



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

NEWSLETTER

Volume Fifteen - Issue Three - 2026

The Great Debate

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Summer Concert



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of another academic year, I am delighted at the remarkable achievements and positive developments that have characterised this year at William Farr. It has been a period of genuine celebration, both in terms of student success and the strengthened partnerships we continue to build with the community.

One of the most pleasing pieces of news from our community work is that we have hit our target of raising £5,000 for St Barnabas Hospice this year. The driving forces behind this incredible sum have been Helen Bates, Gill Doyle and Hannah Price.



Their tireless efforts and commitment, coupled with the generous support of our school community in buying ice creams, chocolate, cakes and not forgetting the wonderful Scottish country dancing in January's ceilidh. The William Farr community has made a genuine difference to a truly deserving local charity. The money raised will provide an amazing 9 days' hospice care. These efforts embody the values we seek to instil in all our students: compassion, friendship, perseverance, respect, responsibility and wisdom.

We have also recently begun working with Lincoln Lions to provide support for their charitable work. In the last half term, we have collected 51 pairs of spectacles for their Recycle for Sight campaign. Please continue to donate your old glasses for this worthy cause with the added bonus that it will go some way to decluttering your drawers! Two good causes in one!

Beyond the classroom, our students have excelled in numerous competitions and enrichment activities. Bilal Nashawi's highly commended speech at The Historical Association's Great Debate finals in London was a testament to the calibre of our young people and the commitment of our History staff to engage students with the wider academic community. Similarly, our Year 12 biologists have achieved outstanding results in the Biology Olympiad, with several students receiving gold, silver and bronze awards—a tremendous achievement that places them amongst the top young biologists in the country. These successes reflect the dedication and enthusiasm our students bring to their studies. Our Year 12 scientists took part in the IRIS project and began some interesting and potentially far-reaching research work. Congratulations to Beth Proprawski, who is one of only 20 students nationally to have been chosen to be part of the NSPCC's Voice of Online Youth project. Congratulations, too, to Year 10 student Maddy Jones who had the honour of representing England at the Dance World Cup in Dublin as part of her dance school, Happy Feet's team. The team came a very credible 11th out of 73 entrants.

This term has also seen an impressive range of educational visits and trips that have enriched student learning across multiple disciplines. From Year 8 students attending The Big Bang Fair in Birmingham to Year 9 and 10 students benefiting from STEM experiences and Geography field work, these opportunities have provided invaluable insights into potential careers and brought learning to life beyond the classroom. Our Year 9 and 10 students have also enjoyed memorable end-of-year trips to Drayton Manor and Flamingo Land respectively, whilst our Sixth Form students have benefited from visits to universities and specialist venues that support their post-16 studies. Students have also travelled to France, Italy and even Cleethorpes this year. Over the course of the year, the staff at William Farr have provided a huge range of activities to broaden the experience of our students, enabling them to live out the school's vision of 'living life in all its fullness'. An astonishing 88% of students have taken part in at least one club, activity or trip.

Following on from my notice in the last newsletter about possible changes to the ATLs, which we were hoping to trial with the last Data Point of the year, we are unfortunately going to have to delay this until next year. Our trial showed us that by doing this, we would be upsetting existing datasets, meaning existing data could be lost or altered. Discretion being the better part of valour, it's better to pause and get it right for next year. This means that the final Data Point will be the same as the rest of this year's Data Points.

Looking forward to next year, we would like to emphasise the importance of good attendance at school. Regular attendance remains fundamental to academic progress, and we are delighted that, as a school, we are above the national average. Nevertheless, we keep aiming for the target of 95% attendance. This will mean that your child secures very positive outcomes at GCSE and A Level and also means that they are able to take part in the huge range of extra-curricular activities that are on offer at the school.

I would like to remind families of some important administrative matters. The Code of Conduct remains central to maintaining a positive learning environment, and we ask that parents continue to reinforce these expectations at home. Additionally, students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day, and our uniform standards remain as published on the school website. For those seeking pre-loved uniform, donations continue to be gratefully received and help us to support families in our community.

As we enter the six weeks' holiday, traditionally a time of fun and freedom, can I make a plea to stay safe, particularly in and around water. In recent weeks, local schools have had to deal with tragedies with young people losing their lives in dreadful circumstances whilst swimming. Please stay safe in all the activities that you do over the summer.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to all staff, students and families for their contributions and support in another successful year. We look forward to welcoming students back in September, ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Grant Edgar, Headteacher

Care & Guidance Team

Year	Head of Year	Assistant Head of Year
7	L. Starbuck	D. Townsend
8	K. Ewing	S. Hall
9	E. Hanson	H. Adams
10	S. Willett	J. Butcher
11	R. Parry	J. Dickenson-Fogg
Sixth Form	R. Noon	M. Brittain/G. Munro

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We are delighted to share a positive update on attendance across our school community. Regular attendance is a key factor in pupil success, not only supporting academic achievement but also building confidence, friendships, and a strong sense of belonging.

Many pupils have demonstrated excellent commitment to being in school every day and on time. We are especially proud of our classes with attendance above 95%, who have shown real dedication and resilience.

This success is a reflection of the strong partnership between school and home. We would like to thank all families for your ongoing support in ensuring that children attend school consistently. Even small improvements in attendance can make a big difference to learning progress.

Important Reminder for Families

To support your child's learning:

- All students must be in school before 9:00am each day.
- Parents/carers must contact the school via MCAS before 8:30am if their child is going to be absent.

Arriving on time ensures children are settled, ready to learn, and do not miss important start-of-day activities.

We understand that there can sometimes be challenges affecting attendance. If your child is experiencing difficulties, please contact us - we are here to help and work with you to find solutions.

Working Together

Improving attendance is a shared responsibility. Thank you for your continued support in helping make sure every child is in school, every day, and ready to succeed.

Every day counts!

DYSLEXIA OUTREACH EVENTS SAVE THE DATES 2026-2027

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2026
MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2027*

WORKING WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2026*
MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2027

STUDY SKILLS AND REVISION STRATEGIES

WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2026
WEDNESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2027*

PRIMARY TO SECONDARY TRANSITION

MONDAY 26TH APRIL 2027
MONDAY 7TH JUNE 2027*

*THESE EVENTS ARE DELIVERED THROUGH THE LINCOLNSHIRE PARENT CARER FORUM AND CAN BE BOOKED AT [HTTPS://WWW.LINCSPCF.ORG.UK/](https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/)
DETAILS OF THE OTHER WORKSHOPS ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAIL: [DYSLEXIAOUTREACH@LINCOLNSHIRE.GOV.UK](mailto:dyslexiaoutreach@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S GREAT DEBATE

We are absolutely delighted that Bilal Nashawi's excellent speech made it through to The Great Debate finals and was highly commended. (*Bilal is pictured below on the left*)



The Great Debate is an annual, prestigious, national public-speaking competition for students aged 16-19, run by The Historical Association. Students are challenged to research, prepare and present a powerful argument to a distinguished panel of historians and to be prepared to answer questions. The History department is committed to encouraging the engagement of our students with the wider academic history community and we have entered students in The Great Debate for many years, reaching the finals in the last six.

The competition started in the autumn of 2025 with 36 individual regional heats running across the UK and online until February 2026. The three semi-finals held online led to the 21 finalists being invited to London on 21 March for the final stage, with their families present on a thrilling day.

Bilal's speech told the powerful and passionate story of the protests against dictatorship and state repression in Damascus in 2011 and of the fear, loss, and struggle experienced by those who participated in them. Drawing on a surviving personal record of his own grandmother's detention and on the pictures taken by a government forensic photographer, this excellent presentation demonstrated impressive rhetorical skills. Full of thoughtful insights, it highlighted how absence and silence can speak volumes about traumatic and formative experiences in the past.

Across the day was a wide range of outstanding talks that left most of the audience wondering how the judges were going to choose a winner, a runner-up and two Highly Commended from such a strong field. Indeed, it did prove difficult with the judges insisting on having a third runner-up just so that they could find a way to agree!

The question that each of the young people all addressed was: How important are personal and public records as evidence for explaining the story or stories of your local area?

The students presented their five-minute talk to three judges - Historical Association President Professor Alex Walsham, Professor of Modern History, Cambridge; Professor Lucy Noakes, Rab Butler chair in Modern History, Essex; and Dr Antonio Sennis, Associate Professor of Medieval History, UCL. Professor Lucy Noakes said: "The diversity and range of the histories that we heard about was striking: we were taken from the role of Gaelic in Scottish identity to the impact of Nazi occupation in Jersey; from the aftermath of a Turkish earthquake to a flogging on 18th-century Hounslow Heath, and from a woman imprisoned in a Syrian cell during the civil war to a woman chained in a 19th-century Barnsley workhouse. We learnt how to read the historic landscape of a Lancashire village and how to trace the histories of fishing in Devon and of the saffron trade in north Essex. Local histories were retold through the eyes and the words of migrants and of the working class, while a gendered lens was used to analyse the written histories of an Oxford College."

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct outlines the conduct conducive to a positive learning environment.

It is important that everyone knows what is expected of them and can play their part. All students have a right to learn, to achieve and to be safe in school. All students have a responsibility to positively and actively contribute to a school climate aligned with the School's Core Values.

Our Values must be visible through students' attitudes and conduct at all times, including at lunch, break and moving between lessons.

Thank you for your support this year in reinforcing the Code of Conduct at home and using information communicated to you via MCAS to hold discussions with your child. Should you have any issues accessing MCAS, then please do not hesitate to contact the school via wfsbromcom@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk. We will continue to work together with parents on how best to support you with the technical aspects.

Well done to our students who continue to consistently demonstrate and 'live out' the school's Vision and School Values – Compassion, Friendship, Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility and Wisdom.

Mobile Phones

Students are not allowed to have a mobile phone in their possession during the school day. If students are found in possession of a mobile phone, the School Behaviour Policy will apply. Any device which has mobile internet capability must not be brought into school. This includes Smart Watches.

William Farr Code of Conduct					
A B C D E F					
A	Accept that your actions are your choice	B	Be on time, every time		
C	Come to school fully equipped for learning and wearing correct uniform	D	Do all classwork and homework to the best of your ability		
E	Ensure that you keep hands, feet and unkind words to yourself	F	Follow all instructions the first time		
					

SCHOOL HUB CHANGES

From September, we will be strengthening support for students by moving the Hub to a different area in school.

There are no changes to the current provision. Mrs Barlow-Doble remains the lead member of staff in this area. The space the Hub currently occupies will be used to support students requiring pastoral support. This area will be called the Hive.

These changes are in response to national changes regarding SEND and to strengthen our provision in supporting students to succeed within our setting.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our full range of approved school uniform is available to purchase in the Uniform Direct store, Dixon Way, Lincoln, LN6 7XN.

Online shopping from Uniform Direct is also available, with delivery direct to your chosen address. Ordering online is very simple, just visit www.uniform-direct.com and then navigate to 'Select Your School' and 'Senior Schools' and scroll down to 'William Farr School' to find all items of approved William Farr school uniform.

Black leather trainers and black 'Air Force 1s' are not permitted in school. We are aware that retailers market these as 'shoes' when they are trainers. Please be aware of this when you are purchasing shoes ready for September 2026 that there should be no logos and no adornments of any kind. The full uniform list can be found on the school website using the link above.

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALES AND DONATIONS

For information on how to purchase pre-loved uniform, please visit our pre-loved uniform website using [this link](#). We are reliant on donations of good quality, pre-loved school uniform and, therefore, stock availability will be limited to the donations we receive.

In preparation for the new academic year, we would be extremely grateful for any donations of good quality, laundered, William Farr uniform that your child may have grown out of. This will help us to build stock availability on our pre-loved website. Thank you in advance for any donations.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is now located in the room with the blue shutters outside Darwin and will be open to students every Wednesday at breaktime (10:20-10:35). Please name all items of uniform, etc. regardless of what year your child is in. We can reunite lost items and owners easily if we can see who it belongs to.

YEAR 13 PROM

Year 13 held their Prom at the Doubletree Hilton on Thursday 9 July.

We had a wonderful time and the students were phenomenal company! A huge thank you to everyone who has supported them through their time at William Farr.



Year 13 will be in again on Results Day on Thursday 13 August.

DANCE WORLD CUP

Year 10 student Maddy Jones had the honour of representing England at the Dance World Cup in Dublin.

This prestigious global dance event is the largest all-genre Dance competition in the world for children and adults, with 73 different countries represented. Maddy competed in the Small Group Song and Dance section, performing *Welcome to the Rock* from the Musical, *Come From Away*, with her Dance School, Happy Feet.

This incredible achievement comes off the back of Maddy performing as a soloist in the Musical Theatre section of the All-England Dance Finals earlier this year, performing *On My Own* from *Les Misérables*.



YEAR 11 PROM

Year 11 had a fabulous send-off on Tuesday 7 July at their Prom, held at Market Rasen Racecourse.

A new venue for us this year, the racecourse itself providing a wonderful backdrop for a fun-filled evening with amazing raffle prizes up for grabs. Students arrived in style, from old cars and classic muscle cars, to lorries and tractors!

A very generous parent gave up time creating the amazing balloon displays, and the dance floor was packed. There was plenty of room to socialise, both inside and outside the venue, and the dancing continued right up to the end of the night.

See you on Thursday 20 August on Results Day!



YEAR 6 TRANSITION

This year saw another successful Year 6 Induction programme.

We welcomed 248 Year 6 students to meet their tutors and take part in a set of exciting lessons and activities over two days. The days are designed to help students to get to know their teachers and tutors, as well as find their way around the school.

We look forward to welcoming them back in September as fully-fledged Year 7 William Farr students.

THANK YOU - THE FRIENDS OF WILLIAM FARR

As another successful school year comes to an end, we'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the parents, carers, staff and students who have supported the Friends of William Farr throughout the year.

Whether you volunteered your time, donated prizes, attended an event or bought a raffle ticket, your generosity has helped us raise valuable funds to enhance school life for our students. We have supported new kit for the Netball and Rugby teams, items for the gardening club, purchased digital cameras for the Art department and more!

We look forward to building on this success next year and hope you will continue to support us, or perhaps even get involved.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer break.

Together we can make a difference.



ST BARNABAS HOSPICE

Throughout the last academic year, Mrs Doyle, Mrs Bates and Mrs Price, together with a dedicated team of helpers, worked tirelessly to raise money for St Barnabas Hospice, our local hospice service providing specialist palliative care for people across Lincolnshire.

Each year, St Barnabas Hospice supports more than 12,000 people and relies on the generosity of donations to continue providing its vital services. At the beginning of the year, the fundraising team set themselves an ambitious target of £5,000. Thank you to you all for helping to raise £5075 for St Barnabas. That equates to 9 full days of nursing care at the Inpatient Unit on Nettleham Road



Throughout the year, they organised a fantastic range of fundraising events, including cake sales, Wimbledon cream teas, Sports Day treats, face painting and ice cream sales. The highlight of the year was a wonderful Burns Night celebration held in the school hall, which featured an amazing raffle with fabulous prizes generously donated by local businesses and members of staff.

The final fundraising event, a football shirt day held on 17 July to celebrate the FIFA World Cup, helped the team smash their fundraising target.

Mrs Doyle, Mrs Bates and Mrs Price would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped organise events, donated prizes, contributed to the fundraising or supported the events throughout the year. Your generosity, enthusiasm and kindness have made a real difference, and together we have raised an incredible amount for a truly deserving local charity.



Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this year's fundraising such a tremendous success.

LINCOLN LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT

The Lincoln Lions are grateful and delighted that as a result of our school's contribution, they are able to send away a further 51 spectacles donated by pupils and staff.

Lions clubs have been collecting and recycling unwanted pairs of glasses since 1967 and what started as a single club activity has grown to become a nationwide effort, with clubs from across the UK collecting millions of pairs of spectacles over the last 35 years.

Please continue to bring your old spectacles to Reception, as this is such a worthwhile cause and benefits so many. The spectacles are now on their way to people in need overseas. Thank you.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

We have had another successful year with the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who give up their time to help with the expeditions, because without them the students at William Farr would not have the fabulous opportunity to participate.

48 Year 10 students took part in their Silver expedition around Birchover and Hulme End, Monsal Head in May, walking approximately 80km over both the practice and qualifier weekends.

In June, 22 Year 12 students participated in their practice expedition around Edale and Castleton, walking roughly 54km and then headed to Grassington in the Yorkshire Dales for their qualifier with 80km to accomplish.

In July, 45 Year 9 students completed their Bronze expedition around the Market Rasen area, walking approximately 30km, with another 45 having the opportunity to do their re-scheduled expedition in September due to their original one being cancelled due to weather conditions.

So far this academic year, we have awarded 15 Bronze Awards, 15 Silver Awards and 6 Gold Awards. Huge congratulations to Lilly Bratty and Daniel Roebuck who have recently completed their Gold Award alongside their Year 13 studies and will be collecting their certificate from Buckingham Palace in due course.

Thank you to the parents for supporting your children through their Awards and for arranging their travel to and from expeditions.



EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND VISITS

This term, students have attended a number of trips to complement their learning, including:

- Y8 Big Bang Fair Trip at Birmingham NEC
- Y9 STEMNet Design and Technology STEM Morning
- Y9 Riseholme College Trip
- Y9 Fishing Trip
- Y10 Electronics Trip to Sheffield University
- Y10 Nottingham Trent University Trip
- Y10 Geog Trip to Cleethorpes
- Y12/13 Oxbridge Conference
- Y12 Magistrates Court visits
- Y12 Travel and Tourism trips to Yorkshire Wildlife Park and Rand Farm Park
- Y12 Geog Field Trip to Cleethorpes, Willingham Woods and Gibraltar Point
- Y12 Science Trip
- Duke of Edinburgh expeditions
- Y7 End of Year trip to Lincolnshire Show
- End of Year trips for Y8 to Drayton Manor, Y9, Y10 to Flamingo Land and Y12 to London.



YEAR 10 ELECTRONICS VISIT

On 16 June, 15 Year 10 Electronics students took the train to attend a full-day lab session at Sheffield University.

This saw them fabricating their own LEDs in a clean room in the morning and testing them under a microscope, before building and testing LED circuits to take home in the afternoon in the University Electronics labs.

Thank you to our partner, Sheffield University, for allowing this unique experience to take place.



Y8 STUDENTS INSPIRED AT THE BIG BANG FAIR

On Tuesday 9 June, 15 Year 8 students with a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) visited The Big Bang Fair at the NEC in Birmingham.

The event was packed with exciting exhibits, interactive activities and inspiring demonstrations covering a wide range of STEM fields, including Materials Science, Radiography, Engineering, Robotics, Sustainability and Emerging Technologies. Students also attended specialist talks on topics such as Biomimicry and the Future of Flight, gaining valuable insights into how science and technology are shaping the world around us.

Throughout the day, students enthusiastically engaged with hands-on activities, challenges and competitions hosted by universities, employers and industry professionals. The experience provided an excellent opportunity to explore potential future careers, discover innovative technologies and see STEM subjects brought to life beyond the classroom.

Our students were a credit to the school, demonstrating curiosity, enthusiasm and exemplary behaviour throughout the visit. They returned inspired and excited about the many possibilities that science and technology can offer for their future studies and careers.



THE NSPCC'S VOICE OF ONLINE YOUTH PROJECT

Beth Proprawski in Year 9 has been selected to be part of the NSPCC's Voice of Online Youth project.

The Voice of Online Youth will be a group of up to 20 young people from across the UK, aged between 12 and 15 years old. They will share their views and ideas on a range of issues affecting young people today, including AI, access to the online world, what safe online platforms mean to them and digital literacy. They will advise the NSPCC on what matters most to this generation, discussing the issues they face online and championing change.

The participants will get to have lots of fun projects and experiences. There will be opportunities to travel across the country to take part in residential, away days, meetings and workshops, all related to the online world and keeping young people safe.

With only 20 students selected nationally this is a great achievement for Beth.



SCIENCE FACULTY UPDATE

It has been another busy and rewarding term across the Science faculty, with students making the most of a wide range of opportunities, both in and beyond the classroom.

From presenting their own research and competing in national competitions to taking part in enrichment events and educational visits, it has been a term full of engagement, achievement and success.

IRIS Symposium

A particular highlight was the IRIS Symposium, where Year 12 students had the opportunity to present their own research alongside a guest speaker. It was fantastic to see the confidence and depth of understanding on display. Experiences like this give students a real sense of what working in science can be like beyond school, and they represented the faculty brilliantly.



Sarah's Garden Opens

We are very pleased to share that Sarah's Garden is now open for students to enjoy at break and lunchtime. This space has been carefully restored and provides a calm and rewarding environment for students who have worked hard in their lessons.

A special thank you goes to our science technicians, particularly Mr Hoddinott, for the time and effort they have put into bringing the garden back to life. Their work has made a real difference to what we can offer our students.

Success in the Biology Olympiad

Our Year 12 Biologists achieved an outstanding set of results in this year's Biology Olympiad, a highly respected national competition that challenges students to apply their biological knowledge well beyond the A Level specification.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part and represented the school so well. Their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm for the subject were reflected in a fantastic set of awards. These results are a tremendous achievement and place our students amongst some of the top young biologists in the country. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Gold - Holly Urquhart

Silver - Chloe Frecklington

Bronze - Vlad Frangu, Ethan Bulman, Emme Urquhart

Highly Commended - Salma Omran, George McKean, Abi Stratton

Commended - Lily Plummer, Josh Collis, Oscar Wood, Mabel Smith

Stay Connected

A final reminder to follow the William Farr Science Faculty Instagram @WillFarr_Science account to keep up to date with what is happening across the Faculty.



SUMMER CONCERT - 2 JULY 2026

The summer concert is always one of the highlights of the school calendar and this year was no exception, showcasing the range and depth of talent in school with an exceptionally high standard of performances.

Ben Payne in Year 13 gave his final performance at school with an emotional rendition of *So in Love* from *Kiss Me Kate* by Cole Porter and Hermione Hawkins left the audience spellbound with her beautiful performance of *With You* from the musical, *Ghost*.

The range of genres was staggering from Edward Gvaramadze performing *The Swan* from *Carnival of the Animals* by Saint-Saëns on the tuba through to *Bohemian Rhapsody* by Queen performed by Levi Bell, Will Brown, Maya Mahmoud and Will Templeman.

Debut performances from Charlie Ison with *We're Not Gonna Take It - Twisted Sister*, on electric guitar and Flynn Thornton singing and accompanying himself on acoustic guitar with *Stand By Me*, were exceptional.

On a compositional front, the Year 7 Band, Third Party, consisting of Beth Anderson, Seth Borrill and Francis O'Connor performing their own composition, *Brain Storm* and Camille Montealegre in Year 13 performed another of her beautiful compositions, *My little piano*. The audience participated in a rousing version of *Fix You* by Coldplay from Young Voices, led by Mr Whitehead.

Dancing queens Angela Enright-Gomez, Samantha Gulko, Etta Inman, Bethany Knowler, Ivie Ozique and Amelia Picksley transported us to the West End with their singing and choreography in dazzling glitter costumes with their version of *Dancing Queen* by ABBA.

The Choir were joined by primary schools Dunholme St Chad's C of E Primary School, Hackthorn C of E Primary School, Nettleham C of E Junior School and Welton St Mary's C of E Primary Academy singing, *Sisi ni moja (We are one)* and *Fly Away Home*, led by Miss Tappin and accompanied by cellists Emmanuella Ajayi-Bello and Freddie Wilde on the djembe.

The orchestra gave a rousing end to the concert, performing *The Fellowship of the Ring* from *Lord of the Rings*.

The performances were ably supported by the fabulous technical team, led by Mr Bussey, Mr Whitehead and Owen Edwards in Year 13, to whom we wish every success in the future.

SKI COURSE 2026

Before the Easter holidays, 60 Year 9, 10 and 12 pupils went to Bormio, Italy, for the Ski Course 2026.

Bormio, which was the host of the Men's Alpine events at the Milano Cortina Winter Olympics, is a resort we have returned to year after year for the last two decades or more. This year, the conditions were the best we have seen in the past 11 years. The cold temperatures, the clear blue skies and the phenomenal snow made for an unforgettable week away. Bormio stretches from 3000m down to the town at around 1000m above sea level, and all the pupils were able to get around the whole mountain by the middle of the week. Those that had never skied before were landing jumps, attacking red runs and getting close to parallel skiing. Pupils with some previous experience made significant progress in their technique, transitioning from snow plough through parallel towards using their edges in turns. Our more advanced skiers explored the entire mountain, and it should be said that across the whole of the Advanced group this was one of the highest quality groups we have seen on the Course. A special mention needs to be given to the Ski School - all our instructors during the week were great, challenging the pupils, giving really detailed technical points for improvement and making the whole experience a really positive and enjoyable one. Thank you to Bobbo and his amazing team.

Away from the mountain, we enjoyed our pizza evening where there was an 'eat-off' between some of the Year 12s, the winner eating equivalent to her body weight in pizza (well done, Abi)! Ice skating, as always was very funny, with some Torvill and Dean-inspired skating and lots and lots and lots of falls.

Ice skating is the evening that Sharon (our physio) winces at the most, but it is always a wonderfully funny evening for the rest of the staff. This year, we tried Karaoke for the first time. Our Year 12s went to a local bar for some singing, Mr Edgar also joined in, too.

We were also incredibly lucky to meet Elisa Confortola, who is the Milano Cortina Olympic Speed Skating Champion. Elisa is the daughter of Laura, the Hotel Villa Rina manager/owner. Elisa came to the hotel with her Gold and Silver Olympic medals, as well as her three World Championship medals. Pupils were able to meet her, ask questions, see and wear the Olympic medals. This was the most amazing experience. Thank you so much to Elisa for spending time with us.



SAFEGUARDING

To report concerns:

Lincolnshire Children's Services: 01522 782111 -
<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safeguarding/report-concern>

Lifelines:

- The NSPCC are here to help 24/7 and children can call their Childline number on: 0800 11 11.
- Help for adults concerned about a child can call: 0808 800 5000.
- Shout is a 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis any time, anywhere. It is a place to go if you are struggling to cope and you need immediate help.
Text: 85258.

EXAM DATES

A LEVEL

Thursday 13 August 2026 RESULTS DAY

GCSE

Thursday 20 August 2026 RESULTS DAY

TERM DATES

Term 1

Wednesday 02 September 2026	INSET DAY
Thursday 03 September 2026	Year 7 and Year 12 only
Friday 04 September 2026	All students
Friday 25 September 2026	INSET DAY
Friday 23 October 2026	Last day of term

Term 2

Monday 02 November 2026	First day of term
Friday 18 December 2026	Last day of term

Term 3

Monday 04 January 2027	INSET DAY
Tuesday 05 January 2027	First day of term
Friday 12 February 2027	Last day of term

Term 4

Monday 22 February 2027	First day of term
Thursday 25 March 2027	Last day of term

Term 5

Monday 12 April 2027	INSET DAY
Tuesday 13 April 2027	First day of term
Monday 03 May 2027	BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 28 May 2027	Last day of term

Term 6

Monday 07 June 2027	First day of term
Wednesday 21 July 2027	Last day of term

STAFF LEAVERS

Sadly, the following staff are leaving this academic year to take retirement, promoted posts, relocate or pursue new careers.

We would like to thank them for their work in supporting our students to engage with life in all its fullness (John 10:10). Collectively, they have given a total of 69 years' service to William Farr.

- Anne Marie Bray (School Business Manager) 2 years
- Hannah Lawson (Teaching Assistant 2) 12 years
- Hollie Marshall (RS Teacher) 5 years
- Jane Pailing (Language Teacher) 25 years
- Catherine Owbridge (D&T Teacher) 12 years
- Shirley Williamson (Finance Assistant) 22 years
- Claire Wilson (Teaching Assistant) 3 years

COMMUNICATIONS

To communicate with school via email, please use the school email address:

wfarr@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk

You may also make contact with the school through Middle Leaders, e.g. Heads of Faculty/Heads of Year. We would be grateful if individual staff are not emailed directly. As part of our commitment to supporting staff workload and wellbeing, we will endeavour to respond to emails within 3 working days.

Please note, staff are not expected to respond to emails outside of the normal working day (9-4pm) or during holiday periods. Emails should be written in line with the [Parent Code of Conduct](#) as shown on the school website.

SCHOOL DAY

9.00:	Registration and tutor time.
9.20:	Period 1.
10-20 – 10.35:	Break.
10.35 – 11.35:	Period 2.
11.40 – 12.40:	Period 3.
12.40 – 1.35:	Lunch break.
1.35 – 1.40:	Registration
1.40 – 2.40:	Period 4.
2.45 – 3.45:	Period 5.

School is open to students 8.15am-4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Students should not be on the school premises before or after these times unless they are supervised by a member of staff.



THE FRIENDS

OF WILLIAM FARR SCHOOL

Registered Charity No. 1002331

WELCOME TO THE FRIENDS OF WILLIAM FARR

Together, we can make a difference

WHAT WE DO

Every pound we raise goes back to the school to enrich the experience of our students. We have been proud to support:

- Student clubs & activities
- Visiting authors
- School productions & Creative projects
- Equipment & resources
- School events that bring families together

GET INVOLVED

This isn't a 'typical' PTA, there's no minimum commitment. You could:

- Help at one or two events each year
- Share a skill or professional expertise
- Donate raffle prizes
- Suggest fundraising ideas
- Join the committee

COME AND MEET US!

Come along to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and meet the team. Hear what we've achieved over the past year, shape our plans for the year ahead and discover how you can get involved in a way that works for you. We'd love to welcome you! to our Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- Monday 5 October 2026
- The School Canteen
- 6.30pm to 7.30pm