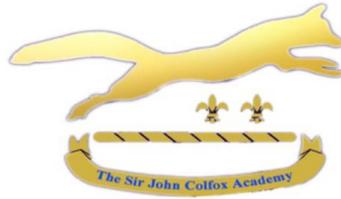


# The Sir John Colfox Academy



## ***Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence***

Headteacher: Mr Adam Shelley MEd, BSc Hons, PGCE, NPOH

25 October 2019

Dear Parents

As I approach the end of my first half term as Headteacher I would like to thank you all for the support you have shown the school and the warm welcome you have given me. Colfox truly is an amazing place and I am proud to lead it.

Your daughters and sons will have many opportunities to experience a fantastic range of activities during their time with us. Please encourage them to join in and participate as it will benefit their wellbeing. I expect we all wish we had had so many opportunities when we were at school. The range of activities on offer is due to the hard work of our staff, who make our school the great place it is.

Students and staff enjoyed the non-uniform Halloween day last week, which was organised by Hinomaru House and raised £945.00 for their charity. I confess when Mrs Turner told me about the fancy dress theme I had visions of witches and ghosts running around the school terrorising staff! However, it was actually lovely to see all years joining in and our students behaved impeccably as always.

Looking ahead, what is happening next half term? Lots, as ever, but we will be continuing with work to become a UNICEF Rights Respecting Gold School, as well as working closely with our community to help Bridport become a Rights Respecting Town. We will also be focusing on developing our Personal Social Development (PSD) Curriculum that teaches students about dangers in society. We have already had talks about drugs and alcohol from outside agencies. Visits will continue next term when the Police come in to talk about keeping safe. They will also show off their sniffer dogs! Please let me know if you do not want your child involved. I recommend it though, as it provides an interesting insight into the Police and their work.

We will also be focusing on getting students to take pride in the work they are doing in every lesson. I have seen some outstanding work, which students clearly are very proud of and want to show off. I want all students to take pride in showing off their work. Please help by asking your daughter or son to show you something they have done in school, which they are proud of. It could be something as simple as a well presented page in a book. I will be asking tutors to get students to come and see me, so they can show me something that they are proud of or pleased with.

We will also be focusing on making lessons more challenging for all students. I want them to find solutions and problem-solve more in class as this will improve their learning. This will be fun, rather than daunting, so please do not worry.

I am also looking to see if we can do something about the quality of our uniform, in particular the skirts. I have been shocked by the number of students who are trying to get the uniform correct but are let down by the company or have had to fix broken uniform due to the nature of the product. I will be involving some students in this so we can attempt to fix it as soon as possible. Having said this, please ensure that when

your daughter or son comes back after half term they are wearing uniform correctly. This is important and helps us in school. We hate nagging about it so your support is much appreciated.

I am looking forward to the next half term and all the exciting things that will happen. I hope you all have a great half term. I look forward to seeing everyone come back refreshed, ready to participate and to take pride in their work.

Yours sincerely

Adam Shelley  
Headteacher



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