

# B.O.T.B.

Bring. On. The. Books.

Find out what is  
happening in our School  
Library Community  
April 2020

**Dear Library Friends,**

Well, I've had a busy month...in the garden... It has never looked so good. Whilst painting endless panels of fence trellis I have listened to birdsong instead of traffic. One evening I was lucky enough to watch a hedgehog amble across our lawn. I have also enjoyed listening to audio books selected by Radio 4 and can recommend **American Dirt** by Jeanine Cummins and **The Mirror & The Light** by Hilary Mantel.

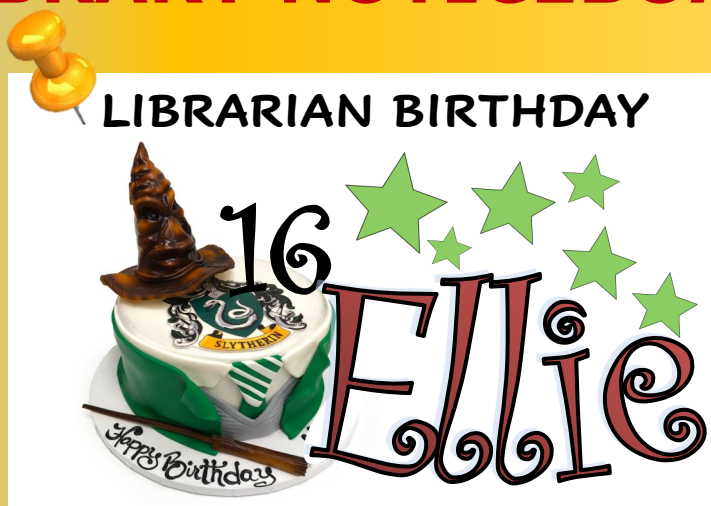
I've Zoomed, Messaged, Facetimed and telephoned. In fact, I've probably spoken to more friends and family than I normally would. The change in weather towards the end of the month sent me back indoors to begin a family recipe book and a couple of art projects.

I hope you are all keeping busy whilst following the social distancing rules and of course, regularly washing your hands.

With best wishes.

Mrs Brett 

## LIBRARY NOTICEBOARD



## This month's Gallery...



**Appeal..**

**We need more photos for next month's edition please!**

**Keep your children entertained at home**

#BookTrustHomeTime



**Waterstones' Children's Laureate, Cressida Cowell**, has launched a digital hub with reading charity **BookTrust** to keep children busy while schools are closed.

**BookTrust Home Time** contains free books, videos, games, recipes, competitions, quizzes and live drawalongs. Cowell will be

hosting videos from our shed and additional contributors include illustrator Ed Vere and the Irish Children's Laureate **Sarah Crossan**.

Families will also be able to follow the content on social media by using **#BookTrustHomeTime** with content from children's reading organisations by following **#Unitedbybooks**.



## HOW to keep yourself occupied!

These are some of the ideas I have come across. If you are using any online resources you think others would find useful, please let me know [jackie.brett@corbetschool.net](mailto:jackie.brett@corbetschool.net)



**WE SHALL MEET IN THE  
PLACE WHERE THERE  
IS NO DARKNESS.**

GEORGE ORWELL,  
NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR

### THE ORWELL YOUTH PRIZE 2020

Enter your creative response (editorial, essay, short story, blog post, poem or play) to this year's theme 'The Future We Want'.

<https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-youth-prize/>

<https://www.wizardingworld.com/collections/harry-potter-at-home>

**Harry Potter**  
AT HOME

### Bringing Hogwarts to You

Welcome to the Harry Potter At Home hub where you'll find all the latest magical treats to keep you occupied - including special contributions from Bloomsbury and Scholastic, nifty magical craft videos (teach your friends how to draw a Niffler!), fun articles, quizzes, puzzles and plenty more for first-time readers, as well as those already familiar with the wizarding world. We're casting a Banishing Charm on boredom!

Thank you to the Squire Family for emailing me this poem by **Ian McMillan**. Poetry has been described as 'the quiet music of being human' and is particularly comforting when the vulnerability of humanity is exposed. Facing the inevitable pressure on the Economy as a result of lockdown, this poem reminds us what we lose each time a library is closed.

## Adult Fiction

I always loved libraries, the quiet of them,  
The smell of the plastic covers and the paper  
And the tables and the silence of them,  
The silence of them that if you listened wasn't silence,  
It was the murmur of stories held for years on shelves  
And the soft clicking of the date stamp,  
The soft clickety-clicking of the date stamp.

I used to go down to our little library on a Friday night  
In late summer, just as autumn was thinking about  
Turning up, and the light outside would be the colour  
Of an Everyman cover and the lights in the library  
Would be soft as anything, and I'd sit at a table  
And flick through a book and fall in love  
With the turning of the leaves, the turning of the leaves.

And then at seven o'clock Mrs Dove would say  
In a voice that wasn't too loud so it wouldn't  
Disturb the books "Seven o'clock please ..."  
And as I was the only one in the library's late summer rooms  
I would be the only one to stand up and close my book  
And put it back on the shelf with a sound like a kiss,  
Back on the shelf with a sound like a kiss.

And I'd go out of the library and Mrs Dove would stand  
For a moment silhouetted by the Adult Fiction,  
And then she would turn the light off and lock the door  
And go to her little car and drive off into the night  
That was slowly turning the colour of ink and I would stand  
For two minutes and then I'd walk over to the dark library  
And just stand in front of the dark library.

**Ian McMillan**



Please everyone, stay safe, follow social distancing rules and wash your hands every two hours.



# Emily's Animal Column



Hello it's Emily and welcome back to Emily's Animal Column!

This month's article is about the animal I'm saving up for... frogs!!! The collective noun for a group of frogs is an army. Currently there are around 4,810 species of frogs but our scientists are finding more all the time.

Frogs (like us) can breathe through their nostrils but can also absorb air through their skin, they do not drink water but absorb it through their skin as well. You can tell if a frog is dehydrated if its skin is quite dry. Frogs lay eggs called frogspawn which eventually hatch into tadpoles, after that they slowly evolve into frogs. They actually catch prey with their tongues; instead of the tongue being attached to the back of their throat it's attached to the front which makes it easier to stretch it out. Frogs eat things like crickets (dead and alive), mealworms, nightcrawlers and redworms. There are some types of frogs which humans can touch with their bare hands (as sometime the oils on our hands burn the frog's skin) such as: Whites Tree Frog (my favourite) and the Waxy Monkey Tree Frog.



You can keep frogs as pets but the things you need are really quite expensive, and that's not even the frog! If you want to keep a frog as a pet you will need: A terrarium big enough so that your frog can jump around easily, a terrarium cabinet, a canopy, a reptile lamp, a natural light lamp, an adhesive heat mat, a thermostat, terrarium combination lock, digital thermostat and a digital hygrometer. All of that at the very least will cost over £400 and that is depending on how big you want the terrarium to be. The frogs normally cost around £50 to £200 depending on which one you buy.

I hope you enjoyed this article and make sure to look out for next months issue on sharks.

**Byee!**



Many thanks to three of our Library Friends (2019 Year 11 Leavers) for this article and for sharing their early sixth form experience with us. Mrs B



## Sixth Form Life

The first few months at College for three Sixth Formers  
by Eloise Quinn-Lock, Laura Walford and Zak Smith.

Hello everyone, we hope you are managing to stay safe and occupied during recent events. The world is a little bizarre at the moment but the Pandemic will pass and a lot of you will be thinking about what happens after The Corbet. We are three ex-pupils who left in 2019 and began Sixth form last September. This article will give you a truthful insight from people who have experienced sixth form life first-hand.

To start off with, Sixth Form will either be great and you will really enjoy the new independence, or you will find it a little strange at first. This is not necessarily a bad thing though. A lot of people may tell you that Sixth form is completely different to school and in our opinion that is wrong. It is certainly a different environment, but there are a lot of similarities too. For example, you still have teachers who check you are doing work, setting homework/assignments and helping you if you get stuck on particular areas of the courses you are studying. Like school, you also have regular breaks and lunch. At our college (and some may be different), you still have a tutor session except this only happens once a week. The similarities make the transition period a little easier.

Some differences are that you are expected to take a greater responsibility when it comes to completing your work; your grades and performance are up to you. If you do not complete homework or work hard in lessons this can be reflected in the grades you receive back. Similarly, your experience at Sixth Form is up to you; you will get out what you put in. Not everyone would agree with this but do not work too hard! You are only human. Take time out to have fun with your friends and make the most of your independence. When you find a good balance between work and free time then you will do fine.

### Message from Eloise

Hi everyone, hope you are all managing to stay safe and optimistic during this tricky time. Corbet gave me the great start I needed before going on to Sixth Form and now I'm really enjoying being a Sixth Form student at Shrewsbury. I study Law, English Combined and Sociology and it's great to be able to focus on a few subjects that I find interesting and enjoy completing work for. College is challenging at times, but it's a great opportunity to learn in a different way and be able to have time for other commitments in your life like part-time work, volunteering or clubs outside college. Best wishes for the future I hope you enjoy Sixth form or wherever you choose to go after you finish at Corbet. Have a great summer, stay safe and good luck moving on to a new chapter in your lives. **Eloise**

### Message from Laura

Hi everyone, life is good, but different to Corbet! I do miss it but there are also so many good things about college, like meeting so many different people. I hope everyone's doing well! :). Good luck and make the most of life. **Laura**

### Message from Zak

Hi peeps! Know life is really stressful at the moment and the thought of leaving school and going to further education can add further anxiety. I really hate change and so moving to college was a really daunting experience but as soon as I got there I felt welcomed by all the 'mint' people. Please, do not be nervous, just be yourself and it will be a piece of cake. Life is there to enjoy so make the most of everyday at sixth form college and you'll be bound to have a good time. Now stay safe, STAY INDOORS and I'll see you on the other side. **Zak**

# READING Recommendations

## BOOKS REVIEWED BY THE SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION SPRING 2020

### KS3 Fiction

A Sea of Stories by Sylvia Bishop (for reluctant readers)

Tiger Heart by Penny Chrimes (fantasy)

### KS3 Non-Fiction

Wildlives by Ben Lerwill

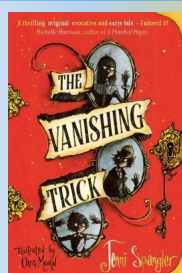
### KS4 Fiction

Deeplight by Frances Hardinge (fantasy)

The Boy In The Black Suit by Jason Reynolds (Teen)

### KS4 Non-Fiction

Adventures on Earth by Simon Tyler



## WATERSTONES : MAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended for Years 7 and 8, Jenni Spangler's fantasy novel is 'steeped in an evocative gothic aura' and features a manipulative medium and a gang of resourceful orphan children. Described as 'utterly absorbing' and enhanced by 'delightfully creepy artwork' by Chris Mould, *The Vanishing Trick* is 'an unqualified triumph of darkly magical fun'.

## What are you reading?



**Corbet Staff, if you would like to join our Zoom meetings please email [jackie.brett@corbetschool.net](mailto:jackie.brett@corbetschool.net)**

### Books we have enjoyed reading during lockdown include:

Flawed and Perfect by Cecelia Ahern

Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman

The Robin : A Biography by Stephen Moss

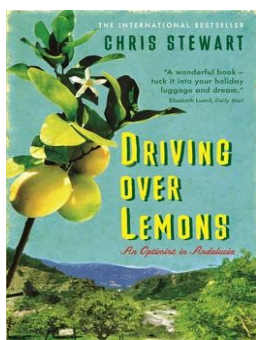
Wolf Hall (trilogy) by Hilary Mantel

The Familiars by Stacey Halls

Finbar's Hotel by Dermot Bolger

The Six Loves of Billy Binns by Richard Lumsden

His Dark Materials trilogy by Philip Pullman



### We are just starting to read...

#### Driving Over Lemons by Chris Stewart

Aged seventeen, Chris Stewart retired as the drummer of Genesis and launched a career as a sheep-shearer and travel writer. He has no regrets about this. Had he become a big-time rock star he might never have moved with his wife Ana to a remote mountain farm in Andalucia.

## In April, Mrs Brett read...

**Watchers Last Stop by Peter Lerangis.** This one was destined for the charity shop (last borrowed in 2002) but it is little gem; Dystopia from a totally different angle and really well written. I am thinking of buying a new copy for our shelves.

**The Secret Runners of New York by Matthew Reilly.** The last young adult book I gave up on (after several attempts) was 'The Knife of Never Letting Go' the first book in the highly acclaimed **Chaos Walking** trilogy by Patrick Ness. Reilly's book is firmly in this category but others may like.

**Moonlocket by Peter Bunzl.** The second book in the **Cogheart Adventure** series. A thoroughly enjoyable Victorian Steampunk fantasy. Pity the third one in the series was loaned out on 14th January and has yet to be returned to our Library...

**The Boy in the Smoke by Maureen Johnson.** This is a 2104 World Book Day £1 book with very tiny print. A cracking read, highly recommended to those who like fantasy adventure with teenage angst!

**Where The River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari.** I am really trying to like this book because I admire this author. It has become a chore to pick up...

**Malamander by Thomas Taylor.** I really enjoyed this quirky fantasy adventure; recommended for those who have enjoyed the '13 Treasures' and the 'Cogheart' series.

**Never Look Back and Hope by Lesley Pearse.** Definitely for the adults, especially those who like Catherine Cookson.

**Flood Child by Emily Diamond.** Imagine England in 2216. Mostly underwater and technology lost, throw in reavers (pirate families), a fight for power, a kidnap and a seacat; a bizarre adventure.

**Wolf Spring Chronicles : Unleashed by Nancy Holder and Debbie Viguie.** I have thoroughly enjoyed reading this werewolf fantasy and need to buy the rest of the series.

**The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Bedder.** A brilliant reinvention of Alice in Wonderland. My favourite lockdown read so far.

**What are you reading at the moment? What book would you like to recommend to our reading community?**

**All contributions for our next edition, please email [jackie.brett@corbetschool.net](mailto:jackie.brett@corbetschool.net)**

