



Headteacher: Mr D Reeve BSc (Hons)

### The Mitre Fund

14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to be able to welcome you as parents/carers to The Bishop's Stortford High School. Your son is about to embark on an exciting journey with us and, as well as making sure he is taught to the highest standard, we will provide him with an outstanding array of extra-curricular opportunities.

I believe these enrichment activities play a vital role in the development of young people and are a key component of the 'truly all-round education' of which we are so proud.

In order to maintain our high aspirations and to continue to provide your son with the best opportunities in which he can flourish, we are forced to ask, for your financial support. Funding in education is at its most challenging for decades and we will find it increasingly difficult to continue to provide such a rich programme, which engages a diverse range of interests, without your help. I am acutely aware that in the current economic climate, there are also increasing financial pressures placed on many families, however, it is still necessary for me to ask for your assistance. The school has benefitted from a strong base of financial support from the parent body in the past, with a number of families making a regular donation to the Mitre Fund. Without that help next year, we will struggle to continue to provide the same degree of enrichment opportunities as we have in the past.

Along with support from the PTFA, the Mitre Fund will be funding the construction of a canopy in our patio area, to provide a dry space for students and allow more of them to access food at break time. Other items that the Mitre fund has supported recently include: sound & lighting equipment and curtains in the hall for productions; strength & conditioning equipment for our sports pavilion and picnic tables for the playground.

The school is a registered charity and the 'Mitre Fund' is a way of supplementing our government funding to ensure we continue to support high achievement and provide additional facilities for our students, whilst taking advantage of the substantial tax benefits available to us as a charity. We are asking parents who feel able, to complete the attached standing order to the 'TBSHS Mitre Fund' along with the attached gift aid form. Both forms are also available on our website. The level of giving is entirely confidential and we shall be extremely grateful for any contributions received.

I do hope you are able to help us continue to provide great opportunities for our students next year and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

Dale Reeve, Headteacher