



Headteacher Welcome

We have reached the end of another curriculum-rich term. Students have participated in various educational visits and enjoyed a very colourful World Book Day. Well done to Year 11 and Post 16 students who have been sitting practice exams this half term in preparation for their upcoming live exams in the summer. We hope you continue with the same focus and motivation going into the Summer Term. Wishing everyone an enjoyable Easter break.

Corley Guinea Pigs

This term we have welcomed our new Guinea Pigs into school- Gary (the grey one) and Pumpkin (the red one). They are currently in school every Friday for animal intervention. The students have loved seeing them, feeding them and petting them. They will hopefully be coming into school more often so that more students will have the chance to see them. They are getting used to being in school and are enjoying being very spoilt!



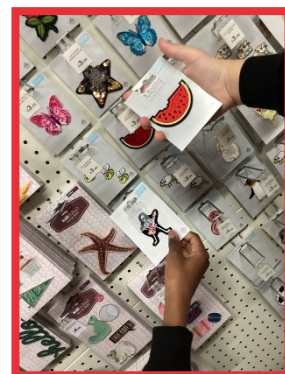
'Boy at the Back of the Class' Production

On Wednesday 25th February, classes 4 and 5 took a trip to the Belgrade theatre to see 'The boy at the back of the class'. This is a book we all read last term and it was wonderful to be able to see it come to life on the stage. All of the students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the show and are still talking about it now. All of the students were impeccably behaved and really shone as ambassadors for Corley Academy, they were well mannered and courteous to other members of the public and were thoughtful towards the younger students attending the performance from other schools.



Lifeskills Technology Visit to Hobbycraft

On Thursday 26th February, Class 3 enjoyed a trip to Hobbycraft where they took part in a canvas workshop and spent £5 each on embellishments for their textiles project. They used their numeracy and problem-solving skills to work out the total cost, each paid at the till and calculated how much change they should receive.



Musical Experiences

In Music Preparation for Adulthood, we have had a half term of 'musical experiences' where musicians Chris The Piano Man and Punjabi MC visited our school, performed for us and answered questions prepared by our students. We have also had the privilege of visiting Symphony Hall in Birmingham to hear the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform. Ten students were able to experience live music in this fantastic venue, hearing the orchestra perform a wide range of music with a 'Space' theme. The compositions included Star Wars, Dr Who, Theme from ET, Beethoven's 5th Symphony (which has been floating through space on Voyager space probes since 1977!), Jai Ho and others. All of our students enjoyed the experience and were amazing ambassadors for our school!

Keresley Grange Easter Visit

In the glorious Spring sunshine, on 19th March, our Reading Leaders (with a little help from the Easter bunny!) organised a wonderful egg and book hunt for our Keresley Grange visitors. We have enjoyed quite a few collaborative activities with our Reading Leaders and Keresley Grange students this year and, as with them all, we were beaming with pride. Not only did our Reading Leaders model the joy of literacy through reading out the clues and generating excitement for the books (and chocolate eggs of course!) but they were also incredibly kind and supportive of our younger guests. The way they modelled our value of Inclusion was exceptional. Everyone enjoyed exploring, playing, seeking and reading in our indoor and outdoors spaces. We can't wait for our next visit and for more reading adventures.



World Book Day

2026 has brought yet another amazing World Book Day at Corley! Student costumes were especially creative this year and it was fantastic to see students sharing their love of their favourite books and characters. It was great to see both staff and students being inclusive and collaborating on group costumes again this year.

Students were invited to play 'Book Bingo' using Staff Reading Signs so they could learn more about what staff are reading as well as a new challenge called 'Judge the Teacher by Their Book' in which they had to persevere and guess which teacher might own a certain book. Only one lucky student guessed all of the teachers correctly and won a £5 voucher to use at the book fair. Compass points were awarded to all who had a go and got involved in the games!

Book vouchers were given out and it has been lovely to hear how students have used them to get their free books; keeping their love of reading going.

Fun is what keeps children and young people reading and we had plenty of that this year! We look forward to next year – how many books do you think you can explore between now and then?



Book Fair

This week, we have been celebrating reading for pleasure with the Scholastic Book Fair taking centre stage in our wonderful library space. All week, students and parents, carers (and staff!) have been enjoying perusing the range of fiction and non-fiction titles. This is just part of our commitment to 'going all in' for the National Year of Reading and hope that everyone has been excited by this mini book shop experience. We have already rebooked this popular event for a similar time next year!



Australian Educator of the Month

One of our Life Skills Teachers, Ms Harris, is working in Australia for a year to broaden her knowledge of education. Last month she was awarded 'Educator of the Month' and we couldn't be more proud of her. She was recognised for consistently demonstrating a strong commitment to upholding the school's values and always keeping the students best interests at heart. We are looking forward to her return to Corley Academy in September 2026.

Guinea Pig Textiles

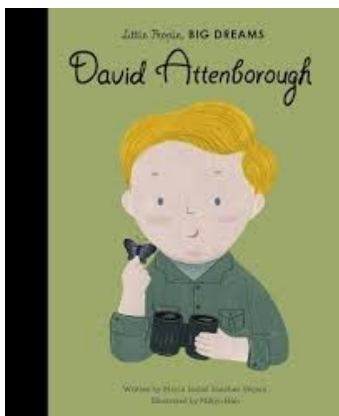
We are incredibly proud of our talented Year 11 Textile Design student, who has created a fantastic guinea pig hideaway in her Textiles lesson. Her design is imaginative and beautifully made. Throughout the project, she demonstrated our Corley Values- showing Aspiration, Perseverance, and impressive Independence.

Her finished hideaway was such a success that our resident guinea pigs absolutely loved it- exploring it straight away and making themselves at home! Her creativity has certainly made our guinea pigs very happy.



Fantastic Fundraising!

Our fundraising continued this term with a non-uniform day held in March 2026, raising money in aid of Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. We raised **£1111**. Thank you all very much for your generosity.



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 9 student:

"I am reading lots of books with Mrs Wilkinson for my DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) sessions but one of my favourites was last week's about David Attenborough. It is interesting to learn about other people's lives and he is very inspiring."

School Closures- Dates for your Diary

Our annual Trust Conference will be held on Friday 1st May 2026. School will be closed to students on this day. School will also be closed on Monday 4th May due to May Day Bank Holiday.

Wishing all our students and families a restful Easter holiday. We welcome students back to school on Monday 13th April 2025.