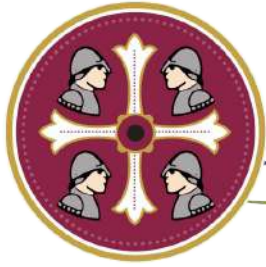




Corbridge Middle School

NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2024





Corbridge Middle School

MESSAGE FROM MRS BROWN



I am delighted to bring our 2nd newsletter of the academic year which reflects our progress and engagement over the last Autumn half term. And what an incredible half it was here at Corbridge Middle School.

The children have enjoyed many festive opportunities including our Christmas Fayre, our winter discos which were a real hit, and finishing off with a hilarious panto which was a truly festive treat....oh yes it was!

I hope you enjoy reading about what we got up to last half term and I look forward to all of the wonderful opportunities that we have coming up in the Spring, which will hopefully include the launch of our new school website! It is very close to being finalised - we do hope you like it!

As ever, I have been so very proud of the children and how they have presented themselves this last half term. I hope all of our children and families had a wonderful festive break.



NEWSLETTER OCT 23

OUR NEW ENRICHMENT HOMEWORK

Corbridge Middle School Enrichment Homework

Project Based Learning



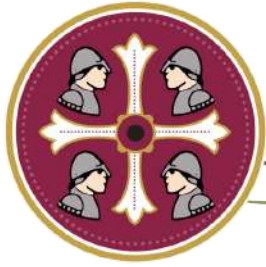
This week we launched the 12 new projects for the children to engage with for their enrichment homework this term.

It was a very exciting launch assembly and Mr McKee even came dressed as a Roman for the occasion! The new look projects are all based on our overarching driving question: ***What makes us proud of where we live?***

This not only enables children to focus on one of our school values of pride, but also enables them to connect to their local area and find out new and exciting things about their home.

The 12 projects are all available on our website:

<http://www.corbridgemiddle.co.uk/enrichment-homework.html>



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We would encourage you and your child this week to look at the projects and discuss which one they think they would like to try. Your child's form tutor will also be helping them to decide and final choices will be confirmed at the beginning of next week.

The children have the full term to work on this project meaning they can really embrace the scope and depth of the project and get creative in their final outcomes. As this work will be showcased as part of the final presentation, we urge children to think 'outside the box' and explore creative methods of presenting their work - we would love to see some videos, hear some songs or interact with a model or art piece.

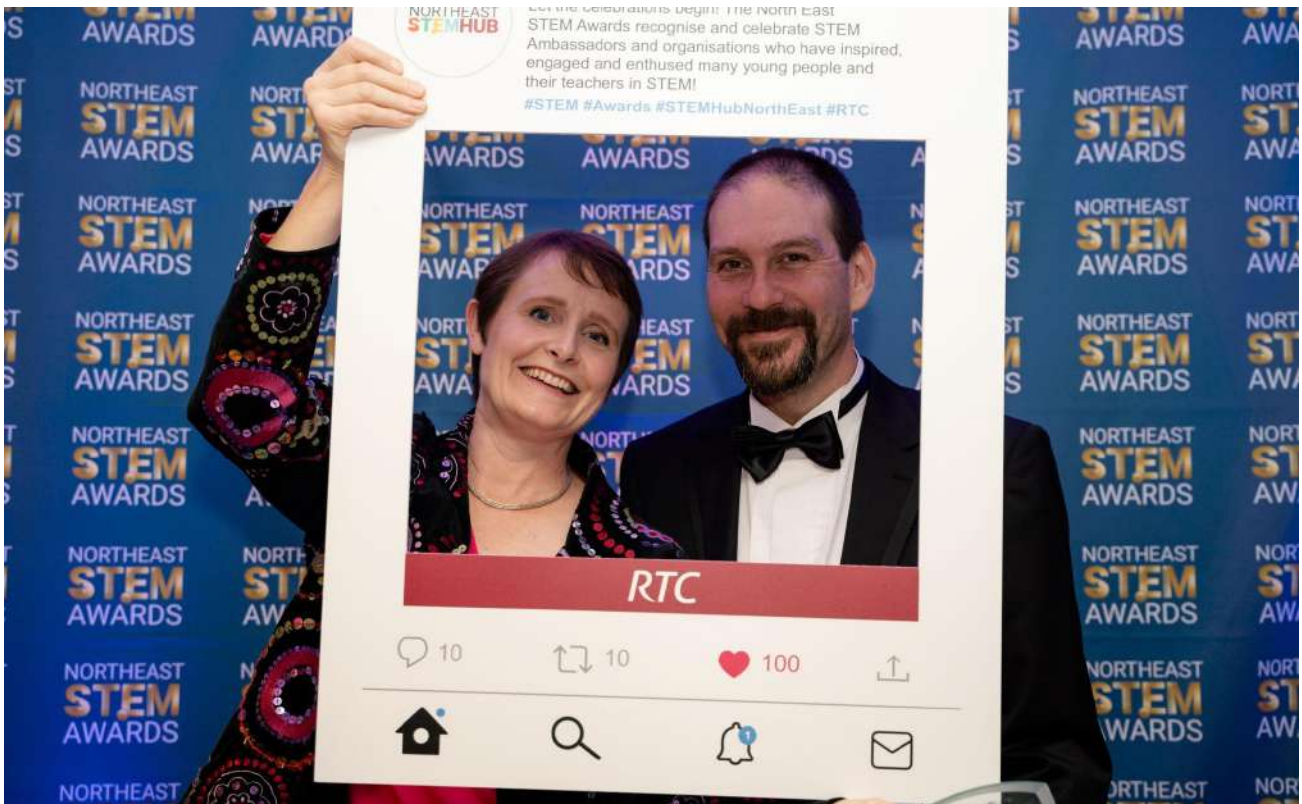
Your child's form teacher will be checking in and making sure your child is managing with their project and we will also be putting some planning templates on the website to support children should they wish to use them.

If your child requires any resources to support them in their project, please let us know as we will be happy to help. I will be updating you all weekly on how we are all getting on with the new projects and information about the showcase event will be shared as soon as we can.

We hope your child enjoys working on their project and that you enjoy supporting them with it also.

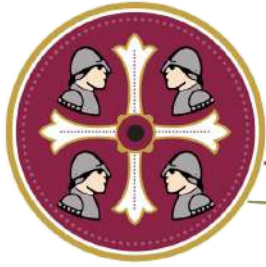
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AWARD WINNING TEACHING AT CMS



A huge congratulations to our very own Dr Batchelder, Science Subject Leader at Corbridge Middle School who has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to teaching by scooping the "Most Inspirational North East Secondary School Teacher 2023" award at the North East STEM Awards.

We are delighted for her and are very proud to have her as part of our team.



Corbridge Middle School

REMEMBERING HOLLY



At 11am on Saturday 27 January everyone is welcome to join the family and friends of Holly Newton in an act of remembrance at Hexham Abbey to mark one year since Holly was tragically killed in the centre of the town.

A moment of silent reflection will be followed by some words from Curate Henry Hope and tributes from family and friends, Attendees are welcome to light a candle and there will be the opportunity to dedicate special purple stars in Holly's memory as part of the Abbey's Stars for Eternity installation, which will be open to the public from the beginning of February until the autumn. For those unable to attend, stars can be dedicated in the Abbey between now and Tuesday 30 January and candles can be lit in the Abbey in Holly's memory at any time during normal opening hours.

Anyone that feels unable to attend the abbey or can't at that time but would still like to leave a tribute can do so by leaving flowers etc at the bandstand.

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HARVEST FESTIVAL



Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed to our Harvest collection last term; your support has been fantastic as you can see from the photographs below.

Many thanks to Julia and her husband from Tynedale Lions who were able to transport the much needed food to the West Northumberland Food bank ... and thanks to Tesco for the loan of the shopping trolley. A really great effort from our school community - thank you.

This project links with Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger).



Corbridge Middle School

REMEMBRANCE



During November we hosted several assemblies focusing on Remembrance.

We were reminded of the sacrifices that people have made, around the world, since World War I.

Our Student Council supported the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and small merchandise in school; they proudly stood for a photograph around our centenary poppy which is situated in our school grounds.

Many of our pupils also participated in or attended local remembrance events in their communities.

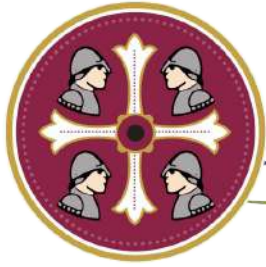
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YOUNG GREEN BRITON CHALLENGE



Following the success of the Young Green Briton Challenge in school last year, we are delighted to be taking part in 2023-24. The Challenge is a national platform to nurture, support and celebrate youth-led climate action. It uses project-based learning to enable young people to design entrepreneurial solutions to local sustainability issues.

Our Year 7s began the Explore phase last week to investigate local community issues as well as developing their understanding of key concepts such as the role of waste, consumption, energy and transport. The teams have now had a drop-down Design Sprint workshop to develop the students' green skills, teamwork and social action projects. It was fantastic that the Y8 Go Green Gorillas from last year were in the workshops to help the Y7s refine their ideas.



Corbridge Middle School

This month we will host our own eco Dragons' Den competition to choose five teams who will each receive £50 from Northumberland County Council to help turn their project into action. The groups will be teamed up with STEM Ambassador mentors from Egger to help guide and develop their ideas. Around Easter the top 3 teams from school will present to a second Dragons' Den in County Hall with teams from two other schools. By May 2024 the school community will choose one winner to join the national competition with the chance of winning one of four £1000 investments for their project in a celebration event in the House of Lords.

The Young Green Briton Challenge is an initiative of the Green Britain Foundation, the charitable foundation established by Dale Vince founder of Ecotricity. The Challenge brings together the experience of a variety of organisations including the Ministry of Eco Education, Social Innovation for All and Volunteers for Future.



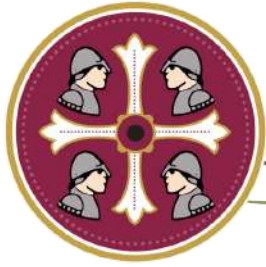
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SHAKESPEARE'S HAMLET



We are excited to announce that Key Stage 3 will be producing Shakespeare's Hamlet this year and we have been auditioning our cast in readiness.

It is shaping up to be a fantastic production with a lot of talent on show and we look forward to performing in the Summer term.



Corbridge Middle School

INSTRUMENT TUITION



A large number of students choose to take part in additional music lessons in school with a range of our music staff. We work closely with Music Partnership North and also invite a selection of self employed tutors into school.

We are now delighted to open up these opportunities this year to anyone who is interested. We do have limited spaces available, so tuition will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Please consider which instrument you'd be interested in your child learning first, then be directed to either the MPN information and booking system or to the self employed tutor. They will let you know how to arrange instrument hire, the cost of tuition etc.

Guitar - MPN - a small number of spaces available for an immediate start - <https://live.paritor.com/p/2302>

Voice - MPN - spaces available now - <https://live.paritor.com/p/2302>

Drums - MPN - a very limited number of spaces available for immediate start - <https://live.paritor.com/p/2302>

Saxophone, Flute & Clarinet - MPN - a small number of spaces available for an immediate start - <https://live.paritor.com/p/2302>

Cello & Violin - spaces available now - please contact abigail.strike@hotmail.co.uk

Piano - a small number of spaces available - please contact lizmilner100@googlemail.com

Trumpet, Trombone & French Horn - spaces available now - please contact christurnbull98@gmail.com

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MUSIC ENSEMBLES



We are delighted to have had music ensembles up and running again last term and it has been wonderful to hear a range of styles floating down the corridors. Music Ensembles remain free for anyone to take part, so get yourself along and try something new!

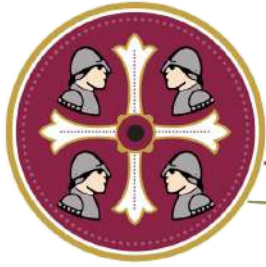
Monday: Boys Choir - Open to all boys who register prior to attending with Mrs Fisher - 3:05 in U2

Tuesday: Wind Band - Open to all wind players - 8:30 on stage, Junior Choir - Open to all in Y5 and Y6 - 12:05 in U6

Wednesday: Senior Choir - Open to all in Y7 and Y8 - 12:05 in U6

Thursday: Ceilidh Band - Open to all string players, plus percussion - 12:30 on stage

Friday: New Guitar Group - Open to all players - we have guitars for you to borrow so please come along and learn a new skill - 12:05 in U6



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E-SAFETY FOCUS



National
Online
Safety®

Each week we are providing some guidance for Parents and Carers about a particular app or online service which you may find useful. The guides can be found on our Friday Flyer and give a useful insight and highlight key safety features which many parents have found useful.

This week we are focusing on:

WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
FREE SPEECH VS HATE SPEECH

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

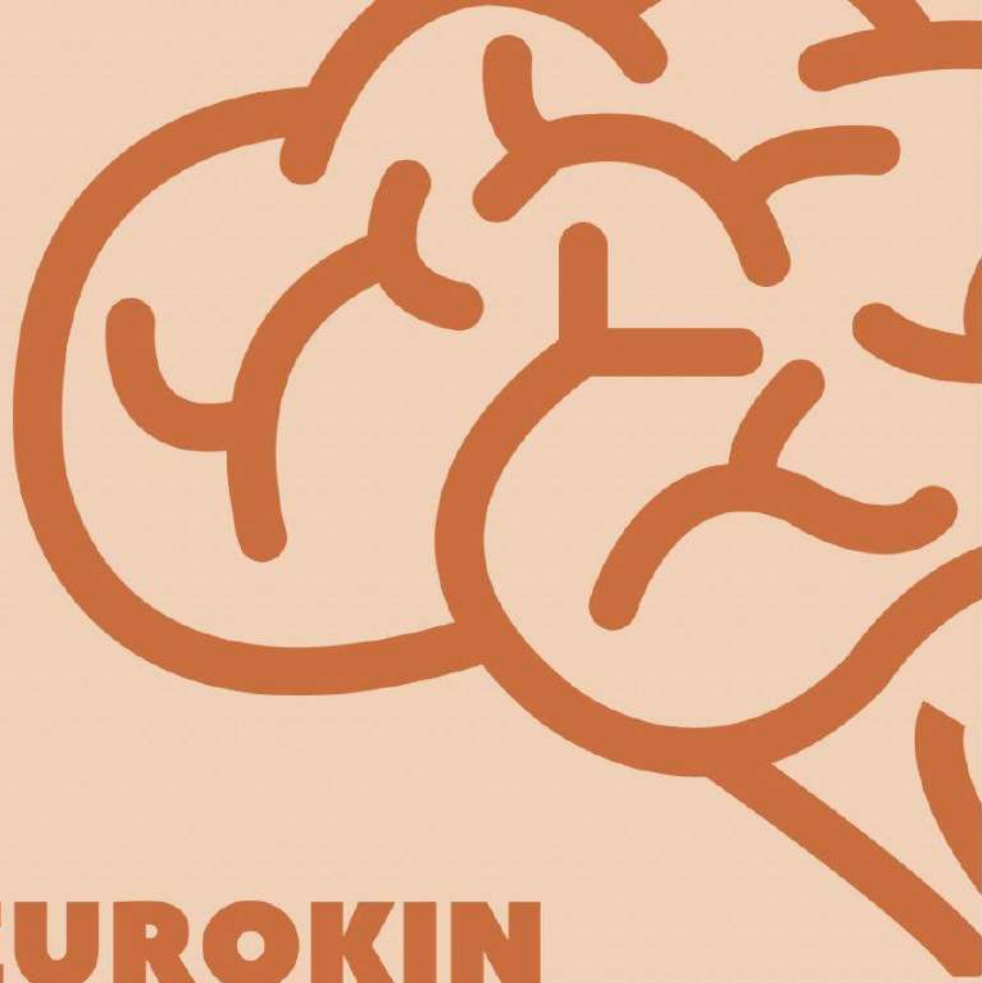
The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/content>
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/42/schedule/13/text-1/everyone-20has-20the-3-20right-20to-20freedom-20of-20expression>



CMS NEUROKIN GROUP

A support group for parents and carers who have children with special educational needs.

**ALL ARE WELCOME FOR A COFFEE AND A
CHAT, NEW MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED.**

**THIS MONTH WE WILL BE JOINED BY OUR
NEW SENCO, MRS PARKIN.**

THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY - 9.30AM

We look forward to seeing you there.

Lynda



Corbridge

Middle School

CLUB TIMETABLE

Spring 2024

Time	Club & Room	Staff
Monday		
12.35 - 1.05	Library	Mrs Ramsay
12 05- 12 35	Hockey Yr 6,7 and 8	Mrs Parkin
12.35 - 1.05	Friendship Club KS2	Mrs. Liddle
12:35 - 1:05	Pokemon Club	Mrs Thornton
12 05- 12 35	D & D + Warhammer	Miss Jones
Tuesday		
12.35 - 1.05	Library	Mrs Ramsay
12:05-12:30	Junior Choir	Mrs Fisher
12.05 -1.05	Games Club L5	Mrs Hamer / Mrs Soulsby
12:35-1.05	Y8 Young Green Briton Teams	Dr Batchelder and Mrs Pound
12:35 - 1:05	Drama Club - KS2 all welcome - Hall	Mrs A Brown
Wednesday		
12.35 - 1.05	Library	Mrs Ramsay
12:05-12:30	Senior Choir	Mrs Fisher
12.35 - 1.05	Friendship Club KS3	Mrs. Liddle
12:35-1:05	CMS News	Miss Dolby
12.35 - 1.05	Y7 Weather & Climate Club in L5	Mr Swinney
12.15 - 12.55	KS3 Young Artists	Mrs Walker Thomas

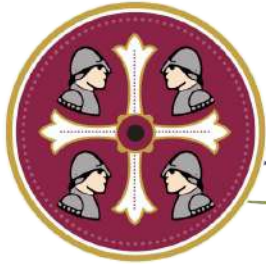


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CLUB TIMETABLE

Spring 2024

Time	Club & Room	Staff
Thursday		
12.35 - 1.05	Library	Mrs Ramsay
12.05 - 12.35	KS2 Football	Mr McKee
12.05 - 12.55	Homework Club L8	Miss Bell / Mrs Hamer
12.15 - 12.55	KS3 Young Artists	Mrs Walker Thomas
12.35-1.05	Games club	Mr Willis
Friday		
12.35 - 1.05	Library	Mrs Ramsay
12.05 - 1.05	Chess Club in L5	Mr Swinney
12:35 - 1:05	Drama Club - KS3 all welcome - Hall	Mrs A Brown



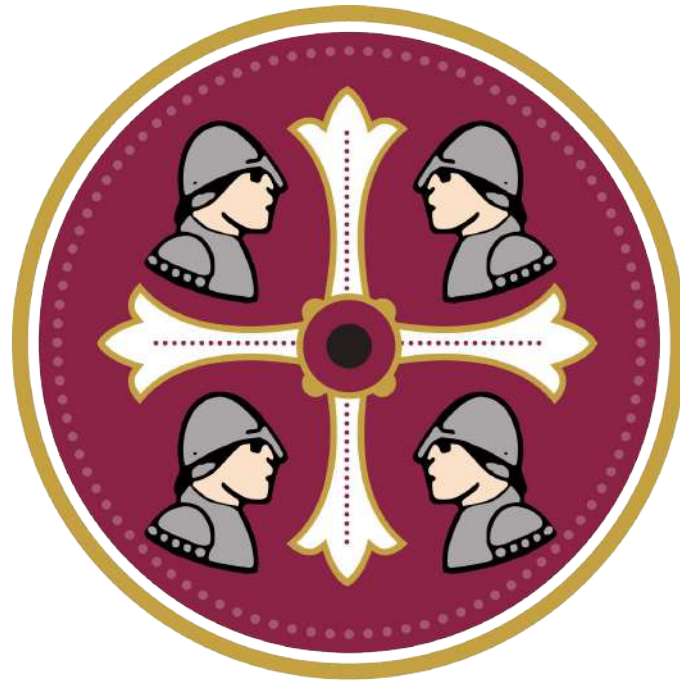
Corbridge

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UPCOMING DATES

Spring 2023

Date	FAO	Activity	Letter
02/02	Selected	Deadline for Y5 Trip Payment 3	
05/02	Selected	Deadline for Y6 Trip Payment 2	
05/02	Selected	Deadline for Y7 Trip Payment 2	
05/02	Selected	Deadline for Y8 Trip Payment 2	
15/02	ALL	School closes for Feb Half Term	
16/02	ALL	Teacher Training Day	



Corbridge

Middle School

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