

Corbridge Middle School

Newsletter January 2021

I do love my job! With everything that is happening around us all at the moment it is lovely to be able to focus on the children. I hope that you managed to have a lovely time over Christmas and that you enjoyed the Christmas Message video (which is linked via the image below) as much as I did. It helped me to remember not just what Christmas is all about but what education, in its widest sense, is all about too!



We have started 2021 with an absolute determination to make this as good a year as possible for every child at Corbridge Middle School. It is undoubtedly a stressful time at the moment for all of us as adults, but I hope that we can continue to work together to ensure that, even in these challenging circumstances, the children continue to learn, have some fun and feel loved and cared for.

I am known amongst my friends and colleagues for my love of New Year's Eve and, in particular, my love of New Year's resolutions. I have some for the school too!

We are, and will continue to be, here to help and support you and your child with their safety, wellbeing and education

We will continue to stay focussed on our aims which state that we are all striving to be:

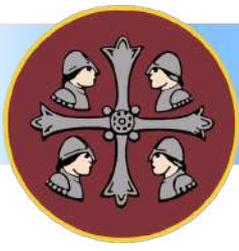
- Successful learners
- Confident individuals
- Responsible citizens

Our values will continue to underpin all that we do; Care, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience.

Thank you for your comments and feedback so far. We will send out a form next week to find out from you how things are going with the remote learning, whether your child is in school or not. We are working hard to tweak, revise and improve what we are offering.

So, on behalf of all of us at Corbridge Middle School I do wish you a Happy New Year. Let's really try to make 2021 a year that the children will look back on and remember fondly.

Jane Kennedy



Corbridge Middle School

Peace Poster

Every year, the Lions International have a world wide art competition based around the theme of Peace.

This year's theme was 'Peace Through the Service'. As usual, our pupils submitted some amazing work.

The judges selected their favourite pieces of artwork. They were Elise Foster in Year 7, Frances Weston-Hannah and Gracie Robson in year 8. Gracie's painting of Sir Tom was chosen to represent Tynedale Lions Club and went on to come 2nd overall in the National Competition. Well done Gracie. A lovely start to the new year.





Corbridge Middle School

Christmas Jumper Day - Save the Children

On Friday, December 11th we held a Christmas themed non-school uniform event. It was lovely to see the school awash with a vast array of colour and interesting homemade costumes. Not forgetting the needs of others we raised almost £200 for 'Save The Children'.

Thank you for all of your continued support.

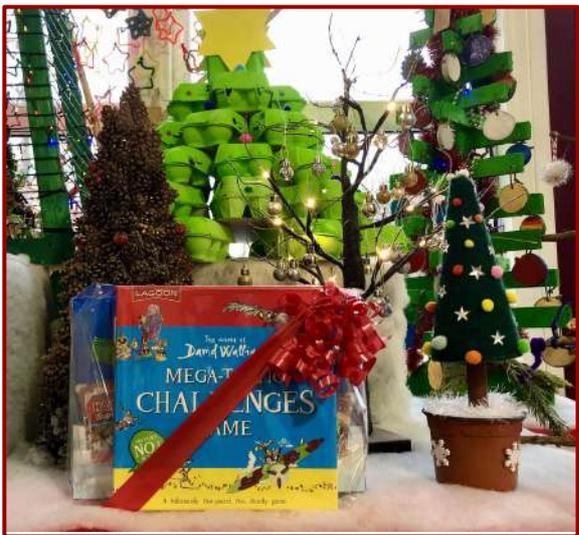


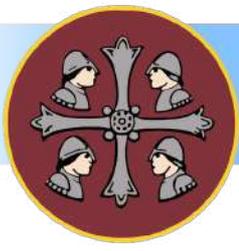


PTA Christmas Raffle

Our eagerly awaited PTA Christmas raffle was drawn on December 18 th. There was a main prize for each year group as well as an abundance of smaller prizes.

We are forever indebted to the PTA for their sterling support. Well done to all of those lucky winners.





Corbridge Middle School

Lego League Challenge

The school registered for the First Lego League Challenge and received a competition set of Lego from the Institution of Engineering and Technology.

A team of eight, Year 7 students signed up to the lunchtime club and were excited to unpack the first delivery before Christmas, which included a huge game mat and a vast amount of Lego.

The international challenge includes programming a Lego robot to undertake an assault course based on encouraging physical fitness in young people. The competition is an international STEM challenge for 9-16 year olds and is aimed to encourage an interest in real-world themes as well as develop key skills that are crucial for their future careers.

We look forward to seeing the finished product.



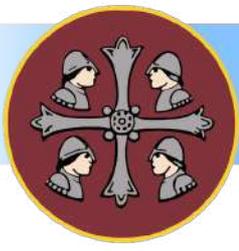
Author Live Stream

Year 6 were part of a live stream with the author Sibeal Pounder - 6,000 pupils were involved across the country!

Sibeal has visited our school before so we know that her talks are engaging and fun - this one was too! We loved hearing about "Tinsel" - her new book - and seeing her cat! Trying to work out what her character Egnog was playing in the music round was tricky but Mrs Armstrong's and Mrs Watkins' classes got it all correct!

Thank you to Forum Books in Corbridge for helping to organise it - we had great fun!





Corbridge Middle School

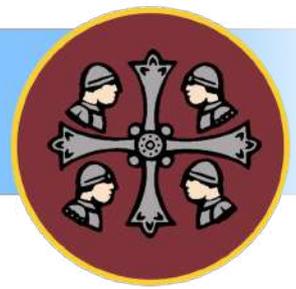
Christmas Trees

Every year, at St Andrew's Church in Corbridge, there is a wonderful display of Christmas trees which are all crafted by members of the local community.

Sadly, it could not take place this year so Mrs Walker-Thomas asked the pupils to create their own trees. Mrs Parkin created a beautiful display in our main entrance.

We were blown away by the ambition, quality and creativity shown in all of the trees that were brought into school Well done everyone.





Baking is back on the agenda

Mrs Kidd was really pleased to be able to reintroduce some practical cooking into Food Technology lessons again.

We appear to have some budding chefs in year 8 who all worked hard to prepare a very tempting and tasty looking Apple Galette.



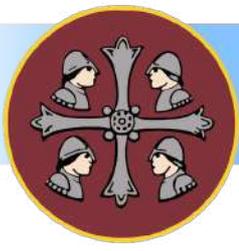
UK Parliament Week

KS3 celebrated UK Parliament Week by casting their votes in the 'Make Your Mark' ballot.

Students were able to select issues to be debated in parliament by their youth representatives.

It was encouraging to see all students having their voices heard and experiencing democracy first hand.





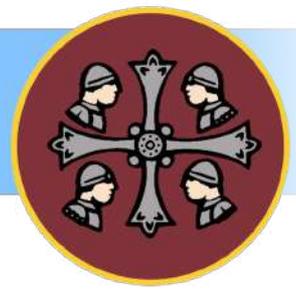
Corbridge Middle School

Christmas Dinner

A massive thank you to Mrs Ballantyne and her hard working team in the kitchen for providing us with a delicious Christmas Dinner.

Those Brussels sprouts look irresistible.





Science Enrichment

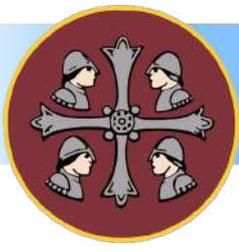
A massive well done to Libbie, Katie, Valentina and Jake for their excellent Science enrichment homework.

They have researched and designed very interesting habitats!

They have each received a prize for their hard work.

Once again, the standard was very high across Year 5 and it is always a pleasure to see these stunning projects. They all demonstrated a good understanding of the characteristics of habitats from around the world.





Corbridge Middle School

Virtual Quad Kids Athletic Competition

Not to be beaten by the Covid virus we entered all of our year 6 pupils into a Virtual Quad Kids Athletics Competition last term.

Running, jumping and throwing events were all part of the fun with every child contributing to a final results total. We were delighted when 6S achieved third place. Ten schools participated in this event. Our certificate will be proudly displayed on our PE notice board. Well done to all of our competitors.

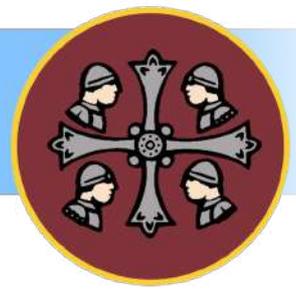


Music Exams

Huge congratulations to some of our musicians in Year 5 who have received their music exam results. Music certificates have been awarded to Alice, Valentina, Rose and Finn. A fantastic result for Dylan who passed his Grade 2 violin exam with distinction!

Well done everyone.





Year 5 Short Story Competition

We were delighted with all the entries into our 500 word short story competition!

It was a pleasure to read all of the stories that were submitted but there were some that really stood out!

Here is the winning story from 5P, written by Callum.

Ewe Are Amazing by Callum 5P

There was once a sheep called Kevin. He was a big, fat, fluffy Suffolk Tup. One day he was in the field when suddenly, Brian the black and white sheepdog came snarling after him trying as hard as he could to round Kevin up into the pen.

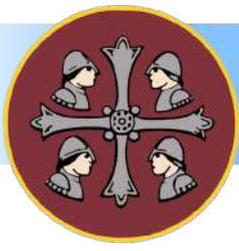
In alarm, Kevin frantically jumped over the rotten old wooden fence and in a flash went tumbling, smack into a tree. His magnificent Roman nose crumpled into his face so he was left looking like an ugly, horrifying Texel. There were stars before his eyes. He gingerly picked himself up, but apart from his damaged nose seemed to have escaped unhurt. He staggered a bit, like someone who was drunk and gazed about trying to remember which way was home (back to his field).

Kevin heard a rustling behind him. He looked around and saw a pair of beautiful, gleaming eyes watching him from inside the hedge. "Are you ok?" a timid voice asked. Out stepped a thin, lean, battered ewe. Kevin had never seen such a beauty. "I'm fine", he baaed gruffly, a little embarrassed to be so disheveled in front of this vision. "I'm Maaa" she said quietly, "that was a magnificent jump over the wall". Kevin stood a little more proudly. "What were you doing in the bush?" asked Kevin, "if you don't mind me asking.

At that moment they heard the whistling of Jim the farmer, telling Brian to round up the stray sheep. Although he knew English, Brian loved to bark. Kevin and Maaa looked at each other and without speaking, turned and ran for their lives. Unfortunately, this wasn't fast enough and soon Brian had turned the pair and chased them into the pen, barking furiously and nipping at their hooves

Maaa cowered in the corner of the pen, trembling from head to toe. Kevin wanted to impress and protect Maaa. He stamped his foot ferociously like an angry bull, steam coming out from his crumpled nostrils. He turned towards Jim the farmer who was poised ready to begin shearing and Brian who was standing by ready to help him. Kevin charged towards Brian and butted him over the side of the pen. Brian somersaulted out of the pen and into the field and landed in a black and white heap, crushing the newly planted wheat. Kevin then turned and lashed out at Jim who was standing still in shock at seeing his sheepdog propelled through the air. Kevin head butted Jim who turned and ran as fast as he could back to the farmhouse. Kevin turned to Maaa and said sheepishly "are you ok?". "I have had better days, but you are amazing" she said. "Farming humans is all in a day's work" he said.

Maaa and Kevin jumped through the gate and trotted off into the sunset together. Thankfully they lived happily ever after together without another sight of Jim or Brian and they had three beautiful lambs named Bob, Jeff and Nigel.



Corbridge Middle School

School Science - Outside The Classroom

Our students are pictured in this month's 'Education In Science' magazine issued by the Association for Science Education. The pictures were taken when our current Year 7 students were Year 5 Water Explorers. The pupils created a Floating Garden combining their knowledge and skills on engineering, biology, climate change and sustainability.

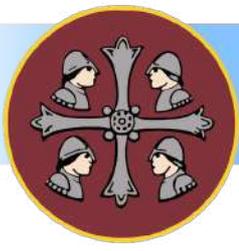


Fruit Tree Donation

The Tree Council has donated 10 fruit trees to our school garden, including a variety of apple, pear, cherry and plum trees. As the building work at the front of our school is being completed, and the ground is still too wet we have heeled the trees in until conditions improve. We are looking forward to creating our new school orchard at the main entrance to school.

This scheme means our pupils are a #ForceForNature.





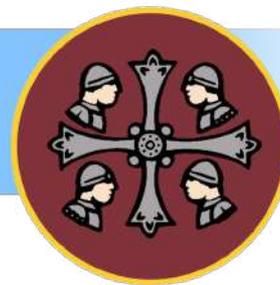
Corbridge Middle School

New Path

Last term, work was completed on a new pathway at the front entrance of the school.

As part of the project we also secured the playground with a brand new security gate.





Online Resources

We hope you are all settling into using Google Classroom at home.

Please remember that we have a list of guides and resources on our website under 'Virtual Classroom'

If your child has any issues accessing or completing work then please contact us at admin@corbridgemiddle.co.uk or call us on 01434 632191



Google Classroom

Mental Health Workshops

Cygnus Support is an emotional well-being charity based in Northumberland who are offering free online workshops, delivered by a team of qualified counsellors/trainers via Zoom.

Workshop 1: Looking After Your Child/Young Persons Mental Health and Emotional Well-being

Workshop 2: Looking After Your Own Well-being

If you would like to know more, or to register for a workshop please call 01670 853977 or email admin@cygnussupport.com



cygnus
support