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Dear Parents/Carers,

The Mitre Fund

I wrote to the parents of our new Year 7 students in July, explaining the purpose of the Mitre Fund and felt I should reiterate to parents of students in the other year groups, my request for contributions to the fund. Firstly, I would like to thank all those who have already agreed to contribute to the Mitre Fund and have included below some examples of recent purchases made possible by the generosity of the **Mitre Friends** - those people who donate.

The Mitre Fund is a registered charity and fulfils the obligations set by the Charity Commission. It provides a platform for making either one-off or regular cash donations to the school, to support specific enrichment projects and to allow the school to continue to deliver an **Outstanding** extra-curricular programme for all students to engage in. It is overseen by a board of Trustees made up of representatives from the governing body and the school leadership team. Our objectives are to further the advancement of education by providing additional resources to The Bishop's Stortford High School. We wish to enhance the positive experiences of students and improve the environment, therefore increasing the students' ability to learn and develop.

Requests for financial support are made from within the school and are subject to approval by the Trustees. An example of a recent substantial purchase was the canopy fitted adjacent to the servery in 2015. This has provided a covered area for students' use and has extended the space available for students to eat and socialise. More recently a number of items have been funded by *The Mitre* including in the last year: a display unit to showcase the work of Design Technology students in the school reception area; specialist music technology hardware and software; new equipment for the strength & conditioning centre; new stage lighting for the hall; a new specialist microscope for the science department; funding for new work stations in the sixth form centre; funding to provide a school counsellor for the next academic year; 3D printer filament for the Computing department and a new touch-sensitive electronic keyboard for performances and school events. Each of these items the school would otherwise not have been able to provide.

As many parents will be aware, all schools across the country face a difficult future, in terms of funding, and in order to continue to provide the same high quality experience for our students throughout their time here, we are becoming more reliant on the financial support of parents and friends. Reductions in central government funding, coupled with rapidly rising costs, make it increasingly more difficult to provide students with the level of opportunity we have all come to expect. We would therefore ask you to seriously consider becoming a **Mitre Friend** by printing and completing the direct debit and gift aid forms on the school website and committing to a suggested **monthly donation of £10** (or more) to help us maintain The Black & Gold spirit and provide the 'truly all-round' experience for our students.

Any support you are able to offer will be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Mr Dale Reeve
Headteacher



TBSHS: A truly all-round education

