



Dear Parents, Carers and all Friends of Colfox Academy,



We are very proud of all our students, especially Year 11 and Year 13, who are tackling their exams with hard work and diligence. Year 10 have also made a lot of progress on their GCSE courses and Year 12 have worked hard on their first year of A levels and are now considering their next steps.

Our new picnic tables have arrived and are being well-used, we now have extra outdoor seating for 70+ extra students, perfect for the sunny weather. Well done to Year 10 whose pitch for more outdoor seating started the fundraiser! Thank you to everyone who gave, especially Palmers Brewery for their generous match funding and Bridport Round Table for their generous donation. Student Voice and encouraging Students to help shape things at their school is important at Colfox. Our new summer uniform, another Student Voice initiative, is proving popular and easy to wear in the heat. Please contact us if you need help with uniform.

Well done to Students who received a Senior Award, it was great to celebrate your achievements! Well done to our Year 9 Students who are taking part in the Bank of Dreams and Nightmares workshop, we hope to see your work in print soon. There were some fantastic athletic achievements at the County Trials this month, congratulations to everyone who took part. This half term also saw a great performance by our drama students at the Northcott Theatre in Exeter as part of National Theatre's Connections Festival. Our lower school have been enjoying House Cup Competitions and Challenges. Well done to Fleur De Lys House for winning the 'Square Root Day' contest.

Thank you to the 'Friends of Colfox' who raised £500+ last term to help our Students. Come to the Friends Quiz on 15 July, it'll be fun! Raffle prize donations welcome. Don't forget to check out the free best selling books & magazines on SORA, we've paid for access for all. If you haven't seen a Parent Talk yet, take a look, we have paid for access for all and feedback so far is excellent. I wish you all a very peaceful half term, keep revising Y11 and Y13 - your efforts will pay off! I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2 June.

**Yours sincerely,
Adam Shelley , Headteacher**



New Picnic Tables arrive!

Student Voice Success - thank you Palmers, Bridport Round Table & all our generous sponsors



Pictured clockwise from left: Emily Palmer Ramus, Palmers Chief Executive, John Palmer, Palmers Brewery Chairman, with Paul Watkins, James Rooney and Dave Cutting from Bridport Round Table, Adam Shelley Headteacher, Mel Richardson, from the Friends of Colfox and Students Isla, Livy, Riley and Dan.

Students have been thanking Bridport businesses, local charities and everyone who generously supported their appeal for more outdoor picnic spaces.

The appeal for new outdoor seating raised an amazing £5,386, following match funding worth £2,000 from Palmers Brewery, as well as a £1,000 donation from Bridport Round Table, and other generous donations from Bridport Ladies Circle, Bellrock and other local businesses – thank you!



Nine large new picnic tables, providing extra seating for more than 70 Students, were put up in the school grounds over the Easter Holidays, thank you to John Bright Country Store for providing a discount.

The remaining funds will be put towards a new sail shade so that Students can enjoy spending time outside together whatever the weather. The appeal emerged from a 'Dragon's Den' style challenge, where Students pitched their ideas for improving their school, congratulations to Students Daniel, Luke, Riley, Imogen, Isla, Livy and Rose who made the winning pitch for more outdoor picnic spaces.

Daniel said: "The new tables are great, we had this idea and it is good to see that it has now become a reality, thanks to the support of so many people and businesses, thank you to everyone who has helped us raise the money."

Rose said: "It is lovely to have more places to enjoy eating lunch outside, they are being really well used already, thank you to Palmers and everyone who supported us."

John Palmer, Chairman of Palmers Brewery, said: "The Palmers Brewery Community Fund is delighted to be supporting Colfox School enhance its outside spaces and help make the student's project become a reality."

Adam Shelley, Headteacher of the Sir John Colfox Academy, said: "Bridport is a generous place, and I'd like to thank all businesses, groups and everyone who helped our Students raise this money, including Palmers for their match funding and Bridport Round Table, Bridport Ladies Club, and Bellrock. The new picnic tables are great and already being enjoyed every lunchtime. At Colfox we believe in listening to our students and this appeal to improve our school's outdoor spaces was their idea. We are lucky to have beautiful, spacious grounds with lovely views, and it's great that we now have more picnic places."

Senior Awards Summer 2025



Photos by Mr Brendan Jackson

**Well done to everyone who received a
Senior Award!**

It was great to celebrate your academic achievements at our
Prize Giving Ceremony in April, congratulations everyone!

Senior Awards Summer 2025

Students' achievements have been celebrated at the Senior Awards Prize Giving.

The awards were given to students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13. Thank you to the Mayor of Bridport, Councillor Anne Rickard, who helped present them.

Adam Shelley, Headteacher, said: "Well done to all students who achieved an award. It was great to be able to celebrate your successes with families. Thank you to everyone who sponsored an award, helped present them or came to help celebrate their achievements.

"Thank you to the Mayor, Cllr Rickard, for joining us, to Nick Goldsmith from the Bank of Dreams and Nightmares for giving the address and thanks also to everyone who sponsored an award. It is brilliant to have such strong community support in Bridport, thank you to Carpet World, Creeds Design and Print, Groves Nursery, Palmers Brewery, Stags Estate Agency, AJ Wakely and Sons, Mr Dibdin and Bridport Literary Festival for sponsoring awards."

Student achievement was celebrated in individual subjects and additional awards were also given for specific achievements, at the ceremony on 30 April. These included the Humphrey Dibdin Award for Contribution to the School and Community which was presented to Grace in Year 10. In Year 11 Eddie won the Award for Contribution to the School and Community.

The Year 10 Award for Outstanding Effort was won by Chris in Year 10 and in Year 11 by Elina. The Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Year 10 was won by Lola in Year 10 and by Ayla in Year 11. The Best Overall Performance at GCSE Award was won by Oliver. Well done to Morgan and Esmee for winning the BridLit Bursary Award.

Well done to everyone who received a Senior Award!



Well done to everyone who received a Senior Award!





Athletics - County Trials

Congratulations to our amazing Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 athletes who competed at Yeovil for the County Trials in May. There were some outstanding performances from our athletes and lots of fast, high and far scores on the board. Well done everyone!

Gary Littlechild Head of PE

Chicks in Science!

Our eggs have hatched!



There has been excitement in Science this half term after our eggs arrived. We waited and watched their incubator - until cracks started to appear and the eggs began to move.

The chicks have now all hatched and were up and about and extremely fluffy almost immediately, they then grow very fast! We feed them chick crumb and are watching them grow - almost by the hour.



Square Root Day Maths Fun!

We love Maths - so we held a Square Root Day Competition!

What is Square Root Day? This year it was held on 05/05/25, because the square root of 25 is 5 - we have a long wait for the next one which won't be until 2036, 06/06/36! To celebrate it falling this year we had an interhouse competition!

Well done Harrison, Reuben and Daniel, pictured above, and to Poppy & Daisy for winning first and second place for Fleur De Lys House, with Hinomaru House taking third. Students worked well in teams, speed squaring, doing quizzes and a Maths relay. Mrs Jones, who organised the contest, said: "The Maths was very challenging and all the Year 7 competitors demonstrated excellent perseverance and enthusiasm throughout." Well done Year 7!

Mrs Kayleigh Jones - Lead Practitioner Maths



Celebrating VE Day 80th Anniversary

We flew the Union Jack on our flagpole and had a special celebration menu of British classics to help celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. Thank you to our canteen - the red, white and blue cakes were amazing!

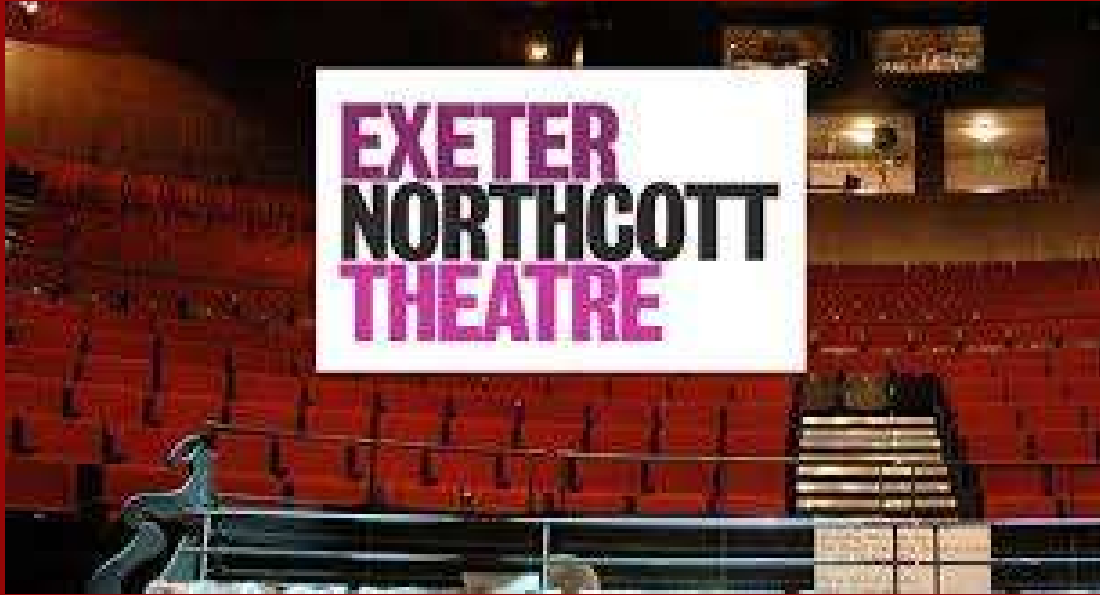
Clipper Teas visit for Sixth Form Business Students



Our Year 12 Business Students visited Clipper Teas in Beaminster to bring their study on 'Operations' to life. They were able to see how the various flavours of tea were made, packaged and how quality was maintained all whilst taking an ethical approach. Thank you to Clipper Teas for accommodating us and showing us around.

Mrs Kerri David, Business Studies Teacher

NATIONAL THEATRE CONNECTIONS 2025

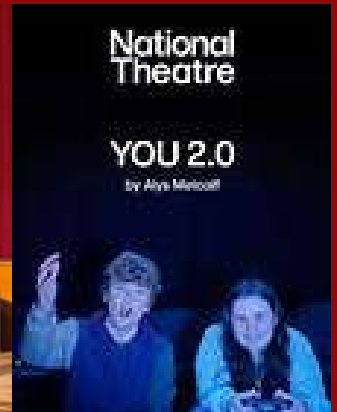


Students perform at the Northcott Theatre in Exeter

Congratulations to Students who took part in our National Theatre Connections show at the Northcott Theatre in Exeter.

Our production of 'You 2.0' 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.

Mrs Holder Head of Drama





YOUTH VOICE DEBATE

Students debated the hot topic of mobile phones when the Dorset Youth Team visited.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 took part, first listening to statistics and then debating. Thank you to Jayne Browne and Keri Masters from Dorset Youth Team for facilitating the debate.

After the debate, Students took part in a vote with the group voting 26 for yes, mobile phones should be allowed and two against. However many students debated the need for restrictions to stop distractions. Phones were seen as an important safety aspect and a way of contacting parents if plans changed. This is part of a big project being run across Dorset, with feedback from all of the Dorset schools going to the Education Safeguarding Board.

As Parents will be aware phones are not allowed out in Colfox.



Mrs Hatch Head of PSHE



Thorpe Park Year 11 Trip!

Year 11 enjoyed a fun packed day at Thorpe Park, as a well deserved pre-exam treat!

Students set off via coach to the massive theme park near London. There were lots of nerve-wracking thrills as they tried out record-breaking rollercoaster Hyperia, went 0-80MPH on the UK's fastest ride Stealth, pictured behind them above! There were dozens more rides and everyone seemed to enjoy the day, thank you to staff who went on the trip, it was quite a long day!



Scholarship winner announced, well done Lucy!

Promising Year 13 Colfox student Lucy Rainey has been awarded a scholarship award by The Reading List Foundation - a charity that seeks to help students succeed at university. Research shows that nearly half of all students at university are affected by worries about financial pressures. The last remaining element of 'Maintenance Grant for Living Costs' was withdrawn in the Budget of 2015. Although replaced with a loan, support still does not stretch to cover basic advised living costs at many top universities.

The Reading List Foundation was born in 2015. The Exeter-based charity fund Scholarships in State-funded schools and colleges across England. The Scholarship comes in the form of a generous e-voucher that can be spent on books during the course of study. 87% of last year's Scholarship winners said the award made 'a big difference' to their first year of study. It is a real boost!

Lucy, who plans to study Criminology at the University of Plymouth said, "I'm thrilled! I really didn't expect this, so it's a lovely surprise. I have been thinking about how much things like books will cost at university, so this is going to help. Thank you!"

Adam Teasdale, Head of Sixth Form at Colfox Academy added, "Lucy has made excellent progress this year and has demonstrated real determination and commitment to her studies. She is a very worthy recipient of this award."

Creative Writing Workshops for Y9 with the Bank of Dreams & Nightmares



Year 9 have been inventing their own short stories in a series of creative workshops with the brilliant Bank of Dreams and Nightmares.

Congratulations to all students for the fascinating writing they have produced so far - well done particularly to Maddison who has been inspired to begin writing her first novel, which is amazing! Previous workshops have resulted in Students' work being published and sold.

Farewell Year 13!



Goodbye and good luck to our brilliant Year 13!

You have been a terrific year group. We wish you all the best. Work hard, and best of luck with your exams. See you at the Summer Ball!

Mr Adam Teasdale
Head of Sixth Form

Our next edition will feature Y11 & their prom

Sixth Form EPQ Successes



There have been lots of brilliant EPQs, Extended Project Qualifications, completed by our Sixth Form - congratulations to them!

Rosie Mathewson's work is particularly remarkable. She wrote a play 'We Could be Pirates' exploring the portrayal of autistic individuals in theatre, which was staged at Bridport Arts Centre in November. This was a fantastic achievement! Mentor Ms Kym Langdon, Drama Teacher

We also had exceptional work from Addy Foot in Year 12, whose EPQ investigated the reasons behind the later diagnosis of autism in girls compared to boys. This was a really insightful piece. Mentor Mr David Dummackin, Higher level Teaching Assistant.

Gus Gowrie completed a highly ambitious EPQ titled "The existentialist philosophy of Nietzsche and Sartre: the impact and influence of existentialism on fascist ideology, feminist theory, and cinematic depictions of freedom and meaning." The depth and breadth of his exploration is commendable. Mentor Mrs Emily Wheeler, Head of Religious Education.

Sixth Form EPQ Success

Matthew Selway wrote a detailed research essay on the impact advertising has on a range of addictions. Researching online gambling, Matthew was struck by the sharp increase of targeted advertising that suddenly appeared on his social media feeds. This first-hand experience helped him to formulate his response to this particularly insidious problem.

Beth Buchanan's EPQ on the role of 'banned' Literature's role in establishing literary canons was brilliantly written. Beth had read some of the controversial titles that have been banned over history, and tracked their 'value' in terms of literary merit and inclusion in curricula around the world. Her EPQ was fascinating to read and had more in common with degree-level work than A Level. Impressive work.

All these students have demonstrated incredible hard work and dedication in pursuing their EPQs, effectively undertaking an extra A-level. Sixth Form Tutor Lowri David, said: “Their efforts warrant celebration, well done to all of them and to everyone who completed an EPQ.”

An EPQ can be a dissertation, a report, a performance or an artefact and is considered good preparation for University.



Colfox Quiz Night on 15 July!



Come to a fun quiz with prizes! Bring your own refreshments, in the Hall on 15 July, come along to raise money for the Friends of Colfox, all profits will help our Students.

Lowri David, Chair of the Friends, said: “We're thrilled to hold a quiz to celebrate the launch of the Friends of Colfox, our community association dedicated to directly supporting Colfox students and their education. To celebrate the wonderful Colfox community, we're hosting a fun quiz night this July, everyone is invited to come along!”

“And what's a celebration without a raffle? We're currently on the lookout for **raffle prizes** to make our end-of-term draw extra special. By contributing a raffle prize, you'll not only be helping us raise funds for Colfox, but also gaining visibility within our supportive community. It's a fantastic way to connect with local families, staff, and alumni. Look out for our new Friend of Colfox page coming soon to Facebook. Let's work together to make a real difference for Colfox School.”

Please donate a raffle prize!

If you'd like to donate a raffle prize or learn about the Friends of Colfox & our upcoming quiz, please scan the QR code or call 01308 422291!





EXAMS - well done everyone!

Well done to all our Year 11 and 13 students, who are in the middle of their exams and working hard. Thank you to our teachers for providing support sessions and thank you to our Examinations Manager, Mrs Davies, for organising everything.

Join a Free Club! Try Something New!

Join a Club, come along at lunch or after school & try something new! Joining is free and there is lots on offer including Tennis, Chess, Rounders, Pokemon, Orchestra, Cricket, Handball, Dungeons & Dragons, Athletics, Pythagoras Club, Blue Planet Club, Choir, Maths and Drama. Details of all Summer Clubs are available on our website: colfox.org/clubs and on the Clubs Display in the Street.



Help with Homework available

We provide two Homework Clubs to support students with their studies. Students can attend Homework Club in the Library, which is open from Mon to Thur until 5pm. We also offer a Homework Club in SEN, which is open until 4.30pm also from Mon to Thur.

Lunchtime Clubs:



Lunchtime Clubs

MONDAY

Handball, Y7-8, Sports Hall
Steam Club, Art & STEM, A209
Chess, A110, Drop-in
Tennis, all years, Tennis Courts



Lunchtime Clubs

TUESDAY

Dungeons & Dragons, Library
Pokemon Club, A106
Handball, Sports Hall, Y9-10
Cricket, Cricket Nets, all years



Lunchtime Clubs

WEDNESDAY

Pythagoras Club, A109, Y7-9
Orchestra, Music Rooms, all yrs
Volleyball, Sports Hall, all yrs
Cricket, Cricket Nets, all yrs

Join a Free Club! Try Something New!

Lunchtime Clubs:



Lunchtime Clubs

THURSDAY

Blue Planet Club, B209, all yrs
Drama Club, B201, all yrs
Heartstopper Club, A105, Y9,10,11
Girls MultiSports, SportsHall, all yrs



Lunchtime Clubs

FRIDAY

Choir, B205, all yrs
Maths Club, A107, all yrs
Tennis, Tennis Courts, all yrs

New Club - STEAM Art & STEM

K S3

STEAM club

What?	Fun STEM and Art activities!
Who?	Year 7 / 8 / 9
When?	Monday lunchtimes
Where?	A209

After School Clubs:



After School Clubs

MONDAY

Rounders, Netball Courts, Y7-8
Homework Club, Library, all yrs
SEN Homework Club, SEN, all yrs



After School Clubs

TUESDAY

Athletics, Athletics track, all yrs
Tennis, Courts, Y9-10
Homework Club, Library, all yrs
SEN Homework Club, SEN, all yrs



After School Clubs

WEDNESDAY

Rounders, Courts, Y9-10
Tennis, Courts, Y7-8
Homework Club, Library, all yrs
SEN Homework Club, SEN, all yrs



After School Clubs

THURSDAY

Athletics, Athletics Field, all yrs
Homework Club, Library, all yrs
SEN Homework Club, SEN, all yrs

colfox.org/clubs

Free online support & talks for Parents

 Summer Timetable all sessions delivered live online via zoom £24 each 90 minutes long book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours	
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 10am
Decreasing Depression	16 June 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	17 June 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	17 June 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	24 June 10am
Autism Improving Communication	24 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	30 June 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	30 June 7pm
Understanding Anger	1 July 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	1 July 7pm
Introduction to OCD	7 July 10am
What is ACT?	7 July 7pm
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 July 10am

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. More details & the code is [available here.](#)

Colfox.org/talks

WEST DORSET CAREERS FAIR

22 OCTOBER 2025
9AM - 3PM

The Sir John Colfox Academy,
Ridgeway, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3DT



initio
Learning Trust

Dorset
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Register now to exhibit:



01308 422291

Colfox.org/careers

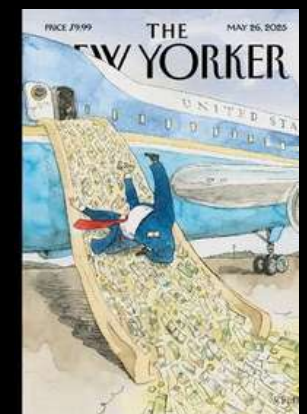


Library News

FREE Magazines now available on SORA!
Save £100s, almost everything available, 500+ bestsellers!

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!



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

SORA

- Google 'SORA' - soraapp.com
 - 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: 24surnameinitial@colfox.dorset.sch.uk and your usual school password



EXPLORE!

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

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

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

Thank you for reading!



We wish you all a very peaceful half term!