



Corfe Hills Connection

Learning today for a better tomorrow

A word from James Sankey, Headteacher

December 2024

As 2024 draws to a close and we reach the end of the longest term of the academic year, it is a privilege to look back and reflect on the many successes and achievements of our students. They have made the most of the wealth of opportunities available at school and within the local community. The school calendar has been packed this term with the school show, mock examinations, our sixth form open evening and careers convention, UCAS applications, curriculum drop down days and our carol service which took place earlier this week. All these events have taken place alongside the many regular activities that happen week by week.

Many of you will have seen the excellent production of Annie that took place at the end of November. We are incredibly proud of all those who participated in what was an exceptional production. I would like to thank all the staff involved and especially Miss Penny (Head of Drama), Mrs Inskip (Head of Music) and Mr Gray (IT/AVA) for their hard work in making this production possible. Our school show is an important part of school life, and I am grateful for the commitment and dedication of both staff and students.

The PE department have seen significant success this term with our Year 10 and 11 boys' football teams advancing to the quarter-finals, setting the stage for exciting post-Christmas matches. The Year 10 girls' netball team were victorious in the PEDSSA area netball league, claiming the title, while the combined Year 11/10 boys' badminton team triumphed in the PEDSSA badminton tournament. Our boys' rugby team have also had a strong term with two competitive fixtures. The much-anticipated biannual sports tour is only weeks away with students busy preparing to head to Dubai in February 2025. The recent interhouse basketball and netball competitions were a resounding success, showcasing the school's sporting spirit.

Our annual sixth form open evening took place in November, alongside our careers convention, providing an excellent showcase of post-16 and post-18 opportunities for Corfe Hills School students. We were delighted to see so many students, from across the year groups, and parents at these events exploring opportunities available within our sixth form and beyond. We are incredibly grateful to have had representation from so many local and national businesses and education providers and an excellent presentation on apprenticeships.

As we reach the end of the year, I want to thank our dedicated staff team who have gone above and beyond in so many ways to ensure we are able to deliver the very best for our students.

We look forward to seeing all students for the start of the new term on Wednesday 8 January 2025. In the meantime, I would like to wish you and your family a restful Christmas break and a happy New Year!



Next half term Wednesday 8 January to Friday 14 February 2025

Inset Day Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 January 2025



'Love is Enough'



Our Year 10 student, James is a member of the Bath Philharmonia's Young Carers choir who have come together to record a Christmas song – 'Love is Enough'. This is a project supported and led by Sir Ed Davey, who was a young carer himself, to help raise funds and awareness for young carers. Funding has been stripped back over the years and there is now limited support available.

The song, in support of young carers through Carers Trust and the Bath Philharmonia, has been written by young carers and shines a light on their lives. 23 young carers were selected to take part – 7 from BCP, 4 from Bath and 12 from BANES (Bristol & NE Somerset).

The song is currently no.37 in the UK top 40 and no.21 on the official downloads! Hopefully with the publicity on live daytime TV on Monday (Loose Women) the song will move up the charts!

You can visit the following website to listen to/download the song and make a donation in support of the campaign:

<https://carers.org/christmas-song/christmas-song-ed-davey-for-young-carers>

Let's try and get the song to No.1! Apparently, if it reaches 10000 downloads Ed Davey will do a skydive!

Trip to Harry Potter

A Spellbinding Journey into Design & Technology

On Tuesday, 3rd December, our Year 10, 11 and 12 students embarked on an extraordinary educational adventure to the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London - The Making of Harry Potter. What began as an exciting field trip quickly transformed into an immersive masterclass in design, engineering, and technological innovation.

Behind the Magical Scenes

The studio tour offered an unprecedented look into the intricate world of film design and production. Students were amazed by the meticulous attention to detail that brings the wizarding world to life. From the precise architectural designs of Hogwarts Castle to the complex mechanical props, our Design and Technology students discovered how creativity and technical skill merge to create movie magic.

Key Design & Technology Highlights:

- **Prop Engineering:** Students examined hundreds of original props, exploring the sophisticated engineering behind seemingly simple magical objects. The intricate mechanical designs of moving staircases, floating candles, and interactive magical artifacts provided profound insights into practical design challenges.
- **Set Construction:** The massive studio sets revealed the incredible scale of film production design. Detailed miniatures and full-size set pieces demonstrated how architects, engineers, and designers collaborate to create immersive environments.
- **Costume and Prosthetic Design:** The costume department exhibit showcased the complex techniques used to create realistic magical clothing and creature designs, highlighting the intersection of fashion, material science, and artistic creativity.



Trip to Harry Potter cont.

Curriculum Connections

The trip perfectly complemented our Design and Technology curriculum, bringing theoretical concepts to life through real-world applications. Students could directly observe principles of:

- Structural design
- Material selection
- Mechanical engineering
- Creative problem-solving

This trip was more than just a day out – it was a transformative experience that opened our students' eyes to the incredible world of design and technology. The magic of Harry Potter is, ultimately, the magic of human creativity, engineering, and innovation.



Sixth Form

The Sixth Form supported the Antibullying campaign this term and produced this poster to advertise round the school.



**CHOOSE
RESPECT**

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Corfe Hills Sixth Form unites against bullying.



All Sixth Form students have either written or made Christmas cards for a local care home.



Sixth Form – Enrichment Programme



A talented group of Art students from Corfe Hills Sixth Form are delighted to see their work being enjoyed at Lockyer's Middle School in the school's new 'Reading Oasis' next to the library.

A'Level Art students Keira, Dylan, Guy, Harry, Felicity and Amelia worked from an original literary inspired theme designed by Summer. Using their 6th Form Enrichment time, the fantastic imagery was sketched in chalk before hours of detailed painting began. Laura McDermid, Acting Head of Sixth Form, commended the students saying, 'We're extremely proud of the way these students gave up their time to create an inspiring piece of work. Giving back to the community is at the heart of our Enrichment volunteering programme and it's great to see their success.'

James Dyer, KS3 English lead at Lockyer's Middle said 'We are so grateful to the Sixth Formers who gave up their time to help create this amazing resource for our students'.

Eco Committee

Our Eco Committee has been out litter picking and recycling every Monday. We have also received trees from the Woodland trust ready to be planted by our team.

The Eco Committee are looking into the following activities for next year: looking at the canteen and ways to reduce plastic, providing more recycle bins, a bee highway and a Green Day in March.



**Green Flag
Award**

School Show – Annie Jr

In the final week of November, students from across all year groups performed 'Annie Jr' after a 10 week rehearsal period. It was wonderful to see how students had developed in skills and confidence since last year. We were enormously proud of what the students produced and that all their hard work, time and energy created such an entertaining, high quality production. Miss Penny and Mrs Inskip

As a Corfe Hills student, being a part of the school shows is one of the highlights of my school year. Working on Annie Jr was an absolute pleasure and the admirable Miss Penny, Mrs Inskip, the tech team, the band and my fellow cast members made it a genuinely fun and enjoyable experience. The dedication of everyone in the show team was inspiring and illustrated everyone's genuine love for putting on such a phenomenal production every year. I am so thankful for these opportunities which help fuel my passion for performing. Even though it is difficult to say goodbye when it's all over, it is reassuring to know that we were able to create something for people to enjoy.

-Jaime Kent – Year 12



Remembrance Day

Students and staff at Corfe Hills School were honoured to spend time with some local veterans and members of the Royal British Legion, Broadstone branch, to mark Remembrance Day earlier this week. After a thought-provoking assembly, student cadets and sixth form students enjoyed chatting to our guests whilst enjoying refreshments in the LRC. George F (Year 13) commented, 'It was inspirational to hear directly from people who have served in the military and were much closer to events than we are. It was a great atmosphere to be part of'. We would like to thank our visitors, Wayne Barker - Chairman, Dave Larcombe - Treasurer, Raymond McIntyre – School Liaison Officer, Chris and Beryl Week for their time and for sharing their unique insights. It was really appreciated and made for a very memorable morning.



Stationery

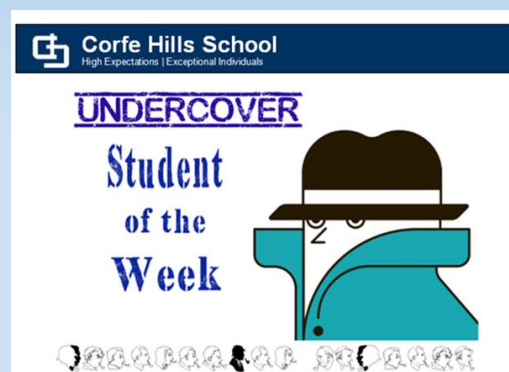
Please don't forget to check your child's ParentPay account and pay any outstanding 'Learning to the Max' stationery charges.
Thank you

Children in Need

We held a number of activities for Children in Need including a cake sale, non uniform day, sixth form fancy dress and a head shave. Overall an impressive £1004.50 was raised. Mr Sankey, the Headteacher, commented, "I'm very impressed by how many talented bakers we have here at Corfe Hills and we are grateful to all our families for their support and generosity."



At Corfe Hills, we are keen to spot the good that our lovely students do. To that end, every week one student per year group is randomly selected and their name(s) emailed to staff. All that week, the whole staff body are on the lookout for all the good those students are up to. Details are sent to Mrs Borley and postcards are produced. Who will be next?



SENDCo News



PARENT CARERS TOGETHER



Bournemouth Christchurch Poole

17th January 2025

Parent Champion sessions are coming to your school

Appointments at 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm and 2:30pm

Ever felt lost in the world of SEND and wish you had someone to talk to in confidence?

Would you like to know more about local services in your community?

Do you need support in finding the right place for advice and information?

Would support understanding processes and wording be helpful?

Our Parent Champion is here to listen and find the best way to support you.

Any parent/carer can access the drop in if they have worries or concerns that their child may have an additional need that is not being met by existing resources. A diagnosis is not required.



All volunteers are subject to enhanced DBS checks

<https://www.flaticon.com/authors/google>



Training

Every volunteer completes an induction programme



Supervision

Each volunteer receives ongoing supervision from an experienced supervisor.

Check your school's website for the next available session and book your space to talk in confidence with a Parent Champion

If you would like to book on, please click on the link below

www.ticketsource.co.uk/corfe-hills-school

Year 9 Design & Technology

Year 9 have been working hard to complete their Lighting Cubes in Product Design.

Students have shown excellent practical skills in the workshop, as well as CAD and laser cutting skills to add their own design to their work. Some students were even able to make a little aluminium key ring to take home as they had completed their Lighting Cube to such a lovely standard!

We look forward to more Year 9 students experiencing success in the workshop and developing their skills further on the GCSE course in years 10 and 11.



Lighting cube by Katie



Lily and Eloise with their completed lighting cubes.



Daniel with his completed lighting cube.

PE

Congratulations to the Year 10 girls' netball team who are the year 10 PEDSSA champions. We're really proud of them for such an amazing achievement.



Badminton: For the first time in a number of years, Corfe Hills entered the PEDSSA Badminton competition and went on to win the KS4 Boys competition- they will now go onto the County Championships in 2025. Congratulations.



Reading Mentors & Sparx

Sixth Form Reading Mentors have been getting into the festive spirit and enjoying their time on a Friday morning reading with their Year 9 students. Under the watchful eye of Mr Sutton, Mrs Borley and Mrs Lynch, the group meet each week in the LRC to read together and to share a broad range of books. It's always a fabulous start to a Friday and a few sweet treats always help to make the session more memorable. Mrs Borley, Associate Assistant Headteacher, comments, 'We are so grateful to our dedicated Year 12 Reading Mentors for giving up their time so readily; they are superb role models and the atmosphere in the LRC during this time is one of the highlights of my week! Reading together in a relaxed, collaborative environment is incredibly beneficial and helps students reevaluate.

Sparx Reader

Since becoming part of the Initio Trust in October, Corfe Hills students have been introduced to Sparx Reader. This is an online platform that's been developed to match students with books to read that reflect their reading level.

All students in Years 9, 10 and 11 are being set homework via the English Department to ensure that students of all reading ages and abilities take part in meaningful independent reading every week. If you would like to know more about Sparx Reader, please email Mr Sutton, Head of English tsutton@corfehills.net



Beyond the Book

Our interactive book group 'Beyond the Book' continues to go from strength to strength promoting a fun, engaging approach to improving literacy. This term, 10 students from Year 9 and 10 are reading 'When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit' with Mrs Lynch and Mrs Borley. Each student receives a copy of our shared book and a series of gifts to open and keep as they make progress through the book. This time, the book group began with students sampling coffee, hot chocolate and apple strudel as our story starts in Southern Germany, and we'll follow our characters through Europe! If you work for a company that would like to financially support 'Beyond the Book' with either a one off donation or by sponsoring a book throughout the year, please contact Mrs Borley, Associate Assistant Headteacher on nborley@corfehills.net



National Young Writers' Competition

As part of the national Young Writers' creative writing competition, six of our 'Creative Writing Club' students received the news that their work is going to be published in 'The Beautiful Truth - Twist My Words'!

The Beautiful Truth invited students aged 11-18 to write a poem on any theme and style. From friendship, identity and current affairs to hobbies, favourite things and everything in-between. Having been given the opportunity to express themselves and tell the world how they really felt - our students really showed their skills! Their creativity shone and as well as being published they received bookmarks and certificates to celebrate their achievements.

Congratulations to the following students on this brilliant achievement: Crystal, Claudia, Daisy, Lucy, Hana and Annabelle.

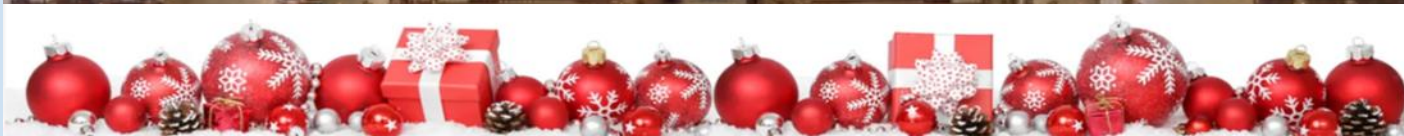




Carol Service



On Monday 16 December, we had our Carol Service at the wonderful Wimborne Minster. This is one of the highlights of the school year and officially marks the start of the festive season. This year we focused on the theme of 'Serenity' a state of being calm, peaceful and untroubled. The school choir, sung to an exceptionally high standard performing beautiful vocal pieces such as 'Walking in the Air' and a stunning A Capella arrangement of 'Silent Night'. It was lovely to have ex-students, Eve and Lucie, join us at the service to sing in the choir and perform a duet of 'White Christmas'. There were also some stunning solo performances from Annabel, Beth, Tess, Roseanna and Isabelle. I would personally like to thank and congratulate them all for their courage and confidence to sing so beautifully to a captive audience. I would also like to thank our Design and Technology department for once again producing the lovely Christmas tree decorations, and to our superb organist and accompanist for the evening, Mr David Beeby. Thank you to all who came and supported the evening. Merry Christmas!



Acoustic Night

Sixth Form Student Strikes a Chord with Inspiring Night

In a remarkable display of musical talent and event management skills, one of our talented sixth form students, Olivia Nielsen, recently orchestrated a fantastic 'Acoustic Night' that not only showcased the musical abilities of students across various year groups but also demonstrated exceptional leadership and organisational prowess. The event was part of a course component in event management, challenging the student to conceptualise, plan, and execute a musical evening from the ground up. What emerged was a vibrant celebration of musical creativity that brought together students from different year groups, each bringing their unique musical style and passion to the stage.

Beyond the musical achievements, the event made a tangible impact on our school community. The evening successfully raised over £200, which will directly contribute to the Year 13 leavers' celebration next year. Thank you to all who came and supported the event and to Mark and Oliver Grigsby for once again volunteering their time to help with the sound.

Mrs Inskip, Head of Music



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

Next Sale - Friday 24 January 2025

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Main Hall

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 only current Year 9 and 10's 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