

25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear students and parents

I trust this summer term newsletter arrives after a restful Easter break, with good weather for all of us and a sense that summer is on the horizon now. Students returning to college today will have seen a new look to the front of the estate as well as clear evidence of our building projects gearing up – more on that later. They will also, I hope, be feeling that Collyer's has pretty much returned to normal after all the Covid restrictions. Just before Easter we had our first Prizegiving event since December 2019, and it was a huge delight to welcome a large group of Old Collyerians and their family and friends back to the college again. Our Covid FAQs and Risk Assessment for the summer term are updated on the college website and all events are now running in person as planned with much simplified government guidance on self-isolation if unwell or testing positive.

### **Teaching, learning and support**

At the front of everyone's minds will of course be the lead up to the first set of external exams and assessments since 2019. Students and parents should be reassured that preparations for this have been extremely thorough and that we have been incredibly impressed by all our community's commitment and resilience. Best of luck to everyone with your exams and I'm sure you will all do your very best! Although we will be saying goodbye to our 2A students on Founder's Day as they head off for exam leave, once 1A students return after half term we will be sharing updates on significant enhancements to our enrichment offer that we have called '*Collyer's 360*'. From September, all students will be even more involved in college life and have fantastic opportunities to broaden their experience beyond their core subjects.

### **Property strategy**

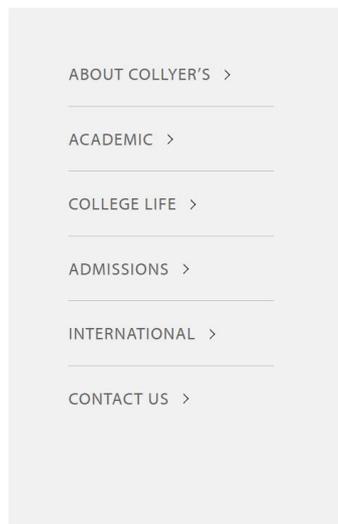
It will have not escaped anyone's attention that we now have not just a new metal fence along Hurst Road but also a new vehicle entrance and exit. Very soon a new gate will also be installed on Richmond Road for the staff car park. This project has been substantially funded by the government and is both aimed to improve safety and security for our community by having only one main pedestrian entrance in front of Reception and also significantly enhance the look and feel of the college. Our plan is to completely replace the main pedestrian entrance gate as well and we will share plans for this as soon as they are finalised. Please note that from today it is no longer possible for parents and friends to drop off students within the campus – the car park is only accessible to staff, students and visitors coming to Reception.

Also clearly visible from outside the campus is the mobilisation of our two main building projects – the new Shelley building and the new Café. Both are fully on track but of course inevitably we will be asking for flexibility from students at times with travel around the campus to keep everyone safe. We will work with our contractor Sunninghill to keep disruption onsite and for our neighbours to an absolute minimum, particularly during the exam period.

## Heritage project

Our student-led heritage project continues full swing and there has been an incredible amount of time and effort put in to edit a suite of video interviews of Old Collyerians that came into the college in person last year. Not only will these videos serve as an oral history of Collyer's as we journey through the coming 10 years to our quincentenary in 2032, but we are also delighted to showcase them now in the heritage section of the college website (click on the image below):

### Alumni Videos



Collyer's is built on the memories of its previous students, and we are delighted to share below a suite of video interviews recorded and edited by our student history project and starring a range of Old Collyerians that have gone on to make their own mark on the world. If you attended Collyer's and would like to be involved in this ongoing project, then please contact [admin@collyers.ac.uk](mailto:admin@collyers.ac.uk). We look forward to adding more videos each year.



SIMON NYE  
1969-1976

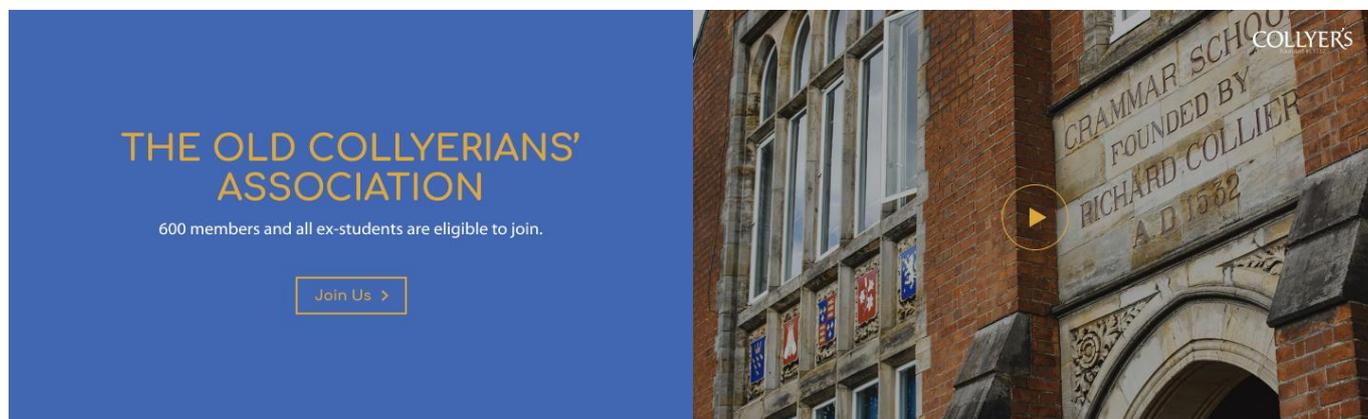


NICK WELLER  
1974-1981

As well as the video project, students will be curating a history exhibition for the OCA Centenary Founder's Day service in May and a newly formed Quincentenary Steering Group, comprising key figures from the local community, has already met for the first time to start shaping ideas for key milestones the college will be celebrating this year, in 2026 and then in 2032.

## Old Collyerians' Association (OCA)

The first key milestone is of course this year's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of our alumni organisation – the Old Collyerians' Association. Let me take the opportunity to promote this fantastic group. Anyone who studied at Collyer's is of course an Old Collyerian – but joining the alumni organisation is a way to stay connected, give back to the college and celebrate happy memories. The OCA are now offering all graduating students 5 years' free membership and of course if any parents / aunts / uncles out there attended Collyer's then please consider joining up as well – simply click on the image below to go to the microsite:



The OCA and Collyer's are jointly organising a traditional Founder's Day service at St. Mary's Church on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May for the benefit of Old Collyerians to mark this important milestone. All Old Collyerians are welcome to join the event with a guest, whether members of the OCA or not, please simply email my PA Linda MacLeman [lm@collyers.ac.uk](mailto:lm@collyers.ac.uk) to confirm. Everyone should arrive from 10.30 in order to start promptly at 11.00 and we expect the event to finish around 12.00

### **Guild of Mercers' Scholars**

As a Mercers' school, Collyer's benefits from very strong links to The Mercers' Company and [The Guild of Mercers' Scholars](#). Each year students are offered a fantastic opportunity to take on [an apprenticeship through the guild](#), developing an understanding of the workings of the City of London and forging a network that will help in future careers. If any students would like to know more about this possibility, please email Linda MacLeman [lm@collyers.ac.uk](mailto:lm@collyers.ac.uk) to express your interest.



### **Parent involvement**

It is very important for Collyer's that parents are involved in shaping the future of the college and giving feedback on events and new initiatives. Andrea (VP Pastoral) and I met with the parent forum in the spring term to discuss in more detail the review of our Mission, Vision and Values at Collyer's and the results of the survey that so many parents kindly responded to. The survey and the discussion in the parent forum have proven extremely useful and the views shared are much appreciated. We will publish our new Mission, Vision and Values once they are agreed by our Governing Body in late summer.

For the summer term our parent forum will be focusing mainly on our plans for Collyer's 360 and work experience and the meeting is planned for late June. If you would like to join this parent forum meeting, please email Linda MacLeman [lm@collyers.ac.uk](mailto:lm@collyers.ac.uk) to express your interest and we look forward to meeting with you in due course.

I hope you have found these updates useful and wish you all the best for the coming term.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'D. Lodge'.

Dan Lodge  
Principal