

NEWSLETTER



GCSE Drama Students Shine

A huge round of applause to our 18 GCSE Drama students, who performed in front of a visiting examiner today. Each pupil delivered two extracts from a play with great success. We would also like to congratulate our GCSE Dance pupils, who completed a two-minute solo to a chosen instrumental or lyrical piece. Performing under exam conditions, they showed exceptional focus and commitment throughout. The Performing Arts Department is incredibly proud of all students for their hard work and achievements.

Key Dates for WC 27th April

- House Assembly
- Year 10 Dance NEA
- Junior Maths Challenge
- Whole school non School Uniform day (Friday 1st)
- Year 11 Colour fun run (Friday 1st)



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Working Together for Our Planet: Earth Day 2026

This week, Mrs Hopkins delivered an inspiring assembly to mark World Earth Day (22 April 2026), highlighting the simple yet meaningful steps we can all take to care for our environment.

Living on the south coast, we are closely connected to the natural world around us from our beaches to our local wildlife and we each share a responsibility to protect it.

As part of this message, pupils are being encouraged to adopt a few everyday habits:

- Switch off lights and devices when they are not in use
- Bring a reusable water bottle to school
- Choose reusable bags instead of single-use plastics
- Minimise waste and recycle wherever possible
- Walk or cycle to school when you can

Take care of our coastline and local green spaces

Earth Day reminds us that small actions, when taken together, can have a powerful impact. By working as a school community, we can help protect the environment we are so fortunate to enjoy.

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Earth Day continued..

In tutor time this week, students have been exploring an extract from *The Summer We Turned Green* by William Sutcliffe. This engaging novel offers a fresh, humorous, and heartfelt perspective on one of the most important issues facing young people today—protecting our planet. To celebrate Earth Day, Sora, our free online library, has also curated a selection of six recommended reads, including *The Summer We Turned Green*, for students to enjoy and continue exploring environmental themes.



Today in Geography, Year 8 students explored the concepts of birth and death rates through a fun and interactive population game. Using Smarties and chance cards, students took on the roles of different countries, observing how their populations increased or decreased in response to a range of simulated real-world events.



“Today is Earth Day, but every day should be Earth Day”

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Mobile Phones in Schools: Supporting Safe Use and Student Wellbeing

Recent discussions around banning mobile phones in schools have brought renewed attention to the issue. While the intention is clear, it would be far more effective if government support included dedicated funding for schools to provide safe and secure storage solutions, such as lockers or locked pouches. In addition, there is a growing need for stronger regulatory action to address the harmful impact of social media and excessive smartphone use—issues that largely occur outside of school but are having a significant and often damaging effect on young people.



Mobile phone ban

Attendance and Punctuality

We are incredibly proud of the commitment and resilience shown by our pupils this year, reflected in improving whole-school attendance. Every day in school counts, and it's great to see pupils building positive habits that support their success. We are also strengthening our focus on punctuality. Arriving on time helps pupils settle quickly, avoid missing important learning, and ensures a calm start to the day. Pastoral staff have been supporting this by monitoring arrivals each morning.



From next week, any pupil who is late on three occasions will spend a day off their normal timetable taking part in a structured, supportive programme. This will focus on timekeeping, organisation, and understanding the impact of lateness on learning.

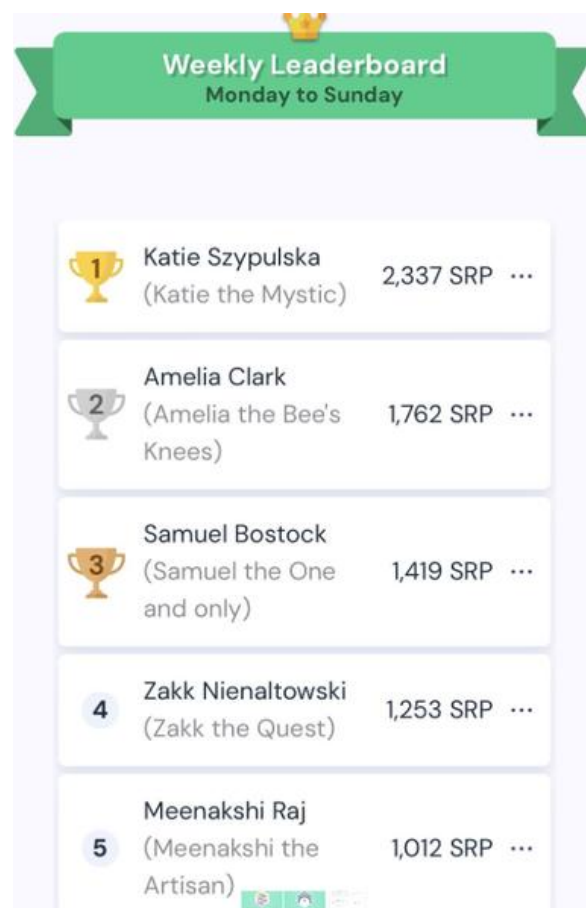
Our aim is to support pupils in developing positive routines for the future. By working together, school and families can ensure every young person is in the right place, at the right time, ready to learn. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support—it truly makes a difference.

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Sparx English

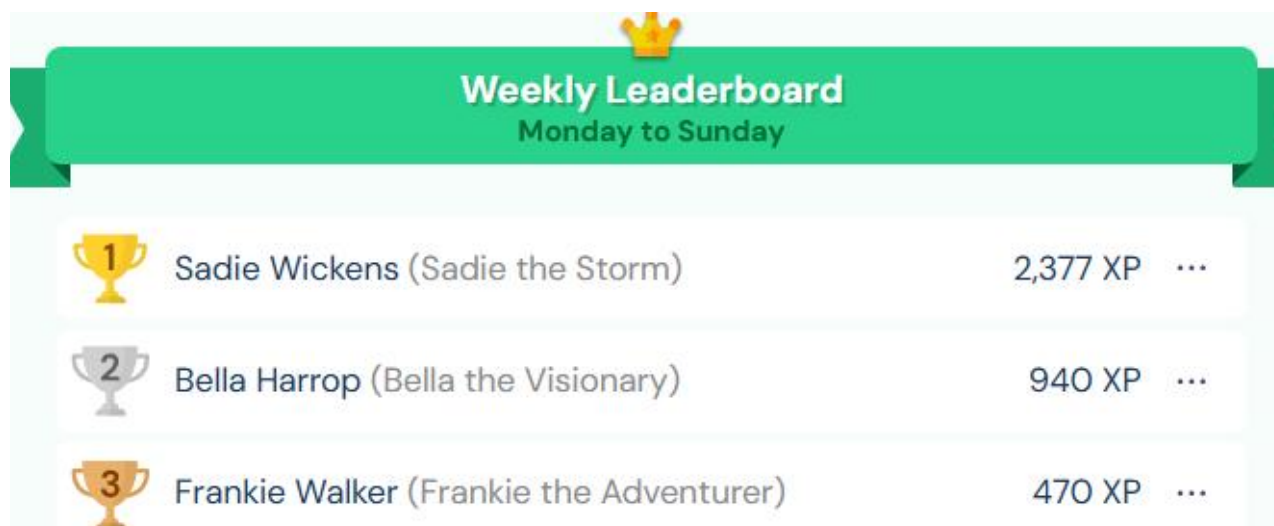


We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic reading achievements of our students this year. Together, they have read an impressive 1,707 books and dedicated a remarkable 4,683 hours to reading on Sparx Reader. This outstanding commitment reflects not only their enthusiasm for reading but also their determination to develop key literacy skills that will support their success across all subjects. Well done to all our students for their hard work and dedication—this is a truly impressive accomplishment.



Sparx Science

Spotlight: Students in year 7 are currently working through the forces topic on Sparx Science, revisiting lessons on motion, resultant, and contact forces. Well-done to this week's leaderboard winners



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Year 10 Parents' Evening: Strong Partnerships, Positive Feedback

Year 10 Parents' Progress Feedback Survey – Thursday 23rd April 2026

Thank you for attending our Year 10 Parents' Evening. Your feedback is vital in helping us monitor and enhance the support we provide to ensure every pupil makes excellent progress. Please take a few moments to complete this short survey.

Pupil Progress and Communication

Please tick the box that best reflects your view for each question.

1. How clearly was your child's current academic progress explained to you tonight?

- ☒ Extremely Clear
- ☐ Very Clear
- ☐ Moderately Clear
- ☐ Slightly Unclear

2. I have a clear understanding of my child's specific strengths and areas for development, as discussed with the subject teachers.

- ☒ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree

3. The teachers provided concrete and helpful 'next steps' for my child to improve in their subjects.

- ☒ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree

4. In terms of overall effort and engagement, do you feel your child is making sufficient progress across their subjects?

- ☒ Yes, Absolutely
- ☐ Mostly Yes
- ☐ Unsure / Neutral
- ☐ Mostly No

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our Year 10 Parents' Evening, making it a thoroughly positive and productive occasion.

Thank you to all who attended and to our dedicated staff for the time, care and guidance they shared. Parents spoke highly of the helpful, professional and approachable nature of our teachers, alongside the clear and informative discussions about pupil progress.

Many families valued the practical revision advice, online resources and guidance provided as students prepare for the important transition into Year 11. Feedback showed that parents left with a clearer understanding of strengths, next steps and how best to support learning at home.

A key message from the evening was the importance of strong partnership between school and home. Working together is central to helping every pupil succeed. We also appreciated feedback praising the welcoming atmosphere, pupil support on reception and the thoughtful suggestions offered, which will support our ongoing improvement.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We are very proud of our Year 10 students and look forward to the exciting journey ahead.

