



Dear Parents, Carers and all Friends of Colfox Academy,

Welcome to our Spring Term News for this half term! Its been very busy and our Students have achieved and enjoyed some wonderful things, as you'll see from these pages. We are very proud of our Year 10s, who did a brilliant job on their work experience last week. Bridport is a fantastic community full of people prepared to make an effort to provide young people in our town with opportunities - thank you to all employers involved.

We had brilliant Science Weeks, exploring space travel, shark dissections, meeting live snakes, making terrariums, which I learned are miniature eco-systems, experimenting with dry ice and more - thank you to our fantastic Science Department. At the time of writing, we are looking forward to some wonderful performances in our Spring Concert. Earlier this month we were also delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed concert pianist Duncan Honeybourne who gave a masterclass to our Students as well as performing an evening recital. We had fun on World Book Day and enjoyed giving out hundreds of free books, as well as the vouchers, thanks to the Book Shop.

We've enjoyed lots of trips including to Leonardo Helicopters, Hampton Court Palace, Year 11's trip to Thorpe Park and our Year 9 & 10 Ski Trip are about to set off for the Italian Alps. We've also enjoyed House Cup competitions, Celebration Assemblies, informal concerts and more!

Wellbeing support is available, we have bought all parents free access to expert **online sessions**, (usual cost £24) these include improving self-esteem, anxiety, ADHD, Autism, Sleep, Communication, Depression, Anger and OCD. Details in this newsletter. Joining a club can also be good for wellbeing, details of our array of free lunch and afterschool clubs are in this newsletter, take a look and encourage your child to join!

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 preparing for their exams. Attendance has been very high at our GCSE help sessions, the timetable is included below, please encourage your child to attend, as Students who go along do better in their GCSEs.

Don't forget Students can wear optional summer uniform next term if they like. Have a peaceful Easter, we look forward to welcoming Students back on Tue 14 April.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Shelley, Headteacher









Colfox Science Weeks 2026

The Power of Curiosity!



SCIENCE WEEKS! 🤖

9 - 19th March - Sign-up for lunch activities in Science!

 WED 11 th - Dry Ice!	 TUE 17 th - Snake in Science
 THUR 12 th & FRI 13 th Science Show & Life in Space Sessions in <u>lesson</u> time for Y7, 8 & 9.	 WED 18 th - Shark Talk & Dissection
 MON 16 th - Dissection	 THUR 19 th - Curious Surpr Terrarium making

Students enjoyed inspiring and action-packed Science Weeks, celebrating this year's theme: **The Power of Curiosity**. We explored space missions, met snakes, (who were well looked after), welcomed 150 primary school pupils up for Colfox's Space Show, made terrariums, observed dissection demonstrations and more!

Ms Lowri David, Lead Practitioner of STEM at the Sir John Colfox Academy, who led the schools Science Weeks events, said: "Students enjoyed a wide range of interactive experiences, celebrating discovery, exploration, and scientific thinking. Throughout the weeks, students from year 7-10 have fully embraced the spirit of curiosity—whether questioning the possibility of life beyond Earth, exploring the complexities of animal anatomy, or investigating the science behind ecosystems. The message was clear: curiosity is at the heart of all scientific progress.

"We had a lot of fun during our Science Weeks, students were inspired to ask questions, think critically, and explore the unknown. We want to foster a love of science in our students to help empower the next generation of explorers, researchers, and innovators."



The week began with a series of assemblies for all year groups, focusing on curiosity as the driving force behind scientific discovery and innovation. Students were encouraged to see curiosity not just as asking “why,” but as the spark that pushes humanity to explore everything from the inner workings of a cell to the far reaches of space.

Another highlight of the week was Colfox’s Space Show for Primary School pupils **“Is There Life Out There?”**, we enjoyed welcoming 150 pupils from Bridport Primary School (Years 3–6). The visiting students took part in a creative session exploring the possibility of extraterrestrial life, inspired by *The Clangers*, sparking imagination and enthusiasm among the young learners.

Students in Years 7, 8, and 9 also took part in space sessions exploring NASA’s Artemis mission and the next generation of lunar travel. Led by Ms Lowri David and Dr Carrie-Anne Sharma, these sessions formed part of the school’s National Space Project, where students examined humanity’s plans to return to the Moon and considered what future lunar colonies might look like. By connecting classroom learning to real-world space exploration, students were encouraged to see themselves as future pioneers and innovators.

Science Weeks 2026

The Power of Curiosity!



Lunchtime - Pop-Ups!

Dry Ice Event: A high-impact demonstration of sublimation and the properties of carbon dioxide.

Organ dissection: A comprehensive sheep's head dissection, including the heart and lungs to demonstrate mammalian biology.

Shark Dissection: A hands-on investigation into marine anatomy using a dogfish.

Reptile Visit: Live snakes were brought into the department for students to study up close.

Terrarium Making: Students built their own miniature, self-sustaining ecosystems.



Science Weeks 2026



Space Exploration

Our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students embodied this spirit during our Artemis Project sessions. Led by Ms. David and Dr. Sharma, students explored NASA's mission to return to the Moon and beyond.

The Artemis mission is perhaps the ultimate expression of modern curiosity, a multi-billion dollar endeavor born simply from the human desire to see what lies over the next horizon. By connecting our classroom learning to the future of lunar colonies, students were able to see themselves as the next generation of pioneers and explorers.

Thank you to Ms David, Dr Sharma and all in Science for Colfox Science Weeks 2026!

Curiosity is more than just asking "why"; it is the spark that drives humanity to explore the unknown, from the intricate biology of a cell to the vast reaches of our solar system.



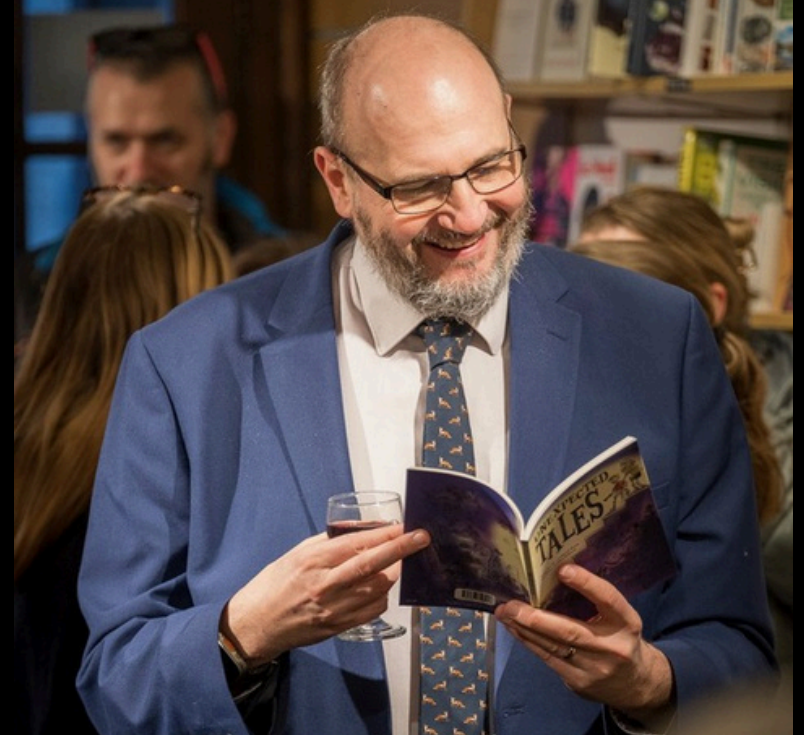


Well done to our Y10 Authors!



We are very proud of our student authors whose brilliant book 'Unexpected Tales' has been launched at The Book Shop, after creative workshops with the wonderful Bank of Dreams and Nightmares - well done to all our Year 10 writers! Available at good book shops & our Library now!

Book Launch at the Book Shop!



RECITALS AT COLFOX

Duncan Honeybourne Piano

March 5 2026



RECITAL PROGRAMME

Johann Sebastian BACH
(1685-1750)
Transcribed Arnold BAX
(1885-1953) — Fantasia
(From A Bach Book for Horner Cohen)

Johannes BRAHMS
(1833-1897)

Piano Sonata in F minor, op.3 (1833)
I. Allegro maestoso
II. Andante espressivo — Andante molto
III. Scherzo: Allegro energico: Trio
IV. Intermezzo (Rückblick): Andante molto
V. Finale: Allegro moderato

INTERVAL

Reginald REDMAN
(1891-1970) — Mat on the Moor



Our first Colfox Recital saw a magnificent performance by internationally acclaimed Pianist Duncan Honeybourne. Students also loved his master class on our Steinway Concert Grand, here is Beatrix thanking him on behalf of Colfox after his superb performance.



Work Experience - Well Done Year 10!



Thank you to all employers who gave our Students such a great range of work experience opportunities. It was wonderful to hear so many great reports of them. Well done everyone!



Careers Session on Hair, Beauty & Special Effects Make-Up



Thanks to Yeovil College for a hands on Careers session.

We enjoyed finding out more about working in beauty, hair & special effects makeup, some lovely hair styles were also created.

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 Literary Scavenger Hunt! Students had to find and identify all the characters, which included Elizabeth Bennet from *Pride and Prejudice*, Sherlock Holmes, Miss Trunchbull from *Matilda*, as well as an array of characters from *Harry Potter*!

World Book Day!

**We gave 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.**

**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.**



Engineering Trip to Aerospace Company Leonardo Helicopters

A group of our Year 7 Students visited Leonardo Helicopters in Yeovil. Archie, Alfie, Archie and Oisin toured the site and took part in technical challenges.

Alfie, said: "It was good. I'm interested in engineering and finding out how things work, I like the idea of designing things and working out what innovations might improve them."

Hampton Court Palace Trip



Our Sixth Form Historians enjoyed a trip to Hampton Court Palace, near London. They saw King Henry VIII's lavish Tudor residence and its magnificent gardens and Baroque apartments.

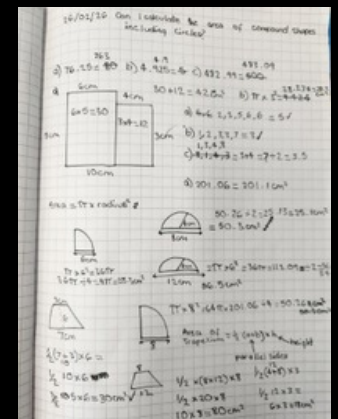
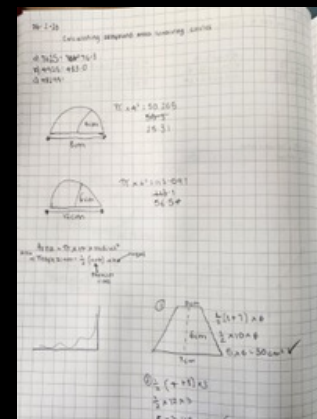
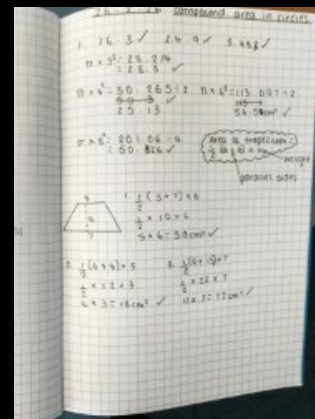
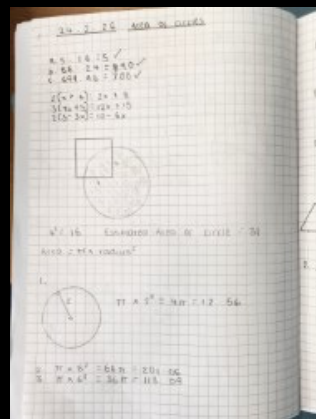
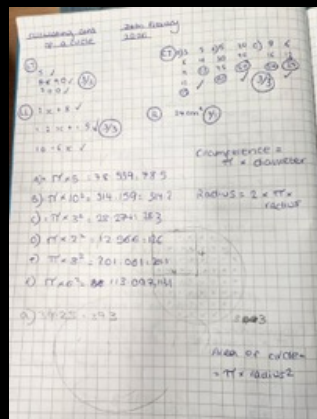
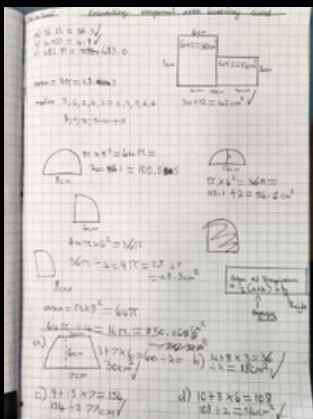
Celebrating great work & achievements: Green Slip Award Winners!



Well done to everyone who achieved a green slip award this term for great work, here are just some of the Students who received one this half term. Pictured from left are Amber for great work in Spanish, Monty who made a brilliant bird box and Sapphire.

Maths Recognition Board - well done!

Year 9 have been working brilliantly on calculating the area of compound shapes. Well done to Louie, Maddy, Scarlett, Charlotte, Ellie, Emma and Freya whose work is featured here on our Maths Recognition Board this halfterm: colfox.org/mathsboard





Youth Speaks!

Students shine in Public Speaking Contest

Congratulations to Poppy, Iris and Eliza, our brilliant debating team who did so well in the 'Rotary Youth Speaks' Competition.

We are very proud of them for representing our school and community so well, for winning so many rounds and making it through to the Cluster Final at Clifton College, where all other finalists were Sixth Formers. Mrs Rosalind Ward, who accompanied them, said: "They were amazing and they did Colfox proud. I got lots and lots of lovely compliments from other schools about them."

Sixth Form visit UCAS Fair & consider their next steps



Our Sixth Formers visited the UCAS fair & explored degree pathways, apprenticeship opportunities & employment. UCAS opens for Y12 in May. We'll be offering workshops on next steps, exploring personal statements, CVs, finance & how to choose from the thousands of degrees on offer!

Well done to our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Winners!



Congratulations to Lola, Emily, Lilah, Max, Stanley, Blanche, Iris and Eliza for achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards. They showed commitment to the programme by completing their volunteering, physical, skills and expedition sections. Well done!



SEND NEWSLETTER

- Coffee Mornings
- Website
- ASCape
- Staff Training
- Arrange a meeting
- Key People

Feedback or ideas of what to include?
Please get in touch!

Coffee Mornings

For this term's coffee morning, we welcomed Siobhan from ASCape. As part the session, we were able to explore how some of our students feel in school as well as hear about the opportunities available outside of school through ASCape. As a result of feedback from parents, our anti bullying ambassadors are now exploring how they can help support an inclusive school environment.

In the summer term, our meeting will focus on SEN, behaviour and mental health. Mrs Best, who leads our SEL department, will be joining us. During the session, we will be talking about how SEN and SEL work closely together, school systems and processes, interventions linked to behaviour and mental health and some of the external expertise we are able to tap into. Please let us know if you are intending to join us:

Thursday 25th June 9-10am. Focus: SEN, behaviour and mental health

[Click here to register an interest](#)

Website

Please visit our school website and click on the link to **SEND and Inclusion**. Here you can find more information on our school offer as well as links to support and courses available.

Spring Term 2026



Happy Easter!

It has been another busy term and I am sure that our students are as ready as the staff for the Easter break! Next term promises to be just as busy, with different challenges for us all as we move towards formal exams and then transition to new year groups and new adventures.

I hope you all manage to have a good rest, and hopefully some sun, over the next couple of weeks.

Laura Cornish, SENCO

ASCape

As well as welcoming Siobhan to our coffee morning this term, Siobhan has also spent two lunchtimes in school and will be running a club from after Easter on alternate Tuesdays (see dates below for next half term). The club will be a neuroinclusive session where everyone is welcome to spend some time with like minded peers.

ASCape particularly supports young people with autism and social anxiety - a diagnosis is not needed. They run a fortnightly youth club as well as a variety of other activities at weekends and in the school holidays. Please do look at their website for more information on this fabulous local charity here to support and encourage our young people and their families. ascapegroup.org



Tuesday 14th April
Tuesday 28th April
Tuesday 12th May

Staff Training

As a staff, we are constantly training, researching and sharing ideas to ensure we are meeting our students needs in the best possible ways. This term, this has included:

- SALT intervention training
- Understanding ADHD
- Planning meeting
- Vocabulary in the classroom
- Exam access arrangements
- SEN law
- Metacognition
- Embedding adaptive practice, explicit instruction and feedback to support all learners
- SENCO Network
- Zones of Regulation

Book a Time

We are aware that many parents and carers have questions related to SEN needs or possible needs. We are offering the opportunity to book a short conversation with Mrs Baker (years 7 and 8) or Mrs Cornish (year 9, 10, 11 and 6th form). Your child does not have to be on the SEN register to book a time. Sending a brief email to them before the meeting will help them have any needed information to hand.

[Book time with Claire Baker](#)

[Book time with Laura Cornish](#)

Key People

Mrs Cornish: cornishl@colfox.dorset.sch.uk
Mrs Baker: bakerc@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Head of Years

Year 7: Mrs Baker: bakerc@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Year 8: Mr Morse morses@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Year 9: Miss Burden burdenn@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Year 10: Mr Westley westleye@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

Year 11: Mr Maybury mayburyj@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

6th Form: Mr Teasdale teasdalea@colfox.dorset.sch.uk



Parent Support Sessions April

Go to a free expert session on Zoom, we've paid - usual cost £24.

Choose your session here & use code: **SJC191226**

Understanding Anger School	6 April 10am
Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained Cannabis and	13 April 10am
Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem Understanding	20 April 7pm
the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm

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

Choose your session here & use code: **SJC191226**



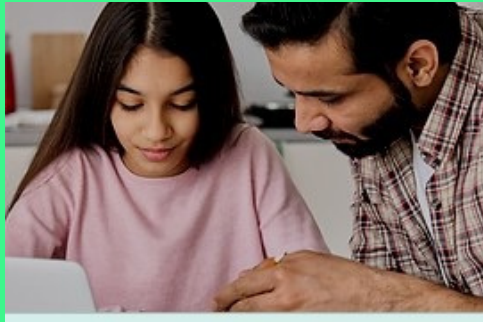
Anxiety Based School Avoidance

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”

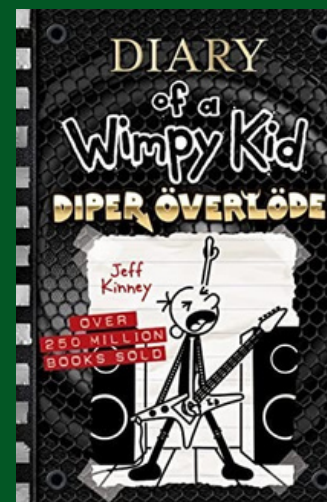
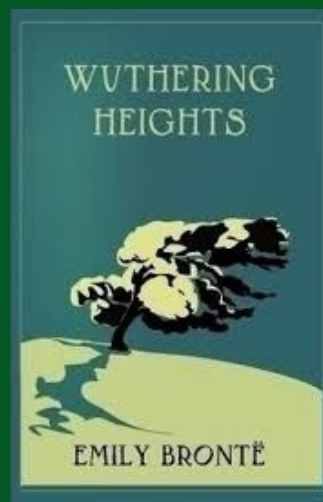
“This is a great resource - thank you!”

LIBRARY NEWS

Read **FREE** magazines & bestsellers
online this Easter & save **£££!**



SORA is your free book & magazine shop! We have bought everyone access so you can get more than 2,000 free bestselling books, magazines, audio books, mangas and graphic novels. It's easy to access, just google 'SORA' and log in using your usual school user name and password, step by step guide below. There is lots for Parents and Carers to enjoy too, so take a look, you can also download the free app for even easier access.



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!



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)
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

Help, resources & more

Help with uniform

If you need help with uniform or equipment

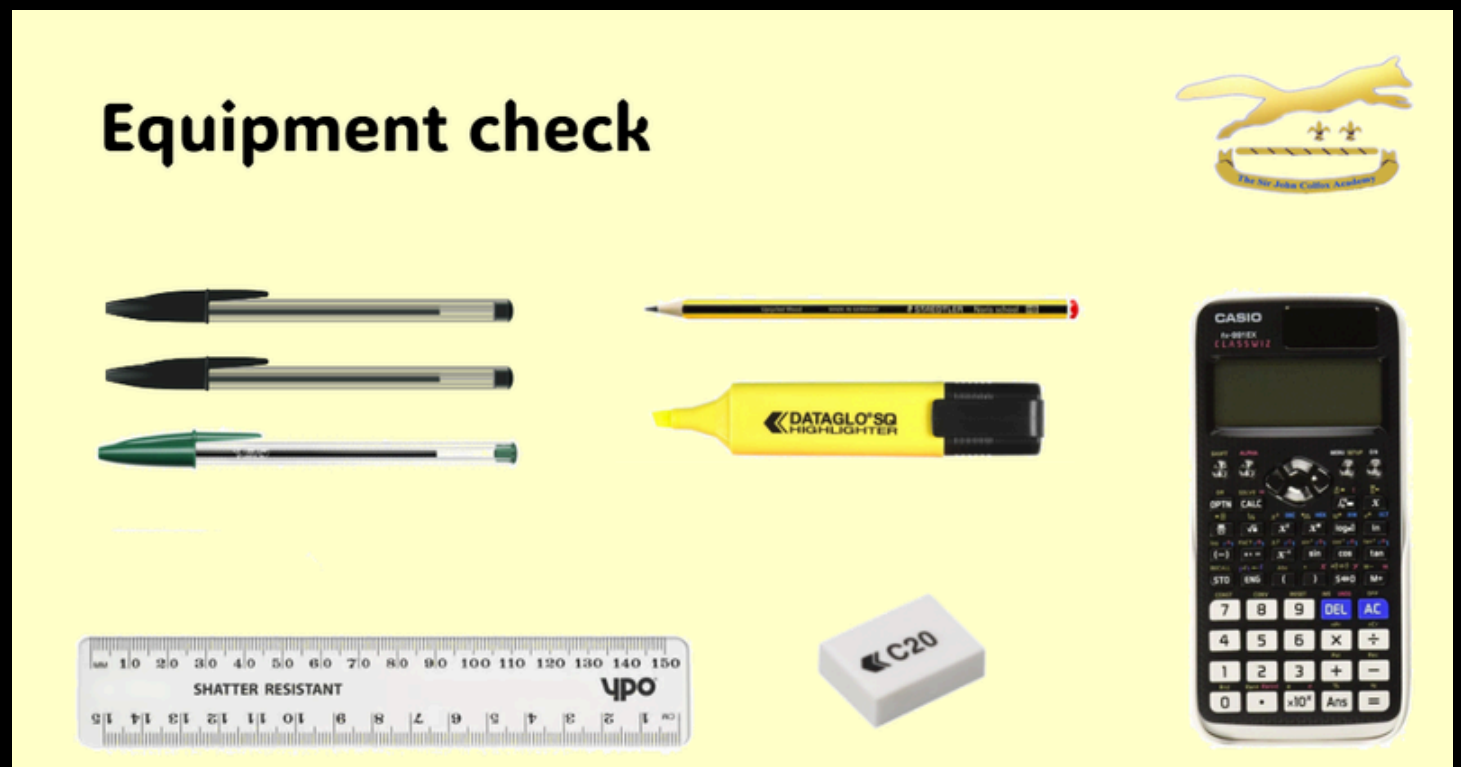
Please contact us we may be able to provide families in need with uniform help, we also have some second hand uniform available which has been donated to us. Please email us if you need assistance: office@colfox.dorset.sch.uk

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.](#)



Easter Fun at Bridport Youth Club & elsewhere!

A colorful poster for 'Easter in Dorset' activities. At the top, the BYCC logo (Bridport Youth Club) is shown with a tree and the text 'Hosted by Bridport Youth Club'. The main title 'EASTER in Dorset' is written in large, colorful letters, with a rabbit's head on the 'D' and 't'. Below the title, it says 'Holiday Activities & Food Easter Club'. The dates '8th April & 10th April' and time '10:00am - 2:00pm' are listed. A list of activities includes 'Hot meal provided', 'Arts & crafts', 'Music studio', 'Sports & team games', 'Off-site trips', and 'Chill-out & social time'. A booking information box states that it is free for children with a valid HAF code, or £12 per person per day otherwise. It is open to all young people and funded by the Department for Education and Dorset Council. The background features a path through a garden with Easter eggs, a rabbit, and a chick.

BYCC
Hosted by Bridport Youth Club

EASTER in Dorset

Holiday Activities & Food Easter Club

For ages 7-13 years **8th April & 10th April**
🕒 10:00am – 2:00pm

What's Included?

- 🍽️ Hot meal provided
- 🎨 Arts & crafts
- 🎵 Music studio
- 🏆 Sports & team games
- 🌳 Off-site trips
- 🧺 Chill-out & social time

A fun, safe and supportive environment this Easter! 🌈

📅 Booking Information

- ✅ **FREE** for children entitled to Free School Meals (with a valid HAF code)
- 💰 **£12** per person, per day without a HAF code

Open to all young people –

Funded by:

Department for Education Dorset Council

There are fun things on offer for Students this Easter, at our brilliant Bridport Youth Club and other venues. Take a look:

helpandkindness.co.uk/easter-in-dorset-2026

Activities are free if you are entitled to free school meals, you just need a holiday activity passcode which you can get by emailing Dorset Council:

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/holiday-activities-and-food-programme

Free family outing ideas - Kingston Maurward Animal Park & Gardens

Farm animals, pets, lovely enormous gardens and park, **free entry and free parking**, just outside Dorchester. **More details [online here](#).**



Join us on a (Dinosaur!) Egg Hunt this Easter Holiday!

Find the letters inside the hidden eggs and solve the puzzle in return for a reward!

28th March - 11th April

Drop-in Activity, no booking required

Museum open from 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday

Admissions: Adults: Annual Pass (£5 for 12 months of unlimited visits) Children & Under 21s: FREE



@bridport_museum

Registered Charity 1090327

FREE TRIAL Street Classes *with* Bridport Youth Dance

Cost: Free

***Wednesday 15th
& 22nd April***

4.30pm to 5pm Junior street
5pm to 5.30pm Middle street
5.30pm to 6.30pm Senior street
6.30pm to 7.30pm New competition class
(open to all Seniors and above)
7.30pm to 8.45pm Advanced crew

To enrol please contact Nikki Northover
at nikkinorthover43@gmail.com

Steps studio,
Crepe Farm Business Park
Symondsburry
DT6 6EY



Photograph by Len Copland

www.bridportyouthdance.org.uk

Thank you for reading!



**NEWS FROM COLFOX
SPRING TERM 2 2026**

We wish you all a very peaceful Easter!