





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

Welcome to our Spring Term 2 News which is full of the brilliant things that your children have achieved and enjoyed this half term. I'm proud of our Year 9 artists for decorating Colfox's 'Stampede by the Sea' elephant, called Brit, which is on display at Groves. The elephant **art trail** looks great fun to explore this Easter, why not take a look!

Keep going Year 11 and Year 13, the work you put in now will pay off. Parents and Carers there is a **useful blog here** **about supporting children with exams.**

This week we have been enjoying our brilliant school show '**Bugsy Malone**' congratulations to all the cast, the crew, to Ms Langdon for Directing and Mrs Holder, Mr Hocking and Mr Jackson, whose amazing photographs are featured in this edition.

**Science Week** was amazing again this term, with exciting experiments happening everywhere, we enjoyed the pop-up Planetarium, animal encounters and lots more, thank you to Ms David and all in Science.

We have also enjoyed lots of fun **Maths celebrations** this term, namely Pi Day, Euler Day and the Maths Feast, thank you to our Maths Faculty.

There have been lots of trips this term, our Sixth Form enjoyed an amazing time in New York City, there is a great report of the trip by Danielle in Year 12. Year 11 are looking forward to going to Thorpe Park tomorrow, have fun!

It was lovely to hear praise from so many employers about Year 10 during their work experience placements, some have already been offered apprenticeship, job or volunteering opportunities. They were a credit to our school - well done Year 10! Thank you to everyone who provided work experience opportunities the range was fantastic, demonstrating again Bridport's great community spirit.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have enjoyed lots of fun interhouse activities this term, well done to everyone who joined in.

I was very proud of our Youth Speaks Debating Team who won through to the South West finals - well done!

We enjoyed World Book Day, thank you to Mrs Wright for organising a great fun book character scavenger hunt and to everyone who dressed up! Our Student Librarians did a brilliant job of giving out free books and vouchers, if your child missed out on a free book, they can still go to the Library and get one.

Please encourage your child to join a club and try something new, joining in and getting involved is great for their wellbeing and it's free and fun. Please encourage them to explore **SORA** our brilliant free online bookshop, it is a great way to save money as it has 2,000+ free bestsellers, 500+ top selling magazines, audio books and graphic novels. Research shows reading for 10 minutes a day improves wellbeing and leads to success in life, and it is fun! We've paid for every student to have SORA, they can log in using their usual school username and password, a how to guide is included in this edition. I hope that you all have a Peaceful Easter and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Wed 23 April.

**Yours sincerely,  
Adam Shelley  
Headteacher**



# Science Weeks!

**Animal encounters, pop-up planetarium, exploding Science Show & more!**

Colfox was transformed into a hub of scientific discovery and excitement during our annual Science Weeks in March (6-14th). This year's event was a resounding success, capturing the imaginations of students from Years 7 through 10 with diverse and engaging events.

## **Animal encounters!**

The week kicked off with fascinating animal encounters. On the 6th and 7th, students had the opportunity to get up close and personal with a variety of creatures, including gentle corn snakes, curious quails, playful hamsters, intriguing millipedes, and the surprisingly charismatic giant African snails. Adding to the excitement, we were delighted to welcome 40 Year 1 students from Bridport Primary School who joined us for a special animal session. The young visitors were absolutely thrilled by the experience, their enthusiasm and wonder adding an extra layer of joy to the event. This hands-on experience provided a unique opportunity to learn about animal biology and adaptation, sparking curiosity and wonder in students of all ages.



# Science Weeks!

## Ice Cream making (and eating!)

The scientific exploration continued throughout the week with a series of captivating activities. Students delved into the world of culinary chemistry by making their own ice cream, experiencing the magic of phase changes. The dramatic effects of dry ice were demonstrated, showcasing the power of sublimation. The ever-popular slime-making workshop allowed students to explore the properties of polymers in a fun and interactive way.

## Science Show - bangs & explosions!

The highlight of the week was undoubtedly the Science Show on Thursday. Years 7 to 10 were treated to a spectacular display of scientific phenomena, featuring exploding balloons, exhilarating experiments!

## Pop-up Planaterium!

An immersive planetarium experience on Friday. The show brought scientific concepts to life, demonstrating the power and wonder of the natural world through visually stunning experiments.



# Science Weeks!

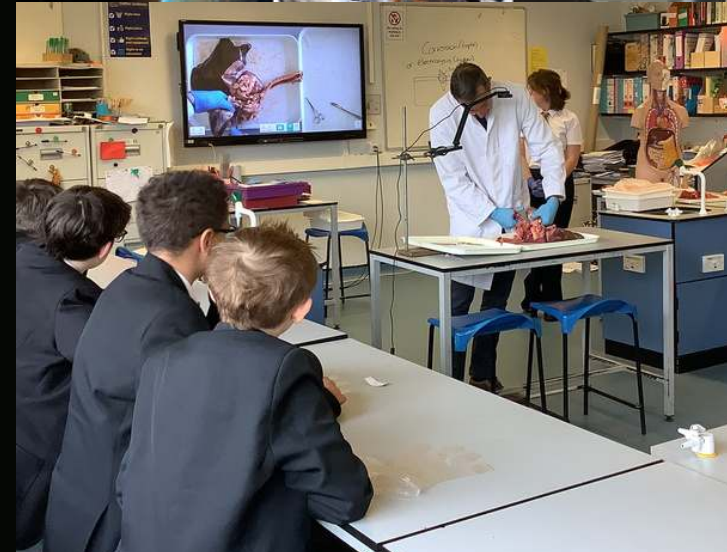
## Dissections!

For those with a keen interest in anatomy, dissection sessions provided invaluable insights into the inner workings of a lamb's head and eyeballs, as well as a heart and lungs.

## Primary School visits!

The enthusiasm and engagement of the students throughout the week were truly inspiring. From the initial animal encounters, including the delightful visit from Bridport Primary, to the explosive finale, Science Week 2025 provided a platform for students to explore, experiment, and discover the wonders of science. The diverse range of activities catered to a variety of interests, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the scientific disciplines.

The success of this year's Science Week is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Science department and all those involved in making it a memorable and enriching experience for our students. We look forward to building on this success in future years, continuing to inspire the next generation of scientists.



# School Show!

# BUGSY MALONE



Photography by Mr Brendan Jackson

**What an amazing show! Congratulations to all the cast, the singers, the dancers, the musicians, the back stage crew, everyone who helped and of course Ms Langdon the Director, Mrs Holder, Mr Hocking and Mr Jackson - it was brilliant!**

# BUGSY MALONE



# BUGSY MALONE



# BUGSY MALONE



# BUGSY MALONE



# Cambridge University Speaker Encourages Students to Apply



**A speaker from Cambridge University was invited to Colfox this term to encourage more of our students to apply for top universities.**

Ellen Withington, School and College Liaison Officer at Downing College, Cambridge, (pictured above with Year 9 Students) visited in March and discussed life at Cambridge, Oxford, courses and aspirations. She gave an interesting talk, slide show and then held a question and answer session for Students interested in applying.

The visit was organised by Lucy Wright, Head of English, she said: "This session was held to encourage more of our Students to aim high, believe in themselves and apply for top universities, it exploded lots of myths about 'Oxbridge' and gave useful advice about applying."

# Year 7 Ancient History Trip!



**Year seven enjoyed a trip back in time when they visited the Ancient Technology Centre.**

Around 30 students explored ancient buildings at the centre near Cranborne, before trying their hand at historic crafts, lighting fires and building from willow. They explored the Viking Long House, a Stone Age Round House and a Roman Forge and Water Lifting Machine. The trip follows the launch of Colfox's Classics Hub, which offers students more opportunities to study Latin, Greek, Ancient History and the Classical World.



# Maths Feast!

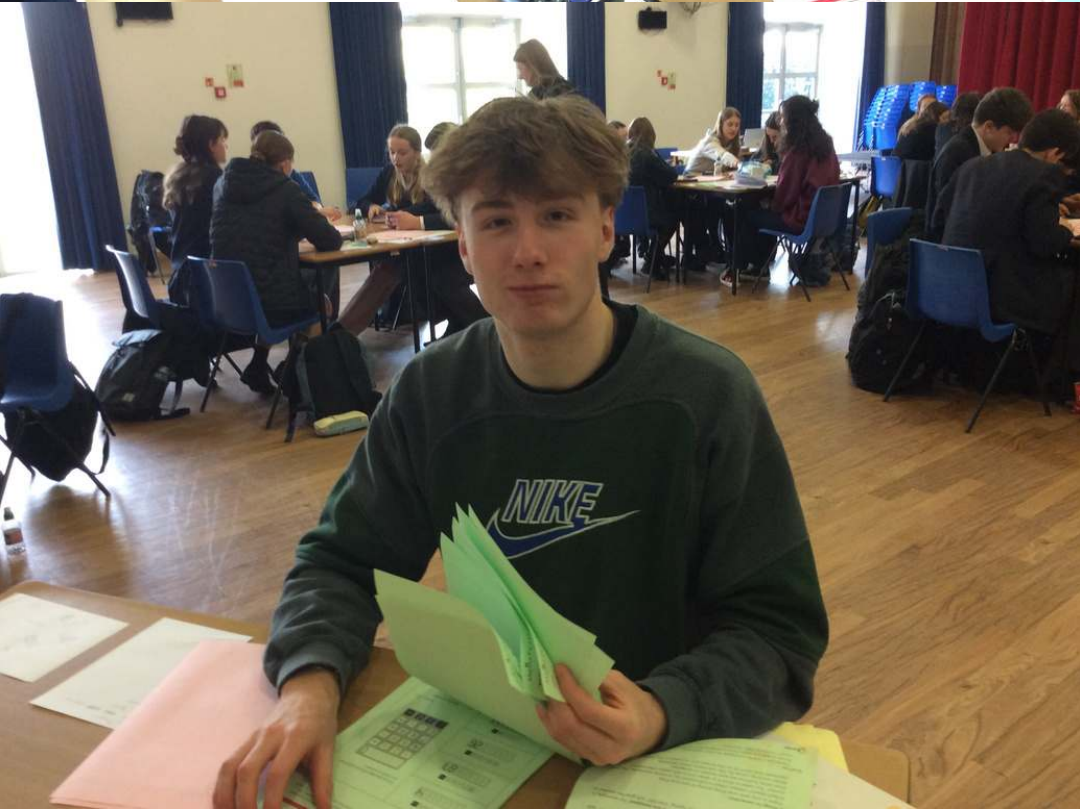
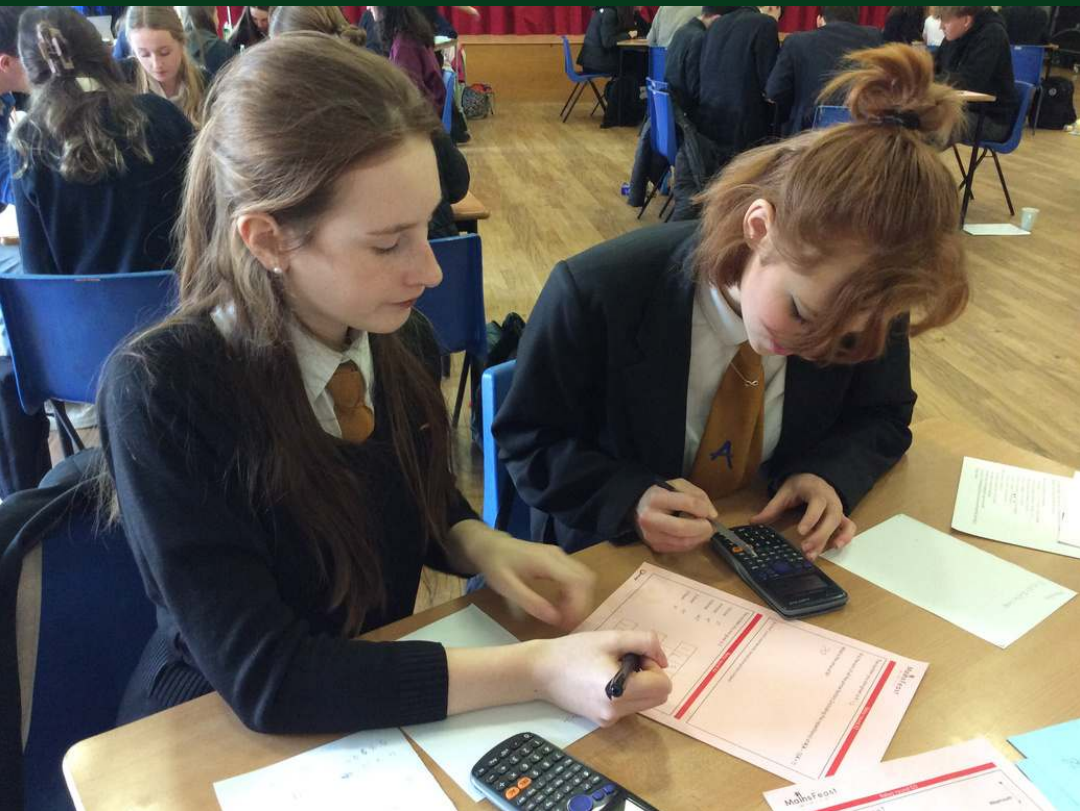
## **We love Maths - so we had a Maths Feast!**

What is a Maths Feast? It is a fun challenge for Year 10 students that tests problem-solving and teamwork skills. Teams of students worked together to test their maths skills during the all-you-can-eat feast of maths challenges!

We invited teams from other schools including two teams from Exeter School, two teams from Westfield Academy in Yeovil, two teams from the Maynard School in Exeter and we entered four teams from Colfox, who did very well, well done everyone, but the overall winning team was from Exeter School.

**Mrs Jo Carpenter - Teacher of Maths**

# Maths Feast!



**Thank you to all our Sixth Form helpers who assisted at the Maths Feast!**

# NATIONAL THEATRE CONNECTIONS 2025

**Congratulations to Students who took part in our National Theatre Connections show this term.**

**Our production of 'You 2.0' in March was attended by a National Theatre Mentor, who came along to give feedback. 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.**

National  
Theatre

YOU 2.0  
by Alys Mossall



**Mrs Holder Head of Drama**

# **Work Experience Well done Year 10!**

It was wonderful to see students in action on their work placements, and hear so many fantastic reports from a huge range of businesses and other employers.

We were impressed to hear that students have been offered potential apprenticeship opportunities, as well as future job and volunteering opportunities. An impressive range of work experience placements were undertaken, everything from engineering, estate agency, hospitality, arts projects, electricians, law, wildlife work, as well as a huge range of businesses and public sector organisations.

Work experience is a hugely valuable experience for our Students and it depends on our amazing community who generously give their time to make it happen. Thank you to all the wonderful employers, businesses, charities, voluntary, public sector and other organisations who gave our Students such a valuable and useful taste of the world of work.

**Michael Thompson, Head of Careers**

# Work Experience - well done Year 10!



Our Students excelled at many jobs, here they are teaching, hedge laying & building!



Not to mention excellent work in engineering, butchery and plumbing!

# New York Trip!



**Our Sixth Formers enjoyed an amazing cultural trip to New York in February half term.**



Amazing views 100 floors up of Manhattan and the Hudson River from the 'Edge' observation deck in Hudson Yards. Students braved dizzying heights to walk on the glass floor! Students also enjoyed panoramic night time views of the New York skyline from the top of the Empire State



Glass floor  
100 floors  
up, don't  
look down!

# New York Trip!



Central Park and a fascinating walking tour of Manhattan - St Patrick's Cathedral, Trump Tower, New York Library, Rockefeller Centre, Grand Central Station & many other famous landmarks!



# New York Trip!



The 9/11 Memorial and Museum - incredibly impressive and moving tribute, the Memorial Pools mark where the twin towers were and white roses commemorate the birthdays of those lost.



# New York Trip!



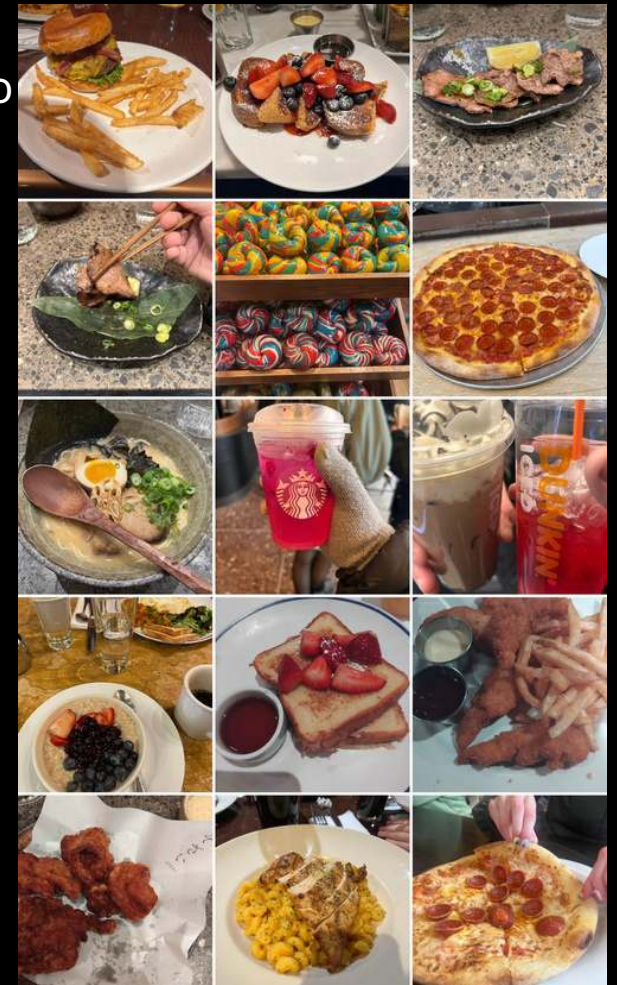
Boat trip to the Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island Museum of Immigration, Guggenheim, Street Art tour of Brooklyn, ice skating, Chelsea market & trip to Harry Potter & Cursed Child on Broadway



# New York Trip!



The Students stayed just off Times Square, above. Mr Teasdale asked everyone to share 'good' photos of NY but it autocorrected to 'food' so we have dozens of delicious food shots!



# A trip to New York by Danielle Jones, Year 12

Year 12 and 13 students from The Sir John Colfox Academy and Beaminster School have just returned from a once in a lifetime trip to New York City! The students returned on the 19th of February after 5 days of exploration around New York with memories that will be spoken of for years to come. All the students have said that the experience was 'completely unbelievable' with their accommodation being in the heart of New York, surrounded by theatres hosting Broadway shows and only a 2-minute walk from the famous Times Square. Maisie, a Year 12 student, said, "It felt like I was living in a movie" and Tegan also in Year 12 described Times Square as being "magical".

Times Square was a popular favourite of many of the students who were astonished by the sheer magnitude of the screen advertising which is a complete **contrast to anything they have experienced while living in Dorset**. Students felt it couldn't be compared to large cities such as London as the atmosphere was so different. An interesting fact is that Times Square can be viewed from space! Students immersed themselves within the culture of New York through various experiences, one of the most significant being a street art and graffiti tour around Brooklyn by a leading graffiti artist. Students gathered around and listened attentively to a passionate artist who taught the students about the history of graffiti in New York and learned about the complex systems of etiquette amongst artists whilst looking at some amazing real art. The graffiti brought the street to life and was a vibrant representation to the students of New York's history and the strong attitudes to those who make the city what it is. Further exploring New York's culture, students were lucky enough to visit the 9/11 'memorial pools' and the memorial itself. Everyone was given the opportunity before entering the memorial to take their time and observe the footprints of the famous Twin Towers as tour guides gave background to the tragic event but also some important details.

There was a clear indication that the magnitude of the event had not been fully perceived by the students until seeing the site first-hand and the true scale of them in person. Upon entering the memorial, it was clear to see awareness growing as the significance of the attack was realised by the students. The students spent just under two hours in the memorial, educating themselves on the history of the attack and trying to understand the true gravity of what happened on that day. Tilly stated, “I felt stunned, and it was incomprehensible how such an event could have even happened.” She added, “I'm not really sure how to put it into words because it's more of a feeling than a thought.” The student recollections of the experience speak for themselves, and it was apparent that many students are going to be reflecting on thoughts gathered from the memorial now they have arrived home. It was a profoundly unforgettable experience.

One thing all students agree on was their exhaustion! Good walking shoes are essential as New York is certainly not a small city - especially when you have lots to see! Students had the opportunity to visit Grand Central Station, Central Park, the famous Guggenheim Museum, walking all around Manhattan and much more! The students were lucky enough to indulge in some great sight-seeing which included a ferry to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and marvelling at the New York skyline from two angles (the Empire state building and The Edge platform). Activities followed through into the evenings, including trips to the cinema, a show on Broadway and ice-skating amongst the skyscrapers. The skylines were like nothing they'd seen before! Iris in Year 12 described the sights as “surreal and breathtaking” and Arturo also in Year 12 stated, “I wish it had lasted longer”.

New York's food was loved by all, especially the vast supply of popular food chains, dining in the evening in iconic restaurants such as Applebee's and the Hard Rock Cafe. However, one day students had lunch in the famous Chelsea Market where they ate a diverse range of food from many cultures and there was something for everyone. The trip was truly incredible as described by all students and the teachers themselves who attended. The students were given a completely new perspective of the world around them, gaining a valuable insight into the magnitude of the world they are living in. The Sixth Form were provided with a trip that created memories to last a lifetime.



# Running brilliance well done Ayla!

**Congratulations to Ayla Chard from Yr11 who again got selected to represent Dorset Schools in the English Schools Cross Country championships in West Sussex on March 15th.**

**To get there Ayla needed to qualify in the top 8 in the area round, then the top six in the regional round. On a tough course Ayla finished 147<sup>th</sup> out of around 340 runners, putting her in the top half of all the runners her age in the country.**

**An epic performance by Ayla who has worked ridiculously hard over the past 3 years to improve her running. A real role model for our younger pupils.**

**Mr Littlechild, Head of PE**

# We Sport!

All our Sports Clubs are free and great fun for everyone, even if you don't think you are sporty, come along & have some fun! Well done to everyone who took part this term!



# World Book Day Fun!



**We had fun on World Book Day! Thank you to all the teachers and support staff who dressed up as a character from fiction for our World Book Day Scavenger Hunt!**

**Students had to find and identify all the characters, which included Cruella and a team of dalmatians, Scout Finch, Miss Trunchbull, Fantastic Mr Toad and an array of witches and wizards from Harry Potter!**

# Giving out hundreds of free books thanks to the Book Shop!



THE  BOOKSHOP EST. 1978



We enjoyed giving out hundreds of free books on World Book Day!

Thank you to all Student Librarians who helped run our free book stall. If any student missed out and would like a free book, come to the Library as we still have a few copies left over. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were also given a voucher to exchange for a free book in any book shop in town.

Thank you to Bridport Book Shop who supported us very generously by donating World Book Day Books to us.



# Pi Day Maths Fun!

**We love Maths - so we held a Pi Day Interhouse Competition!**

What is Pi Day? Pi Day is an annual celebration of the mathematical constant  $\pi$ . Pi Day is observed on March 14 since 3, 1, and 4 are the first three significant figures of  $\pi$ .

Year 8 enjoyed celebrating Pi Day, with an Inter-House Maths Competition. Congratulations to the winners, Fleur De Lys House, who impressively were able to memorise 51 digits of the mathematical constant Pi  $\pi$ !

**Mrs Kayleigh Jones - Lead Practitioner Maths**

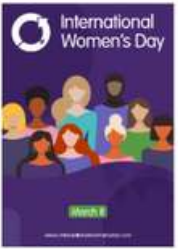


# Youth Speaks!

## Students shine in Public Speaking Contest

**Congratulations to our Senior Debating Teams who performed brilliantly at the 'Rotary Youth Speaks' Competition.**

We are very proud of our them for winning many rounds and making it through to the South West Finals, well done to Oliver, Arturo and Poppy, pictured above, for representing our school and community so well.



International Women's Day  
8th March  
Mr Shelley's Inspirational Woman  
Ada Lovelace



### Ada Lovelace - the world's first Computer Programmer

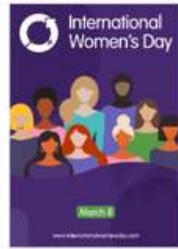
Born in 1815, she was taught Maths, Logic and Science, unusual for women then.

She studied a device, the 'Analytical Engine' invented by her friend Charles Babbage.

She realised codes could be created for it and created a way for it to repeat a series of instructions known as 'looping', still used by Computer Programmers today.

Her work inspired Alan Turing's to develop the first modern computers in the 1940s.

She died aged 36, but her pioneering work is remembered - the US Dept of Defence named a computer language 'Ada' after her.



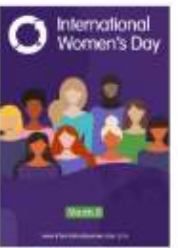
International Women's Day  
8th March 2025  
Mrs Baker's Inspirational Woman  
Lee Miller

Lee Miller was a photojournalist for Vogue magazine

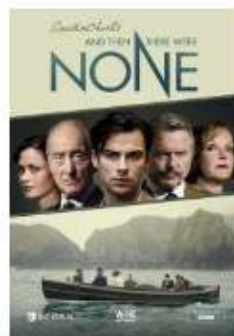
In World War 2 she was one of the few women allowed to be on the front lines

Her photos of the D-Day invasion, concentration camps, and Hitler's abandoned apartment in Munich

Known for her fearless spirit and creative mind, Lee Miller not only captured stunning and sometimes disturbing images, but also broke boundaries in a male-dominated field



International Women's Day  
8th March  
Mrs Shelley's Inspirational Woman - Agatha Christie



### Agatha Christie - best selling novelist of all time!

Born in nearby Torquay, has sold two BILLION books worldwide - G.O.A.T!

Her detective stories 'who-dun-its' are still huge hits around the world, including Hollywood, and available in your Library!



# Colfox Celebrates International Women's Day

We enjoyed celebrating International Women's Day at Colfox!

We held special assemblies and staff have been choosing inspirational women from all walks of life to highlight in posters around school.



Thank you to our models Max, Millie, Evie & Tali!

# Optional Summer Uniform

Following requests from Students and Parents for a cooler Summer Uniform Option, we are introducing new shirts that Students can wear in the Summer Term, after the Easter holidays. **This is an option; Students can still wear their usual uniform if they prefer.**

The new uniform has been designed to be cool, smart and as inexpensive as possible. The junior size costs £10 and the others are £12, samples are available to view in the Hub and they are [available to order here](#). If you need help with the cost of school uniform please contact the office, email: [office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk) If anyone can donate uniform in good condition that is no longer needed please drop it into the office so we can pass it on to families in need.

# Help with uniform

## **If you need help with uniform**

Please contact us we may be able to provide families in need with uniform help, we also have some second hand uniform available which has been donated to us. Please email us if you need assistance: [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.

## **Please make sure your child has the correct uniform**

Advice on uniform is available on our [website here](#).

## **Helpers needed!**

We are looking for volunteers to join our 'Friends of Colfox' group, one of the things the group does to help students and support families is help sort through uniform donations, and launder any that need attention. If you can help please contact: [office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk)

# Free online support & talks for Parents



## Easter Timetable

all sessions delivered live online via zoom £24 each 90 minutes long  
book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Facing Defiance	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	8 April 10am
Understanding Anger	8 April 7PM
Anxiety Explained	14 APR 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	14 APR 7pm
What is ACT	15 April 10am
Introduction to OCD	15 April 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	22 April 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	22 April 7pm
<b>FREE</b> Responding to Angry Behaviour	24 April 7pm
Improving Family Communication	28 April 10am
Autism Improving Communication	28 April 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	29 April 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	29 April 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	6 May 7pm

**We have bought access so Parents can get free advice talks**

We all need advice sometimes, and we are delighted to share free high quality online support from FACE Family Advice. They offer support for parents across a wide range of topics.

We have purchased a 100% discount code so that all parents can have unlimited, completely free of charge access to all the regular Parent Talks. A letter giving details & the code has been sent to all Parents.

# Library News

**FREE Magazines now available on SORA!**

**Save cash, 500+ almost everything available!**

Save £100s, Students can now get bestselling magazines - New Scientist, Lego, Fortnite, Coding for Kids, Vanity Fair, Vogue, the New Yorker, Good Housekeeping, House and Garden, Textiles, Music, National Geographic, Film, Chess, Cookery, Sport, the list is endless and all amazing titles!

We have paid for all students to have access to them via our online reading platform SORA, just use your usual school log in, it's easy! A 'how to use SORA' guide is below. Downloading the free app avoids the log-in process. Take a look, there is lots for Parents to enjoy too!



# Get FREE bestsellers, magazines, graphic novels & audio books online!



Use Sora at home (its easy)  
like a Kindle - but free!  
Here is the 'how to' guide:

## SORA

- Google 'SORA'
- Click 'Find my School'
- Click 'No I'll search for my School'
- In 'Let's find your school' type 'Colfox' and click it when it pops up
- Scroll down list to 'T' and click 'The Sir John Colfox'
- Click 'sign-in using the Sir John Colfox Academy'
- Log in using your full email address

## EXPLORE!

Sport / Manga / Graphics/ Thrillers / Horror/ Football / Horses / Anything!



**FREE CREATIVE ACTIVITIES  
FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
CRAFTS + MUSIC + FOOD**



**COME ALONG  
& JOIN IN!**

**Monday 14th April**

**10.30am - 14.30pm**

**Lyme Regis Seafront**

**Jubilee Pavillion/The Shelters**

**Marine Parade**

**Free lunch**

**with a Dorset HAF code**

For more information:  
[www.bsharp.org/news/  
easterworkshops](http://www.bsharp.org/news/easterworkshops)



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**LYME REGIS**

**SATURDAY 10TH MAY**

**BUSKING  
FESTIVAL**

**BUSKING** ♪ **OPEN MIC** ♪ **DRUMMING**  
**CRAFT** ♪ **LITTLE B's BOOGIE** ♪ **DJing**  
**LIVE LOUNGE** ♪ **MASTERCLASSES**  
**PERFORMANCES** ♪ **FOOD STALLS**

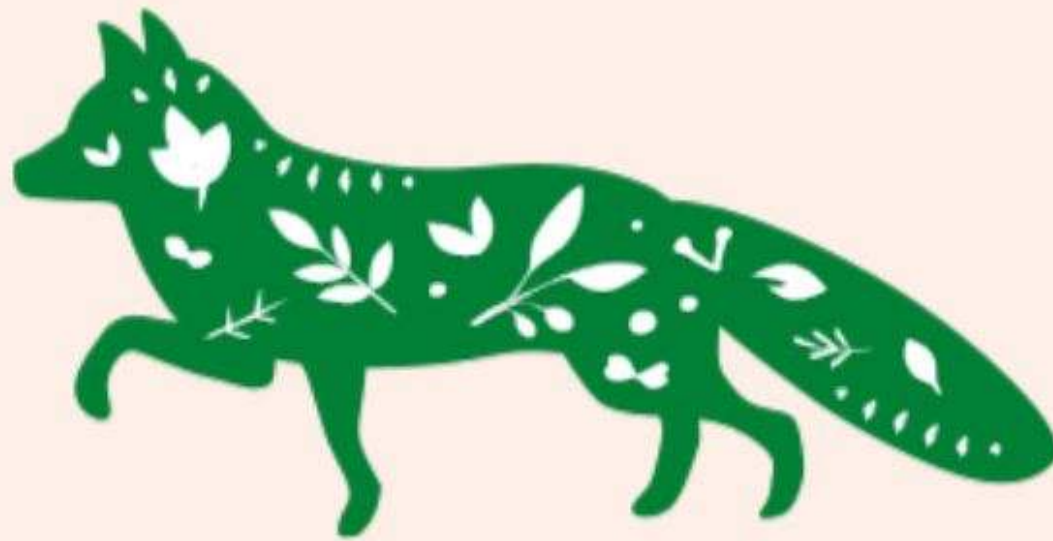


**BSharp Music**  
Building Sound Futures

To view the programme,  
apply to busk or sign  
up for a workshop see:  
[www.bsharp.org.uk/  
busking-festival/](http://www.bsharp.org.uk/busking-festival/)



**Thank you for reading!**



**NEWS FROM COLFOX  
SPRING TERM 2 2025**

**We wish you all a very Happy Easter!**