



## Corfe Hills Connection

*Learning today for a better tomorrow*

October 2023

### A word from James Sankey, Headteacher

As half term has come to a close, it has been a good time to reflect on the start to the academic year. I am incredibly proud of how well our students have started the year and the way they have embraced the challenge to learn to the max every lesson. The school is continuing to grow with our new Year 9 being the biggest year group in the school and we are pleased to have been successful in securing approval for the replacement of a block of eight classrooms which will be funded through the Department for Education Schools Rebuilding Programme.

We have been impressed by how well Year 9 have settled in and their enthusiasm to make the most of studying new subjects and to get involved in the many clubs and activities on offer. In addition, we were delighted that so many were keen to help out at our open evening, after less than three weeks at Corfe Hills, and confidently show prospective students and parents around the school. Our Year 10 students have made an excellent start to their GCSE courses and our Year 11 have shown real ambition and determination to achieve exceptional outcomes in every subject they are studying. Our Sixth Form has a new leadership team this academic year with Mrs Rayner as Head of Sixth Form and Mrs McDermid as Deputy Head of Sixth Form. Sixth Form students have started the year with plenty of focus on UCAS and careers as they are supported in planning for their futures.

Alongside the learning in the classroom, it has been fantastic to see so many extra-curricular activities taking place with regular training sessions and sports fixtures underway as well as a packed schedule of rehearsals for our school production of Alice in Wonderland that is due to take place at the end of November. We are also incredibly proud of the work that Mrs Inskip, Head of Music, has done to with our local music service (SoundStorm) to secure our status as a Music Mark School. This award recognises the value that we place on music as well as recognition of our commitment to music education.

## School Holidays

November 2023

M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2023

M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024

M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**END OF TERM**

Friday 15 December

**INSET DAY**

Monday 2 January

**RETURN DAY**

Wednesday 3 January

# Attendance & Harvest Festival

As you are aware, attendance is a key priority for our school. Our analysis of last summer's external examinations has provided us with clear evidence of how attendance at school and in lessons will impact on student outcomes at both GCSE and A level. Please see the table below:

We are committed to ensuring that every student at Corfe Hills School can achieve the very best outcomes in every subject, but this is only possible if they are attending school and are in lessons. If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance or require any support, please contact your child's Student Support Manager.

Attendance in lessons	Outcomes
Below 80%	1 ½ grades below average in every subject
80% to 85%	½ grade below average in every subject
85% to 90%	¼ grade below average in every subject
Above 95%	¾ grade above in every subject



## Harvest Festival

We have collected donations for the Corfe Mullen Food Bank as part of Harvest Festival. Donations were delivered on the last day of the half term. We were incredibly proud of the support from local families who donated food items for this worthy cause.

Corfe Mullen Food bank are celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and your support has been greatly appreciated.

# Open Evening

On Wednesday 20 September Corfe Hills School hosted our Open Evening and we were delighted that so many families were able to join us, in spite of the stormy weather! There were some eye-catching displays and demonstrations across the school, most notably the fire throwing experiments in science and some competitive games in the sports hall. Thank you to everyone who supported the charity raffle and tombola in the LRC – we raised money for Julia's House and bought some new books for Year 9 to read in the library. A big thank you goes to our student tour guides and volunteers who did a fantastic job on the night, by making everyone feel welcome!



# Zanzibar 2023

During the summer, a group of CHS students went on an eight-day volunteering trip to Zanzibar, Tanzania. After two long flights we arrived at our accommodation at 6am: it was very different to England. On our bus ride there we could see people already starting their day: opening shops, pulling their cows, and waving as we drove by. Once we arrived at our place, everyone was so welcoming helping us to get our luggage into our rooms. All of us were so exhausted from our travels that the majority went and had a nap. However, some of us chose to power through which ended with Millie being pushed in the pool fully clothed!

After the first day of getting settled into our accommodation for the week, we started the day at our school. We met at 7:30am sharp to eat our breakfast with everyone except for George who failed to get out of bed! We loaded onto the bus with our group, smothered in bug spray although unprepared, we were excited to meet the children we were going to help. Arriving at the school we were greeted by hundreds of overjoyed children, yet the older years tended to keep their distance. Through all the hard hammering and painting we did we were so glad to be able to join in playing with the children and felt a real part of the community. Many of the student volunteers also did some teaching of the children, which was hard but rewarding.

Despite the joy we felt being there and helping them we couldn't ignore the sadness that loomed because we knew we had to leave. We got invited by the students' families to visit their homes which was a real challenge seeing the environment they live in. We all see the adverts on tv, but they are nothing compared to the reality of sitting on their own rugs and floors: it is indescribable the things you begin to feel. Their homes were nothing compared to our typical ones: no separate rooms, curtains for doors, and no running water or toilets. Regardless of these conditions, they were some of the happiest and smiliest people we have ever met. It just goes to show a lot of the things that we have and take for granted. We could all learn a lesson from them and how they love their lives. This trip was a life changing experience, and we would all say if you ever get the opportunity to volunteer do it!

Lilly Alcock & Jasmine Scott 12S10



# Christmas Wreath workshop

Price includes all the materials for your stunning wreath, hot drinks and mince pies. We will also be holding a raffle on the night! The evening will be hosted by our lovely Sixth

Form Student Leaders.

Please book in using the link:

[Christmas Wreath Making Workshops 2023 - Lewis-Manning Hospice Care](#)

**MAKE YOUR OWN  
CHRISTMAS WREATH  
AND RAISE MONEY FOR  
LEWIS MANNING  
HOSPICE!**

Come along to Corfe Hills School and get into the Christmas spirit by making your very own Christmas Wreath. These wreaths are made from beautiful greenery and are completely compostable after the Christmas season or can be dried out and used again. Our experts will talk you through how to create your very own beautiful wreath for you, your family and friends to enjoy this Christmas season in a 2 ½ hour workshop. **NOW SOLD OUT!**



## Speech from the Head Student

Hello! My name is Milly and I'm Head Student at Corfe Hills School.

Throughout my time at Corfe Hills, I have been able to involve myself in countless opportunities, such as trips to France to learn to surf, representing the school in sporting events and now in my final year, taking on the role of Head Student.

In 'lower school', I always looked up to the previous Head Students, admiring their confidence and their ability to become the 'voice' of all the students. By the end of this academic year, alongside the student leadership team, hopefully we will have helped to make the school even more supportive for local charities, more rewarding for our students and gone further as a student-led leadership group than ever before.

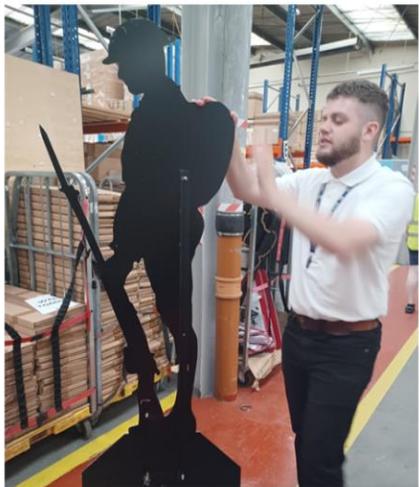
With the support of external and internal sources, we aspire to hold fundraising events, build upon existing relationships with local schools and strengthen the sense of community as a whole.

Truthfully, I have loved my Corfe Hills experience, and I will be sad to leave next July, hopefully to go to University to study to become a Primary School Teacher. This school and its staff have given me the independence, confidence and belief in my abilities and in return; it is my hope that as Head Student I will be able to give something back, in order to improve the lives of all Corfe Hills Students.

# Lest We Forget

## Honouring our local military veterans

On Tuesday 19 September, Julie Gadsby from the Royal British Legion in Broadstone came to present our "Last Tommy" figure to the school; the figure is now displayed in the LRC, along with a beautiful display of poppies, one made by every child in Corfe Hills. The remembrance silhouetted figure of a WW1 soldier was created by the Royal British Legion Industries, an amazing charity who employ veterans who have left military service. The profits from selling these remembrance items means that veterans have careers beyond their military retirement. We are selling poppies to students and will be hosting a veteran's lunch near to Christmas, to support our local Royal British Legion. During Remembrance week we are hosting a veteran of the Korean war to unveil our display and one of our students will play the Last Post.



**We will  
remember them  
11 November  
2023**



# CORFE HILLS SCHOOL

## PRESENTS

# Alice in Wonderland

A central collage of Alice in Wonderland-themed illustrations including pocket watches, playing cards, a teacup, and a key, set against a blue and green checkered background.

# Wonderland

# Alice in

**30<sup>th</sup> November**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023**

**7pm**

Tickets available via  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk)

**£8 Adults**

**£5 Yr 11 & under**

Book, Music & Lyrics by Janet Yates Vogt & Mark Friedman. Based on Alice's Adventures in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass By Lewis Carroll

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), [www.theatricalrights.co.uk](http://www.theatricalrights.co.uk)

# Social Media



@CorfeHillsSchool

@CorfeHills



@CorfeHillsSchool



**Keep in the loop of what is going on at Corfe Hills School!**  
Spread the great work CHS students and staff do by sharing CHS posts on social media or/and letting friends and family know of our school events!

## Friends of Corfe Hills – PTA Second-hand uniform to buy



### Second-hand uniform costs:

Blazer	£7.50
Jumper	£3.00
Tie	£2.50
Trousers	£2.00
Skirt	£3.00
Shirt/Blouse	50p
Sports Top	£3.00
Sports Shorts	£3.00
Sports Hoodie	£5.00
Socks	50p



For enquiries, please email [pta@corfehills.net](mailto:pta@corfehills.net)

### Uniform Donations

If you have outgrown uniform items, please recycle them by donating these to **The Friends of Corfe Hills - PTA**  
(Please ensure it is washed beforehand)

**Money raised will be put to good use by the PTA!**

Uniform will be sold via social media, email and a stand at future school events.

If you would like to enquire about second-hand uniform, that the PTA already has, please email [pta@corfehills.net](mailto:pta@corfehills.net)