



THE CORBET SCHOOL

INSPIRE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

The Corbet News

December 2023



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Dr J Tinker
Headteacher



As I am sat writing this, I am in a bit of disbelief that we have finally reached the end of what has been a very long term. I'm also feeling quite proud of myself that for the first time since 2019 my Christmas cards have been sent before Christmas, last year they went out early in the New Year! I'm now sat pondering what it is that I have forgotten to do that made time for the Christmas cards..... I hope that your preparations are going well and that you are looking forward to a relaxing time whatever it is that you are doing over the next couple of weeks.

The newsletter is full of the wonderful things that have taken place in our Corbet School community over the last term, it as been punctuated with many joyful moments, Grease and the Carol Concert being two of the most memorable (we hadn't managed to perform in the church since 2018 so this was a real achievement). Our act of Remembrance was also beautiful, demonstrating what a respectful and thoughtful community we are. As always, we have been outward looking, making fantastic contributions to the Shoebox Appeal and the Shrewsbury Food Bank.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the Astronomy GCSE visit to see Helen Sharman and I wonder whether Science Club have inspired any future forensic scientists? Year 9 have been busy writing to their French Pen Pals and the Maths' Young Leaders led a very successful day with the Year 6 from our feeder primary schools. It was lovely to see Year 11 2023 for their Presentation Evening and finding out all about how they had been getting on and celebrating their fantastic successes with them. Thank you and well done to Dylan and Aaron as winners of the Christmas Card Competition, to Max for his successes competing with British Cycling Academy and Jonas competing in the British Schoolboy Championships riding his Ktm 250f bike.

I would also like to wish every success and to say thank you to Mrs Wildblood, Miss Ryan, Ms Davies and Mrs Evans as they move on into their new roles in 2024.

Finally, I send my very best wishes to you and your families, wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes
Jane Tinker
Headteacher

Helen Scarisbrick

Chair of Governors



You will have noticed a change in name here. The school has adopted the 2021 Articles of Association replacing the Articles adopted in 2011 when the Corbet became an Academy. This means that the Governing Body has become a Board of Trustees. Their role remains the same, but structure has changed.

As always this has been a long and very busy term. Back in September we welcomed many new faces to the Corbet community and the Board congratulated Dr Tinker and her whole team on another set of impressive exam results. It now seems difficult to realise that at the end of November our current year eleven sat their mock exams in preparedness for the 2024 exam cycle.

In October we look forward to a school production and this year was exceptional. The trustees would like to congratulate Mr. Evans and his team for their spectacular performance of Grease and pay tribute to the hard work and effort that goes into such an endeavour from staff and children alike. The Carol Service at the end of term showcased the huge range of talent at the Corbet. It was enjoyed by performers and families alike. The Performing Arts Department has excelled this term.

Mr. Steve Parry is leaving the Board of Trustees as his four-year term of office has come to an end. Steve has willingly given his time and experience to the Corbet, serving as Chair of the Curriculum Committee and as a member of two others. Mr. Alan Taylor has also stepped down. Alan has also contributed to the discussion on three committees over his two years of service. Both will be missed. I should like to thank them for their commitment and wish them well.

I should like to welcome Mrs. Kayleigh Griffiths, Mrs. Kelly Brookes and Mrs. Louise Selman who have recently joined the Board and thank them for their willingness to support the school in this manner.

Lastly may I thank members of staff who will be missed next term: Mrs. Patricia Wildblood, Miss Loti Ryan, Mrs. Katie Evans and Ms. Jordain Davies. All have given their time and expertise and contributed to the ongoing success of Corbet children.

May I wish the whole Corbet Community, staff, pupils and families, a Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year.

If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Helen Scarisbrick
please email the Clerk to the Governors,
ClerktoTrustee@corbetschool.net

Unscheduled School Closure Arrangements

We make every effort to keep the school open but our primary concern has to be the safety of our staff and pupils. As a rural school with a large catchment area we consider many factors including site safety, transport and staffing. We publish the following arrangements to follow in the event of a school closure. We ask you to **please keep this section in a safe place for future reference.**

The school will make the following announcements via the school website; the alerts will display one of the following messages:

- School Open
- We are consulting on any possible school closure and will advise you as soon as possible
- School closed
- You are advised to tune into any local radio station; they will announce any school closures
- If the school is closing, we shall send a text message and an email to alert parents via the schools messaging system.
- Please do not attempt to contact the school to make individual arrangements with your child. We will need to access the phone lines to contact transport providers, staff and other essential service providers.
- **Please note** - All pupils who travel on school transport will be expected to return home on school transport.
- If necessary, transport will be dispatched early and you will notified by text message and email.
- Parents can refer to school closures on Shropshire Council website Shropshire.gov.uk/school-closures/secondary-schools
- If there is more widespread severe weather, Shropshire Council Authority will activate a **Helpline** for parents. (When operating, the helpline number will be given out by the Radio Stations)

Pupils travelling by school bus should wait at their usual collection point for 30 minutes after the usual pick-up time. If the bus does not arrive, please return home. This is normal practice during pick-up time if the bus is delayed.

All parents/carers are asked to make appropriate arrangements for their child in case of an unscheduled school closure during the working day. Please make sure your child is aware of these arrangement's and have completed Page 1 of their pupil handbook.

Please can parents ensure the school has up to date contact details, preferably a mobile number (for texts) and an email address, which can be updated by the Parent Lite App.

Lost Property

Part of the transition to Secondary School is to encourage independence, therefore students are asked to name all clothing as this helps getting lost items back to them.

Students are to check lost property and follow their own footsteps to locate any items which they have mislaid.

Contacting Us

We have a number of different contact methods please use the following to take you direct to each department. Using these direct numbers and emails address's means we can deal with your enquiry more effectively.

Reception

01939 260296

admin@corbetschool.net

Pupil Absence

01939 262004

absence@corbetschool.net

Finance which includes Parent Pay

01939 262008

finance@corbetschool.net

IT

01939 262005

CorbetITsupport@corbetschool.net

Student Support

studentsupport@corbetschool.net

Lettings

If you are considering the hire of the facilities please be aware of the guidance in the attached documents.

- [***After-school clubs community activities and tuition safeguarding provider guidance***](#)
- [***Keeping children safe during clubs tuition and activities – provider leaflet***](#)

Enquiries can be made on the attached form: <https://forms.office.com/e/MwjR02QwNU>

Corbet Clothes

Welcome to Corbet's second-hand uniform shop

To reduce waste, recycle old uniforms, and increase the affordability of school wear, we have set up 'Corbet Clothes'; giving families the opportunity to donate unused or unwanted uniforms.

The initiative was launched by ex-student, Anna Fairley, and her great work is continued by volunteers from the current student body.



Corbet Clothes



All the items available through Corbet Clothes will be free of charge

To make an order please complete the following form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/bV290xb2Rn>

Donations

We are in need of P.E. kit donations

Donations can be dropped off at reception during 8am-5pm.

Parking

Please be considerate when parking on neighbouring residential areas. Please avoid blocking driveways or parking too close to junctions

The Committee of Baschurch Village Hall has asked that if anyone is parking on their car park can they please stop doing this.

They have explained that the car park is there for those who hire/use the hall.

SIMS Parent App Lite

To ensure our records are up to date and as accurate as possible please log into your account and confirm all your details are correct.

If they are not, please update this information as soon as possible. This includes any medical conditions your child may have.

www.sims-parent.co.uk

[Parent App Registration Guide for Parents Oct 2023.docx](#)

EAL

As the newly appointed Coordinator for EAL (English as an Additional Language), I would like to formally introduce myself. My name is Miss Kate Williams and I have been a teacher of French and Spanish at The Corbet School for the past 10 years before taking on this position.

Working with these children this term has been a joy, and I am grateful to them for sharing their time, perspective, and stories with me, even if it is the case, I do not need to support them further at the moment.

I am here to support you as a family if needed. I can offer information and support with EAL related queries, ensuring communication from school is accessible and translated where required, providing access and support for homework and exams, understanding reports and feedback, and contacting local support and community groups to name just a few examples.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Careers & Work Experience

Year 10 - It is great to see so many of our Year 10 pupils already finding placements and securing them onto Unifrog. This is a great opportunity if you haven't done so already to communicate with employers about work experience which is taking place on the 8th July 2024 – 12th July 2024.

Year 11- Mock Exam results have now been released, please start considering “where next” and get your college applications in early to secure your chosen college.

Japanese

I started learning Japanese at the start of year 6. I think I was first interested in it because of Pokemon cards and I thought it would be really cool to be able to read the words on the cards! We found a Japanese tutor in Shrewsbury - an amazing Japanese lady called Takako and I have always really enjoyed my lessons with her.

At first, I started learning the alphabets - Japanese uses three different alphabets with over 50,000 different characters. Luckily for GCSE Japanese, you don't need to know all of them! After about 4 years, I was offered the chance to take the GCSE in Japanese which has a written paper, a listening exam, a speaking exam and finally a reading exam. I got my results in August and was delighted to gain a grade 7.

It was a lot of work - I had weekly lessons during term time and then had to do some practicing on my own, but I am glad I did it. I am taking a break for a year to focus on the rest of my GCSEs but hope to come back to it next year and work towards an international qualification called JLPT.

Owen Clift-Moore 11R

School Production - Grease

This year's school production was the famous Grease. After many months of work, it all came together in spectacular fashion on the nights of the 9th, 10th and 11th of November. The young cast really rose to the challenge and the characterisations and songs were excellent. All the pupils involved really gave their all in a wonderful three nights of musical entertainment, which was very well attended.

Mr. Evans and Mrs. Bunn would once again like to extend their thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make it a truly memorable performance.



School Production - Grease



School Production - Grease



Christmas Tree

We would like to thank Leaton Forest for supplying The Corbet School with this year's Christmas Tree.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

A big thank you to all who supported this year's shoebox appeal. Over 40 shoeboxes were sent off with the Teasm4U charity where they will be distributed to vulnerable people in Eastern Europe.



Science Department News

Astronomy



Science Department News

Forensic Science at Science Club

The fascination of forensic science took centre stage in the first Autumn half term, as the Science Club delved into an enthralling exploration of investigative techniques. With a record 15 enthusiastic participants, the club embarked on a captivating journey into the world of crime-solving, unravelling mysteries through a series of engaging experiments and analyses.

From the outset, the club members embraced the challenge with unwavering curiosity. Each session was an immersive experience, featuring a diverse array of activities designed to emulate real-life forensic procedures. Chromatography sessions revealed the pen used by the suspects while fingerprinting exercises allowed participants to decipher unique patterns and markings.

The microscopic world of fibres became a fascinating terrain under the microscope lens, as students examined and identified various fabrics and hair, honing their observation skills to distinguish minute details. Flame tests ignited excitement as chemicals revealed their distinctive hues, prompting eager discussions and deductions about which suspect was found next to which white powder.

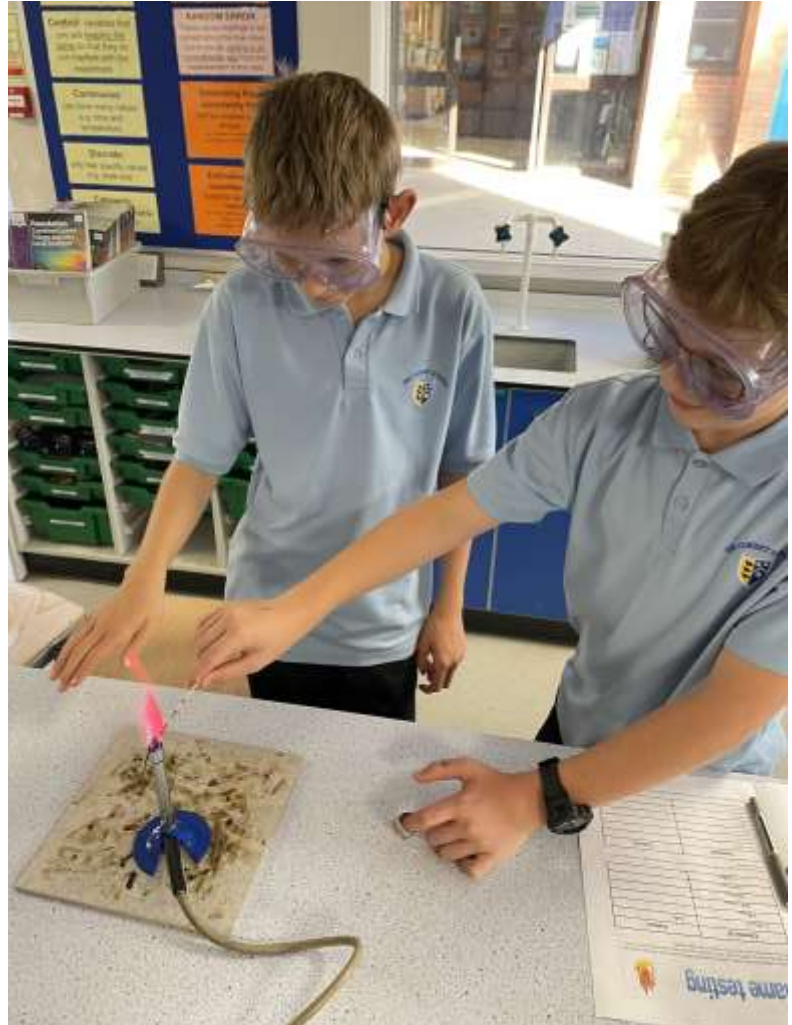
The pinnacle of the project was the profiling of suspects, where students employed their newfound knowledge and skills to analyse evidence. Guided by their understanding of the scientific methods acquired throughout the term, they pieced together clues, honed their deductive reasoning, and ultimately made informed conclusions about the 'suspects'.

Witnessing the club members' enthusiasm and commitment was a testament to their eagerness to explore the realms of science beyond the classroom. The project not only nurtured their scientific acumen but also fostered teamwork, critical thinking, and an appreciation for the meticulous work behind solving mysteries.

As the term concluded, the Science Club members left with a deeper understanding of forensic science and its application in real-world scenarios. Their enthusiasm and dedication have set a high standard for future explorations within the club, inspiring others to embrace the wonders of scientific inquiry.

Science Department News

Forensic Science at Science Club



Remembrance

Tutor groups created their own wreaths for our remembrance assemblies.

Pictured below are the Year 7 Form ambassadors



Christmas Card Competition

Pictured are the two joint winners of the 2023 Christmas Card competition.

Congratulations to Dylan Rees and Aaron Strongitharm.



MFL Matters

Open Evening

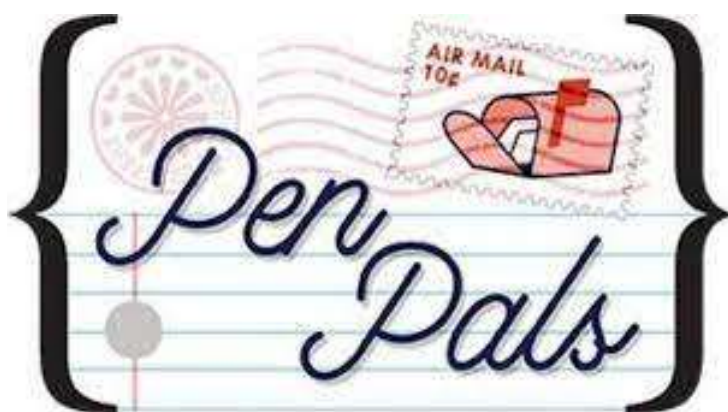
The Modern Foreign Languages Department were delighted to welcome so many visitors into our classrooms on open evening. With a wide range of activities and plenty of Corbet pupils to chat to, we were proud to showcase the work we do in French and Spanish at The Corbet School. Thank you to everyone that attended for making the evening such a success.

Congratulations to Grainne and Ray Triccas winners of the parent's quiz who received a £25 voucher for La Lanterna restaurant in Shrewsbury.

French Penpal Club

For the second year in a row, a small group of pupils from year 9 French classes have kept in touch with their French pen pals in the Jura region of France. Their correspondence has ranged from exchanging handwritten letters, to recording short videos, sending emails and even recording voice notes.

The club, which takes place twice a half term, has been an excellent source of enrichment for pupils on both sides of the channel in terms of language and cultural awareness. We have had a lot of fun putting the content together each time and look forward to continuing for the rest of the year.



MFL Matters

GHCQ Competition

In November three teams of year 9 pupils took part in the GCHQ National Language competition.

The National Language Competition is a virtual competition where teams from schools around the UK compete against each other to solve language-based puzzles and score points.

With the NLC, GCHQ aims to inspire language learning by encouraging students to discover their aptitude for learning languages.

It was a privilege to run this competition with the Corbet pupils each lunchtime between 6th and 10th November and although our teams ranked around 1000th place in the UK, their hard work and dedication was exemplary, not to mention it was great fun too!



Carol Concert

This years carol service has been an absolute success. We had some wonderful performances from multiple of very talented students and staff. These performances include the three different choirs, staff choir, The Corbet School Band, a variety of soloists and both the schools rock bands Royal Blue and Radioactive.

This evening was very much enjoyed by all the people that attended and was a very successful night.

Thank you to all those that came and supported the event especially the CFA for providing refreshments and Rev. Cox for hosting us at All Saints Church.

By Imogen Ward



Carol Concert



Maths Young Leaders

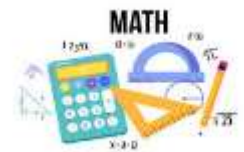
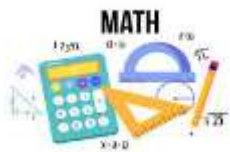
Congratulations to all the year 9 Maths Young Leaders who have passed the course this year. We had a lovely morning on the 7th December when year six students from our feeder primary schools joined us and took part on 4 different maths activities. They completed a maths escape room, solved where the home alone boobie traps were, played maths snowball games and created symmetrical snowflakes. Our young leaders did a great job of leading the sessions and fun was had by all.

Last Thursday the year sixes came up for a maths day where we planned some activities including true or false, snowball games and picture drawings. They all had a great Christmas time and lots of fun!

Hannah, Y9 young leader

The year sixes enjoyed the activities and they listened clearly and followed instructions well. They had an educational day filled with fun.

Emily, Y9 young leader



Maths Young Leaders



Presentation Evening

Award	Prize Winner Name
Mathematics	Amy Brough
Science : Trilogy (Higher)	Sophie Tate
Science : ELC	Mia Gascon-Thomas
Science: Biology	Lucas Castile
Science : Chemistry	Sophie Weir
Science : Physics	Joshua Jones
ART	Maisy-Rose Lanyon
DT : Hospitality & Catering	Alex Mountford
Engineering	Connor Carter
Performing Arts : Music	Violet Williams
Geography	Imogen Berry
History	Benjamin Carr
Creative Imedia	Sophie Owen
MFL: French	Isla Macpherson
PE : GCSE	Amelia Brien
Senior Student Librarian	Ameilia Brien
	Amy Brough
Best Results	Amy Brough
Best Progress	Maisy-Rose Lanyon
Endeavour Award	Elisabeth Bevan
Gill Bamford Award	Violet Williams
Anna Lumby	Blossom Burton

Presentation Evening



Winner of The Gill
Bamford Award
2023 for
Performing Arts:
Violet Williams

Winner of The
Anna Lumby
Award 2023:
Blossom Burton





SEASONS GREETINGS FROM MRS BRETT & OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY TEAM

The first four months of the new Academic Year have flown by. Our Library 'footfall' is definitely back to pre-Lockdown levels and there is real enthusiasm for books and reading. September saw Year 7 Library Inductions (great fun) and the launch of three reading groups ('The Jammie Dodgers' meeting during morning registrations). It is lovely to see pupils forming and consolidating friendships through a shared love of reading. We have already purchased several books from our 'wish list' inspired by our Jammie Dodgers' recommendations and after Christmas we will be starting Group Reading Journals to give all Library borrowers easy access to our recommendations. It is fascinating to see more pupils than ever reading graphic novels, whilst the trending Genre is Crime. See below (in order), the top ten most borrowed books during 2023.



In October we celebrated Halloween (thanks to **Willow and Lowri**) with our horror books display and 'Boo-tiful Pumpkins' competition. We had some very original entries, especially from Year 7s. It came as no surprise that 'Frozen Charlotte' by Alex Bell was our Jammie Dodgers' Book of the month.



In November, 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo was our nominated Book of the month to complement our Library's Remembrance Display. Instead of a Christmas fund raiser, we hosted a hectic three-day Book Fair where **Willow and Harry** excelled in sales under pressure! Thanks to parents, carers and pupils for your generosity. Commission from sales has instantly stocked our Library shelves with these new books and we have an additional £77 sitting in our Account as we consider how best to spend it!



This month, sadly, I am still chasing the return of many overdue Library books as well as payment of our standard £3 fee for each lost or badly damaged book. In view of the rising cost of books, it is very disappointing to see the number of pupils who are 'not bothering' to look after or return their Library books, especially when we have other pupils waiting to borrow. I am hoping that, over the Christmas holidays, long forgotten Library books will be 'unearthed' and returned.

To finish on a positive note, a 'shout out' here for my fantastic Library Team (15 'qualified' and 20 trainees) who have put away a staggering 2,415 books since the beginning of September. **Here, our three Year 11 Librarians deserve a special mention. It is heart warming to see Morgan, Lucy and Erin still actively involved in our Library family, chatting with team members and helping our younger trainees.**



One Student Librarian, **Amy Cooke**, has had a stellar 2023, excelling in Mathematics (Junior Kangaroo Challenge), Languages (GCHQ Challenge), Science (Faraday Competition) as well as shooting (competing for our School, Scouts and not to mention the British Open). In her spare time(!) as well as sailing, lifeguard training and reading, she has joined the Air Cadets. Amy is a fantastic Deputy Librarian; she has put away hundreds of Library books and is on track to beat the Library returns record (1,821) set by Rowan Hall way back in 2017. Who says 'Librarians are boring'?!!!!

HAPPY READING!



Mrs Brett



Sports News

UEC European Downhill Championships

Max Eddon competed in the UEC European Downhill Championships U17's in Les Menuires, France in August.

This event include a load of 'firsts' for Max as he has never ridden outside the UK before.

He attended with the British Cycling Academy team and came 30th out of 88 riders.

Max is hoping to be eligible to compete in the World Series next year once he's 16.

Well done Max.



Sports News

Jonas Brown finished 2nd overall in the British school boy championships riding his Ktm 250f.

2024 sees Jonas moving up to the adult ranks riding the Mx2 expert class. He attended Bristol football stadium in November for the prize giving where he received his trophy and £1000 of riding gear.



Useful Links for Families

Useful Links to Resources for Families:

'Worrying About Money?'

<https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire>

Shropshire Larder -

<https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/>

Shropshire Council Cost of Living webpage

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/>

Information about Free School Meals

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/>

Shropshire Family Information Service

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/parents-and-carers/shropshire-family-information-service-0-19-years/>

The Shropshire Council Cost of Living webpage includes links and advice for specific money worries, including :

- Cost Of Transport
- Debt and borrowing
- Rent or Mortgage Help
- Help with Energy Bills
- Help with water rates
- Financial help for people with disabilities
- Help with pensions

You could be eligible for grant-funded energy efficiency works at home – please don't miss this opportunity to cut down your energy bills.

Sustainable Warmth Shropshire – an initiative run by Shropshire Council – has secured more funding to carry out improvements on Shropshire resident's homes.

If you are in receipt of any of the following, you will automatically qualify:

Universal Credit
Free School Meals
Child Tax Credits
Child Benefit (*income thresholds apply*)

For more information and to apply, please visit our website at www.shropshire.gov.uk/sws.

If you require additional help with your application, please contact our free and impartial energy advice service, Keep Shropshire Warm on 0800 112 3743.

Corbet Alumni

Staying connected with The Corbet School

Corbet school wants to keep in touch with students after they leave school.

The Corbet School has been a big part of your life, but even once you have left, the school can still provide opportunities to learn new skills and maybe get the job you want. If you stay in touch perhaps you can coach one of the sports teams, help set up community events, hear about career opportunities or maybe help set up a school reunion.

Think about where you want to be in five years time and about the things you plan to do, would not it be great to come back and talk to Corbet students about all the amazing things you have achieved. It will help them see what's possible and how they can achieve it too.

So why not sign up to the Corbet's network today and we will keep you connected with the school after you leave. You will receive emails to keep you in the know.

Follow the Corbet Alumni Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCorbetSchoolAlumni>

Email

alumni@corbetschool.net

If you are still unsure and would like more information, please pop in to see Miss Kear (Office situated in the Maths block).

Shropshire Family Information Service

The Shropshire Family Information Service provides free information, advice and support on any aspect of family life to parents and carers of young people aged 0-19. This includes:

- Childcare
- Things to do and places to go
- Family Support
- Money Matters
- Behaviour
- Divorce and separation
- Housing
- Parenting
- Disabilities and special needs
- Domestic abuse.
- Healthy eating
- Staying safe

There are times in every parent's life when they feel they need some information or help to support them in their role as parents. Further information is available from: www.shropshirefamily.co.uk



School Uniform



Term Dates 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Tuesday 5th September - Thursday 21st December 2023

Christmas Holidays: Friday 22nd December 2023 - Friday 5th January 2024

SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 9th January - Friday 22nd March 2024

Half Term: Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024

Easter Holiday: Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April 2024

*Professional Development Days:

Monday 8th January 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 8th April - Friday 19th July 2024

May Day: Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term: Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024

End of Term: Friday 19th July 2024

ALL DATES INCLUSIVE

* School closed for pupils



The Corbet School
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Baschurch
Shrewsbury
Shropshire

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Web: www.corbetschool.net
Facebook: www.facebook.co.uk/CorbetSchool
Instagram: instagram.com/corbetschool