



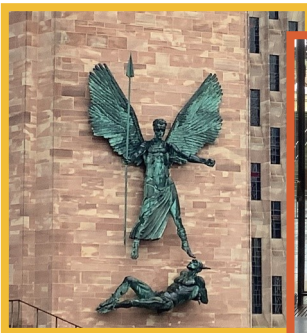
## Headteacher Welcome

We've reached the half way point of this academic year, would you believe! In January 2026 we were informed that our Ofsted Visit would be taking place. I would like to say a big thank you to parents for completing the Ofsted Parent View Form. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge THANK YOU to our wonderful staff team and, of course, our amazing students. The official report will be published in the coming weeks and will be shared with you all. In the meantime, please read this edition of the newsletter where you will find out about the exciting opportunities our students have been involved in this half term.



## Class 5 Visit to Coventry Cathedral

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, Class 5 took the school minibus to visit Coventry Cathedral. Everyone had lots of fun and took part in many different activities. The trip was part of Class 5 Humanities topics of 'Coventry: My Place' and 'Christian festivals'. Everyone designed their own stained glass window and made a cross of nails. We learned lots of new information about how the Cathedral was destroyed and rebuilt. All students were a credit to Corley Academy.



## Year 11 Parent Networking and Support Evening

At the end of the Autumn Term, our subject leads for English, Maths, and Science, alongside our Head of Year 11, met with parents to review mock results and discuss how we can work together to best support our students at home. The evening focused on strategies for effective revision, supporting executive functioning and productive study habits, overcoming barriers to learning and sharing resources to help students thrive. A huge thank you to all parents who were able to attend. Your time, engagement, and collaboration are truly appreciated — together, we can give our students the strongest foundation for success. If you would like any further support on how to help your child at home please contact your child's mentor.

## Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Recently, two members of our parent community approached us with the idea of forming a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at Corley Academy. We believe this could be a fantastic way to strengthen the partnership between home and school, and to provide additional support for our pupils. Please refer to the recent email for further information or if you have questions please email our School Business Manager, Mandy Wilkinson, on [m.wilkinson@corley.thrive.ac](mailto:m.wilkinson@corley.thrive.ac)

# Duke of Edinburgh Update



Corley DofE students have had a busy half term continuing to work on their various sections of the Award.

Bronze Year 10 Life Skills students have been continuing work on their Skill section that they began at the start of Autumn 2. Students selected individual activities based on their individual interests including model construction, vlogging, soft toy making, drawing and playing different table games. Students have shown good progress during this time, and appear to have enjoyed doing this.

Bronze and Silver Year 11 Life Skills students have nearly finished completing their Physical section of the Award. They have spent time playing and studying football, and have learned about the skills involved in the different aspects of it. Some students were also fortunate to visit the CBS Arena as part of their PE lessons, which was a great cross-curricular aspect of this course. They have all demonstrated progress being made which is fantastic to see.

Bronze Preparation for Adulthood students have also continued to work on their Physical section, with a vast variety of activities occurring on a weekly basis, including playing and researching dodgeball, playing football, and spending time in the gym working on fitness. Students have continued to show resilience and progress by continuing on with their chosen activities, and are aware of what they need to do each week for it to count towards their Physical section of the Award.

Finally, the Silver Post 16 students have also been working on their Skill section of the Award, with students either choosing to focus on cake decoration or their drawing skills. Mrs Merrithew is an expert cake maker and decorator, and she has kindly shared her wealth of experience with our Post 16 students over a period of weeks. This has resulted in the cake decoration students being able to progress their piping skills each week, resulting in them being able to create stunning cupcake designs. The students who focussed on drawing have also been able to show great progress, and their attention to detail is excellent.

It has been amazing to see students either learning something brand new to them at the start of Autumn 2, or developing existing skill sets that they have some prior knowledge and experience of, and progressing their skill set further. We look forward to Spring 2 where we move on to their next sections of the Award.



# Forest School Collaboration with Kingsbury Academy

On Wednesday 4th February, we continued our partnership with Kingsbury Academy with a visit to their Forest School area during our Preparation for Adulthood afternoon session. Our Corley students were fantastic role models, supporting Kingsbury students to explore pattern and shapes in nature with activities ranging from scavenger hunts to clay face making. Throughout the day, they learned new skills and showed wonderful teamwork, compassion and patience, making the experience a great success for everyone involved. We can't wait to host Kingsbury staff and students again in the Summer term. Thank you to students but also to Ms Harris, Mr Powell and Ms McKeown who supported us all brilliantly on the visit. You all demonstrated our values of Inclusion and Independence in abundance and were a credit to Corley Academy.



## Lunchtime Music Concert

Twelve students from Corley Academy had the opportunity to attend a Lunchtime Concert at Warwick Arts Centre. This month we got to listen to Euan Stevenson perform, playing a wide range of piano music but in an improvised jazz style! We heard his own compositions and improvisations based on Bach, Liszt, Gershwin and Irving Berlin. Some of our students had this to say about the performance "I found the music calming. It was very good!", "He was really talented" and "I was inspired! He turned classical music into jazz".

## Colourful Chemistry

The Key Stage 3 scientists have been demonstrating their keys to success skills by being involved and working as a team to investigate acids and alkalis. Universal Indicator is used to show whether something is acidic or alkaline. By changing colour, it can measure pH from 1 to 14. Hydrochloric acid causes the indicator to turn red and sodium hydroxide turns it purple. Students have been making a rainbow of colours to show the perfect pH range and testing household product to determine what they are by using the pH scale.



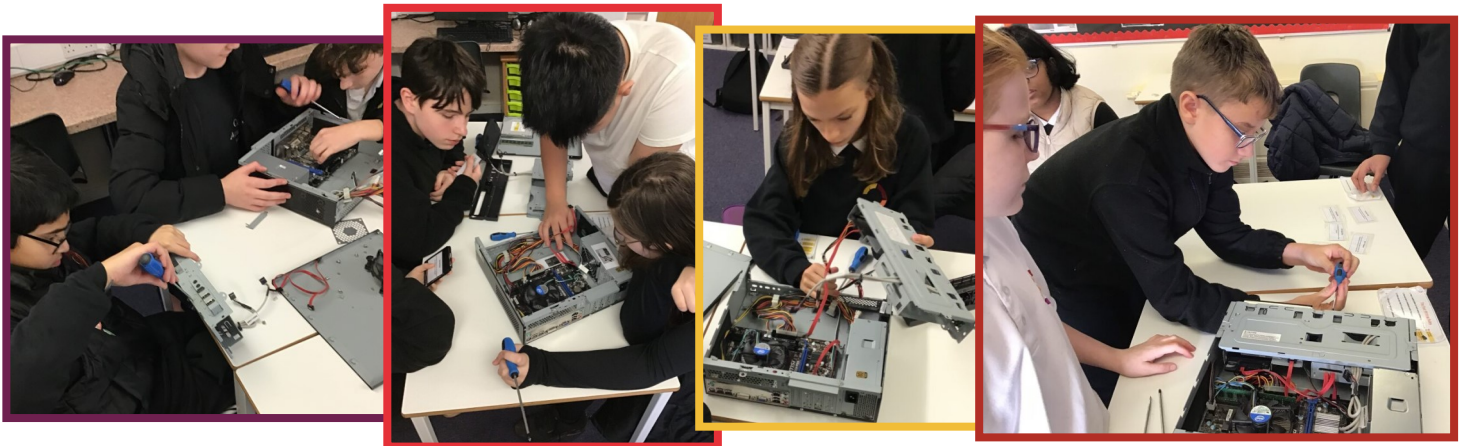
# Exploring Hardware & Software in Computing!

This half term, our students have been diving deep into the world of computer hardware and software. After building their understanding of internal components and their functions, they put their knowledge — and fine motor skills — to the test!

Using old desktop computers, students worked collaboratively to investigate what's inside a machine, identifying, removing, and matching components to their purposes. A brilliant hands-on opportunity to connect theory with real-world technology!

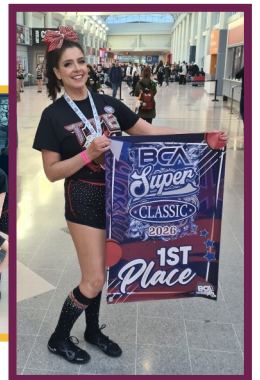
We're incredibly proud of their curiosity, teamwork, and growing confidence with computing concepts.

**Humorous disclaimer:** No computers were harmed in the making of this lesson... well, not *too* much. Please don't try this at home — especially not with the family PC!



## All cheer for Ms Maddocks!

Huge congratulations to Ms Maddocks, captain of her cheerleading team, who led her team to 1st place at the BCA Cheer competition in Birmingham. The win reflects months of hard work, teamwork, **PERSEVERANCE** and **ASPIRATION**.



## Recommended Read



Each newsletter we will feature a recommended read or a book review. In this edition of the newsletter, our recommendation comes from a Year 8 student:

***Skandar and the Unicorn Thief* by A.F. Steadman**

*"This book is full of action packed fights and adventures! What's even better is that it is a part of a whole series of books so you can really get lost in this fantasy world! If you enjoy Harry Potter then you will enjoy this series."*

Ms Kelly added that students in Years 8 and 9 have recently completed work on Fantasy Writing so this would be an enjoyable read that would also strengthen their understanding of the genre.

*Wishing all our students and families a restful half term.*

*We welcome students back to school on Monday 23rd February 2026*