



***Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence***

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

October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another brilliant and busy half term and I am delighted to once again share some of the wonderful things your children have achieved, enjoyed and taken part in.

We are very proud of all our students, including our new Year 7, who have made a very positive start, demonstrating an excellent attitude to learning and participating well in the many clubs and extra-curricular activities that we offer. Some of our new students are enjoying different clubs every day! As a guide we expect students to enjoy at least one club per week as participating is great for their wellbeing. Have a look at what is on offer this term: [colfox.org/extra-curricular-clubs](https://colfox.org/extra-curricular-clubs)

It has been great to see our Sixth Form centre so packed and buzzing, several students who started elsewhere have now returned to us which is lovely. Our Year 10s have embarked on their GCSE courses and are making good progress, and our Year 11s are busy preparing for their Mock Exams, please encourage them to revise thoroughly. Well done to our Year 13s for working hard on their recent Mock Exams.

This week, we worked hard to create a Careers Fair so 50 providers and companies could showcase what they offer and advise students. More than 1,000 students visited the careers fair, as students from many other schools joined us. The stall holders included the Royal Navy, Bath University, Waitrose and the Met Office. Some of our students also enjoyed an earlier virtual careers conference event, with designer Jimmy Choo. Thank you to everyone involved, especially Miss Jones, our Head of Careers.

It was our Variety Show last week, which celebrated and showcased an amazing range of talent including Music, Acting, Dance and Comedy. Students from different year groups competed and the finalists gave a fantastic performance, which Year 7 watched in the Main Hall– well done to overall winner Tristan for a superb piano recital.

It has been great to see more trips taking place and being planned, our geographers have been visiting the coast and our sports teams have been enjoying a range of home and away fixtures. Our Student Gardening Club has been growing and we now have a new greenhouse. We'd like to thank everyone who has supported the club with kind donations, including RKL Tools, the Co-Op and OCD Cleaning. Thank you to all colleagues involved in providing these enriching experiences.

It was great to welcome families to our Open Day at the end of September, thank you to the dozens of students who volunteered and gave up their evening to show families around, their enthusiasm for showing off our school was great and impressed our visitors.



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We are very proud of our Yr 10 authors, whose book '[Spiralling A Slow Descent into Madness](#)' has been selling well. It was produced through workshops with the brilliant 'Bank of Dreams and Nightmares' and was launched at Bridport Book Shop in September – well done to all our authors.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our school library, either by donating second hand books (please drop-off books to reception) or by buying us a book via the Bridport Book Shop. The Book Shop are still hosting our students' wish list, and so far, we have had more than £2,000 worth of books donated via them, which is an amazingly generous response and I know our 30-strong team of Student Librarians are very grateful. Don't forget students can get more than 2,000 free books, graphic novels, manga and audio books online via [SORA](#), using their usual school log in. Talking of Libraries, Dorset Council are currently asking for your views on Public Libraries, please [complete their library survey](#), there is a special survey for young people aged up to 15.

I know as Parents and Carers you want your children to achieve their best and enjoy more opportunities – you can do this best by supporting your child with **attendance, punctuality and effort**, including homework. We expect students to achieve at least 95 per cent attendance. This is important, as it allows them to keep up with their education and feel involved and part of our school. Our Family Liaison Officer Sarah Higgins is here to help students and families so please get in touch if you have any concerns. We of course understand that sometimes medical circumstances mean some absences are unavoidable. Please make sure your child always arrives in good time for school, rested from a good night's sleep so they can be ready to learn and enjoy school. Thank you to Parents and Carers for supporting students either to do their homework at home or to attend our Homework Club, which is a very friendly and supportive place to study. Homework Club runs in the library after school until 5pm from Monday to Thursday. Thank you for supporting your child with these important things – it will help them achieve amazing things. I very much appreciate the ongoing support from our families, together we will help our students reach their potential and enjoy their time at school.

I wish you all a very peaceful half term break.

Yours sincerely



Adam Shelley  
Headteacher