



CORLEY ACADEMY

Inclusion Aspiration Perseverance Independence

NEWSLETTER



December 2023

Headteacher Welcome

We have reached the end of our Autumn Term and cannot believe how fast this term has gone. Students have continued to thrive, enjoying many fantastic opportunities such as Whole School Focus Day and contributing generously to our charity collections through non-uniform days. Thank you so much for all of your donations towards these fantastic causes—it really is appreciated.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and restful Christmas.

Whole School Focus Day– Solve a Problem

On Friday 24th November, students took part in the first Whole School Focus Day of the new academic year. The focus was 'solve a problem' and students had various activities to get involved with.

Students have really impressed us with their problem solving skills in a variety of activities, from puzzles, escape rooms and building bridges to creative writing problem solving. Those students who attended 'Artists Solve Problems' redesigned some of their favourite objects. Students designed a trainer and a new version of the Saturn Space Rocket. Those students who joined 'A Problem Solved' writing activity had a group discussion about who they know that might give good advice. Students used imaginary problems in the form of letters written to an agony aunt, the students replied to these letters giving advice. Some fantastic examples were produced.

Throughout the whole day students engaged well with all activities and an enjoyable day was had by all.



Food Parcels Available for Families

We have been kindly donated a food delivery by an organisation called Langar Aid. They provide food aid for students, parents and staff, anyone who is in need of food support. If you wish to receive a food parcel, consisting of non-perishable items, please contact the school office and let them know. This can then be collected from school or delivered to home. We would like to thank Langar Aid for their continued donations. For more information about Langar Aid please visit their [website](https://www.langaraid.org.uk/).



LangarAid

Remembrance Day

On Tuesday 7th November, Cliff, an Evtec employee, gave Post 16 students a talk about Remembrance day and why it is important to celebrate this every year. He joined the army when he was 16 years of age and gained several service medals. He takes part in the march every year in honour of all of the fallen soldiers and civilians.

On Friday 10th November, we held our annual Remembrance Day Assembly outside with Ms Lewis read poems while students listened respectfully and observed a two minute silence to remember the sacrifices made by people in past and present conflicts. All students were a credit to Corley Academy in the way they participated in the service, showing respect, maturity and understanding.



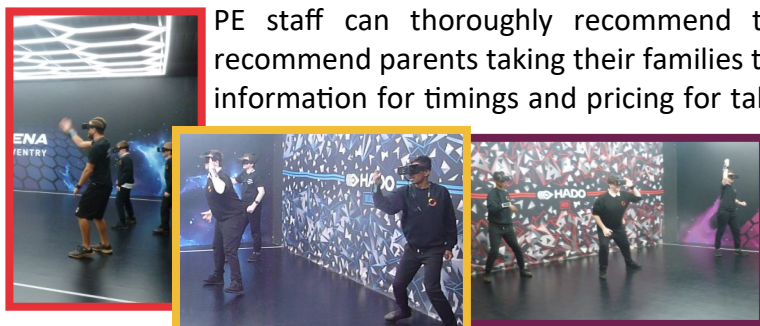
HADO VR Sport

As part of the School Games Network, our school was invited to try a new exciting VR Sport of HADO. This event was very popular amongst students and PE staff were blown away by the interest in attending.

HADO is a VR version of dodgeball; this exciting game involves players charging energy balls and throwing them at their opponents. At first it seems very simple, but players soon realised there were a variety of tactics to explore; choosing power-ups before play and then working as a team to best utilise individual skills sets.

As a school we learnt to play the sport, by facing against each other in groups of three, and then we competed against another school from our School Games Network.

This event was enjoyed by our students so much that our School Gamers Organiser is hoping to put on another session in the new year. As a school, we are also going to introduce sessions in our Key Stage 4 PE lessons.



PE staff can thoroughly recommend this activity for our students and we would recommend parents taking their families to try this out in their own time. If you want more information for timings and pricing for taking your child in their own time, please use this link below

<https://ukhado.com/store/arena-coventry/?id=gg>

Bake It Until You Make It!

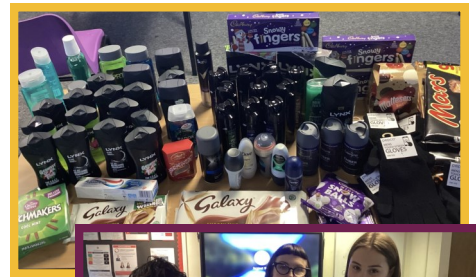
The cooking enrichment group, week on week, have been showing their creativity and baking skills. Their skills, confidence and independence improve every week, producing some deliciously scrumptious results. This half term, they have been focussing on baking biscuits, making shortbread, flapjacks and ANZAC biscuits. In addition, students have also been having some festive fun making Christmas gingerbread people and Christmas chocolate brownies.



Corley Academy and Coventry Cyrenians

After weeks of hard work and project-management, Class 11 finally accomplished their goal of raising awareness and support for the Coventry Cyrenians, in their 50th year, for their Christmas celebrations.

Through the ASDAN PSE Level 1 project, students took on a variety of roles and responsibilities, helping with donations from very kind members of our school and parent/carers community and we were able to donate a hamper of men's toiletries and nut-free chocolate on the 12th December. Representatives from Coventry Cryrenians shared how grateful they were to everyone who donated and to Class 11, who also developed their understanding of how we can help those groups of people suffering in our local communities. We are looking forward to inviting the charity into school in the New Year to give a talk around homelessness, further raising our awareness and empathy. Thank you to everyone who donated and Class 11 wish you all a very Merry Christmas.



Fantastic Fundraising!

Our fundraising has continued this half term and for Halloween, we invited students and staff to dress up and donate money for the Cats Protection. We also held a competition for the best carved pumpkin design. We had so many wonderful entries and chose three terror-ific winners!

During November, we raised **£83** for the Poppy Appeal.

On Friday 17th November, to raise money for the BBC Children in Need appeal, students were invited to wear non-uniform. **£129** was raised.

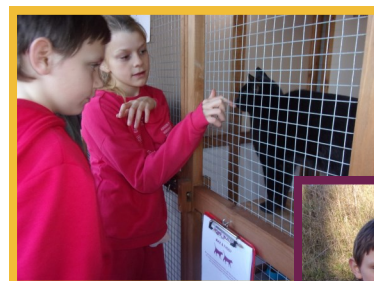
On Friday 9th December, students were invited to wear their festive Christmas jumpers to support the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day appeal. Another successful donation of **£110** has been raised.

Thank you all very much for your generosity supporting these worthy causes.

Visit to Cats Protection

On Saturday 25th November, two students had the privilege of visiting the Cats Protection League's new cattery in Moreton Morrel. The reason for the visit was to take the proceeds of our Halloween non-uniform and carve-a-pumpkin day at the end of October. Students had raised more than **£140** for Cats Protection.

The staff there were very welcoming and showed our students some of the rescue cats and kittens they had in the cattery ready for re-homing. It was a really good experience for the students to see what happens to the money the school raises. Both students were a credit to Corley Academy.





Fillongley Church Christmas Tree Festival

Class 3 have been working extremely hard on their entry for the Fillongley Church Christmas Tree Festival. Aptly named 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rejoice', students used old uniform to make the decorations: t shirt pom-poms, sweatshirt garlands and snowballs from body warmer stuffing! We can't wait to find out how their entry fared with the visitors.

Celebrating Achievements

This academic year we have introduced Celebrating Achievements, where we highlight the activities our students are involved in outside of school. We are very proud of their achievements. Below are some of the amazing activities our students have been involved in this half term. Check out the others by following Corley Academy on Twitter.



Celebrating Staff Achievements



Congratulations to Ms Harris' football team, Coundon Court Ladies who made it all the way through to the third round of the Women's FA Cup (biggest British competition within the sport). Unfortunately, Coundon Court Ladies lost their third round game. Ms Harris said 'It was an incredible experience to play at that level, we had nearly 300 people spectating the game. As a team we showed great perseverance throughout the whole 90 minutes, we didn't give up despite playing a professional team, who are sitting top place of the two leagues above'. This was a huge deal for Ms Harris' team and very exciting- it was the first time they have qualified for the cup, let alone actually making it through to the third round! We are all very proud of you and your team Ms Harris. Well done Coundon Court Ladies!



Recommended Reads

Each newsletter we will feature a recommended read or a book review. In this edition of the newsletter, our recommendation comes from a Year 11 student:

"I really like the Dog Man series- it is so funny, a quick read and brilliant comic style. There are lots in the series so I never get bored."

Sending very best wishes to all our families for an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tuesday 9th January 2024