included providing festive music at Towcester Farmers' Market and for the residents of Brook House Care Home, Leeson Court Care home and Malthouse Court. Other Christmas engagements have included the Carol Service for Year 7 and Celebration assemblies.



Other News

Y10 Art trip to Tate Britain Gallery, London.

Despite the snow in the morning we made it to the gallery in good time and our Artists had a good day looking around the extensive and eclectic Tate art collection. The artwork spans many decades and the work ranges in styles and media making students have to think hard about what they were viewing. Looking at the art in the flesh is a valuable experience and will go on to inspire their current and future work.

Well done Year 10 Artists

- Art Department



Year 9 Classical Civilisation

Year 9 Classical Civilisation students at Sponne visited the University of Leicester on 6th November for the inaugural Ancient World Student Annual Meeting (AWSAM@Leicester). They attended a series of seminars on topics linked to their course, including the depiction of foreigners on Greek pottery and how Herodotus (known as the 'first historian') presents the Athenians during the Persian Wars. This was followed by a hands-on 'Careers in Archaeology' workshop. The afternoon finished with a lecture given by Professor Tom Harrison, Keeper of Greece and Rome at the British Museum, entitled, 'What more can you say about the Parthenon Sculptures?' This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience a university environment and the different styles of teaching there.

We are grateful to the Classical Association for a generous grant that covered the travel costs of this trip and to Classics for All for their support in setting up the GCSE Classical Civilisation course, which is available to Sponne students for the first time this year.



Winter Term Update

What are we learning about?

PSHE Lessons

- Year 7 Relationships Sex Education - Puberty & Growing Up
Year 8 Careers Education - Pathways and Choices
Year 9 Careers Education - Finding my Path and Relationships Sex Education - Real Love Rocks
Year 10 Either Relationships Sex Education - Healthy Sexual life or Careers Education - Personal Career Development
Year 11 Relationships Sex Education - Reproductive Health
Year 12 Careers Education - Exploring Possibilities
Year 13 Citizenship Education - Extremism and Radicalisation



Tutorial Sessions

- Year 7 Careers Education - Introduction to Unifrog
Year 8 Health Education - Body Image
Year 9 Citizenship Education - British Politics
Year 10 Careers Education - Preparing for Work Experience
Year 11 Study Skills/Revision techniques
Year 12 Health Education - Life Skills
Year 13 Health Education - Wellbeing

Careers

- Year 10 Work Experience Launch
Year 11 Careers assemblies - Milton Keynes College, Moulton College and Northampton College
Year 12 Work Shadowing Launch
Year 11-13 Creative Careers Fair

👁️ Coming Up 👁️

- Year 11 - Into the 6th Form Evening - also attending, colleges and apprenticeship providers
Year 12 - CV writing workshop
Year 8 - Industry Day in conjunction with Silverstone Technology Park



Year 12 Road Safety Event 12th December



As part of our commitment to helping our students become responsible citizens we held a road safety event in conjunction with Northamptonshire Police. Students learnt about the correct procedures when encountering emergency vehicles on the road, the checks needed on cars before driving, what OP Snap is and how reporting driving concerns can lead to fines, education courses and even court for those found to be breaking driving laws.

Students also got to see how alcohol can affect our reaction times by using 'beer' goggles and were able to ask questions about careers within the police force.





Thank You



A huge thank you to all who donated books to pass on to The Towcester Toy Bank this term.

We were able to pass on just over 50 books which were gratefully received.

Please look out for details of our continued efforts to support our local community in experiencing the joy of a good book this time next year.



COMPUTING

PART OF THE BUSINESS & INNOVATION FACULTY



LEADERBOARDS
AS OF 15.12.24

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.

EXERCISES COMPLETED

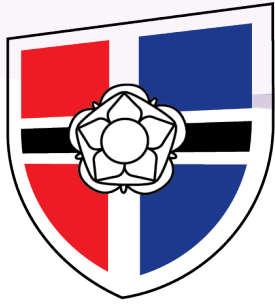
Form	20.10.24 Completed	15.12.24 Completed	Change
9KAS	7928	8489	561
10SC	8445	8451	6
9OW	6863	7585	722
10RHB	7312	7312	0
10KP	7176	7178	2
10SJG	6936	6941	5
9PG	6138	6830	692
10SLB	6454	6463	9
10MG	6170	6170	0
10RB	6134	6139	5
10JAS	5736	5828	92
9AMT	5265	5739	474
9JDG	5215	5737	522
9CJW	5196	5731	535
9NC	5037	5542	505
8CML	4674	5495	821
9BM	5081	5359	278
8KAM	4415	5234	819
8CRS	4331	5082	751
8CCM	4467	4996	529
8STW	3986	4638	652
8EH	3602	4568	966
8AMG	4029	4537	508
8PL	4015	4407	392
7EL	1321	2386	1065
7JLW	1076	2244	1168
7LHM	1353	2199	846
7RMS	1361	2198	837
7ERL	902	1775	873
7TN	842	1717	875
7SJA	1001	1711	710
7KJ	642	1437	795

SPEED WPM

Form	20.10.24 Speed	15.12.24 Speed	Change
10SC	39.2	39.85	0.65
10RHB	37.34	37.34	0.00
9OW	37.25	36.94	-0.31
9PG	35.39	35.82	0.43
10JAS	34.72	34.67	-0.05
10SLB	32.41	33.80	1.39
10KP	33.4	33.34	-0.06
9CJW	32.88	32.92	0.04
10SJG	32.38	32.72	0.34
8KAM	31.48	32.54	1.06
9NC	31.37	31.78	0.41
9AMT	31.33	31.12	-0.21
9JDG	30.61	30.77	0.16
10MG	30.65	30.65	0.00
10RB	30.1	30.29	0.19
9KAS	29.22	30.02	0.80
8EH	26.76	29.84	3.08
9BM	28	28.25	0.25
8CRS	27.62	28.24	0.62
8CCM	29.91	28.05	-1.86
8PL	26.34	27.51	1.17
8STW	25.13	27.34	2.21
8CML	25.79	26.73	0.94
8AMG	25.73	25.42	-0.31
7RMS	19.73	23.14	3.41
7JLW	18.83	23.09	4.26
7EL	19.53	23.02	3.49
7TN	19.39	22.51	3.12
7KJ	15.8	21.1	5.3
7SJA	16.76	20.44	3.68
7LHM	18.37	20.3	1.93
7ERL	16.11	19.54	3.43

ACCURACY %

Form	20.10.24 Accuracy	15.12.24 Accuracy	Change
8CML	94.16%	94.29%	0.13%
8EH	94.44%	94.08%	-0.36%
10SC	93.75%	93.85%	0.10%
7JLW	94.76%	93.85%	-0.91%
7ERL	94.36%	93.73%	-0.63%
9BM	93.20%	93.65%	0.45%
7SJA	92.27%	93.50%	1.23%
10RHB	93.45%	93.45%	0.00%
8CRS	93.88%	93.29%	-0.59%
8PL	93.69%	93.27%	-0.42%
7KJ	94.14%	93.26%	-0.88%
7LHM	92.15%	93.19%	1.04%
7EL	94.11%	93.18%	-0.93%
10JAS	92.72%	93.05%	0.33%
9CJW	92.46%	93.05%	0.59%
10SLB	89.71%	93.04%	3.33%
7RMS	93.05%	93.01%	-0.04%
8STW	92.27%	92.90%	0.63%
9KAS	91.20%	92.60%	1.40%
10KP	92.61%	92.60%	-0.01%
9NC	92.53%	92.44%	-0.09%
10RB	92.31%	92.34%	0.03%
10MG	92.25%	92.25%	0.00%
9PG	92.17%	92.23%	0.06%
10SJG	92.02%	92.01%	-0.01%
9JDG	92.80%	91.55%	-1.25%
8CCM	92.20%	91.48%	-0.72%
7TN	92.48%	91.33%	-1.15%
8AMG	92.70%	91.31%	-1.39%
9OW	91.81%	91.04%	-0.77%
8KAM	91.67%	90.87%	-0.80%
9AMT	90.71%	89.95%	-0.76%



Seneca's online platform can be thought of as **an effective & engaging interactive learning and revision guide that can be used for free forever!**

The platform is linked to a students timetable, therefore teachers may set specific Seneca assignments, to be completed.

Equally, students can explore courses and modules themselves, and revise anywhere, anytime!

Learn 2x Faster with Seneca

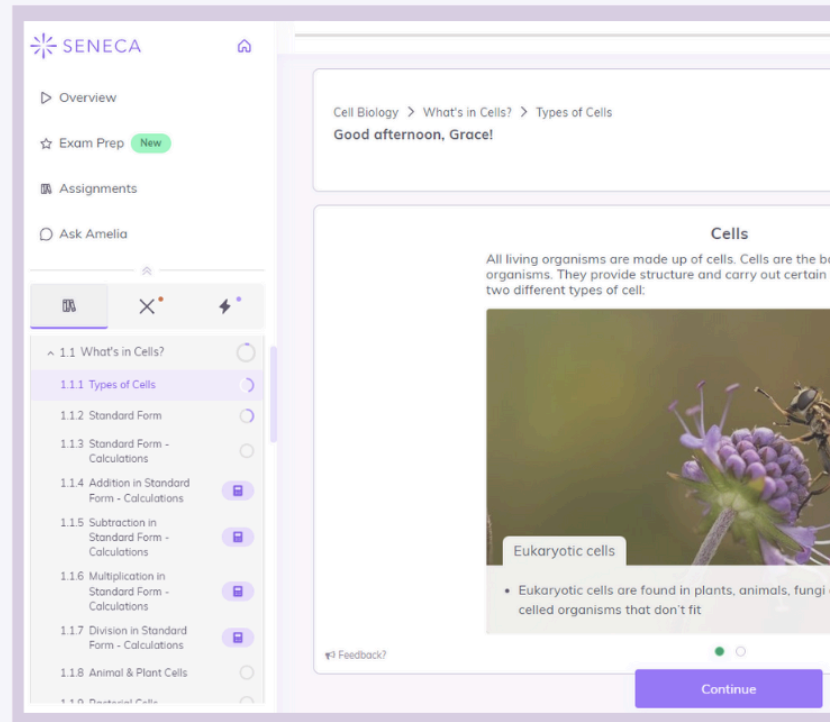
1st Sienna B, Y10

2nd Holly T, Y10

3rd Max R, Y11

4th Thomas Z, Y10

5th Georgia P, Y10



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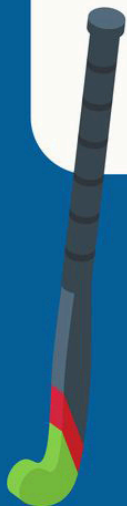
& KS2 Homework and

revision



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

Year 10 Sports Leaders

On Thursday 21st November, our Y10 Sports Leaders went to Greens Norton Primary School to run "Target Themed Activities" for Y3 & Y4.

They all had a great time trying out Boccia, Kurling, Archery and Space Invaders!



U13 Girls National Cup Football

On Tuesday 26th November our U13 Girls National Cup football campaign came to an end. They played a very strong and well practiced team from Northampton School and lost 2-0.

They worked so hard right to the final whistle, with an epic free kick from Paige... hitting the crossbar!

Well done girls

Captain:
Annabelle

Players player:
Zara

Coaches player:
Paige



Year 7 Boys Rugby

The Y7 boys rugby team played their District Cup semi-final match on Tuesday 26th November against Magdalen and came away with an outstanding victory of 9 tries to 2, in very muddy conditions!

Try scorers:

Charlie - 3
Josh - 2
Ellis - 1
Theo - 1
Shane - 1
Connell - 1



U12 District Cup Victory

A fantastic performance, from this squad to earn a 3-0 win. The first half we had plenty of the ball, but didn't attack quickly enough, whilst looking vulnerable on the counter. Second half, the players really stepped it up, used the width of the pitch & brought our forwards into the game. Onto the next round!

A massive thank you to the whole team, referee Daniel, coach Charlie, photos from Bobby plus all the parents/carers who came out to support!

Captain:

Charlie

Vice-Captain:

Jack

Players Player:

Connell

Coaches Player:

James

Goals

Connell - 1
Cyrus - 1
Jack - 1

Team

Jack, Wynne, Daniel, Josh, Matthew, James, Noah, Jack, Charlie, Arthur, Connell, Taylor & Cyrus.



U14 Netball County Cup

A tough but rewarding day at the office for the newly formed U14 Netball Squad. After some tough games against some of the best teams in the county, the girls finished a respectable 3rd place, just missing out on a spot at Regional Finals.

There is a lot more to come from this squad and believe Regionals is well within reach next time.

Congratulations to all.



KS4 School Games Badminton

Congratulations to both our girls and boys KS4 badminton teams. Both teams went undefeated in the recent KS4 tournament and are now crowned District Champions. Well done all.



Bloxham School eventer challenge

Two Sponne students braved the weather to compete at the November Bloxham School eventer challenge, held at Aston le Walls eventing centre. Congratulations to Tilly representing Sponne for the first time in an eventer challenge to place 8th, and well done to Olivia for a brilliant win which should secure them both a place at the championships in February.



U13 Girls Football Utility Cup Tournament

On Wednesday 27th November our U13 played in the Girls Football Utility cup tournament at Goals. Despite the weather the girls rose to the challenge against tough opposition. Our B team battled hard and played with great team spirit and our A team finished in first place which means they will compete in the regional finals.



A team captain:

Paige

B team captain:

Neve

Players players:

Naiara & Izzy

Coaches players:

Ella & Millie

Goal scorers:

Ella - 11

Alyssa - 3

Hannah - 3

Naiara - 2

Zara - 1

Paige - 1



U13 Girls District Cup Match

On Thursday 28th November our U13 girls played in a district cup match against Moulton - their 3rd match in 3 days. Unfortunately, it was not our night with a 0-4 loss.

They battled hard through the long grass and never gave up despite the cold (even too cold for a team photo).

Captain:

Hannah

Players player:

Maisie & Annabelle

Coaches player:

Zara



Year 7 Girls Football

On Tuesday 3rd December our Y7 girls football team played a great game against Campion but unfortunately it was not the result we were hoping for with a 1-2 loss.

Captain:

Hollie

Players player:

Freya

Coaches player:

Anya

Oppositions player:

Hollie & Ella

Goal scorer:

Anya



Silverstone Primary - Dance

On Thursday 19th December we went to Silverstone Primary to teach Y1 & Y2 dance..."Sparkle and Shine" from Nativity!

It was definitely an afternoon full of sparkle, fun, joy and shining stars

Well done to our leaders:

Megan, Georgie, Poppy, Betsy, Izzy, Rose, Chloe, Tatenda, Josie and Lily





Sponne Football

24/25

Wednesdays

3.05 - 4.15/25pm



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 & Futsal

Another busy term of football, despite the nights drawing in, and some extremely wet weather. We continue to be impressed at the numbers of students regularly attending the after school sessions offered. We've even had time to fit in some futsal, to expand our extra curricular offering. *(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.)*

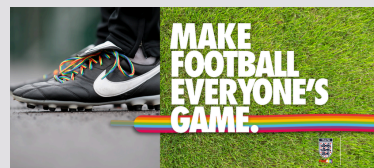
Reminders

- **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.
- **Refereeing & Coaching Courses** ⚽⚽⚽ 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.
- **News & Notices** ⚽⚽⚽ To keep up to date, with 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)

Thank You

Thank you to the following students, for all of their support with school football sessions this term;

- **Referees**..... Daniel, Seb & Owen
- **Assistant Referees**... Sam, Sammy
- **Assistant Coaches**.... Oliver, Will C, John D, Darwin H, Sammy & Sam



School Results

Plenty of matches and tournaments have been played during term 2, a summary can be found below;

Date	Team	Event	Opposition	Result	PoTM (Player Vote Coaches Vote)	Goals
Tue 5 Nov	U16 Girls	National Cup	Southam College (a)	We Conceded	N/A	N/A
Wed 6 Nov	U13 Girls	School Games	Futsal Tournament	3 wins, into playoffs	Hannah Hollie	Alyssa x5, Hannah x2, Anya x1, Millie x1, Zara x1, Naiara x1
Thu 7 Nov	U12 Boys	County Cup	Moulton (h)	5-0 Loss		N/A
Thu 7 Nov	U13 Girls	National Cup	Headington (h)	4-1 Win		
Fri 8 Nov	U12 Boys	Intersquad Friendly	/	7-1 Win for Purple	N/A	Not Recorded
Mon 11 Nov	U15 Girls	School Games	Futsal Tournament		Isla Chloe	Not Recorded
Mon 11 Nov	U14 Boys	County Cup	Bishop Stopford (a)	9-2 Loss	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Tue 12 Nov	U15/16 Boys	Friendly	Silverstone UTC	2-2 Draw	Josiah Josh	Josiah, Ellis
Thu 14 Nov	U13 Boys	District Cup	Parker Academy	2-0 Loss	Maxi Whole Team!	N/A
Fri 15 Nov	U12 Boys	Intersquad Friendly	/	Black 1 vs Blue Black 2 vs Red	Not Recorded	Not Recorded
Fri 22 Nov	U13/14 Boys	Intersquad Friendly	/	3-3 Draw	Jorge Rory Oscar Harry	Rory, Swaley, Jorge Ethan, SC, Stanley
Tue 26 Nov	U14 Girls	County Cup	Northampton School (h)	2-0 Loss	Zara Paige	N/A
Wed 27 Nov	U13 Girls	County Tournament	@ Goals, Abbeyfield	A = Winners B = Group Stage	Naiara Ella Izzy Millie	Ella x11, Alyssa x3, Hannah x3, Naiara x2, Zara x1, Paige x1
Thu 28 Nov	U13 Girls	District Cup	Moulton (a)	4-0 Loss	Maisie & Annabell Zara	N/A
Thu 28 Nov	U12 Boys	District Cup	Guildenbury (h)	3-0 Win	Connell James	Connell, Cyrus, Jack
Mon 2 Dec	U15 Boys	District Futsal	Futsal Tournament	3rd Place	Harry Max	Not Recorded
Tue 3 Dec	U12 Girls	District Cup	Campion (h)	2-1 Loss	Freya Anya	Anya
Tue 10 Dec	U13 Boys	District Futsal	Futsal Tournament	Purple = 3rd White = 4th	Rhys Jorge Taylor Charlie	Not Recorded
Tue 17 Dec	U14 Girls	County Cup	Northampton School (a)	Not played at the time of publication		
Tue 17 Dec	U14 Boys	Intersquad Futsal Friendly	/			
Wed 18 Dec	U12 Girls	County Cup	CCS (a)			

Making Football **EVERYONE'S** Game

Boys & Girls Groups Join Forces at the final football session of term 2



For even more Football News and Updates from Term 2 of 24/25, visit; bit.ly/SponneFootballT2425



Boys Football Highlights

Term 2: Nov/ Dec 2024



Result of the Term

U12 Boys | District Cup | 3-0 Win



Performance of the Term

U13 Boys | District Cup | 2-0 Loss



Teamwork of the Term

U15/16 Boys | Friendly | 2-2 Draw





Top Attendance at Boys Football Club Sessions

Term 2: Nov/ Dec 2024



Year 7 - 100%

- Lennox
- Jack
- Wynne
- Gabriel
- Daniel
- Elijah
- Logan
- Daniel
- Charlie
- Arthur
- Taylor
- Ewan
- Luie

Year 7- 80%

- Jack
- Alfie
- Josh
- Zakhar
- Matthew
- Edward
- James
- Finley
- Noah
- Alberto
- Jack
- Connell
- Ryan
- Iker
- Cyrus

Year 8 - 100%

- Jacob
- Tommy
- Reggie
- Joseph
- Marcus

Year 8- 80%

- Dexter
- Alex
- Swaley
- AJ
- Jorge
- Finley

Year 9 - 100%

- Oscar
- Harshan
- Jack

Year 9- 80%

- Rory
- Oliver
- Bobby
- Ted
- Tymon

How to keep up-to-date with Sponne Football

Notices 📄 bit.ly/SponneFootballWeek

Instagram 📷 [SponneFootball](https://www.instagram.com/SponneFootball)

Twitter (X) 🐦 [@SponneFootball](https://twitter.com/SponneFootball)

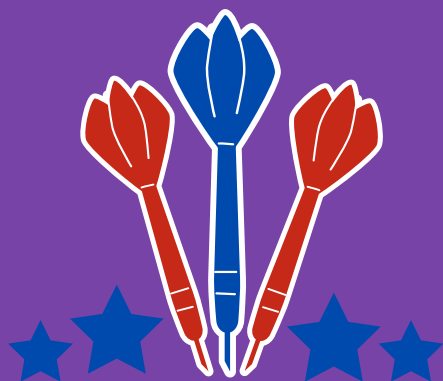
Darts Club

Term 2: 24/25



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

- Darts Club continues to be extremely busy, with sessions running regularly on Thursdays
- Students who are interested or would like more info, should speak to Mr. Cornelius in D16.



Term 2
Top Engagement

Albert
James
Anna
Landen
Jack
Ryan

Willow
Gabriel
Alex
Matthew
Jack
Amelia

Thank You Sixth Form
Darts Leaders

Henry
Max
Jake
Amelia

sponnedarts.weebly.com

- December/ January means only one thing; the World Darts Championships; from 15.12.24 to 3.1.25, there is darts on TV ALMOST everyday.
- Luke Humphries and Luke Littler are the big favourites.
- The TWENTY TWO students who have attended the most Darts Club sessions, have been entered into a draw, to win prizes, based on how the tournament progresses!



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.

THURSDAYS
3.05 - 4.15PM
IN W9

✉ darts@sponne.org.uk



BUGBROOKE GIRLS RUGBY

we currently run 2 girls teams at Bugbrooke
U12s & U14s, school years 6,7,8,9 & 10
New players are always welcome!
All our coaches are fully qualified and dbs checked.
Come along and give Rugby a try!
No previous experience required



Training every Thursday
6-7.30pm from Sept
2024



Regular fixtures on
Sunday afternoons

CONTACT US



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Accelerated Reader

After another productive term for our Y7 and Y8 students using Accelerated Reader, our celebration board is brimming with the names of those who have impressed us. Our Y7 students have read a further 13,669,775 words since returning from October half term and passed another 458 quizzes - a great achievement! Our top-quizzing Y7 students are **Téo, Miller, Dylan, Max, Raiden and Jake**, who have all passed more than 8 quizzes since half term. The student who has read the most words since half term is Raiden with an impressive count of 778,817.



Of our Y8 students, we have been immensely impressed with **Alexander**. He has passed an enormous 42 quizzes since half term and is only 241 words short of becoming our first Y8 word millionaire - a fantastic achievement! Other Y8 students who have made great progress include **Clayton, Xanthia, Liam and Bryony**.

Also, a special mention for **Gabriel**. Gabriel was the first student this school year to read over 1 million words - well done!

6th Form Reading Mentoring

Our reading mentoring programme in the LRC is now underway and we would like to say a huge 'thank you' to our Sixth Form students who are giving their time once a week to read with a designated Y7 or Y8 student. We have 46 pairs of readers and the students are making fantastic progress, passing 99 quizzes this term. Congratulations to Camden, Xanthia, Savannah, Hollie, Bryony, Chloe, Theo, Noah, Leah, Phoebe and Emma for their impressive start - keep up the great work!

All of our nominated students have been awarded extra sparks for their achievement and dedication this term.

Check Your Books

Don't forget, if you receive any books at Christmas, you can check if they have quizzes at www.arbookfind.co.uk.

Have a Merry Christmas and keep reading!

Environment Club

A GREENER AND SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS: REDUCING WASTE AND HAVING FUN!

Christmas is a magical, fun, exciting time of year filled with the joy of present giving and receiving, eating lots of delicious food, decorating, matching Christmas jumpers with the whole family and the annoyingly enjoyable bang of Christmas crackers. However, in the midst of all the fun, the environmental impacts are lost and often get overlooked. Every year a significant amount of waste is generated, numerous travels contribute to carbon emissions and disposing of food and packaging, especially wrapping paper. Let's drive into some of the issues associated with waste at Christmas and explore ways in which we can maintain a green, sustainable and enjoyable time for all!

The Problem with Christmas Waste

During the festive season, we see an enormous increase in waste. Here are some startling facts and figures:

Christmas Crackers: A staggering 39 million Christmas crackers are thrown away each year. These cracking creations often contain small plastic toys and paper hats that quickly end up in landfills, once the fun has passed.

Christmas Trees: Approximately 160,000 tonnes of Christmas trees are thrown away annually. Many trees are not recycled, contributing to unnecessary waste.

Increased Waste: Overall, there is a 30% increase in waste during the Christmas period. This includes packaging, food waste, and other disposable items.

The Impact on Carbon Emissions

All this waste doesn't just clutter landfills; it also leads to increased carbon emissions. Christmas eve, Christmas day, and Boxing day combined makeup just under 6% of the UK's total annual carbon emissions. By reducing waste, we can help lower our carbon footprint and protect the environment.

Tips for a Sustainable Christmas

You can still enjoy the holiday season while being mindful and considerate of the environment. Here are some tips on how YOU can reduce waste and carbon emissions:

Reuse and Repurpose

Presents: Consider giving experiences instead of physical gifts, such as cinema tickets or days out or subscriptions or perhaps things they will get good use out of for a long time. If you're exchanging gifts, opt for items that are durable or have a practical use. Cards: Save and reuse cards from previous years by cutting them into gift tags or creating new cards. Digital cards or gift cards are another eco-friendly option.

Wrapping Paper: Avoid glossy or metallic wrapping paper, as these are often non recyclable. Perhaps use gift bags as they can be reused for another celebration. Food leftovers: You could turn your leftover turkey and trimmings into delicious soup for all the family to enjoy!

Craft Ideas

Homemade Decorations: Create your own decorations using natural materials like pinecones, dried oranges, or cinnamon sticks. Not only are they biodegradable and reusable but they are unique too!

Upcycled Crafts: Use old magazines, newspapers, or leftover fabric to make unique ornaments or garlands. This is a fun way to get creative and personalize your décor.

Fun and Environmentally Friendly

Making these small adjustments doesn't mean sacrificing the joy and excitement of Christmas. In fact, it can add a new layer of fun and creativity to the celebration. By involving friends and family in these activities, you can create lasting memories and help protect the planet for future generations and we can create a greener community.

Remember, every little effort counts. Together, we can enjoy a festive season that's both magical and mindful of the environment. Remember: reuse wrapping paper, recycle Christmas characters and use up your meat!

Next term plans

To help you all reduce your waste we are going to do a Christmas card collection which we will repurpose into gift tags which we will go on to sell this time next year to help us raise money for our school's outdoor environment. So if you bring them in the new year there will be a collection box in student services and we will repurpose it for you.

Happy Green Christmas from the Environment Club!

Sponne PFA News



The Sponne Parents & Friends Association have had a very busy term raising funds for the new school minibus...



On 22nd November we held a Christmas Craft Evening at Sawpits centre in Towcester. We were joined by Barbara Gundle from The Spotted Chicken Ceramics Studio who ran a masterclass on painting ceramic baubles. Our new PFA Chair Laurika Moody also ran a Christmas Card making event at the same time. Everyone who came enjoyed the evening, raised a few ££ for the minibus appeal and went away with lovely crafts.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped out.

At the start of December we received £3108 from Silverstone Schools Parking for our support in this years Grand Prix parking. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to volunteer for this event, and I hope you agree with us that it was a good weekend and a great fundraiser for the minibus appeal.

Separate to organised events, we have been very lucky to receive £1000 from Drax Community Fund and an amazing donation from Greens Norton Village Hall Trust of £5000 which has allowed us to smash our current target of £30k for the Minibus Appeal!

We will continue fundraising for the minibus a bit longer to reduce the amount school have to spend, and you will see that we are one of the Co-Op Community Funds for this year and will be in the Tesco Blue Token scheme in January.

Please choose us as your chosen charity at both Co-Op and Tesco if you can.



Finally, a big THANK YOU to everyone who purchased tickets for the **Christmas Hamper Raffle** and to the year 7 & 8 forms who donated and made 16 wonderful hampers for our raffle.

The raffle draw has now been made and emails will be sent out to the winners to collect their hampers before school closes for Christmas. The raffle raised over £1800 for the minibus appeal.

Thank you to everyone who supports the PFA events, either through volunteering time, giving donations, buying tickets or attending events. If you want to get involved please email sponnepfa2@gmail.com.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to putting on more events in 2025!

Thank You


Sponne PFA Committee



We wanted to say a BIG thank you for all the support from the parents, carers, students and teaching staff of Sponne School in regards to our Foodbank fundraiser! We have managed to raise this year 62.2kg which is the same weight as a adult Cheetah!

Towcester Foodbank provided 2,500 people in crisis with essential food supply last year. During the festive period with financial pressure amounting for many families demand at the Foodbank increased substantially. They would love to ensure everyone has a festive Christmas without having to worry about food.





Emergency food available to people in crisis. All the food we provide is donated by members of the public and local businesses.


For more information contact us in one of the following ways....

Call: 07724 832043
Email: info@towcester.foodbank.org.uk
Facebook: [@towcesterfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/towcesterfoodbank)
Visit: www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk

We are open on:
Tuesdays 12:00pm-2:00pm
Fridays 10:30am-12:30pm

A Citizens Advice Advisor is available at both sessions to chat with anyone that may be worried about debt, benefits, housing, or anything else.

St John Ambulance Hall
Islington Road, Towcester
NN12 6AU




A membership programme that provides access to discounted food surplus, including store cupboard, chilled, and frozen items. Fruit and vegetables and bread are also available for free with your shop (subject to availability). We purchase our food from FareShare which is

Funding towards our store cupboard food has been provided through the Household Support Fund (funded by West Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire Community Foundation) and is to help people struggling with the rising cost of living.

Membership is £10 per year then a fee is payable when you shop. For all shopping options and details, please see our website www.towfood.org.uk/larder

Call: 01327 636982
Email: team@towfood.org.uk
Facebook: [@towcestercommunitylarder](https://www.facebook.com/towcestercommunitylarder)

Larder sessions:
Wednesday 4.15 - 7pm and Thursday 10 - 11.15am
'Larder Leftovers' session:
Friday 2.00 - 3.30pm
Follow us on Facebook for pop up sessions too!
The Riverside Centre, Islington Road, Towcester
NN12 6AU



FREE and open to everyone, with short-dated food surplus being rescued from local supermarkets and businesses and distributed during regular drop-in sessions.

The amount and type of food varies from day to day with each session operating until all the perishable food is distributed.

Facebook: [@towcestercommunityfridge](https://www.facebook.com/towcestercommunityfridge)

We are open: Mondays & Wednesdays 10am
Fridays 4pm

Towcester Methodist Church Hall
11 Brackley Road, Towcester NN12 6DH





OPENING HOURS

Tuesday
12:00 to 2:00pm

Friday
10.30am to 12:30pm





TOWCESTER & ROADE

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

ROADE: Monday 23rd Dec - 1.30-2.15pm
(Towcester members welcome)

TOWCESTER: Tuesday 24th Dec - POP UP - open to everyone
Time TBC depending on food collections

Wednesday 25th & Thursday 26th Dec - closed

TOWCESTER: Friday 27th Dec
Larder members session - 2-4pm

ROADE: Monday 30th Dec - 1.30-2.15pm

Wednesday 1st Jan - closed

TOWCESTER: Thursday 2nd Jan
Larder members session - 10-12pm

TOWCESTER: Friday 3rd Jan - 2.30-3.30pm
Larder leftovers - open to everyone



If you are in need of a Foodbank Voucher please contact – alopes@sponne.org.uk

Y12 CV Writing Workshop

23rd January 2025

1.45pm - 3pm

Are you an employer? Do you look at CV's on a regular basis?

Could you support our Y12 students with developing their CV's?

If you can answer 'yes' to these questions then we would love to hear from you!

Please email:
careers@sponne.org.uk
to find out more

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

**Thursday 16th
January 2025**

Current Sponne students:

- Surname starting **A - M** please attend a talk in the **school hall at 6pm.**
- Surname starting **N - Z** please attend a talk in the **school hall at 6.30pm.**

Following the talk, you are welcome to speak to subject teachers and have a look around the sixth form area.

External students with parents'/carers are invited to attend a **tour of the school at 6pm** followed by a **talk in the school hall at 7pm.**



External students only. Attendance to be confirmed by emailing sponnesixthform@sponne.org.uk

Sponne School community and teachers have really pushed me to reach my full potential academically and be the best version of myself
Sixth Form Student,
Sponne School



Challenge and Support:

Our sixth form provides a structured and supportive environment where students flourish and develop the skills needed to go on to be successful in their chosen careers, training and/or higher education.



Curriculum

We place great emphasis on academic achievement. We offer a full range of qualifications including A-levels and Level 3 vocational courses.



Community

We encourage students to broaden their experiences and to involve themselves in the school community including compulsory in-school mentoring and compulsory work-related learning.



Sponne School is part of the Tove Learning Trust – a highly successful and local multi academy trust

If you wish to speak to someone, please email sponnesixthform@sponne.org.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!



Sponne Uniform

Blazer

All students should wear a black blazer with the school logo sewn onto the left hand pocket. **No hoodies are allowed.**

Jumper

Students may wear a plain black, V-neck jumper under their blazers. The jumper should not be worn instead of the blazer.

Trousers

Black tailored trousers (e.g. not skin tight/skinny, jean or legging style, or showing the outline of the leg). Trousers must be worn around the waist (above hips - no underwear should be on show.) Buttons and zips should be functional. Belts - Optional but must be plain black.

Skirt

Black skirt length should be knee Length and pleated. Lycra, mini or tight skirts are not permitted. Skirts should be worn with black/flesh coloured tights or socks.

Shirt

Shirts should be plain white and tucked in. If you wish to wear a white T-shirt underneath you can, but this should not be visible.

School Tie

Top button to waist in length. Clip ties are compulsory for students in years 7 and 8 with standard ties for year 9, 10 and 11 and are available for purchase from the school shop.

Shoes

Shoes must be plain black and flat. No logos/branding, boots, trainers or canvas shoes/pumps (ie Converse, Vans or similar)

Jewellery and accessories

Two small stud earrings in each ear and a watch. No other jewellery is permitted. Body piercings, ear spacers, nose studs, lip or tongue piercings, 'Bling' or pearl, hooped or dangly earrings are not allowed. **The use of plasters to cover items of jewellery is not acceptable, nor is flesh/clear coloured jewellery.**



Student Gmail

Students are responsible for accessing and engaging with their school email mailbox at least twice per week.

Students must read notices, reply to any requests from staff plus answer any surveys they have been sent.

Email accounts are provided for school and educational purposes.

Students in Y7-9 are supported with this, in time allocated during Computing lessons.

Should students want more help and assistance with making use of their school email account (including settings, labels & filters) students should visit D16 during a lunchtime.



Suggestion - Get into the habit of reading and engaging with emails every Sunday afternoon, to prepare you for the week ahead.

Dates For Your Diary

Christmas 2024

School closes Friday 20th December 2024

Christmas break

Monday 23rd December 2024 - 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 - Friday 21st February 2025

Term 4

School opens Monday 24th February 2025

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

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