



# Boarding Newsletter, October half term

**Tim Allen, Director of Boarding**

Dear Boarding Community,

As the first half of term ends, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable journey we've shared over the past two months. It has been a time filled with growth, learning, and building lasting connections within our close-knit boarding family. With so many new boarders joining our community and the changes with moving to a part-time and full-time house it has been a real learning curve for so many, but as we reach half term, I congratulate all boarders for showing such resilience and courage in embracing all things boarding.

## 1. Celebrating Achievements

Our boarding students have excelled in various aspects of life at Sexey's from academic achievements to sports, arts, and community projects, we're incredibly proud of their accomplishments. Congratulations to all our students for their dedication and hard work over the past 6 weeks, we will start to add in more prep support after half term, with extra academic learning opportunities being readily available for those who want to continue to learn above the current level of homework set.

Unrelated to academics it's been great to see the weekend boarding trips so heavily supported. Trips to Bristol and Bath proved hugely successful with last weekend's go karting trip also pushing some boarders to overcome nerves and challenge themselves to try something different.



## 2. Upcoming Holidays

With the half term approaching, please be reminded of the boarding house closing and reopening dates. Ensure all necessary travel and accommodation arrangements are in place to ensure a smooth transition. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to our boarding staff and we will continue to offer flexibility to all our boarding families.

### 3. A Look Ahead

The next half term holds exciting prospects. We have planned a range of events, activities, and outings for our boarding students to foster personal and academic growth. We start the new half term with a trip to the Escape Room at Shepton Mallet Prison, followed by paintball, Ice Hockey, Southampton football, go karting, Christmas lights trip to Stourhead and we will be resuming our bi weekly trips to play Padel in Bristol. I'm happy to confirm all weekend trips are available to both part time and full-time boarders, please do speak to the boarding staff about any trips.

### 4. Boarding House Updates

We are continually working to enhance the boarding experience in both Lisbury and Macmillan. Recent improvements include the new Lisbury pet "Joe" I fully expect Macmillan to follow suit soon and look forward to seeing what house pet they choose! Upgraded WI-FI should be online when boarding reopens and the Mac gym reopening will be complete with spin bikes, treadmill, cross trainer and a rowing machine. This will be available to our boarders, along with additional support for students' wellbeing with regular visits from our independent listener and school councillor.



### 5. Student Spotlight

Each term, we shine a spotlight on one exceptional boarding student who has demonstrated outstanding qualities in leadership, academics, or community involvement. This term, we honour Deshawn, who is one of our longest serving boarders and has embraced everything thrown at him over his time at Sexey's. Deshawn continues to be one of the most popular boarders in Macmillan House and is always available to help, support and guide our younger boarders, not to mention now being an integral part of Bruton FC and embracing being part of the local community.

### 6. Thank You

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire boarding community – students, parents, guardians, and our dedicated boarding staff – for making this half term a memorable one. Your cooperation and commitment contribute to the vibrant and supportive environment that makes Sexey's a home away from home.

We wish you all a joyful half term filled with warmth and togetherness. Stay safe and enjoy your well-deserved break!