



Corfe Hills Connection

Learning today for a better tomorrow

A word from James Sankey, Headteacher

April 2025

The spring term has flown by with so much packed into every day. Mocks have been completed for Year 11 and Year 13 and they are heading off to the Easter break ready with revision plans for the lead up to their exams starting next month. Year 10 are finishing two weeks of work experience which began on 24 March. We look forward to welcoming them back after the Easter break eager to share their experiences and motivated as they continue their GCSE studies and start thinking about next steps.

There is a lot to celebrate within our sixth form team with our student leaders making a real impact through the various clubs and committees that they run. On Friday 21 March a group of 36 students supported by staff slept out on Maths street in cardboard shelters that they built themselves as part of the YMCA Sleep Easy fundraising campaign. Congratulations to all involved. They more than doubled their fundraising this year with over £4400 raised towards the work that YMCA does in the local area with vulnerable young people.

This half term has been filled with a variety of enriching activities and achievements across the school. Highlights include the spring music concert showcasing our incredibly talented musicians, successful World Book Day celebrations, featuring inspirational words from former student and author Ruby Free, and a creative writing competition that showcased our students' exceptional talent.

It has been great to celebrate the work of our Year 9 Product Design students who have impressed with their lighting cube projects, demonstrating innovative design and technical skills.

Our sporting successes have continued with our U15 netball team achieving 7th place in the South West Regional Finals and our handball team qualifying for the regional finals. The U16s girls' football team were victorious in the PEDSSA Cup final and the U16s girls Volleyball team finished 2nd in the PEDSSA competition.

It is at this point in the year that we start planning for the new academic year and we are delighted that once again, we have seen an increase in applications for our new intake in September 2025. Feedback from our community is always greatly appreciated as we plan and prepare for the year ahead and we are grateful for the many responses from parents and carers to the recent surveys.

Wishing you a good and relaxing Easter break. We look forward to seeing all students after the break on Tuesday 22 April 2025.

Easter Holidays - Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April.

Students return on Tuesday 22 April 2025

Bank Holiday Monday 5 May 2025

World Book Day 2025

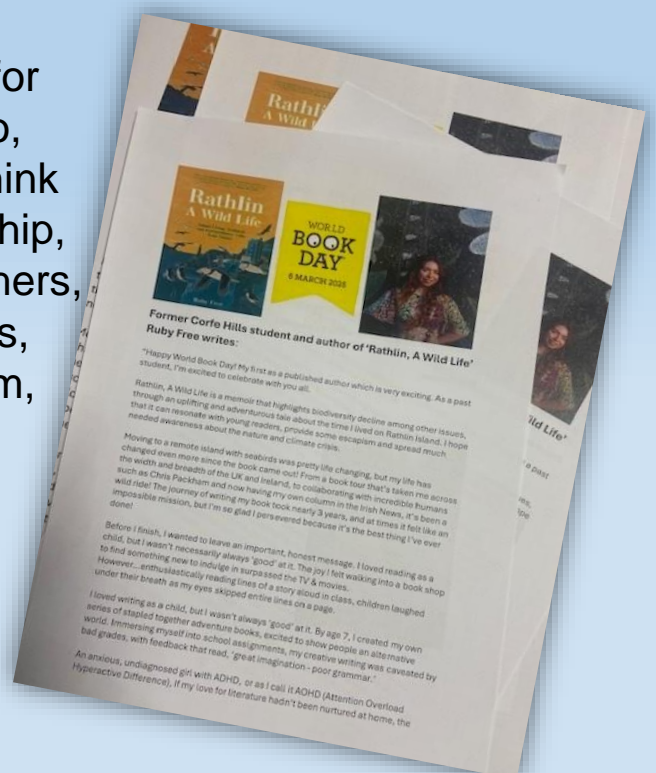
World Book Day on Thursday 6 March was a terrific success and was a great opportunity for students to enjoy a broad array of book inspired activities.

Teachers wore book slogan t-shirts and read extracts from well-known novels at the start of each lesson. There were quizzes in tutor periods and the student short story competition to take part in.

We were delighted to hear from our former student and now author Ruby Free, who sent us an inspirational World Book Day greeting. Ruby highlighted the importance of believing in yourself and not being limited by other people's perceptions of you. She explained that whilst she loved to write as a child, she didn't always feel that she was 'good at it', and as an anxious, undiagnosed girl with ADHD the stress of academic success could easily have crushed her dreams. However her support at home and a deep seated self belief led to her writing this thrilling, joyful book about life on a fairly remote island, Rathlin and her love of nature and commitment to supporting the environment. Ruby addressed Corfe Hills students on World Book Day saying ' When recognised, understood and supported properly, people with neurological differences can thrive.

Books are for everyone, language is for everyone - words are yours to use too, please, never let anyone make you think it's not. In a time of such global hardship, writing is a powerful tool; to inform others, to escape, to inspire. Today of all days, start journaling again, share that poem, write that story."

Her book 'Rathlin, A Wild Life' is a brilliant read and gives a real insight into Ruby's day to day life on a conservation project and is available to borrow from the LRC.



World Book Day 2025 cont...

Sixth Form students ran a fabulous bake sale, raising £100 to buy new books for the LRC, and also set up book swap tables in the LRC.



Jacob, Matt and Imogen – our Student Literacy Officer, spoke confidently about the benefits of reading at Lockyer’s Middle School during a Yr 7 and 8 assembly. Ms Nash, Reading Lead at Lockyer’s commented, ‘They were fantastic in their conduct and message and our pupils really enjoyed being able to ask questions



about your library and the reading experience at Corfe Hills. They had clearly considered the audience, prepared engaging and informative pieces and delivered them confidently. Please pass on my thanks to Jacob, Matt and Imogen.’

Thank you to [Gullivers Bookshop](#) for providing us with copies of 'This Story is a Lie' an exciting new Young Adult story by Benjamin Dean – there are a few free copies available in the LRC if you would like one!



Mrs Lynch and Mrs Borley

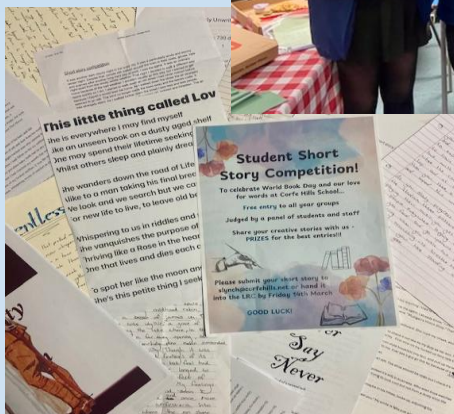
Creative Writing Competition

Students who entered the Creative Writing competition were treated to pizza at a prize giving lunch in the LRC this month. We were so impressed by the calibre of the writing submitted from students in all year groups. There was an array of exciting poetry, short stories and even some not so short stories with multiple chapters! The quality of the writing was exceptional and covered a fascinating range of themes and genres from attending a Travis Scott concert to the Russian civil war, from romance, Peter Pan inspired fantasy and gritty murder mysteries.

Our thanks go to our student literacy officer, Imogen for launching the competition and being a dedicated student judge. Imogen read every entry and gave insightful comments to the judging panel.

The winner of the competition was Sarah A (10L5) whose atmospheric story about a young woman adopting a rescue dog had a brilliantly unpredictable and sinister ending. She won Amazon vouchers and a book themed t shirt. Runners up included Tiffany 9S3, Chloe 11L7, Esther 12S1 and Chase 13L10 who should all be very proud of their work.

We hope students will keep a look out in the LRC for our next book inspired event!



Creative Writing Club Success

Our 'Creative Writing Club' students recently wrote pieces for three different national 'Young Writers' competitions and, once again, *ALL* of their entries have been chosen for publication!

Claudia (Y9) wrote a piece for 'Lest We Forget' for which she had to write a poem in any style on the theme of war and peace. Poems could have been about their own experiences, or about something they have learnt at school.

Claudia, Daisy and Jas (all Y9) wrote pieces for 'Winter Wonderland', which invited students to write a poem in any style on the theme of wintertime.

Claudia, Crystal, Daisy, Lucy and Jas (all Y9) all entered the 'Fright Club' competition to write a ghost story inspired by things that go bump in the night. Students were able to be inspired by a real place that is rumoured to be haunted, choose a supernatural being to be the star of their story or even be a ghost hunter telling us of their experiences. They had to use atmosphere, tension and suspense to create their own hair-raising tale.

This was another great success for our students to have all their work published when competing in a national competition with children of all ages. Well done!

Claudia's poem on the theme of 'Lest We Forget' and Jas's poem on Winter Wonderland are on the next 2 pages.



Mr Welsh

Creative Writing Club

Bittersweet by Jas

I stare in the sky
At the white flutters of ice,
Slowing, descending to
A blizzard of oblivion.

It falls slowly,
Twirling and quivering,
Like tiny pirouettes,
Ballerinas of the winter.

It looks soft
Yet icily crisp.
Cold in the frost-bitten mirror
That carpets the ground.

Soft frills blanket,
The once green fields,
More ice joins its brethren,
Lonely on a winter's day.

Memories lie forgotten
Deep in the frozen
Flakes that wander
Across the milky sky.

A rare occurrence
To see this beautiful
Phenomenon fall.
Bittersweet snow.

Creative Writing Club

My Love, Forever – Claudia

My love, forever

I sent you my love on a postcard.
On a postcard I wished would find you
Find you disintegrated in my hands
In my hands blown to bits like our love

My faith, forever

Like our love, I'd end my days with you
With you in a hall of bullets
As blood-stained poppies grow
Grow in that hole in my chest

My gun, forever

Grow in a hole and hollowed out
Hollowed out my guts
My guts, a bomb and no peace
Peace never wanted us

My heart, forever

Never wanted us as we never finished goodbyes
Finished goodbyes and empty promises
Empty promises to come home
To come home and see you again

My love

My faith, my gun, my heart
My empty body lies next to you

Forever.

A'level Art/Photography Trip



We took 15 students from across year 12 and 13 art and photography A'level courses to London's Southbank to gather content for their personal projects and externally set assignments on Friday 14 February. We visited the Leake Street Tunnels, Southbank Skate Park, OXO Towers, Tate Modern, the Millenium Bridge and St Pauls Cathedral. It was a very cold but beautifully sunny day.

Mrs A Ratcliffe



Religion & Philosophy

The school was pleased to welcome back Peter Radford of 'Beyond This' for a whole day, to run sessions for our Year 10 and 12 cohorts in the Main Hall. Year 10 had two sessions, the first focusing on the themes of Human Rights and Injustice, with a focus on issues connecting to wealth and poverty in the world. The second session tackled gender politics and misogyny. Year 10 rose to the challenges raised by these topical and thought-provoking issues, and all sessions saw our students behave with maturity and curiosity as Peter took them through some demanding material. Year 12, in their weekly Enrichment period, had a session on 'Making Moral Decisions', touching on competing ethical theories such as Utilitarianism and Natural Law, and their application to contemporary moral problems in the world. There was a particular focus on the Just War Theory, and whether or not these principles are applicable to what is currently taking place in Ukraine. Again, our students did themselves proud, with many showing real interest and engagement in taking part in an energetic Q and A with Peter!

We look forward to Peter's next visit in December 2025, when these year groups will once again have the opportunity to take time out from normal lessons to reflect upon some more 'big' issues of religious and philosophical concern.

Mr Stone



Product Design

Year 9 Product Design Students Shine with Lighting Cube Projects



Year 9 Product Design students have recently completed their impressive lighting cube projects. These creative designs showcase the students' growing proficiency in design thinking, precision manufacturing, and aesthetic considerations.

Building on this success, students are now advancing to more complex practical skills that will further enhance their abilities in the Product Design realm. These upcoming projects will continue to develop their technical competence while encouraging innovative problem-solving.

Design and Technology stands out as a GCSE choice that equips students with versatile skills highly valued across numerous industries. For Year 9 students who have just selected their GCSE options, this course offers exceptional preparation for future career success through its comprehensive approach to design education.

The qualification develops practical making abilities alongside critical thinking skills, enabling students to turn creative ideas into functional products. Students learn to respond to design briefs, conduct research, create detailed specifications, and develop prototypes—all valuable processes that mirror professional design workflows.

Beyond the immediate skills gained, Product Design fosters adaptability, resilience, and creative problem-solving—qualities increasingly sought after by employers across sectors. Whether students pursue careers in product design, engineering, architecture, or other creative fields, the foundation built through this GCSE provides a springboard for diverse professional pathways.



Mrs Collins-Donsworth

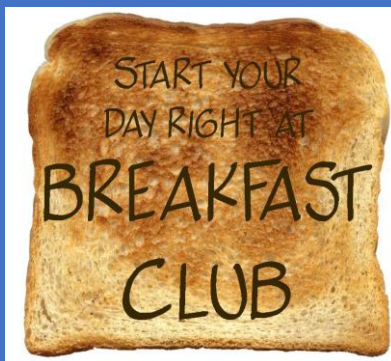
Easter Egg Donations



Thank you to everyone who donated an Easter Egg or sweet treat to our inter-house Easter collection for Hope for Food.

Hope for Food are a Bournemouth based charity who help the homeless and families in need. Mrs Paterson, Head of Lulworth House dropped off the Easter Eggs and said 'They were delighted to receive our students' kind donations. Easter treats will raise a lot of smiles this month'.

Lulworth were the overall winners and the winning tutor group was 9L3, closely followed by 9K2 – a fantastic effort by Mrs Smith's and Mr Welsh's tutor groups. Thank you to all who joined in.



Breakfast Club is held in the LRC daily – providing toast and juice from 7.45am . Please contact Mrs Borley (Assoc Assistant Headteacher) nborley@corfehills.net if you would like your child to attend. Thank you to Asda, Poole and Wenzel's The Baker who have kindly donated items to support us.

Stationery



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

Sleep Easy Fundraiser

These 36 incredible Sixth Formers raised £4431.30 for the YMCA Sleep Easy Homeless fundraiser. Thank you to all who supported and made it happen.



**£4,431.30
raised!**



YMCA
BOURNEMOUTH
Bournemouth/Poole/Christchurch

Work Experience

A big thank you to all the companies that hosted our Year 10 students for work experience. They have had an informative and enjoyable couple of weeks!

9 Points Property	Dorset Adventure Sports	Linwood School	Seyward Windows
A man about a dog Ltd	Dorset Wildlife Trust	Lockyers Middle School	South Coast Karting
A Maritime	Dorsetware Ltd	Lush Cosmetics	Southern Aquatics
A&Co Creators Ltd	Down in the Woods Nursery	Lytchett Matravers Pre School	Southern Coop
Absolute Music	dsquared Media	Lytchett Matravers Primary	SPORTBU
Actio Digital	Dumbledore Vets	M3 Autos	Springdale First School
AGS Plasterers	East Dorset Lawn Tennis & Croquet	Magna Care Centre	St Johns First School
Allianz UK Ltd	Eaton Mission Systems	MHS Homes	St Josephs Primary School
Alltrista Plastics Ltd	Elite Skills Arena	Micheldever Tyre Services	Stanley Green Infants
Angels Above Tattoo & Piercing	Ellis Belk Associates	Miiko Café	Steer Bournemouth
Applied Shapes	Emotion Fitness Club	Mini Munchkins Day Nursery	Stone Hairdressing
Ashley Blinds	Evelina's Nails	Moo Music Bournemouth	Sturminster Marshall PreSchool
Atomic Vision Ltd	Evolution Enterprises	NATS	Sunny Days Nursery
B4B Marketing	Extracair Installations	Nicks Farm	Sunseeker International
Babcock International Group	Fay Sweeting	Noroo Holdings	Swaffields
Badbury construction	Field International Group Ltd	Norman Motors	Talbot Heath Primary School
Barefoot Barns	Flaming Peaches	Old School House Nursery	Tank Museum
BCP Council	Francesco	Only food and sauces	Tekne Shopfitting Ltd
Beaumont Fine Art Group Ltd	FTY Lab	P&K Panelworks	Tetra Tech
Beauty Sculptin Room	Gama Aviation	PA Electrical Ltd	The Allendale Centre
Bloombaby Classes	Gasbits Ltd	Passive Fire Safety Solutions	The Chapel in the Valley Pre-School
Blossoms Day Nursery	Gilead Sciences	Patchton Plumbing & Heating	The Children's House Montessori
Body Consultancy	Golden Fox	Pegasus Homes	The Gold Workshop
Breeze Motor Company	GR Westbuild Ltd	Peter Newman Flooring	The old School Nursery
Broadmayne First School	H G Walker	Pets at Home	The Printroom Studio
Broadstone Café	Hanford School	Philippa Sole Ltd	The Sapphire Stage
Broadstone Christian Nursery	Haymoor Junior School	Piazza Lounge	The Spire
Broadstone First School	Healthy Habits Café	Plocos	The White House School
Broadstone Library	Heatherlands School	Pinewood Furnishings	The Project Climbing Centre
Broadstone Middle School	Henbury View First School	St Marys Catholic School	Tivoli Theatre
Brook Road Garage	Hobbycraft	Poole Diving Ltd	Tops Day Nursery
Bryanston School	Holt Recruitment	Poole Harbour Commissioners	Trailway Tots
BTS Pipe Work	Howarth Construction	Primark	Transvault Software Ltd
Candys Farm	Iford Golf Centre	ProSparks Electrical	Trek Bicycle Poole
Canford Heath Junior School	Illuminet solutions Limited	Purbeck Marine	Twin Oaks Pre-School
Care UK	Inspire Hairdresser	Quostar	Two Sawyers Pett Ltd
Caspian One	Ishida	Ramah Ker	Upton Country Park
Champs Pie & Mash	Jack & Jill Nursery	Renascence	Upton Infant School
Cherries Café	JC Deans Haulage Ltd	Revive Hair Salon	Upton Methodist Pre School
Citygate	John Lewis	Rippa Rugby	Vodafone Business
Claytons Chartered Accountants	Key Drummond	RNLI	Waitrose
Clip N Chip	KHD Hairdressing	Rock a Tot Nursery	Walford Mill Education Trust Ltd
Cobham Sports & Social	Kite	Rockley Watersports Ltd	Warrior Building Co
Commercial Washrooms	La Mia's	Rushcombe First School	Wessex Macadams
Co-op	Ladybirds Play School	Sally Vintage Singer	Wessex Water
Create Design Print	Lauren Younger Body & Mind	Santander	Whittles
Cuddles Day Nursery	Lewis-Manning Trust	Sapphire Stage School	Wimborne Car Sales
D N Herridge	LG Building	Savills	Winchelsea School
David James Architects	Lilliput House ltd	Schofields Chartered Accountants	Wrap & Tint Worx
DDI projects	Lilys Care Services	School Friend Clubs	Yesss Electrical
			YMCA The Junction

Netball

On 11th March the U15 netball team made their way to Devon as Dorset representatives in the South West Regional Finals.

These amazing girls battled it out with some of the best teams in the South of England and came 7th out of 250 schools.

An incredible achievement for the team, and a very exciting future ahead of these athletes. Well done girls!



Handball



These guys emulated last year's group and have qualified for regional handball finals after going undefeated yesterday. A draw with Lytchett who equalised on the whistle, means they didn't win the county trophy but they were very unlucky not to.

Football

Fantastic afternoon at Chapel Gate for the U16s girls PEDSSA Cup final. In a very close game between two good sides, Corfe Hills were victorious, winning 2-1 against QE. Fantastic display of girl's football throughout the game.



Year 10 and 11 boys have had a District semi final this term for football after a successful county cup run to the semi final as well.

Basketball

Basketball we finished second in our league for year 10 and year 11 in the PEDSSA basketball leagues.



Wall of Fame

We are always excited to hear about the successes of our former students and we have been excitedly following the international Handball careers of Alex and Joe Trent.

Alex is part of the GB men's handball team who have made history by securing their first ever title at the 2025 IHF Men's Emerging Nations Championship. Alex was part of the Great Britain team that beat Bulgaria 29:25 in a thrilling final.

Both Joe and Alex shared their passion for handball whilst at Corfe Hills and took an active role in training with Poole Phoenix handball club. Their GB coach, Ricardo Vasconcelos commented 'This victory underlines the work being done across handball in the UK both in performance pathways and at grass roots development'.

If you have a success story about to a former student please contact us via office@corfehills.net we would love to share your successes.



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!



Corfe Hills School

High Expectations | Exceptional Individuals

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
<u>Girls</u> leggings*	£5.00
<u>Boys</u> tracksuit bottoms*	£5.00
White shirts	Free
Socks	Free



For enquiries, please email 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 second-hand uniform sales at school.

***Please note that only current Year 10 and 11s can continue with the existing PE kit.**

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