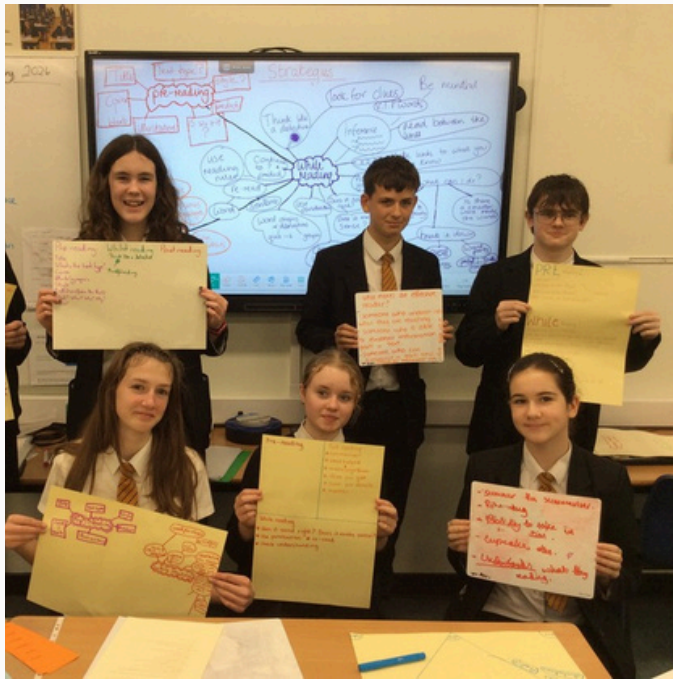




Dear Parents, Carers and all Friends of Colfox Academy,

Welcome to our Spring Term News for the first half term, as you'll see from these pages, a lot has been happening! We've had some fantastic performances in our school show Annie, lots of sporting successes, trips including to the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, informal concerts, House Competitions, Celebration Assemblies and more!

We have bought all parents free access to expert **online sessions**, with FACE (usual cost £24) they offer high-quality advice on how to support young people with many things, including anxiety, ADHD, Autism, Sleep, Communication, Depression, Anger and OCD. More details and their latest timetable is in this newsletter, so take a look, feedback from parents has been excellent, so don't miss out.

I have been pleased with the way our Students have been working this term in each year group, especially Year 11 who have been working hard on their Mocks and attendance has been very high at our GCSE help sessions, see this newsletter for the timetable and please encourage your child to keep attending, Students who go along do better in their exams.

This is an important and exciting time for Year 9 as they decide which GCSE courses to take. It was fantastic to see everyone coming together to support our Students at Options Evening. Once Students have made their choices, by 23 February, we will then create the Option Blocks based on their choices to accommodate as many preferences as possible, most Students will get their choices, if we have to offer a Student their reserve we will discuss the options. Here is the **Options booklet for more information**.

Year 10 have worked hard during their assessment week and are now preparing for their work experience next month. Year 7 and Year 8 are getting involved with all aspects of school life, from House events, Student-led community assemblies, school shows, concerts and extra-curricular clubs, please do encourage your child to try a new lunchtime or after school club, they are all free. I wish you all a very peaceful half term and we look forward to welcoming Students back on Tuesday 24 February.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Shelley, Headteacher



School Show!

ANNIE!



What a brilliant show! Well done to all the cast, the musicians, the singers, the dancers, the back stage crew, everyone who helped and a huge thank you to Mrs Holder, Mrs Boniface, Mrs Davies and Mr Jackson and everyone who helped!

SCHOOL SHOW ANNIE JR

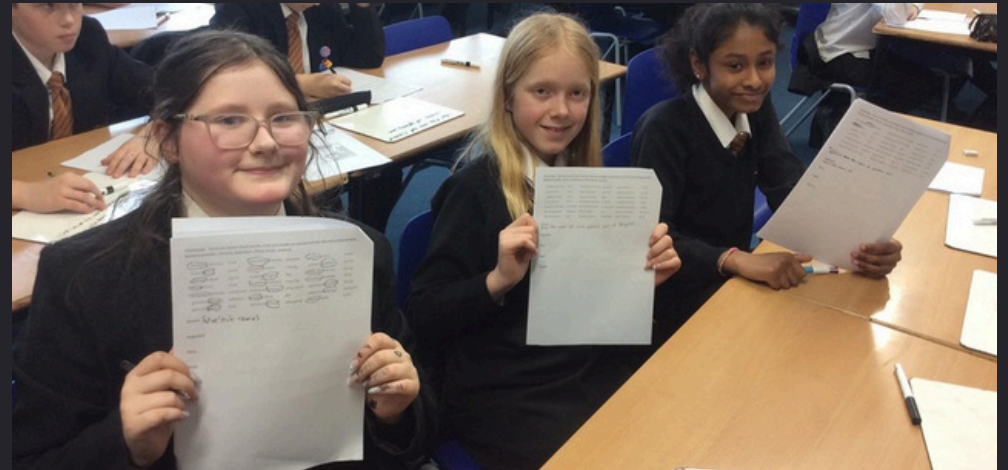
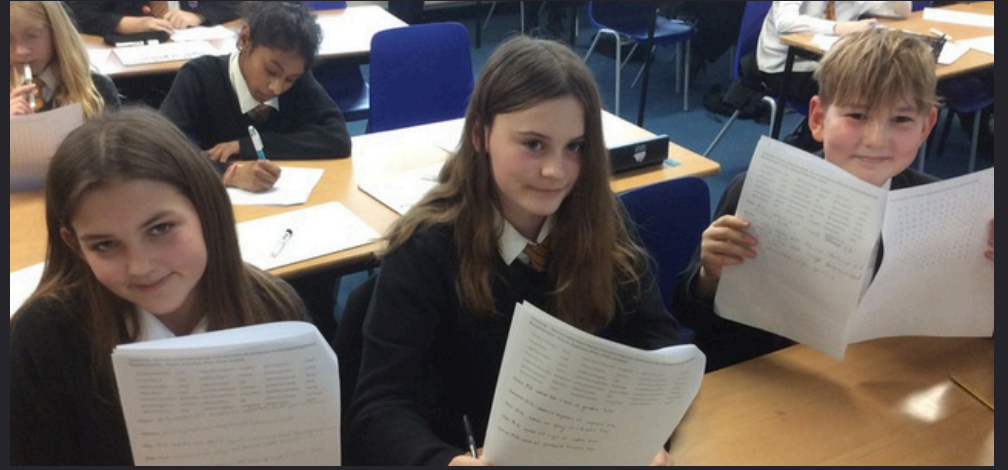
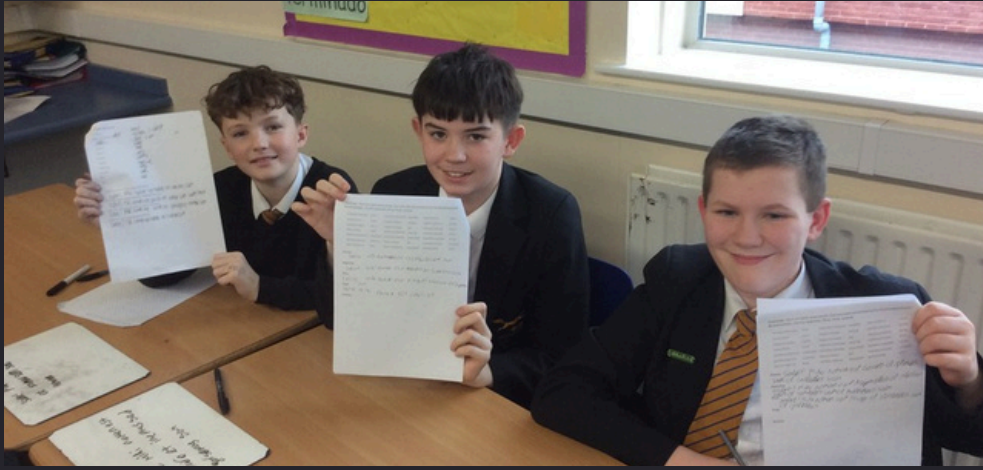


A BRILLIANT SHOW!



Colfox Classics Hub Update - Year 7 Latin Students off to a flying start!

Sic parvis magna - greatness from small beginnings!



Impressively our Year 7 Students have made a very strong start in their Latin studies, quickly grasping the skills needed to decode the language. They are also beginning to learn about the context of Ancient Rome and more about key figures such as the orator Cicero and the Emperor Augustus.

Colfox's Classics Hub offers Students more opportunities to study Latin, Greek, Ancient History and the Classical World. At Key Stage 4 and Sixth Form, GCSE and AS Ancient History have quickly become popular option subjects and, if anyone wants to study Greek or Latin further, the school continues to offer GCSE Classical Greek and Latin as extracurricular clubs for students in Year 10 & 11".

Dr Neil Allies, Head of Languages and Cultures

Well done to our Youth Speaks Team!

Students excel in Public Speaking Contest



Congratulations to Iris, Eliza and Poppy in Year 10!

Well done to our brilliant 'Youth Speaks' debating team who succeeded to the next round after a great performance at Bridport Town Hall. They debated 'Space Exploration is Irresponsible' & Iris also won best Speaker of the night. Thanks to Bridport Rotary Club for hosting a great contest.

Colfox Remembers

Holocaust Memorial Day - live webcast with Holocaust survivor Paul Sved BEM



We took part in a live webcast with the Holocaust Education Trust, which was an interview with Holocaust Survivor Paul Sved. Students listened attentively and showed huge amounts of respect throughout a very difficult topic, we were as ever very proud of them. We also held special assemblies to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January.

The moment that has really stuck with me, from the's webcast, is Paul Sved saying, at 6 years old (while he lived in Budapest) that in 1944 when the Nazis introduced the Star of David being worn - he did so with pride because he didn't understand he didn't understand how it was being used by the regime. This is not an encounter I have experienced before and thought it was particularly interesting as it shows the different understandings and perspectives of individuals during the Holocaust. Further to this it was captivating to hear the story of a survivor who was outside of Germany or Poland.

Mrs Boe Zbijowski, Teacher of History

BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TRIP



Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 had a fabulous trip to hear the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at a packed Weymouth Pavilion. Our students behaved immaculately and really enjoyed the music which featured film compositions by John Williams and Hans Zimmer. Music played included pieces from 'ET', the 'Pirates of the Caribbean', 'Harry Potter', 'Jaws' and 'Interstellar'. Keep your eyes open as more trips like this will happen in the future!

Mrs Alison Davies, Head of Music



Colfox Recitals, Duncan Honeybourne 5 March

Internationally acclaimed Concert Pianist Duncan Honeybourne will perform a Piano Recital at Colfox on 5 March. Duncan, who is an internationally recognised professional concert pianist will perform on our Steinway Concert Grand Piano.

Alison Davies, Head of Music at the Sir John Colfox Academy, Bridport, said: "We are thrilled that Duncan will be giving a piano recital at Colfox. Anyone who loves classical music should secure their tickets now, as this promises to be a brilliant musical event. Duncan is passionate about music education, and it is wonderful that he will be **giving a masterclass for students**. Money raised will go to our Music Department. **Recital tickets for under 18s are free.**"

Duncan, who recently could be heard talking about his latest release on BBC Radio 3, will be playing a range of exciting and beautiful classical piano repertoire. Commended for his "gripping performances" (The Times), "glittering performances" (International Piano), "fine, sensitive playing" (Gramophone) and "great technical facility and unfailing imagination" (Musical Opinion). Duncan is best known for his interpretations of 20th and 21st century British piano music. He has toured extensively in the UK, Ireland and Europe, appearing at major venues and leading festivals. His solo performances have been frequently broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and on worldwide networks including French, Belgian, Austrian, Swiss and German Radio, ABC (Australia) and Radio New Zealand. **Buy tickets here, under 18 free, Adults £13.**

Celebrating great work & achievements: Green Slip Award Winners!



Well done to everyone who achieved a green slip award this term for exceptional work, here are just some of the Students who received one this half term. Pictured above from left are Bayleigh, who made a brilliant tool box in DT, Bobby and Benjamin for fantastic Geography work. Enya, Annabel and Zoey also for great Geography work and Bob for excellent creative writing, namely extended metaphor poetry.



WW1 Workshop

Our Year 10 GCSE Modern History Students took part in a workshop to learn about how injured soldiers were treated on the Western Front. The WWI evacuation chain was a system designed by the Royal Army Medical Core to rapidly move wounded soldiers from the front line to safety for treatment, significantly increasing survival rates. It moved patients from stretcher bearers to base hospitals via aid posts, dressing stations, and Casualty Clearing Stations (CCS) using ambulances, trains, and barges.

Great performances at our new Colfox Informal Concerts!



Our new informal concerts are short, relaxed and friendly and open to all Students.

The next one is after school (3.30pm) on **Thursday 26th February**. They are for anyone who can play a tune at any level on any instrument, can be with a backing track or piano accompaniment. We play for a small audience of friends and family, no charge, please speak to Mrs Davies if you'd like to take part.

Colfox Music Diary Dates



26 Feb - Informal Concert

This is a relaxed event, Students should speak to Mrs Davies about joining in!

5 March - Piano Recital

Acclaimed, professional concert pianist Duncan Honeybourne will be giving a recital under 18s free, adults £13.

26 March - Colfox Spring Concert

Main music event of the year!

Please complete this Survey about Music for young people in Dorset - thank you!

RECITAL AT COLFOX



DUNCAN HONEYBOURNE PIANO



“Glittering performances from Duncan Honeybourne”
-*International Piano*

“Duncan Honeybourne’s gripping performances”
-*The Times*



Ticket shop QR code

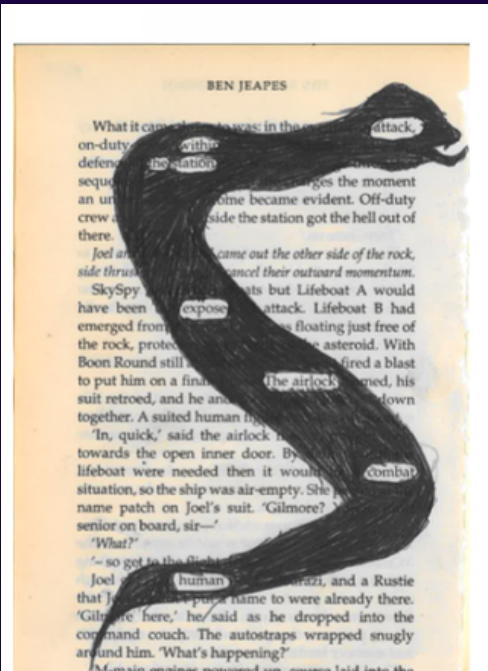


5 MARCH 7PM

Sir John Colfox Academy, Bridport

Adults £13 under 18 free, book now via QR Code above or:
ticketsource.co.uk/the-sir-john-colfox-academy

Focus on Year 7 Poetry, great creativity with Haikus inspired by Ancient Greek Myths, reverse poetry & blackout verses



Greek mythology haikus

Persephone and Hades

She was beautiful
His love for her drove him mad
The seasons will change

Pandora

She was given life
Curiosity will kill
Regret's last hope

Icarus

Imprisoned here
Birds will fly, then will envy
Man's ego will fall



Reverse Poem

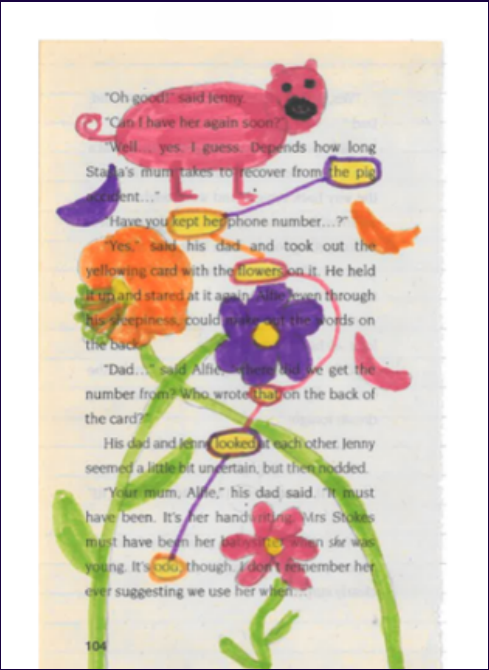
Older generations
have done much more
Don't think that they
are equal
The younger generation
They have not accomplished anything
Do not believe that
They can do anything

Now read it backwards!

Reverse Poem – Uniform

It helps me learn
so don't tell me
they're uncomfortable
they feel like cardboard boxes and
they're not welcome here
so everyone says
we should make a difference
Tell everyone!

Now read it backwards!



Reverse Poem

Who cares if it's getting hotter
Never say
we only have one earth
So what if ice caps are melting
and don't tell me
don't be ignorant
Why should I care if the polar bears are dying
how could you say
you're an idiot
it's just the truth
it doesn't impact you or me
why would you think
it hurts the earth to use single-use plastics
what a stupid thing to say

Now read it backwards!

Pandora

- **P**andora was beautiful
- **A**nd she married Epimetheus
- **N**ever will you open that box, said Zeus
- **D**on't, she thought, but curiosity got the better of her
- **O**h no! Everything bad in the world came out
- **R**ight at the bottom was hope
- **A**t least she kept hope in

Fantastic poetry by Alice, Layla, Roxi, Leo, Leila, Lexi, Zoey, Willow, Marley & Lauren

Well done to our fantastic Sixth Formers who are helping teach science at Primary Schools



We are very proud of our Sixth Formers who are helping to teach Science at local Primary Schools. Alyssa, Ethan and Lilly pictured left have been visiting Bridport Primary School to help with Year 4, 5 and 6's Science Clubs. Well done also to Zoe, Emily, Una and Ayla pictured right, who have been helping at St Mary's Primary School.

Driving Advice from the Fox School of Motoring

It was great to welcome the Fox School of Motoring who visited to give our Sixth Formers advice on driving and road safety. Thank you to them for an interesting assembly.

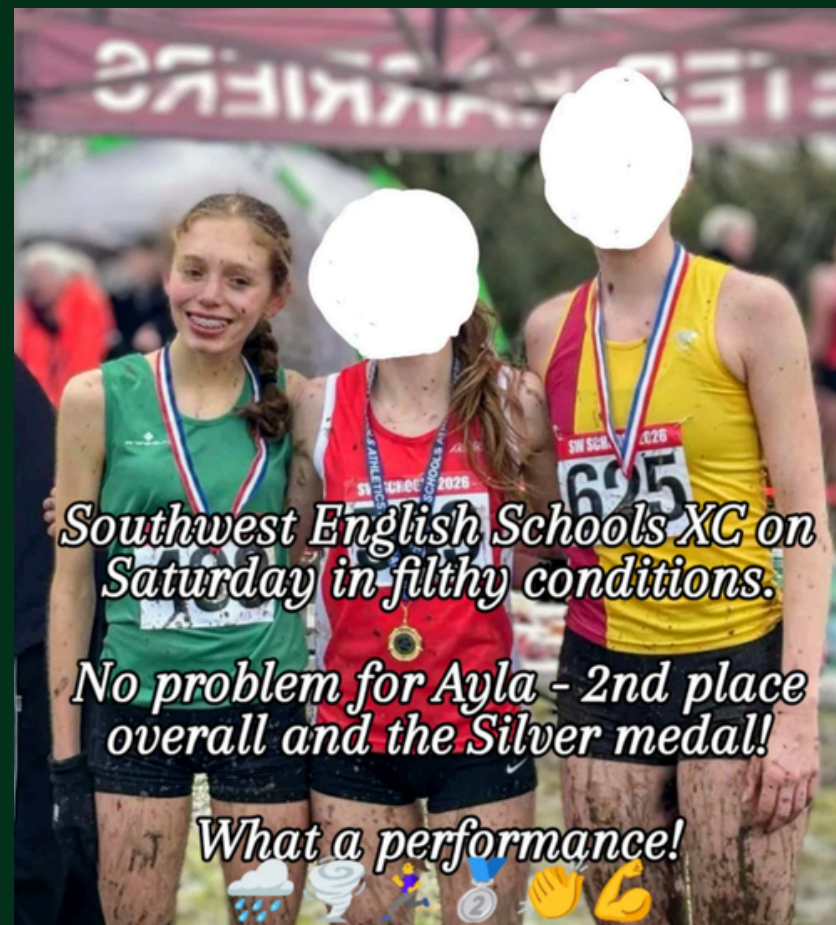


Well done Ayla!



Silver Medal Winner in the South West English Schools Cross Country!

The race took place in very muddy and wet conditions at Exhibition Fields, Exeter Arena on Saturday 7 February. However, the appalling conditions didn't bother Ayla in Year 12, who ran an amazing race!



*Southwest English Schools XC on
Saturday in filthy conditions.*

*No problem for Ayla - 2nd place
overall and the Silver medal!*

What a performance!

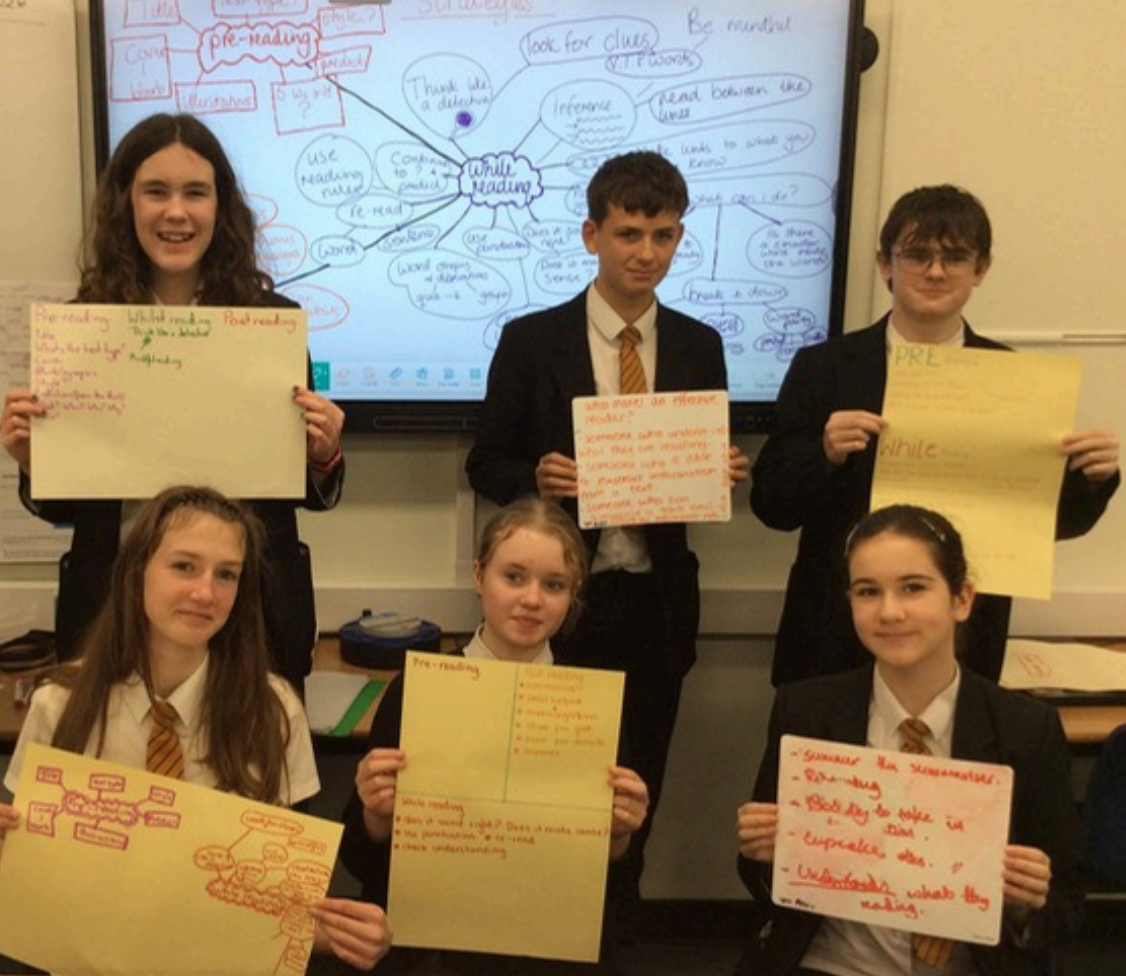
We Sport! & all other Clubs!

All our Sports Clubs are free and great fun for everyone, even if you don't think you are sporty, come along & have fun! Well done to everyone who took part this half term! There are lots of other Clubs too, like D&D, Blue Planet, Crochet, School Band, Quiet Crafting, Pokemon, Choir, film & more!

[Colfox.org/clubs](https://colfox.org/clubs)



Thank you to our Year 9 Reading Ambassadors who are helping younger students



Our brilliant Reading Ambassadors, pictured clockwise from left: Mabli, Archie, Jacob, Daisy, Luna and Delphine.

Our Year 9 Reading Ambassador Team have been supporting many of our Year 7 Students strengthen their Reading skills. Mabli, Jacob, Martha, Delphine, Luna, Daisy and Archie, pictured during a training session on how to support reading skills, have been doing a brilliant job.

Their involvement means we can give more Year 7 Students more opportunities to read one-to-one with a supportive mentor. This helps strengthen reading skills which is vital, not only because reading is a pleasure and an essential life skill, but also practically as GCSE exams require a reading age of 15+ and nationally a quarter of 15 year olds have a reading age of 12.

Making changes? Try a free expert session, we've paid, usual cost £24

Choose your session here & use code: SJC191226



Anxiety Based School Avoidance

Helping kids back into school

[Find out More](#)

Duration Varies

£24



Supporting Healthy Screen Use

Screens are here to stay...how can we make them safer?

[Find out More](#)

1 hr 30 min

£24



Supporting a Child with ADHD - Parents

Challenging stereotypes and giving practical support

[Find out More](#)

1 hr 30 min

£24



Autism - Improving Communication

How to improve communication with someone on the autistic spectrum

[Find out More](#)

Duration Varies

£24

Lots of Colfox Parents are going & finding them useful, they say:

“I will definitely be signing up for more”

“Enlightening and informative”

“Would definitely recommend to others”

“Very helpful and useful”

“This is a great resource - thank you!”



FEBRUARY 2026 Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Autism - Improving Communication	2 Feb 10am
Improving Family Communication	2 Feb 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	3 Feb 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	3 Feb 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	9 Feb 10am
Anxiety Explained	16 Feb 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	16 Feb 7pm
What is ACT?	17 Feb 10am
Introduction to OCD	17 Feb 7pm
FREE - Reducing the Harm from Screens	19 Feb 7-8pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	23 Feb 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	23 Feb 7pm
Decreasing Depression	24 Feb 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	24 Feb 7pm
Understanding Anger	9 Mar 7pm
Facing Defiance	10 Mar 7pm



GCSE Study & Revision Help



MON - LUNCH

Science A201
Biology A204
French speaking B217
Ancient History B216
DT Coursework C101

TUES - LUNCH

Buisness A207
Chemistry A203
Geography (Week A
Mrs Tremelling's Class)
DT Coursework C101

TUES - 3.30PM

English B208 B209
Business A207
History A105
Art
Religious Studies A103

WED - LUNCH

DT Coursework
Physics A209
Food C101
DT Coursework C101

WED - 3.30PM

Science
History B215

THURS - LUNCH

Biology A205
Food C101
Drama
Geography (Ms Nicoll's
class by invite)
DT Coursework C101

THURS - 3.30PM

Computer Science
Ancient History B218
Art
Maths
Music

FRI - LUNCH

Physics A202
Food C101
DT Coursework C101

FRI - 3.30PM

Geography

**Go to these
sessions!**

**Students who go
do better**

**Library & SEN
open after school
Mon-Thur**

[Colfox.org/revision](https://colfox.org/revision)

Help, resources & more

Great Trumpet Playing Year 7 & 8!



Year 7 and 8 have been discovering the joys of trumpet playing this term, they quickly got the hang of it and sounded amazing!

Well done to our Sixth Form Fundraisers!



Well done to our brilliant sixth formers who raised £1459.27 for good causes and organised a lot of fun activities for our younger students during their Rag Week.

Well done Leadership Award Winners



We are proud to announce that Sixth Form students Ayla and Eddie have successfully secured places on the prestigious RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) event taking place this summer.

The RYLA programme is highly regarded for developing leadership, communication and teamwork skills in young people, and competition for places was stronger than ever this year, with a record 12 applicants from students in Years 11 and 12. The Academy would like to congratulate Ayla and Eddie on this fantastic achievement and wish them every success at the event. Congratulations also go to all students who applied, reflecting the high level of ambition and commitment within the school community.

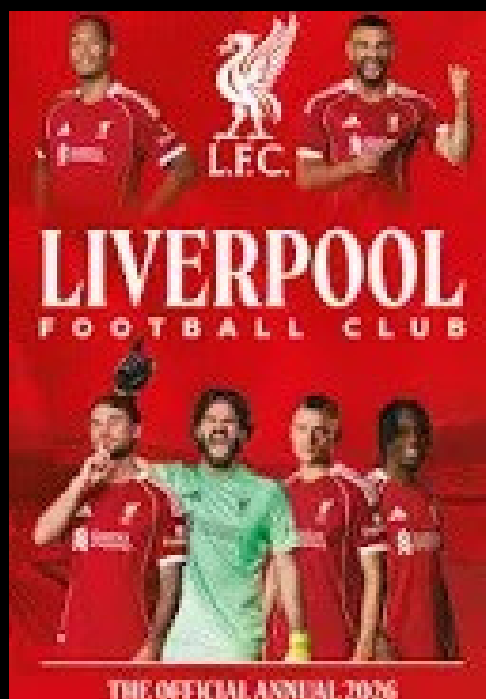


Thank you to Dorset Police who visited to give an assembly about Online Safety to our Year 7 Students.

LIBRARY NEWS

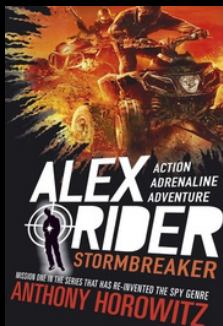
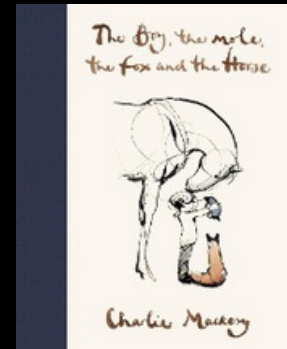
Our Library is Student led - we only buy books that students request. Our Library has been boosted by generous community support from the wonderful Bridport Book Shop, who frequently donate books to us and from Brid Lit Festival who have also donated - this generous support means we are still able to pledge to buy any book or magazine that Students want to read. We have had hundreds of book reviews by students this term. Well done everyone - don't forget reviews can also be submitted for audio books, manga and graphics. Most popular Library books this term include 'Stranger Things: Heroes & Monsters: Choose your own Adventure', 'Looshkin', 'My Hero Academia Team-Up Missions', 'Lottie Brooks' and Premiership Football Club 2026 Albums. Well done to everyone who has submitted a review!

Most wanted books this half term:



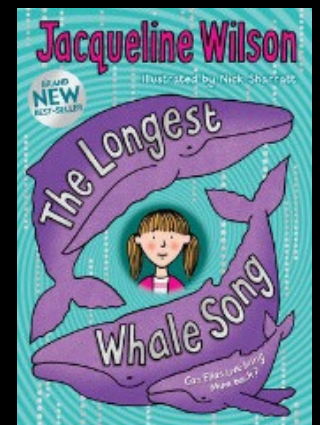
REVIEWS *By our Student Librarians*

'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse' by Charlie Mackesy is a really good book and I love all the drawings. I like the Mole the most because the author made the sketch so small and cute'



'Alex Rider Stormbreaker' by Anthony Horowitz is brilliant, there is lots of action, danger and twists and turns. It is one of the best books I have ever read.'

'The Longest Whale Song' by Jacqueline Wilson is a brilliant book, full of sadness and feeling, when you find out Ella's Mum gets out of a coma you feel like dancing and crying at the same time."



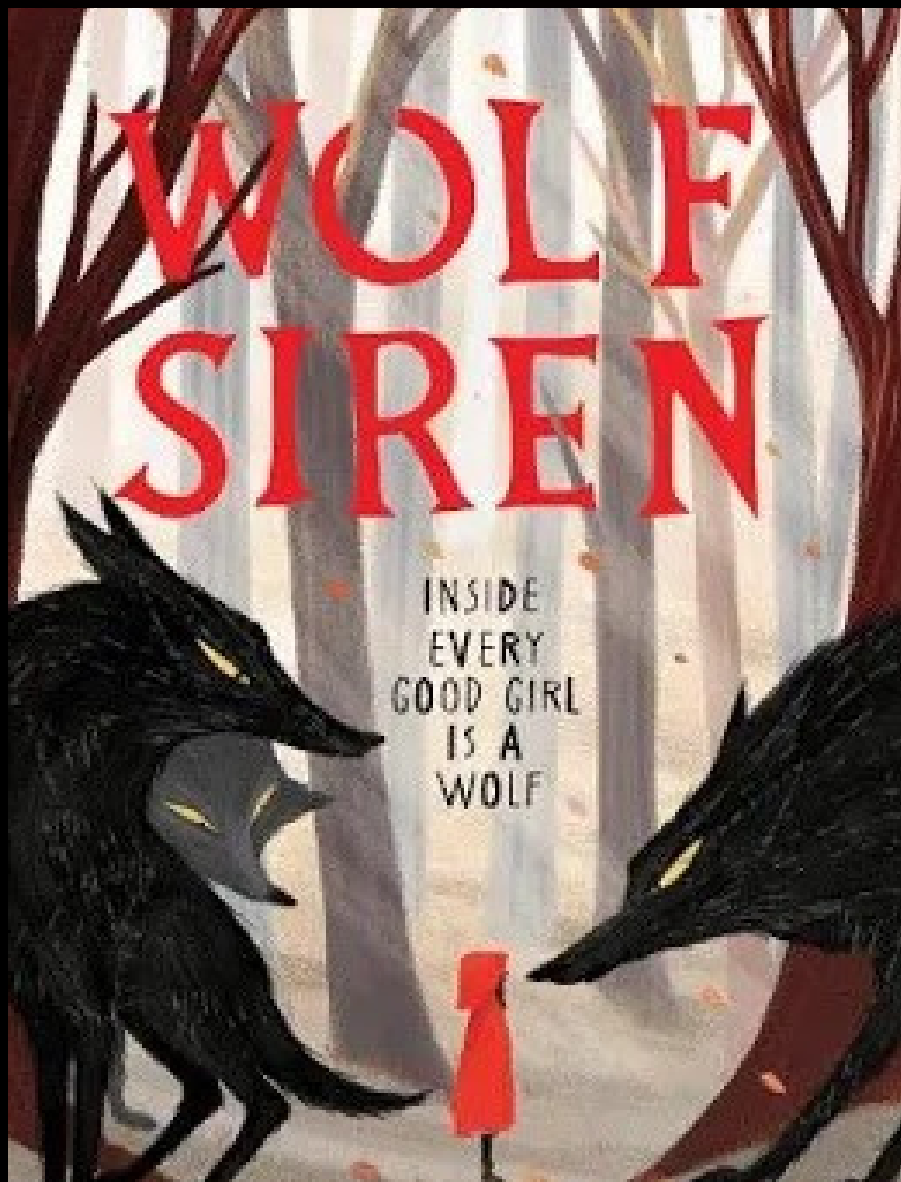
'My Hero Academia: Team-up Missions' by Yoko Akiyama is about Izuku who is a quirkless boy who wants to go to UA, a school for kids with powerful quirks. It was an amazing book because I love Anime and the drawings.'

Reviews by Phoebe, Hugo, Khloe and Will

REVIEW

By

THE  BOOKSHOP ESTD 1978



In a village surrounded by walls to keep the villagers safe from the woods, a small girl, Red, is harbouring a secret. Everyone knows that the woods are dangerous because of the wolves that live there.

The village used to be protected by wolf hunters, men with crossbows, but the wolves started to fight back and now the villagers live in fear, sending only women to the woods with strict instructions not to linger.

What the villagers don't know is that Red can communicate with the trees, the trees know her and she visits them often.

She is partially sighted and the trees help her find her way through the woods. She can't keep sneaking around forever, and when a terrible secret threatens to tear her family apart, and in turn the village, Red has to summon all her strength and trust in nature to help her find the right path.

A gorgeous and evocative debut novel which shows how fear can drive humans to act cruelly and how the natural world should be nurtured and respected. Led by an empowered disabled character, this is a modern fable that I could not put down. Perfect for age 12 and up.

By Nicky Mathewson of Bridport Book Shop

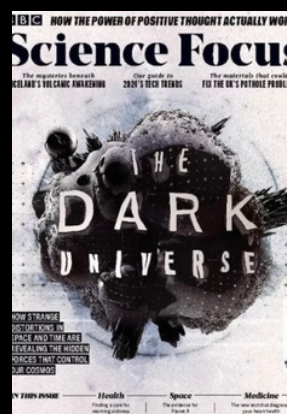
Save Money - Get free Magazines

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!

Help with uniform

If you need help with uniform or equipment

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 & equipment

Advice on uniform & equipment 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!



**NEWS FROM COLFOX
SPRING TERM 1 2026**

We wish you all a very peaceful half term!