



# Corbridge Middle School

**March 2022 Newsletter**





# Corbridge Middle School

## Introducing Our New Headteacher



I would like to say a warm hello to everyone in the Corbridge Middle Community as I formally introduce myself as the new Headteacher of this vibrant and flourishing school.

My name is Mary Poppins... Sorry, I mean Adele Brown, and I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the school at this very exciting time. Throughout my interview, I was completely overwhelmed by the positivity, ambition and joy that permeated throughout the school and I am so very pleased that I am now part of the Corbridge Middle Family.

I thought I would take this opportunity to tell you all a little bit about myself. I studied Acting at Bretton Hall where I achieved a 1st Class Honours, before moving on to The University of Warwick to train to become a teacher. Since qualifying in 2007, I have progressed from teacher, to Head of Department, Head of Faculty, Assistant Head, Deputy Head and Headteacher. My subject background is Drama and English and I am incredibly passionate about the impact that The Arts can make with children in regards to strengthening their social and emotional development. Much of my recent work has held a strong focus on inclusion and personal development. I am a firm believer in developing the children socially and emotionally as well as academically, enabling the very best outcomes for the next stages of their education and laying strong foundations for their lives beyond school.



# March 2022 Newsletter

I have had a wonderful week so far, getting to know the children and staff and immersing myself in school life. Everyone has been so helpful and kind and I would like to personally thank all the children and staff for making me feel so welcome - it has certainly helped with my first week nerves!

I care passionately about education and the impact that we can make with children and young people and I can't wait to travel on the next phase of Corbridge Middle School's journey alongside you all.

I look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks and months.

A handwritten signature in dark brown ink that reads "A Brown". The letters are cursive and fluid.

*Headteacher*



# Corbridge Middle School

## World Book Day 2022

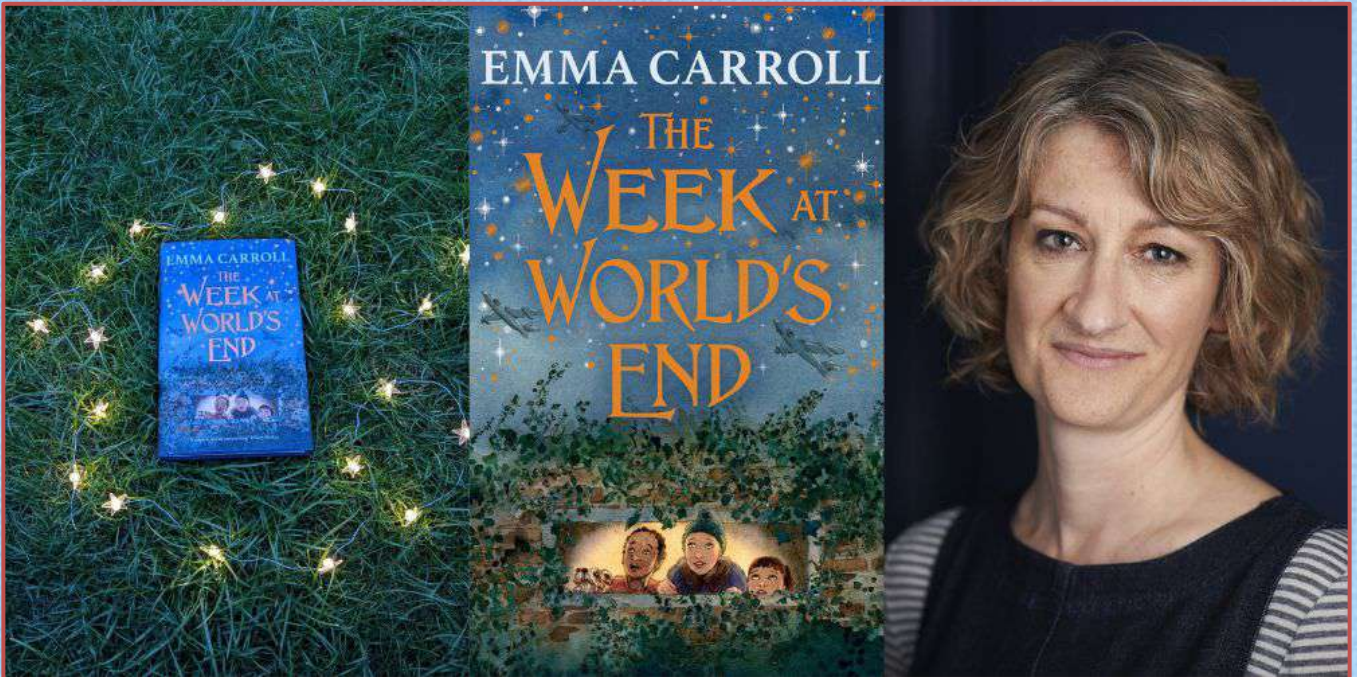
Thursday 3rd March was World Book Day and, as usual, we were overwhelmed with the fantastic costumes the children designed and wore. We asked for costumes that represented an adjective or noun, beginning with C, M or S and we were amazed by the imagination and creativity on display!





# March 2022 Newsletter

## Emma Carroll - Author Visit



We always enjoy meeting authors here at CMS, so we are especially pleased to be welcoming award-winning children's author Emma Carroll next Friday (11th March).

As always, our lovely local bookshop is helping us out by arranging the visit and by offering Emma's new book, for her to sign, at a discounted price of £6.

So, if your child would like to try out '**The Week at World's End**', they can bring their money in on the day, and meet and chat with Emma, get their copy signed and hopefully be inspired to write themselves!



## PSHE Spring Half Term Curriculum

In PSHE this half term the curriculum for each year group is as follows:

Year 5 - Healthy Me and Friends Resilience. Themes include:

- Understanding feelings
- Talking about emotions
- Managing emotions
- Self-care techniques
- Mental wellbeing
- Role of food in lives
- Personal hygiene

Year 6 - Healthy Me and Friends Resilience. Themes include:

- Seeking help if worried about health
- Effects of food on the body
- Stress
- Alcohol
- Sleep
- Safe and unsafe sun

Year 7 - Planning for the Future/Money and Me. Themes include:

- Managing money and savings
- Role of banks and building societies

Year 8 - Planning for the Future/Money and Me. Themes include:

- Teenage jobs
- Rules
- Pressures
- Price and competition affect on consumer decisions



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## Music Tuition at CMS

We are delighted to be able to offer all enthusiastic singers in Year 6 - Year 8 the opportunity to work with the tutors of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain.

The weekend of tuition is completely free and we have previously had students from Corbridge take part.

It is a fabulous opportunity, so if you would like any more information, please contact Mrs Fisher.

# NYCGB

NATIONAL  
YOUTH  
CHOIRS  
GREAT BRITAIN



*"I enjoyed singing and making new friends who love to sing too."  
(Young singer at 2020 NYCGB Taster Weekend in Durham)*

*Part of the Gillian Dickinson Young Singers Programme*

### Young Singers Intensive

with National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

*Meet new people, sing together, have fun!*

Join other young people from across the North East passionate about singing for a weekend of activity learning new music and developing your musical skills.

**30 April & 1 May 10am-4pm at Sunderland City Hall**

**2 online workshops in advance (dates tbc)**

#### Who is it for?

- Keen singers in Y6 to Y9
- All voice types and musical backgrounds
- All singers who want to learn and work together as a group
- Music reading is not expected.
- Free to take part and support available for travel costs if needed.

**Ask your teacher for more information and how to get involved!**



# Corbridge Middle School

## Silhouette Project

Year 8 have been studying Light Waves in science. Shadows are created when an opaque object blocks rays of light. 8J and 8BL have used their understanding of light to create silhouettes of their faces. The images are going to be used in a Thames Valley Trust project for the Queen's Jubilee. We are creating the artworks in collaboration with our partner schools in Addis Ababa along the theme of "Rivers of Hope". We used pictures of light reflecting off water as part of the project. The silhouettes are supposed to represent the Queen's head that we see on postage stamps. If our designs are chosen they will be displayed in London over the summer.

This project links to SDG6, Clean Water as we are concerned by the amount of pollution entering our rivers.







# March 2022 Newsletter

## Democracy in Action!

Key Stage 3 had the opportunity today to participate in 'Make your Mark' - a national event for all young people aged 11-18 . They voted in 3 separate areas - Youth Parliament, Youth Cabinet and a topic they care about. We have 8 candidates standing in the Northumberland elections and wish them the very best.





# Corbridge Middle School

## Indoor Cricket

Well done to our indoor cricket team who competed in an area competition at Wentworth at the end of last half term. A combination of skilful playing and determination saw the girls through to the final against Ovingham.

This team have been working on their cricket technique, with specialist coaches, in our Enrichment Programme on a Friday afternoon.





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## 'Kingdom By The Sea' Display

Mrs Child's Year 5 English set are reading Robert Westall's 'Kingdom by the Sea' set in WW2.

The protagonist carries an attache case with him on his adventures which contained all the essential documents a family would have taken into a shelter in case of an air raid.

For homework the pupils were set a task where they needed to reproduce the documents within the attache case, including ration books, school reports, insurance documents and bank savings books. The class out did themselves creating the whole case and also finding and making other contents from the novel such as a wedding photo, school photo and Dad's best wristwatch.





# Corbridge Middle School

## Pop Art Display

Some of our talented Year 8 artists have been working on an amazing piece of art which will be displayed on outside wall within the school grounds. The work is based around our school's values with a 'Pop Art' style. So much time, talent and commitment has gone into this and I am sure you will agree ... it looks great!





# March 2022 Newsletter

## Lego Race Cars

We were delighted to launch a new topic to our Enrichment Programme this term. The children have been building and racing remote control Lego cars.

They have constructed, customized and raced their cars, as well as designing a race track on which to compete. The last session of half term was the grand final where teams competed against each other and the overall champions were crowned.

The group have had lots of fun in the project as well as learning the importance of effective teamwork and communication.





## Life In The Middle Ages - Newcastle Castle Trip

As part of our Year 7 History topic of 'Life in the Middle Ages', pupils had the opportunity to visit Newcastle Castle and Keep.

We learnt about the history of the castle, how it changed over time and some of its more famous guests.

Pupils also had the chance to handle artefacts from the time to help give them a greater understanding of life in the era.





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## Fashion Upcycling Project

Pupils enjoyed up-cycling second hand garments during our KS3 Enrichment Project to give them a new life.

Tops were transformed into skirts, baby clothes decorated and bags created from clothing.

The Pupils demonstrated a great degree of creativity and skill throughout this project.





## Year 5 Lunchtime Computer Club

Year 5 lunchtime Computer Club was well attended and certainly kept Mr Johnston and our Year 8 helpers very busy!

Our focus recently has been cyber security. We were testing a new learning tool called 'Cyber Sprinters' from the National Cyber Security Centre to improve online safety for kids aged 7-11 years old.

Year 5 were completing the puzzles to test and improve their cyber security skills.







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## Weather & Climate Club

The Year 7 Weather & Climate Club have presented their project on heavy rainfall events at the Royal Society student conference. The session was held virtually with schools from Yorkshire and Lancashire. It was an excellent experience for the team, sharing their Citizen Science work and having to answer questions from Fellows of the Society!

Recently they have also had an online meeting with Professor Hayley Fowler, Professor of Climate Change Impacts in the School of Engineering at Newcastle University.

She is really impressed with the work the team are doing and has invited them to see the SUDS (sustainable urban design system) labs in her department. The #PartnershipGrant project with the University links to SDG4 Quality Education, SDG13 ClimateAction and SDG15 Life on Land.





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## Wooden Key Plaques

In Design Technology, Year 5 have been designing and making a wooden key plaque.

Mrs Walker-Thomas is very pleased with their work, considering this is the first time they have used tools like a Tenon Saw and Pillar Drill.

Many of them said these were going to be gifts... I do hope we haven't spoilt the surprise!





# March 2022 Newsletter

## RE Enrichment Homework

It all started with the Spring 1 Enrichment homework... This was the task: In response to our unit on charity, the pupils imagined that they had £150 to spend. Their task was to create a collage of the gifts they might buy to help improve the life of a family or families. The response and standard of the homework was amazing.

By chance, I got talking to some of the Year 7 boys at breaktime and they said that it would be easy to make the money real by simply having a non-school uniform day. After a quick chat with Mr Johnston and Mrs Brown, it was agreed!

The total sum raised by the efforts of the whole school was: **£393.58!**

The next step is to meet with all those Year 7s involved, who completed the enrichment homework and decide together how the money is spent.

See the next two pages for an example of some of the work that was completed, this is from Evie S in Y8.

Miss Bell - RE Coordinator





# Corbridge Middle School

Imagine that you had £150 to spend. Your task is to create a collage of the gifts you might buy to help improve the life of a family or families.

## My family. (imaginary)

The family I am buying for live in Ethiopia. They do not have clean water or cleaning supplies and are quite poor. The mother works hard to make dinner while the father goes out and helps people with jobs to earn some money. The children go to school 3 days a week and are looking for more money to go to school more often. Their parents are working hard to feed the family and to afford their children's education. Their names are:



Abeni - Mother of the family  
Abdullah - Father of the family  
Zuri - Eldest Daughter (13)  
Malika - Younger Daughter (9)  
Hakim - Youngest Son (6)

I would spend my £150 on:



Clean water  
£30.00

### Christian Aid-

Clean water is important for my family to keep them healthy because they have to go looking for water down in the muddy stream which is also sewage water where they can catch diseases like skin infections and chest infections. This will reduce them worrying about where they will get their water from.

£150 - £30 = £120



Period kit  
£12.00

### Action Aid-

I would buy 3 period kits, 1 for Zuri, 1 for Malika, and 1 for Abeni. It is important that they have the right supplies while on their Period so they don't have to worry about having no pads.

£12 x 3 = £36

£120 - £36 = £84



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**A pair of chickens**

£8.00

Christian Aid-

I would also buy 4 chickens, so that everyday they can have eggs for breakfast and don't have to worry about where their food is coming from. Chickens lay around 1-2 eggs a day, so that would be enough to feed them all.

$$£8 \times 2 = £16$$

$$£84 - £16 = £68$$



**Seeds of hope and tools of change**

£15.00

Christian Aid-

I would buy my family some seeds and farming tools so they can always grow their own food and so that they can have some fruit and vegetables on the side of their plate along with the egg. Growing their own fruit means that they will have a lifetime of food instead of giving them a food bundle, which will only last a few days/weeks until it runs out, since it does not regrow.

$$£68 - £15 = £53$$



**School backpack**

£10.00

Action Aid-

A school backpack would be a good idea for the children to carry all of their school supplies in, as well as a water bottle for them throughout the day.

$$£10 \times 3 = £30$$

$$£53 - £30 = £23$$



**Blankets**

£19.00

Action Aid-

Blankets would provide them with warmth in the night and can be used for a bed in their shelter. Blankets could be used for when one of the children gets sick or has a disease. (if that happens)

$$£23 - £19 = £4$$



# March 2022 Newsletter

## HLTA Vacancy

We are looking for an amazing person whose values, and attitudes to education, fit with our own. We welcome applications from qualified Higher Level Teaching Assistants across the whole range of experience.

Please contact the school office via email at [admin@corbridgemiddle.co.uk](mailto:admin@corbridgemiddle.co.uk) or visit [North East Jobs](#) for more information.



Corbridge  
Middle School

We are recruiting for the role of...

**HLTA**

Please contact the school office via email at  
[admin@corbridgemiddle.co.uk](mailto:admin@corbridgemiddle.co.uk) for more  
information



# March 2022 Newsletter

## Clubs Timetable

### Spring 2022

Time	Club & Room	Staff
<b>Monday</b>		
12.30	Guitar Club - All years - L10	Mr Newbrook
12.05	Hockey club - Yr 6,7 and 8	Mrs Parkin
12.35	Knitting Yr 5 - L4	Mrs Browne
12.35	Library - All Yrs - U1	Mrs Ramsay
12.35	Friendship Club Yr 5 - L6	Mrs Liddle
12.05	Singing Club Years 5 and 6 - U6	Mrs Reid
<b>Tuesday</b>		
12.05	Ceilidh Band - L10	Mrs Stephenson
12.35	Library - All Yrs - U1	Mrs Ramsay
12.35	Creative Club Yrs 5 and 6 - L9	Mrs Blake-Darcy
12.05 - 12.35	Puzzle club All Yrs - Sudoku, work search , Osbourne puzzle books, Aquila magazine and any you might want to bring! - L3	Mrs Clarke
12.35 - 13.05	Games club Yrs 7 and 8 - L5	Mr Norris
<b>Wednesday</b>		
12.35	Library - All Yrs - U1	Mrs Ramsay
12.35	Friendship Club Y6 - L6	Mrs Liddle
12.05	Needle/stitching work Y5 - Learning how to do different stitches to complete a project - L1	Mrs Pound
12.05	Football Club Yrs 5 and 6	Mr McKee



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## Clubs Timetable

*Spring 2022*

Time	Club & Room	Staff
<b>Thursday</b>		
12.05 - 12.35	<b>Homework club/quiet space for reading or working, All Yrs- L8</b>	Miss Bell/Mrs Hamer
12.20 - 1.05	<b>Open-door for quiet time, finishing off work and general drawing, All Yrs- L9</b>	Mrs Walker-Thomas
12.30 - 1.05	<b>Weather and Climate Club Y7 - L1</b>	Dr. Batchelder & Mr Swinney in Lab
12.35	<b>Library - All Yrs - U1</b>	Mrs Ramsay
12.35 - 13.05	<b>Games Club Yrs - 5 and 6 - L5</b>	Mr Norris
15.05 - 15.30	<b>Boys Choir - Yrs 7 and 8 - U2</b>	Mr Reed
<b>Friday</b>		
12.35	<b>Library - All Yrs - U1</b>	Mrs Ramsay
12.05 - 12.35	<b>Computer Club Y5 (initially) - U3</b>	Mr Johnston
12.35 - 13.05	<b>Chess Club - All Yrs - L5</b>	Mr Norris/Mr Swinney





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## Important Dates Spring 2022

Date	Event	Aimed at
15/03/22	Second Trip Payments Due	All
22/03/22	Virtual Parent's Evening	All
30/03/22	Virtual Parent's Evening	All
04/04/22	Face to Face Parent's Evening	All
07/04/22	School Closes for Easter Holiday	All
08/04/22	Additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - School Closed	All
25/04/22	School Opens for Summer Term	All

### Parents Evenings

Information regarding parents evenings will be sent to parents soon.

Please keep an eye out for any letters or emails.

