



**Dear Parents, Carers and all Friends of Colfox Academy,**

**Welcome to our Summer Term News, as you can see it has been another brilliant and busy term, it is great to share some of the brilliant things that your children have achieved.**

**I would like to start by paying tribute to three wonderful teachers, who between them have taught for nearly 100 years! They are of course Mr Glover, Mr Farrow and Mr Sutcliffe, who have been such a valued part of our Colfox and Bridport community. On behalf of us all, I'd like to thank them for their dedication and wish them a very happy retirement. Some of our younger teachers are leaving for far flung places such as Japan, Malaysia and the Middle East, and others are moving on to new opportunities, we are sorry to say goodbye, but wish everyone luck and thank them for their service! I'm pleased to report that we have recruited some brilliant new teachers who will be joining our wonderful staff in September.**

**As ever, we are very proud of all our students, especially Year 11 and Year 13, who impressed us with the way they coped with their exams. Year 10 have made a lot of progress on their GCSE courses and Y12 have worked hard on their first year of A levels and are now considering their next steps.**



**We have enjoyed a huge number of trips and visits this term, including our second trip to France, our Art Trip to London, the Bath History Trip, Thorpe Park, Dorset Water Park, Field trips, Sailing, Cycling and a huge range of sporting fixtures.**

**Congratulations to everyone involved in our school show, Fame! It was a brilliant performance, well done to all the singers, actors, musicians and our back stage crew. Well done also to all our artists who took part in our A Level Student Art and Photography Exhibition, the quality of the work on display at Bridport Arts Centre was very impressive.**

**Well done to our lower school, who have been enjoying a huge range of House Cup Competitions and Challenges. Teams from our four houses, Adler, Fleur de Lys, Hinomaru and Toro have been working together in their houses and competing in inter-house events, including the Music Cup, the Drama Cup, Science Cup, Chess Cup, Technology Cup, Dragon's Den Challenge, Tennis Tournaments and of course Sports Day!**

**We have again enjoyed welcoming speakers, including best-selling author AF Steadman, and the brilliant Bank of Dreams and Nightmares, who have been running creative film and comedy workshops. Encouraging students to take part, to lead and to make their voices heard is important and valued at Colfox. This term we launched our Dragon's Den Student Voice Challenge, which saw students working together creating business plans aimed at improving students' lives to and pitching them to our Dragons, also known as myself and our Deputy Heads Mrs Duffy and Ms Webb.**

**Our Library has continued to grow, our message to students is that 'Your Library is Your Free Book Shop' and we will get any book you want. This term Football, Manga and Graphics have been popular and these sections have quadrupled. Please encourage your child to ask for whatever books they want – we will always do our best to get it. Reading something you love is fun, and it boosts wellbeing and achievement. Don't forget in the holidays they can get FREE bestsellers, graphic novels and audio books, just google 'SORA' and log in using their usual school username and password.**

**We are worried about the rising costs that families are facing. Please contact us if you need help with uniform. There are some great free summer activities available if your child receives free school meals: [helpandkindness.co.uk/summer-in-dorset-2023](https://helpandkindness.co.uk/summer-in-dorset-2023) Thank you to our fantastic teaching and support staff, who work hard to support your children. I hope that you all have a peaceful summer. We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 5th September.**

**Adam Shelley , Headteacher**





Photos by Sam Rose

School Show!

FAME!



Congratulations to the cast & technical crew! Thanks Sam Rose for the great photos!





# Students shine in FAME!

Congratulations to everyone involved in our brilliant production of FAME! The production (12-13 July) showcased brilliant performances from talented students from across the school, from Year 7 to the sixth form, not forgetting the brilliant backstage student technical crew.

Adam Shelley, Headteacher of the Sir John Colfox Academy, said: “It was a brilliant show, featuring fantastic singing, dancing, acting and everyone enjoyed it. It was wonderful to see so much talent on show, congratulations to all our performers and our backstage team. I’d like to say a huge thank you to all staff who made such a fantastic event possible, especially Mrs Holder, Head of Drama, Miss Glover, Drama and Performing Arts Teacher and Mr Hocking, Head of Music.”

Emma Holder, Head of Drama at the Sir John Colfox Academy, said: “I was incredibly proud of everyone’s performances and our technical team, everyone was amazing! “Every student involved worked incredibly hard during rehearsals and at home, learning lines, learning the music, the dance routines, and of course the songs. Great work was also done by our backstage team. Everyone involved should be very proud of the hard work they put into creating such a wonderful production.”

Proceeds from the ticket sales will be used for equipment for our drama department. Thank you also to all Parents and Carers who supported the production.





# London Art Trip to The Tate Modern

**Around 50 Art Students from Year 9 and 10 enjoyed a trip to London to see the amazing artwork on show at the Tate Modern.**

**It was a thought-provoking visit, with lots of inspiring installations on show and some very unusual ones too, including a pile of sand! The vast galleries certainly provided lots of awe-inspiring surprises!**

# Art & Photography Exhibition

Congratulations to our talented sixth formers who exhibited their work at Bridport Arts Centre in June.

Louise Burgess, Head of Art at the Sir John Colfox Academy, said: "It was a fantastic exhibition, that showcased our students' talents, well done everyone and thank you to the Arts Centre for a great venue."

The exhibition featured personal investigations of a range of powerful themes, such as Skeletal Form, Cells, Fables, Portraiture, Conflict, Natural Form and Landscape. It also included expressive portraits, figure studies and mixed media work.



# Art & Photography Exhibition



**Pictured from left: Mrs Ashman, Art Teacher, Mrs Burgess, Head of Art, and Zac Dixon Y13, whose brilliant self-portrait was used to promote the Joint Sixth Form Art and Photography Exhibition.**

# Creative workshops with the Bank of Dreams & Nightmares



## Comedy Workshops Update

Our Year 9 students have been creating ideas for campaign films, after looking at some inspiring examples, like the 'Trash Isles' campaign, created to draw-attention to the enormous island of plastic waste in the Pacific. After choosing causes, they have been working on pitches, which they recently delivered to a London-based advertising agency, who we hope will put one of their ideas into production.

## Film Workshops Update

Amazing news - our comedy sketches are in production! A very successful session was held with directors after our students successfully pitched their sketches to the BBC, well done everyone!



## **Students perform at Poole Theatre**

**Congratulations to all who took part in our show at the Lighthouse Theatre in Poole. Our National Theatre Connections production of '(Circle Dreams Around) the Terrible, Terrible Past' involved students from Year 8-13.**

**As well as acting, students also made all the props, ran the stage management, and created an original music score. The first performance in our Main Hall was in front of a National Theatre Mentor, who came along to give feedback. This helped with the next performance at the Poole Lighthouse Theatre. Connections is a youth theatre festival hosted by National Theatre. Each year, 10 new plays are commissioned and performed by youth groups and schools across the country.**

# Best-selling author visits!



Students enjoyed meeting bestselling author Annabel Steadman who gave a talk about her 'Skandar' books featuring bloodthirsty unicorns.

Annabel introduced her new book 'Skandar and the Phantom Rider' to more than 100 students in Year 7. She explained that she was inspired to create unicorns that are fierce and terrifying, rather than pure and angelic. She said 'I never liked fluffy unicorns, I wanted mine to be more like dragons. The fun thing about writing is that you can make up whatever you like, if you have an idea, you can write it, I was 13 when I wrote my first story.'

Both 'Skandar and the Unicorn Thief' and 'Skandar and the Phantom Rider' are available in our Library.



# Well done to everyone who received an Academic Junior Award, here are some of the winners!



# Junior Prize Giving 2023



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**Colfox Celebrates  
Pride 2023!**

# Celebrating

**PRIDE!**

**We enjoyed holding 'Splash the Rainbow Day' to celebrate Pride in June.**

**Students and staff were encouraged to wear something colourful to support Pride, rainbow flags were flown, our student librarians created a book display and we ran a stall to raise money and awareness.**

**Students raised £49 for the Space Youth Project, which supports and empowers young people who are or may be LGBT+.**

**One Year 10 student, who helped with the celebration, said: "It was fun, and it was great to see so many people supporting Pride and buying Pride flags to support the Space Youth Project."**

**Adam Shelley, Headteacher of the Sir John Colfox Academy, said: "Colfox is proud to celebrate Pride. It was brilliant to see everyone coming together to celebrate equality, diversity and we had fun."**

**Pride is about acceptance, equality, celebrating the work of LGBTQ+ people, education in LGBTQ+ history and raising awareness of issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community.**

# PRIDE!





# French Trip 2!



We enjoyed another successful trip to France this term, after our Spring Term trip proved so popular! A group of more than 30 students toured the Opal Coast region of France, enjoying cultural visits, historic towns and a visit to the Theme Park 'Parc Asterix'. Thank you to Mr Walker, Mr Willis and Mrs Duffy for taking our students to France!



From top left: Making French bread, rides at Parc Asterix, tasting snails (this was optional!) and on the ferry watching the White Cliffs of Dover.



# DRAMA CUP



**The Drama Cup this year focused on creating pieces to educate younger audiences on key life skills such as staying safe online, and what to do about bullying.**

**We had several brilliant pieces on bullying, and these were touching and well thought-out with a clear link to a primary school or Year 7, 8 and 9 audience. In the end, the winning piece was moving, factual and would have gone down very well with their target audience. Well done to our winners, Hinomaru House.**

**Mrs Holder, Head of Drama**

# Sailing Regatta!



**We enjoyed sailing in Poole during very hot weather in June.**

**Well done to everyone who took part in the Dorset School Games Sailing Regatta at Poole Park. Well done especially to Sophia for coming third in her final! We also enjoyed giant paddle boarding and raft making in between races to cool off.**

# Music Cup, Escape Room & Primary School Visits



**Music Escape Room**



**Music Cup**

**The Music Cup** was hard fought and we had some very talented entries, well done everyone! Congratulations to the winners, who were:

1st - Iris Stevens who performed 'Burn' from Hamilton brilliantly

2nd - Gus Gowrie for a talented performance on drums

3rd - Theo Mathewson for a fantastic piano performance

**Music Technology Escape Room!** Year 12 found themselves locked in an escape room! Teams faced challenging puzzles, each set in a different location around the school!

**Visiting primary schools!** Well done to our musicians who have been encouraging younger students to take-up music lessons and singing. They have had fun performing classics from Matilda and Oasis at assembly in neighbouring primary schools.

# Geography Field Work



Year 7 Geographers testing the anemometers that they made for homework. This is part of their microclimate fieldwork.



Year 9 Geographers doing fieldwork to find out about how and why infiltration rates vary in the school grounds.

# Well done Year 8 Handballers Regional Champions!



Congratulations to our Handballers for winning the Regional Championships and finishing in the top 10 in the National Championships - what an amazing achievement!

# Moors Valley Mountain Biking Trip



We enjoyed mountain biking at Moors Valley Country Park in May. Students had fun competing against other schools from across Dorset!

# Wimbledon and Inter-house Tennis



**We enjoyed our Inter-House Tennis competition this summer - great to see so many students enjoying summer sports. Our Year 10 Tennis Teams, were also lucky enough to go to Wimbledon and see world class players battle it out!**



**Playing Hockey for Dorset  
Well done Luke!**

**Congratulations to Luke in Year 9 for being selected for Dorset Hockey Team - he is the first Colfox student to ever represent his county at Hockey - well done!**



# YOUTH VOICE!



## Dragon's Den Challenge!

We are always looking for new ways of empowering our students and encouraging them to make their voices heard - which is why we launched our 'Dragon's Den' Challenge.

Students worked together in tutor time, researching ideas and putting together business pitches aimed at improving our students' lives. These were then pitched to our Dragons, our senior leadership team, pictured above from left: Deputy Head Laura Webb, Headteacher Adam Shelley and Deputy Head Carol Duffy, also pictured are the winning Year 8 tutor group. Students pitched a wide range of ideas, including changing our uniform, introducing slush puppy machines and creating new outside seating areas.



# YOUTH VOICE!



## European Parliament Visit

A visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg was a brilliant learning opportunity for Stan and Dylan in Year 12! Stan, who is a Member of the UK Youth Parliament, helps promote Youth Voice at Colfox and has set-up a new Debate Club.

Their fact-finding mission in June was a success, Dylan said: "It was interesting to see how political debates are done on such a large scale. The city was beautiful and the Parliament was very impressive."

Colfox is proud to be one of the only secondary schools in the South West to have achieved UNICEF's Gold Rights Respecting School Award, which recognises that students' rights are valued and their voices are heard.



## Business Visit to Clipper Teas

We had a tour of the factory looking at how the tea is processed and packaged with a huge emphasis on producing ethically and sustainably.

The students came away being able to apply a vast amount of knowledge learnt from the classroom to a real business and this is something that they will be able to reflect on in their exam answers. A big thank you to Clipper Tea for hosting us!



## Dorset Waterpark Trip

Some of Year 7 got incredibly muddy on a trip to Dorset Water Park in July. A lot of fun was had at the park near Corfe.

## Technology Cup Shoe Challenge!



Creating shoes was the challenge in our Technology Cup - some made it further than others!



# EXAMS - well done everyone!

Well done to all our Year 11 and 13 students, who took 120 exams. Thank you to our teachers for providing breakfast support sessions and to our exams officer, Mrs Davies, who yet again did an amazing job of making sure they ran smoothly!

A total of 3,381 exam papers were completed during 239 hours of exams. We had 224 students who sat 69 GCSE exams and 51 A Level exams, sometimes in up to 12 rooms at the same time, which involved a lot of moving!

# We Woodwork



**Our technology students and our Lathe Club have been producing beautiful work again this term.**

**Frank made a fantastic pen in a wood resin composite that he cast and set himself. He chose the colours, mixed the resin and poured it into the mould, cutting, drilling and sanding to produce it.**



**The brilliant resin coasters above were made by Dan, he turned a piece of ash, hollowed out the centre, before sanding, cutting and using a friction based polish. He then turned them into discs, prepared the design on 2D design, which was laser etched into the coasters. Resin was mixed and colour added, this was poured into the laser etching and left to cure. The coasters were put back onto the lathe and sanded until flat. They were then sanded and polished using carnuba wax. This was a particularly challenging turn because the coasters had to fit with the holder.**

# We Food & Textiles

## Amazing teacakes and National Competition Success



Well done to Abi Carter in Year 10 for her lovely 'Turtle Teacake' design which won a prize in Tunnock's Teacake Challenge 2023, in the 'most novel' category. Well done also to Melody Taylor in Year 10 for designing an amazing 'Pink Pig' Teacake! We love them!



## Recycled Fashion Textiles Competition



Well done to Rozie, Molly and Maisy for their winning entry

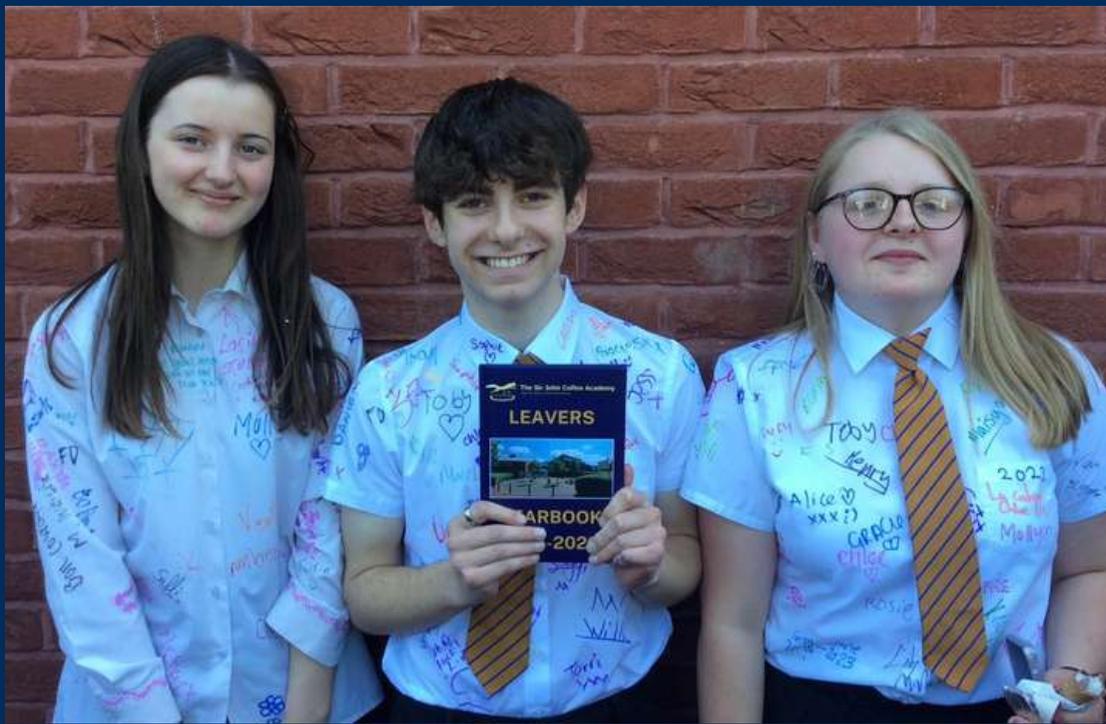


Congratulations Alice, Faith, Georgia and Adam for a great design

Well done to Abi Carter in Year 8 for her lovely 'Turtle Teacake' design which won a prize in Tunnock's Teacake Challenge 2023, in the 'most novel' category. Well done also to Melody Taylor in Year 10 for designing an amazing 'Pink Pig' Teacake! We love them!

# Goodbye and Congratulations to our brilliant Year 11 & 13!

Ice creams, shirt signing, celebration assembly and lots of memories were shared as we said a fond farewell to our amazing Year 11 and 13. Thank you to Charlie Wheeler, pictured left, for leading work on creating Year 11's fantastic Year Book!





**We enjoyed the Prom! It was lovely to see everyone, amazing outfits, a great venue, thank you Symondsburry Tithe Barn. Thanks also to Mrs Cary for creating the balloon arch!**





P R O M



# Year 9 Careers Day in Weymouth College

Year 9 enjoyed a tour of Weymouth College and a huge variety of taster lessons at their Careers College Day. Students tried classes in everything from fashion design, architecture, 3D animation, art, cookery, photography, building and more. Lots of information about Apprenticeships and different Careers and post 16 options was available, thank you to Weymouth College for hosting.

Mr Thompson, Head of Careers, said: "It was a great day, the whole of Year 9 attended Weymouth College's Careers College. They all experienced two college courses which they selected to experience in areas of interest which will hopefully go on to inspire their career path. The college staff were very impressed with all our Colfox students, saying that they were one of the best groups they had ever had. Well done Year 9, you really showed yourselves in your best light."



# Library News

## Librarians revamping our Library - new football and other sections!

Our Librarians have been creating new sections reflecting student interests.

Thank you to our Librarian Beau, pictured, for organising a new Football section, and to everyone who has suggested books! Our Manga and Graphics sections have also quadrupled.

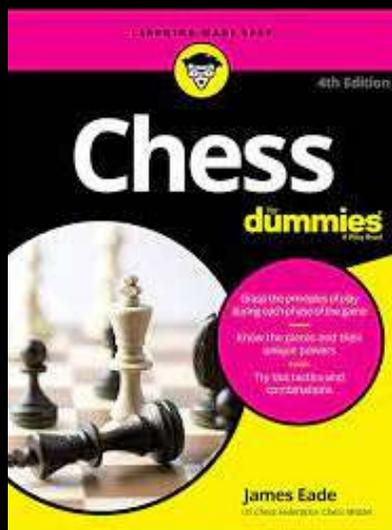


## Our pledge to get every book requested

We have pledged to buy every book students request. Thank you to the generosity of local people, and Bridport Book Shop for supporting our 'Buy a Book for Your School Library' Appeal we have been able to buy hundreds of books students want this term - thank you!

# REVIEWS *By our Student Librarians*

**'The Maze Runner'** Thomas finds himself in a maze with other boys, he can't remember what happened or why he is there. The maze is ever changing, and they are trapped. Soon after a mysterious girl arrives delivering a message. The horrible griever invades the glade and start to kill the Gladers one by one. Can they escape? I really liked this book because it was full of adventure and very hard to put down! **Review by Chris Foote**



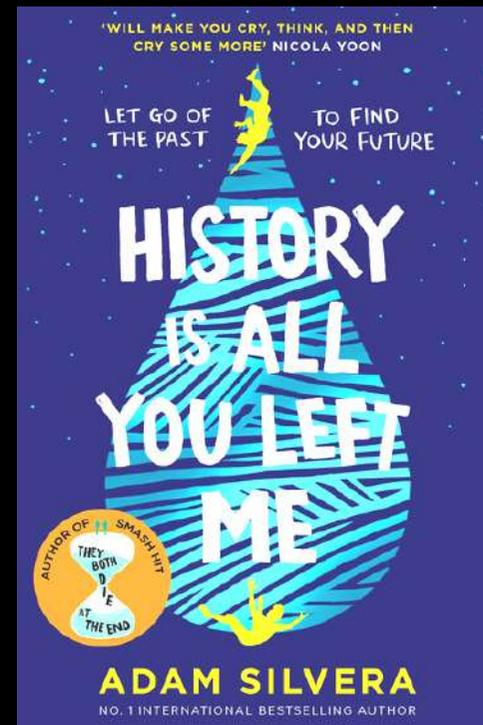
**'Chess for Dummies'** This is about how to play chess. It explores things like what are the best openings to start the game. This book is good for people that are starting or want to improve at chess. **Review by Ryan Burt**

**The Gone series** is one of the best book series that I have read. All the grown-ups disappear, it starts with the main character at school in English and the teacher goes to the bathroom and the students wait for about ten minutes until a student from a different class comes in saying 'all the teachers are gone, my maths teacher disappeared right in front of me'. All the students run out of the school and it is silent - no cars moving, no shops being run, as all the adults have disappeared..... **Review by Lucas Phillips**



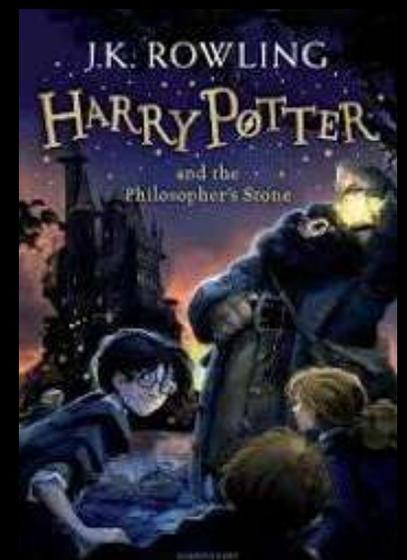
# REVIEWS *By our Student Librarians*

'History is All You Left Me' is about a guy named Griffin who lost his first love in a drowning accident. This book has a lot of gay romance and a lot of romance in general, there's a lot of break ups and interesting chapters in the middle. Griffin is reeling from grief and worsening OCD and he turns to an unexpected person for help, Theo's boyfriend. The relationship becomes increasingly complicated and the truth begins to unbury... They must confront the past or miss out on the future.... My overall opinion on this book is that its fantastic and you need to read from the start to understand what's happened and how he's ended up in the place he is in. **Review by Danny Parkinson**



My Hero Academia is a MANGA book, were 80% of the population manifest superpowers called 'Quirks'. But some quirks are used for bad and villains started appearing in the world - so a Hero Academy was created to help fight the villains. **By Year 8 Reviewer**

This is a favourite book, it is so magical. Reading this book made me think that I was in a different reality, it was amazing! I watched the movies years before I started reading the books, and so far they are quite different which I like. Overall these books are insane and I don't want to finish them because they are so amazing! **Review by Ava and Tallulah**



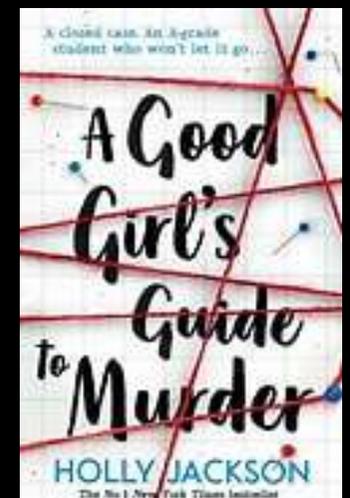
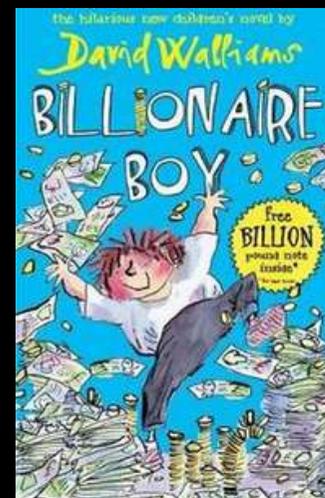
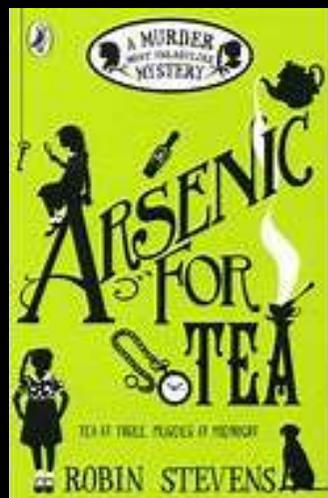
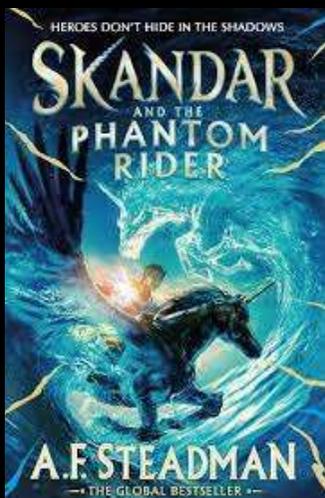
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# Bath History Trip

Year 12 enjoyed visiting the American Museum in Bath. Students spent time in the morning with the museum's learning officer Vicky who had prepared activities and in the afternoon they toured the exhibits, not once but twice. They found out about the Civil War, Native American life and the lives of those who emigrated from Europe and settled in America. Grace, in Year 12, who went on the trip said: "It was fascinating, we explored rooms that were set out as they would have been at the time. These recreations gave an interesting insight into what life would have been like and how people would have lived".



# Chess Cup Winner!

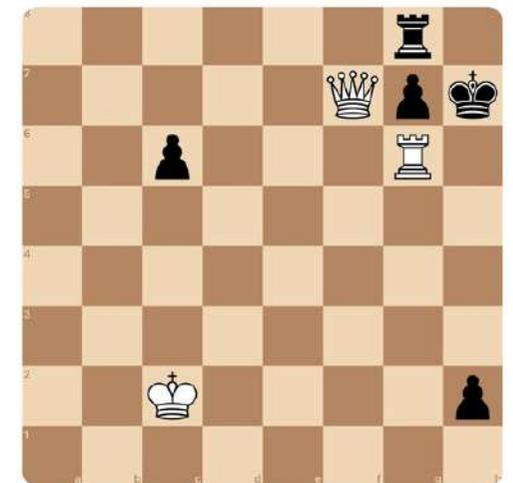
Well done to Monty in Year 8 for winning our Chess Cup! It was a very hard fought contest.

Chess Club has been very popular again this year, thank you to Mr Willis for running it! Chess has also been popular in the library at lunchtimes. If anyone has a set they no longer use please donate



Amazing puzzle composed by Otto Wurzburg in 1917

Can you find mate in 2 for white? 🤔



# Help with uniform

## **Some free second hand school uniform is available**

Some free second hand uniform is available to pick-up from school. No forms, no fuss, just get what you need. The uniform available has been donated to us, so availability of items will sometimes vary.

## **How do I pick-up uniform?**

Just drop in during the school day and ask at reception. Students can ask for items too. Or you can email us a request: [office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk)

## **Please donate unwanted school uniform – Thank you!**

Please donate school uniform, ties, PE kit (without names on the back) and sports equipment that you no longer need. Please donate uniform that is in good condition, we are grateful if you could wash it first. Please drop it off to reception. Thank you, your generosity will help others.

# Free Summer Activities



Lots of great fun summer activities are available free if your child gets free school meals: [helpandkindness.co.uk/summer-in-dorset-2023](https://helpandkindness.co.uk/summer-in-dorset-2023)

**Thank you for reading!**



**We wish you all a very happy  
summer!**