



## Corfe Hills Connection

*Learning today for a better tomorrow*



July 2024

### **A word from James Sankey, Headteacher**

It has been an exceptional year of success for our students as they have made the most of all that is on offer at Corfe Hills School. We are incredibly proud of the determination and resilience shown by our Year 11 and Year 13 students during their examination season, and we eagerly await their results in August. The end of their studies was marked with fitting celebrations, including the Year 11 prom and the Year 13 celebration evening. The summer term is also a key preparation time for our new Year 9 students with numerous transition activities including taster mornings, a meet-the-tutor event and then the main transfer day at the end of June.

The summer term has been busy with educational trips, such as GCSE geography trips to Lyme Regis, an A-level geography residential trip, a trip to the Mayflower Theatre to see *Wicked*, and a Year 12 Criminology visit to Poole Magistrates' Court. Additionally, Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) practice and qualifying expeditions provided students with valuable outdoor and teamwork experiences, with all participants successfully completing the expedition strand of their award. In the final two weeks of term, Year 12 students headed off on work shadowing to gain valuable experience with local businesses in preparation for life beyond Corfe Hills School.

We welcomed students, parents, and visitors from our middle schools to our D&T showcase at the end of June to celebrate the work of students from Corfe Hills School and Broadstone Middle School. In the penultimate week of the term, we featured a fantastic showcase of our students' artistic talents, displaying a variety of art, media, and photography projects.

In early July, current, past, and future students of Corfe Hills showcased their musical talents. Performances included the school choir, various student bands, soloists, and duets, with genres ranging from musical theatre and jazz to rock and pop.

**RETURN TO SCHOOL – Wednesday 4 September Year 9  
and 12 only. Rest of school returns Thursday 5 September**



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### A word from James Sankey continued

Despite the wet weather forcing the event indoors, it was still a fantastic celebration of talent. A special thanks to Mrs Inskip for championing music at Corfe Hills School. The evening concluded with a heartfelt rendition of 'Thank You for the Music' sung by two of our leavers as a surprise for Mrs Inskip.

We hosted the Cyber First Event in July, featuring exciting sessions including JP Morgan, SecQuest, Bournemouth University and Microsoft. We are also delighted to announce that following our success in securing the Cyber First Bronze Award, and we have now secured the Silver Award.

Our sports day this year featured a new format, which was a tremendous success. Participation levels were incredible, and the energy from staff in the mini-games and recreational sports activities was fantastic. Special commendation goes to Laura McDermid for her vision and meticulous planning, ensuring everything ran smoothly. The event's success was a collective effort, and the dedication of all staff involved was greatly appreciated. There is also plenty of sporting success to celebrate from across the term. Our U15 handball team travelled to Nottingham to compete in the National Handball Finals, finishing 8th overall. We've established four new cricket teams, two of which are girls' teams that play regularly. A significant number of our students have represented the district and county in athletics, showcasing their talent and dedication. In tennis, our U15 team became Division 2 County Champions after defeating Leweston in the final. Additionally, our girls' volleyball team achieved an impressive second place at the district volleyball competition, despite only starting their training this spring.

I would like to wish you and your family a restful summer break.

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# Year 11 and 13 - Prom



The Proms this year were held at Dean's Court for Year 11 and The Cowshed for Year 13. It was lovely to see so many of our students attend and both were great evenings. We hope they all have a wonderful summer.

# Year 12 - Volunteering



It was a privilege to attend the Gatsby Celebration Event hosted by BCP Education and Children's Services. Mrs Rayner and Mrs McDermid presented our student led charity work which has raised over £5000 for local and national charities this year and talked about the impact of our Year 12 Volunteering Programme which has seen students volunteer for local charities/businesses. We are so proud of all the work undertaken by the students. We were awarded the BCP Gatsby Impact Award.

# Eco Committee



The newly formed Eco Committee has been very busy this year working towards the Green Flag status, and the term concludes in a fantastic trip to Brownsea Island. The students were trained on how to conduct an Ecology survey by the Park Rangers on the island and then participated in completing a survey on the island. From taking part in the Great British Bird Watch, to planting trees, making recycled art and maintaining the Well-bee'ing garden to encourage more bees to our garden, we are proud to announce that we have submitted all the criteria for the award and we're awaiting our Green Flag accreditation. Congratulations to Lucy Kitcatt and all the members of the Eco-Committee for making a difference.



# Summer Bonanza

This year, we were hoping to take advantage of a warm summer's evening to present our musical bonanza in a festival style concert. However, like many other music festivals, the weather was not kind forcing us to move into the school hall so the show could go on.



Our theme this year was past, present and future as we had current Corfe Hills students performing, and also prospective students (Lockyers & Broadstone Middle) as well as ex-Corfe musicians gracing the stage.

The concert was notable for its variety; from solo violin to rock band and musical theatre! It was also a bittersweet occasion with some memorable final performances from current year 11 and 13 students, and some first performances showcasing the talent rising up through the years.

It really was a fantastic evening that showcased the exceptional musical talent of young people in our school communities. A big thank you to all students that performed and to everyone who came and supported the event which raised £562.00 to help fund our future shows and concerts at Corfe Hills. We would also like to express our gratitude to the local businesses who supported the event by donating a raffle prize: Hillside Vets, Forum Jewellers and Gullivers Bookstore. Also, to Mark Grigsby and his son Oliver for all their help with providing and operating the sound equipment.

# Tennis

The Year 9/10 tennis team won Division 2 county tennis championships in July which is a massive achievement. Two of the team have won 3 county titles this year – well done boys!



## Charity Bike Ride



Congratulations to Year 10 student Luis Cummings who has completed a 100 mile bike ride to raise funds for brain tumour research. He successfully completed the ride in just under 9 hours, travelling from Wales, through Somerset, Wiltshire and back into Dorset, ending at Upton House. To date he has raised an amazing £1335.

# Handball – Year 10 Boys

Congratulations to our Year 10 with two Year 9s Handball team. They became South England Champions in May and then went to Nottingham for the National Schools Final in June. An amazing achievement for everyone involved.



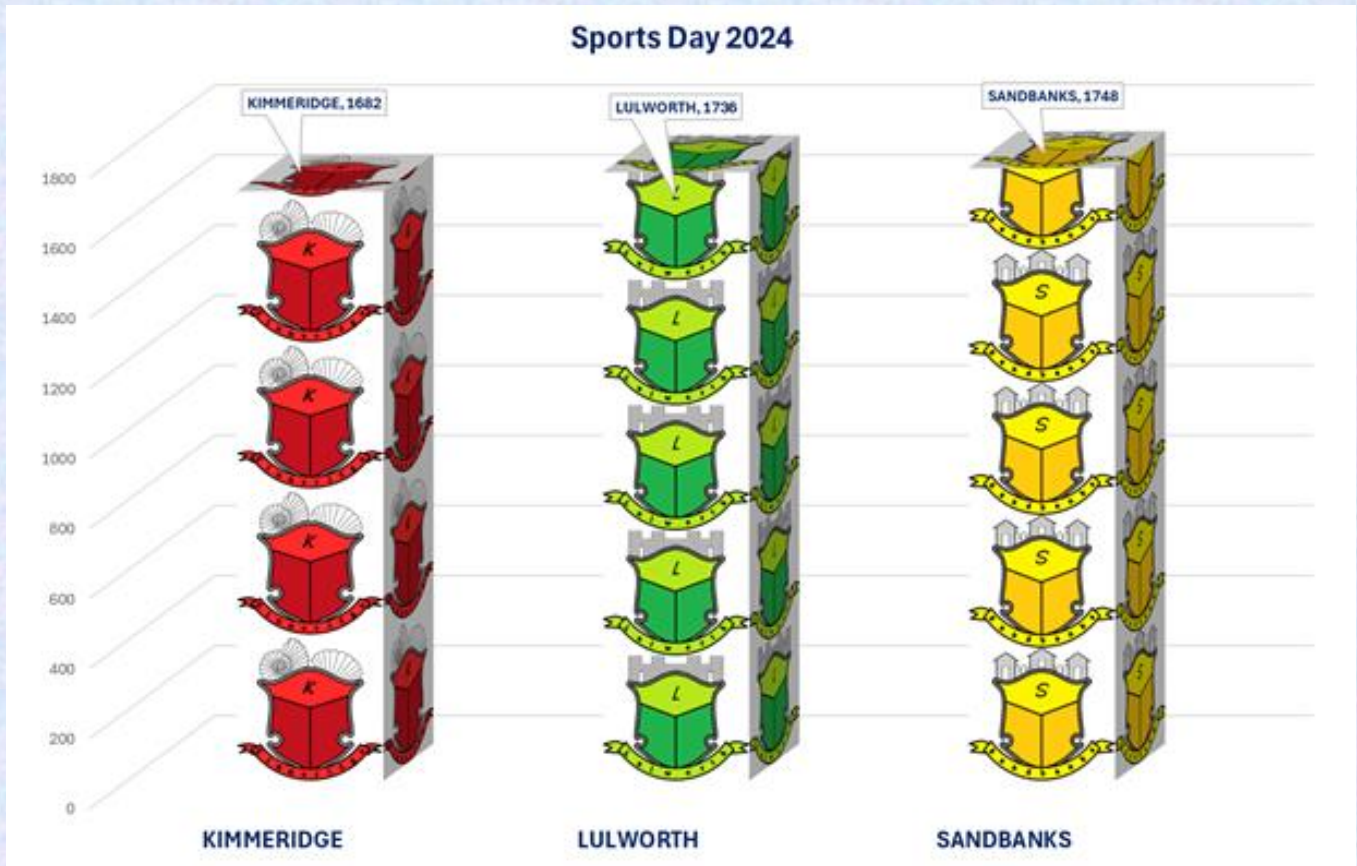
A big thank you to both Mr Boulter for coaching the group and to Mr Dominey for all his efforts.

# Olympics – Paris 24

Izzy Songhurst (back row 2<sup>nd</sup> left), an ex Corfe Hills student, has been selected for Team GB in trampolining at this summer's Olympics. Congratulations to Izzy on such an incredible achievement. Good luck in Paris.



# Sports Day



This year saw a change in how we ran Sports Day. Inclusion, fun and being active was the name of the game. All Year 9 and 10 students were able to select their activities of choice throughout the day. From workshops in Tae Kwon Do to Pilates, dance to Acro. Students who wanted a more competitive option, had many choices from ultimate frisbee, to Interhouse volleyball and rounders. These workshops paired alongside 20 mini challenges where students had to accrue stamps on their activity passport were great fun. Followed by wacky races, the water relay, and egg and spoon, these were a great chance for students to embrace the house spirit and cheer on their team mates. The day concluded with a brilliant tug of war final and sprint relays. An action packed day where both staff and students alike had a great day. Congratulations to Sandbanks who won the Sports Day.

# Sixth Form Sports Day

Sixth Form had an exciting Sports Day. The event consisted of inter house rounders and volleyball and some wacky races.

Congratulations to Lulworth who were the sixth form champions.



## Volleyball



This year, saw the girls Year 9 and 10 volleyball teams train hard and enter in the PEDDSSA cup for the first time. The Year 9 team came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and the Year 10 team narrowly missed out on first place, to claim silver medals in the competition. Well done girls and bring on next year!

# Cyber First Day

On the 9th July, we hosted an exciting Cyber First event, welcoming around 150 students from 7 different schools. The event featured six esteemed industry speakers from leading organisations, including Microsoft, JP Morgan, SecQuest, Vizst, and CyGamBit from Bournemouth University. Highlights of the day included a fascinating session on Minecraft Education by Microsoft, which demonstrated how gaming can be an educational tool. JP Morgan, SecQuest, Vizst, and CyGamBit offered insights into the dynamic world of cyber security, covering topics from ethical hacking to the gamification of cyber-security and privacy education.

Students had the unique opportunity to engage in hands-on activities and explore potential careers in the cyber security field, making the event both educational and inspiring. We are thrilled to have sparked interest in such a crucial and growing industry among our young participants.



# Religious Studies

Y10 GCSE Religious Studies visit to London, July 2024

The Y10 RS group recently went on a study visit to two iconic places of religious worship in London. First up was the breathtaking Shri Swaminarayan Hindu Mandir in Neasden (a stone's throw from Wembley stadium!), which students were incredibly impressed by. Hand-carved in (predominantly) marble and teak in India, and then shipped piece by piece to England, construction took place between 1992-95, and is one of the largest Hindu temples in the world outside India. Students had a guided tour, a Q&A session, a visit to an exhibition, a video presentation and attended a traditional aarti ceremony. We then hot-footed it across town to central London, to visit Westminster Abbey, the magnificent church where Kings and Queens have been crowned for centuries. Our particular focus here was on the relationship between Religion and Science, as so many noted scientists of the past are either interred or memorialised in the Abbey, like Darwin, Hawking, Newton to name but a few. This is one of the most interesting topics in the GCSE course, and our knowledgeable guide took us round the abbey, taking in key sights as we went, stopping at the memorials to so many scientists. He carefully explained the history of conflict and collaboration that has characterised the complex relationship between the Church and scientific community over the past four centuries. On a very wet day in central London, the Abbey was packed with tourists, but this did not detract from the quality of our tour. An excellent and rewarding trip!



# Reading Mentor Programme

Our Reading Mentor programme is an opportunity for our 6th Form students to share their love of reading with some of our lower school students. It's a relaxed end to the week for everyone involved. #SummerReading



# Beyond the Book club

Our immersive reading group has gone from strength to strength this term. A chosen group of Year 9 and 10 students have joined Mrs Lynch and Mrs Borley in the LRC to read the classic Agatha Christie novel 'Murder on the Orient Express'. Their reading experience has been enhanced with a suitcase full of props relating to aspects of the



story and lots of edible treats to re-create the luxuries of the Orient Express. We've had a couple of delays due to the scheduling of the mock exams but are really looking forward to unravelling this murder mystery before the end of term. If your child is interested in joining one of our future book reading sessions please contact Mrs Lynch for more details.



## Stationery

Please don't forget to check your child's ParentPay account and pay any outstanding 'Learning to the Max' stationery charges.  
Thank you

# Social Media



@CorfeHillsSchool

@CorfeHillsSchool



@CorfeHills



**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



Blazer	£10.00
Hoodie	£7.00
Jumper	£5.00
Trousers	£2.00
Skirt	£2.00
Sports shorts	£5.00
Sports tops	£5.00
Girls leggings	£5.00
Boys tracksuit bottoms	£5.00
White shirts	Free
Socks	Free



For enquiries, please email [ptauniform@corfehills.net](mailto:ptauniform@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 second-hand uniform sales at school.

**Please note that current Year 9 and 10 can continue with the existing PE kit.**

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