



DIARY DATES AT A GLANCE

Monday, December 1

Bikeability

Wednesday, December 3

Wranglers Panto Trip (Oh yes it is!)

Thursday-Friday, December 4-5

RISE career event during school day

Friday, December 12

Christmas with the Community event

Tuesday, December 16

Film Review winning screening

Wednesday, December 17

Non-Pupil Day

Thursday, December 18

Adrenalin reward trip

Friday, December 19

Last day of term (finish at 12.30pm)

Monday, January 5

Return to school

Tuesday, March 31

Year 7 parents' evening

IMPRESSIVE!

From Miss Mcvicker, Head of Year 7

MY Year 7 students continue to impress with their positive work ethic and excellent behaviour, with only a small minority letting themselves down.

Those who have excellent behaviour and good attendance will be invited on our reward trip to Adrenalin in the next two weeks. Please check your emails for this notification.

As we prepare our students for their first assessment week, they are certainly rising to the challenge and I know they will see this as an opportunity to show us what they can do!

OUR Year 7 football team put on a brave and spirited performance in their National Cup third round match against Wadebridge, narrowly losing 3–2 in a thrilling contest.

Wadebridge raced into a 3–0 lead but all the lads showed fantastic determination, fighting back with two well-worked goals to set up a tense finish.

Despite pushing hard for an equaliser, time ran out, but the team should be proud of their effort, resilience, and improvement throughout the game. We now look to our next game, in the Plymouth Schools Cup against Sir John Hunt on Thursday, December 18.

Mr Joint

ARMISTICE DAY

THE second day back after the half-term break coincided with Armistice Day.

It has become something of a modern tradition at Lipson to mark the occasion with a whole-school Act of Remembrance at 11am.

Unfortunately, the weather was against us so Year 7 were asked to join the cadets and our special guests in the sports Hall for this event.

Once again, the Year 7 students showed impeccable respect as they honoured the servicemen and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their future.



YEAR 7 READING SUCCESS WITH SPARX READER

Miss Ford

YEAR 7 students have made an impressive start to the year with their Sparx Reader homework. Each week, they are expected to complete 30 minutes of focused reading, and their dedication is clearly paying off.

On average, every student has completed around five hours of careful reading each half term. Even more impressively, the year group has collectively read over 600 books!

This fantastic achievement reflects not only their commitment to learning but also a growing enthusiasm for reading. Well done, Year 7, and keep turning those pages!



YOUNG CARERS' CINEMA TRIP

Ms Price and Mr Hicks

AT the beginning of the new half-term, a group of our Year 7 and 8 Young Carers enjoyed a special trip to the cinema to watch Sonic 3. The visit offered a much-needed opportunity for relaxation, fun, and connection with peers who share similar responsibilities at home.

At Lipson, we recognise the extraordinary commitment our Young Carers show every day. Many balance schoolwork with providing emotional or practical support at home, and we are proud to offer experiences that give them time to recharge, feel valued, and build supportive friendships.

As part of our ongoing commitment to Young Carers, we are also pleased to announce the launch of a dedicated Young Carers space in Room 15 (Holman), Monday-Thursday during Break 1. This will be a calm, welcoming environment where students can take a breather, chat to staff, access support, or simply enjoy a quieter moment in their day.

We are incredibly proud of all our Young Carers and will continue to expand the support available to them throughout the year.



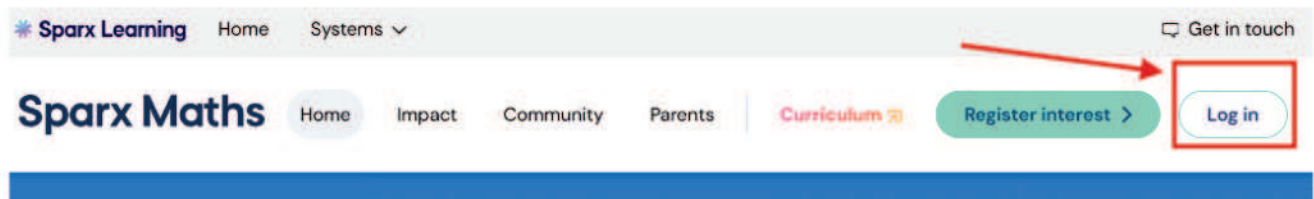
OUR Year 7s and 8s are hosting a Christmas celebration for the more elderly residents of our community.

We are reaching out to people living in Efford, Laira, Lipson, Mount Gould at St Judes to come and enjoy an afternoon of festive fun and food including Christmas tea or lunch, made and served by the students; music from the choir and bands; games and bingo with Father Christmas; and time to talk to the students.

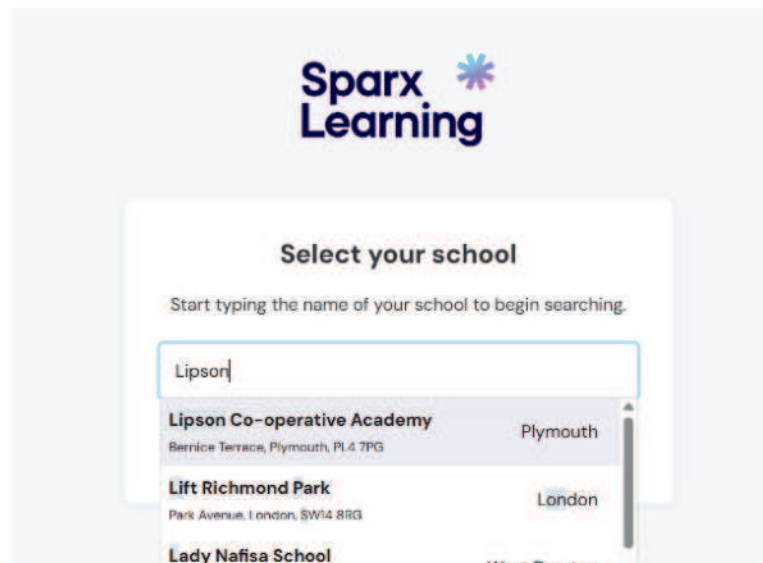
This takes place on Friday, December 12 from noon. Please call the school to book your place.

How to complete my Sparx Maths homework

1. Open the website <https://www.sparxmaths.com/>



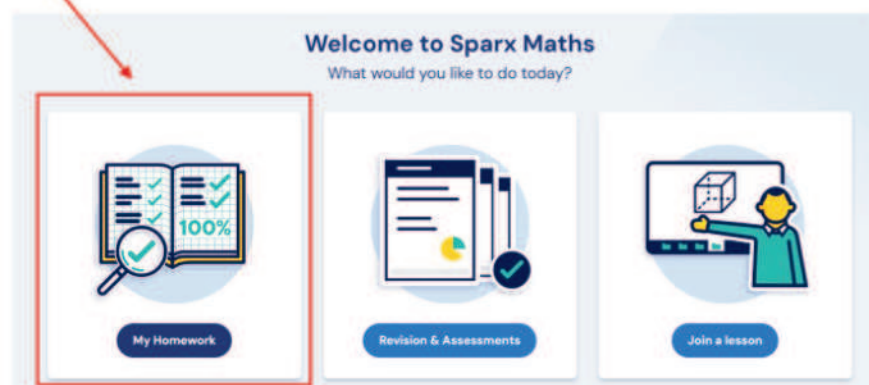
2. Click Login
3. Type in our School and select it in the list



4. Click the blue button at the top that says Log in to Sparx using Google



5. Log in using your school email address and password.
6. When logged in click "My Homework"



“We cannot monitor use of social media outside of school. This is the responsibility of parents/carers.”

SOCIAL MEDIA

Miss Mcvicker

UNFORTUNATELY, much of my time recently has been taken up with poor use of social media and the issues that then spill into school.

Whilst we offer advice and talk about the correct use of social media through assemblies, SMSC and citizenship lessons, we cannot monitor use of social media outside of school. This is the responsibility of parents/carers.

Some parents/carers are already very skilled in monitoring their child's use, whilst some of us may not even realise what the children can do and how it can be disguised. Please use the link below to assist you in finding out how to monitor what your child is doing online.

www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/

Think about how you can support by: removing devices before bedtime; adding parental controls; and limiting time online. After all, most of us pay for these devices!

We appreciate your support in ensuring that our students are able to use their phones responsibly and with maturity and kindness. After all, year 7 students are too young to be accessing Social Media sites by law.



EDEN PROJECT VISIT

Mrs Blampied

THE Geography Department had the pleasure of taking 68 students to the Eden Project this month. We have been learning about the biomes of the world this term, including tropical rainforests and the challenges that they face.

Upon arriving at the Eden Project, the students were split into two groups to take part in the Jungle Connections workshop. Here they learnt about the causes of deforestation in rainforests; the unfair treatment of cocoa farmers; how to be more sustainable with our product purchases; and, of course, the history of the Eden Project.

The students enjoyed walking around the tropical biome, taking in the exciting displays and learning about the connections we have to the giant leafy plants that are found there.

The students were exemplary, with even the Eden Project Team complementing them on their participation and behaviour. We look forward to taking our cohort of Year 7s next year!

PIE IN THE EYE

THANK you to all those Year 7 students who bought doughnuts and cans last week to help to raise money to buy some gifts for our elderly guests at this year's Christmas Community event - we raised £285!

Their generosity did not stop there with lots of students donating to a valuable cause...in order to pie a teacher! Miss Casanove and her Tutor group organised a very entertaining afternoon (for some)!



WELL WICKED

Miss Mcvicker

LAST week, we took 160 students to the cinema to watch the film WICKED as a free reward for their excellent behaviour and attendance.

This was no mean feat as we walked to Cineworld and back - in icy conditions!! Lots of slips and slides.

However, this was soon forgotten as we all enjoyed time with our peers, off timetable and watching a great film (even if my singing wasn't so great).



STUDENTS are invited to enjoy a Christmas Lunch with their friends during break 2 on Thursday, December 11.

NOUS SOMMES SI FIERES DE TOI

Ms Taljaard, Miss Fletcher, Mrs Green and Mr Baldry-Roberts

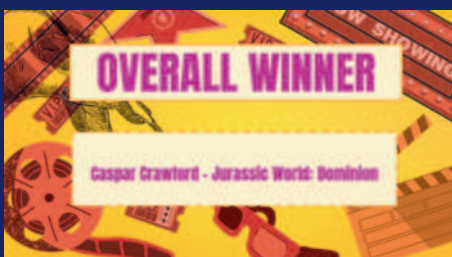
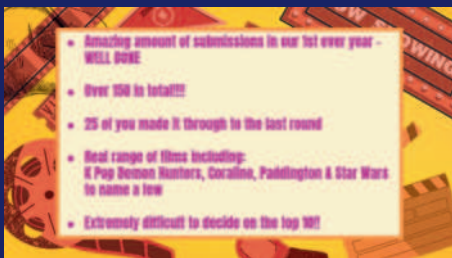
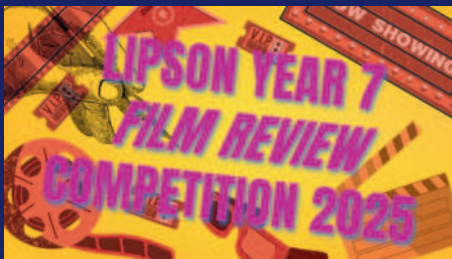
OUR Year 7 French students have been flying high in their first term of Learning French, and we are so incredibly proud of all of them!

The enthusiasm and resilience shown when learning new vocabulary and grammar has been magnificent and consequently resulted in them making some superb progress. We are sure that, with consistent hard work and determination, their linguistic skills will keep going from strength to strength.

As a result, many of our Year 7's have been crowned French King or Queen of the week for excellent contribution - keep up the great work!

FILM REVIEW COMPETITION

THE presentations of our Film Review Competition were held just before half-term during a celebration assembly.



GOLDEN TICKET

MANY of our Year 7 students were rewarded with golden tickets on Friday for their commitment to our PERK values. Students were treated to pizza and pop for their efforts - yum!



COOKERY Club will be starting again in January.

A Google Form has been emailed out to students from Mr Joint. Please sign up if your son/daughter would like to take part.



Rehearsals every Thursday

Year 7s and 8s only

Show in July 2026

Any questions, please speak to Mr Rogers

CONTACTS

PLEASE remember, if you need to contact school, your first point of contact is your child's tutor. I am lucky enough to have an incredible team of tutors and I have listed their email addresses below. In addition, you can also contact our Progress Team, who will be pleased to help you:

studentservices@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk

7ABS *anna.billings@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Miss Billings)

7HNG *helen.netting@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Miss Netting)

7SDN *simon.diskin@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Diskin)

7RAS *richard.abrams@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Abrams)

7GMN *gavin.martin@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Martin)

7SSS *sam.stubbs@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Stubbs)

7SWN *steve.watson@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Watson)

7SJO *sam.jones@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk* (Mr Jones)

PLEASE make contact if you would like to celebrate/query/ask a question or bring our attention to another matter. We love to celebrate achievements and interests outside of school, too!

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Miss Mcvicker HOY 7, Mrs Jones Deputy Head,
Mrs Usher Year 7 Progress Team