

CBA STUDENTS & THEIR FUTURE...

IN PRESS

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EXCITING TIMES AT ACADEMY

In this edition we share news about our latest Curriculum Day, visits from award winning authors, the latest successes of our Young Enterprise companies and the triumphs of our sports stars

SKI TRIP 2015

Dozens of students take to the Austrian ski slopes during our annual Ski Trip

SUCCESS FOR MATHEMATICIANS

Students win more than 40 medals in national competition

HARRY POTTER NIGHT IS MAGICAL



Corby Business Academy

Brooke Weston
Trust



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I AM ALSO AWARE THAT WE NOW NEED TO START OUR FINAL PUSH TOWARDS THE SUMMER EXAMINATION PERIOD.

It has been another busy and exciting term for the students at the Business Academy and as always students have had the opportunity for involvement in a number of activities. Many trips have taken place including a Year 12 Geography / Travel and Tourism visit to Norfolk and another successful ski trip to Austria. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Arnold for his hard work in organising and growing the popularity of the ski trips over the past few years.

Our students continue to celebrate success in a number of areas: Year 12 student Josh Champion ranked in the top 25% of 3,000 students who entered the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust's Senior Kangaroo competition; Year 7 student Karis Haughton-Brown won a Judo silver for CBA in the Midlands 2015 National British Schools

Championship; Year 12 students Alex Lawless, Andreas Milan and Harry Tomkins won places on Oxford University's Shadowing Scheme and Josh Wilkins won a place on Cambridge University's Shadowing Scheme.

Our Year 11 students are starting to celebrate some early successes in their examination work with Textiles students having created a variety of products including dresses, skirts, children's dresses, dog coats and children's play mats for their GCSE coursework. Our Year 11 GCSE Business Studies students have collected the results from a customer satisfaction survey they produced for Charles Barry Barbers, with the barbers using the survey to further enhance their offering. We have entertained a variety of visitors to the Academy this term including hosting the 1st Inaugural Harry Potter event for 60 students (and

staff) from CBA, BW and CTS, and working with Allan Stratton, the award winning Canadian author and playwright.

As I write this Principal's letter I look out of my window on a glorious day and am reminded that the summer is just around the corner. Whilst I look forward to the lighter nights and warmer days, I am also aware that we now need to start our final push towards the summer examination period. I look forward to challenges that the next few months will bring and I am sure you will join me in wishing all those students the best of luck with their summer examinations. //

John Henrys Principal



AWARD WINNING AUTHOR COMES TO CBA

An award-winning Canadian author and playwright chose to visit CBA during a flying visit to the UK.

Allan Stratton received international acclaim for his novel, Chand's Secrets, and has recently released his latest work, The Dogs.

Our students read an advance copy of the book for their last Summer Reading Challenge and their feedback was used by the publishers.

Mr Stratton visited us during a three day visit to the UK in February to promote his new book to the media.

CBA Librarian Amy McKay said: "Allan wanted to meet our students and came to see us during his first day in the country.

"We were honoured that he chose to come here during such a short visit.

"Our students loved Allan's new book and the visit was

particularly important for our Year 11 students because they are studying Chand's Secrets for their GCSE and they got to ask him questions about the book.

"He also did a reading from his new book and spoke to about 60 of our younger students who are keen library users and a small group of students from Brooke Weston.

"He spoke about his career in general and what it is like to be a writer.

"The students asked insightful questions and we presented him with a special cake to celebrate his new book being released.

"Allan has been a writer for many years and he told us that of all the school visits he had done this one was the most special for him."

SILVER MEDAL FOR JUDO CHAMPION

A young judo champion won Silver for Corby Business Academy in the Midlands 2015 National British Schools Championship.

Year 7 student Karis Haughton-Brown took part in the competition in Nottingham in January.

Her result also qualified her to take part in the national competition.

Karis, 11, said: "It was one of the biggest competitions that

I have taken part in and it was very tough.

"I was really happy to win Silver.

"I've always enjoyed sports, especially Judo.

"I am a Yellow Belt at the moment but I want to go further. I'd really like to be a Judo instructor when I'm older."

Karis has been studying Judo for two years and trains twice a week with Kettering Premier Judo Club.



Judo Silver medal winner Karis Haughton-Brown

BID TO CREATE HEALTHIER LUNCH BOXES

A competition has been running this term to encourage our students to bring healthy lunch boxes to school.

The initiative was launched by the Friends of CBA and follows on from the Academy's Restaurant Team winning the Healthy Eating Workplace of the Year - Health & Education award in the Carlsberg UK Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards 2014-15.

The Friends of CBA hope the competition will help parents, carers, students and staff to

come up with a variety of new ideas for nutritious and exciting lunches for students who bring their own food to school.

Vice Principal Ruth Hurcombe said: "This is an exciting new competition and the winner will receive a £30 Amazon voucher.

"The best recipes will be published on the Academy website for parents and students to use."

The entries will be judged by CBA Restaurant Manager Chris Lapsley and representatives from the Friends of CBA.

All entries have to be submitted to CLapsley@corbybusinessacademy.org or to restaurant staff by Friday 27th March.

For more information about ideas for healthy packed lunches visit www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Pages/healthy-lunchbox-picnic.aspx and www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/parents/schoolfood/packedlunches



SKI TRIP BROADENS STUDENTS' HORIZONS

More than 40 students took part in Corby Business Academy's popular annual ski trip to Austria this year.

We visited the Oberlungau area of Austria for the first time with a group of 42 students, ranging from Year 8 students to Sixth Formers, during the February holiday.

Ski Trip Co-ordinator Dan Arnold said: "It's amazing how many students attend the ski trip year after year. They love it and once they have taken part they want to keep coming back.

"It's been lovely for me to see students improve over the past six years. They go from not being able to put a ski boot on when they start to skiing down the slopes.

"Taking part in the ski trip widens the students' horizons and gives them the chance to see more of the world. Some of the students had never left England before and without school trips like this it might be difficult for them to do so.

"This trip gives them confidence and helps them build their determination. Skiing isn't easy and it takes determination just to learn the basics."

Mr Arnold paid tribute to the students for their excellent behaviour and thanked his fellow staff members, Phil Woolley, Joseph Jordon, Maxine Hopewell and Sarah Dankmeyer, who also took part in the trip.

Year 12 student Erica Turner took part in the trip for the fifth year in a row. She said: "I've definitely improved over the years. I found I could ski quicker down the slopes this year than I have done in the past.

"This year's trip was very good and I made a lot of new friends in other year groups, particularly Year 11."

During the trip the students also took part in a variety of other activities, including swimming, bowling and curling.

Letters about next year's ski trip will be made available soon.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES TEAM GOES GLOBAL

Our Modern Foreign Languages team has gone global this year thanks to the introduction of two assistants.

The department already has staff from Belgium and Spain and this year it has benefited from the addition of a Spanish Assistant from Mexico and a French Assistant from France. Spanish Assistant Claudia Tapia Villa is from the border town of Nogales in Mexico. She came to Corby thanks to a sponsorship programme run by the Mexican Government.

She said: "In Mexico I teach English to primary school pupils. I wanted to come here to learn about the culture so I can share my experiences with my students and inspire them.

"I've been helping students here with their spelling, conversation and speaking skills, assisting Miss Martinez Ribeiro with classes and helping students during Session 4 to prepare for the forthcoming Spelling Bee and Translation Bee. I'm used to working with younger pupils but I've enjoyed working with an older age group. Older students can express themselves better and they ask more questions. They also seem interested in learning more about my Mexican culture.

"Some of the students have already visited Mexico on holiday and others have expressed an interest

in going there when they are older. Everyone is so nice here and the staff have been very helpful."

French Assistant Alexandra Estebe is from Toulouse in the south of France and began teaching in her homeland last year.

She said: "I've always wanted to come to England and improve my English. It has been interesting for me to see that although the education systems are different in different countries the students are very similar. The people here are lovely and I'm enjoying being here and performing bass guitar with the Academy's Big Band."

CBA Modern Foreign Languages Director Karen Turney has also lived and worked all over the world in places such as France, the Netherlands and Oman in the Middle East.

She said: "The staff we have here show students that learning languages can open up so many doors for you and enable you to work all over the world.

"Claudia and Alexandra have shared information about their cultures with us and the students are interested in them as people.

"They have also been helping our students to prepare for major competitions and exams."

Both assistants will return home at the end of May.



French Assistant Alexandra Estebe

Spanish Assistant Claudia Tapia Villa

MEDAL SUCCESS FOR MATHEMATICIANS

More than 40 students have brought home medals from the first round of a national mathematics competition.

Eight of our students won Gold, 12 won Silver and 24 won Bronze in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust's Intermediate Maths Challenge which is open to students in Years 9 to 11 across England and Wales.

Our students recorded such high results that seven of them have also made it through to the next stage of the competition - known as the Pink Kangaroo.

CBA Assistant Director of Mathematics Maxwell Sam said: "This is the first time we have had this many students make it through to the next level of the competition. Last year three students made it through so this result is a massive improvement.

The number of certificates awarded to our students has also increased tremendously. I would like to congratulate all our students who took part and to thank all our staff who have been very supportive and have helped to raise our school's reputation for mathematics even further.

"I would also like to say a special thank you to Senior Assistant Principal Andrea Callender for making it possible for our students

to take part in the competition. We are now looking forward to the Junior Maths Challenge."

Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates are only presented to the top 40% of entrants from across the country. The students who made it through to the Pink Kangaroo are Benjamin Campbell, Keelan Robertson, Kyle English, Owen Robinson, Kelsey Fordyce, Matthew Ford and Tarun Diwan.

GCSE STUDENTS CREATE SURVEY FOR BUSINESS OWNER

A thriving chain of salons has further enhanced its business with help from our students. Caroline Mann, who owns Charles Barry Barbers in Corby and The Barbers of Uppingham, worked with a group of Year 11 students earlier this year as part of their GCSE Business Studies course.

Mrs Mann gave the students an insight into successful customer service and with her input they created a customer satisfaction survey which she has circulated among her customers.

The findings of the survey revealed 100 per cent of customers would recommend the salons and 96 per cent rated them good or outstanding.

Mrs Mann said: "It was a pleasure to visit the Academy and I found all the students to be very pleasant.

"As a result of the survey we are working on our website. I found this project to be an

interesting challenge and it made me think about my business in more depth."

Business Teacher Alex Allan said: "Every year our students are required to investigate local businesses and we would like to say a huge thank you to Caroline for allowing our students to study her company.

"She was a great help to our students and helped to bring business to life for them."

Any businesses which would like to be involved in future projects with our GCSE Business Studies students should email AAllan@corbybusinessacademy.org



Business owner Caroline Mann with CBA Business Teacher Alexandra Allan and a selection of our GCSE Business Studies students

SENIOR STAFF FROM MAJOR FIRM WILL MENTOR OUR STUDENTS

Staff from a major company have agreed to mentor more than 30 of our students. RS Components joined forces with Corby Business Academy this term to launch a new mentoring scheme for our Sixth Formers.

In total 32 Year 12 students have secured a place on the scheme which will enable them to access expert advice in a range of areas, including marketing, customer services, sales, finance, IT, human resources, legal, company secretarial and product and supplier management.

CBA Business Teacher Alex Allan said: "We received an overwhelming response from Sixth Formers who wanted to join the mentoring programme.

"This is such an exciting opportunity for them and it gives them access to key businessmen and women who can offer them support and guidance.

"All the staff who have volunteered to take part in this initiative are senior people at the company and we would like to say a big thank you to RS Components for opening its doors to our students. This initiative will give our students an important insight into the world of work and show them how the theory side of their courses is put into practice."

The students will be responsible for maintaining their relationships with their mentors and will help to organise regular meetings with them.

RS Components is a leading distributor of electronic, electrical and industrial components.



Year 11 student Sam Willson

SAM BOOSTS PROM FUND

A teenager has raised more than £300 for our Year 11 Prom by shaving his legs.

Prom Committee member Sam Willson, 16, took part in the sponsored leg shave last month.

He said: "I didn't know what to expect beforehand. It really hurt but it was worth it to raise the money because we want to have a great prom."

"I didn't really expect to raise so much money. I'm very grateful to all the teachers and students who sponsored me."

The Year 11 student has taken the Prom Committee's fundraising total to about £500.

The money will be spent on a variety of things for the Prom including decorations.



Josh Champion



Polina Kurotskina, Stacey Stratford, Matthew Croyden, Lauren Shirlaw and Sophie Malone took part in the online debate

READERS EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH ESTONIAN STUDENTS

A group of our avid readers took part in an international book club meeting over the internet.

Our Library was approached by the Library at Tallinn University in Estonia to ask our students to take part in a book club meeting with secondary school students there via Skype. Both groups of students read an extract of John Donne's metaphysical poetry called No Man Is An Island and prepared a presentation of their analysis of it

and the themes it raised for them. They then took part in a discussion about the text via Skype.

CBA Librarian Amy McKay said: "The students had different interpretations of some of the words because they were approaching the text from different languages but it was interesting to see the themes that the students highlighted were quite similar.

"I think the students were surprised by how much they had in common. Experiences like this open our students' eyes to the rest of the world."

The session was attended by a group of our Year 9 and Year 11 students. English Teacher William McCormick worked with our students on their analysis of the text.

Sixth Former James Shannon working with Year 7 students Sarah Scarborough and Tia Collins



Year 12 students Chloe Taylor and Charlotte Green with a group of Year 7 and 8 students



MENTORING SCHEME HELPS YOUNG MATHEMATICIANS

A mentoring scheme is helping our younger students to feel more confident about mathematics. A team of Sixth Form mathematicians has been meeting with a number of our Year 7 and 8 students twice a week during Tutor Time to give them extra mathematics tutoring.

The Year 12 students work with the younger students on a range of numeracy topics and tailor the sessions to reflect the needs of each individual.

Teacher Yvonne Gyadu said: "This scheme is all about helping our younger students to feel more confident about mathematics.

"Our younger students have told us they are finding the sessions very helpful and we can see it is having a positive impact on the way they are performing in lessons too. Our Sixth Formers are good role models for the younger students."

Year 12 student Erica Turner is one of the mentors. She said: "Some of the students don't feel as confident about mathematics as they should do and I want to help them.

"The scheme is working well and some of the younger students have even taken the opportunity to ask me questions when they see me around school. This scheme has helped them feel more confident about their skills and has helped them to build friendships with Sixth Formers too."



Josh Wilkins



Harry Tomkins



Alex Lawless

SIXTH FORMERS TAKE PART IN TOP UNIVERSITY SHADOWING SCHEMES

Four of our students have completed university shadowing schemes designed to show Sixth Formers what life is like at Oxford and Cambridge. Year 12 students Alex Lawless and Andreas Milan visited Oxford before Christmas, Josh Wilkins visited Cambridge in January and Harry Tomkins visited Oxford last month.

Josh beat off competition from 1,600 other Sixth Formers to secure one of 400 places on the Cambridge scheme and Alex, Andreas and Harry won three of the 150 places available to school students nationwide at Oxford.

Harry, 16, who is currently studying Physics,

Mathematics, Chemistry and Geography, visited the Physics department, sat in on lectures and took part in workshops.

He said: "I shadowed an undergraduate student in the morning who showed me around the Physics Department and various laboratories and took me to see a group of First Year students doing practical work.

"I also sat in on a lecture, toured a college and looked at its accommodation. Finally I attended a workshop designed to dispel some of the myths about applying to Oxford and spoke to undergraduates about their experiences. Taking part in the visit

made me see that studying at Oxford is an obtainable goal."

Harry hopes to study Physics or Radiography at university.

Sixth Form Tutor Felicity Cornish put the students forward for the schemes. She said: "It was fantastic for our students to be able to experience lectures at Oxford and Cambridge and to find out what life is like at the universities."

Alex would like to study English at university and Josh, who is currently studying Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and History, would like to study Physics at university.

SHOP OF TREASURES BACKS OUR STUDENTS

A self-styled "little shop of treasures" has begun selling products created by one of our Young Enterprise companies.

Sophie's Attic in High Street, Weldon, was launched in June by artists Sue Still and Helen Clarke who wanted to create an outlet where creative people could sell their products.

They were so impressed with Happy Hands UK's products that they are now stocking the students' cake stands, adults' and children's aprons, chalk boards, photograph frames, bracelets and their teacup range of pincushions, candles and bird feeders.

Sue Still said: "We are pleased to be working with such an enthusiastic group and their products have been greatly admired by many of our customers. We thoroughly enjoyed their visit to our shop recently and their feedback on items in our shop was lovely.

"We are happy to be supporting such a great business idea and introducing the group to another outlet for their items. We are also learning new skills from the group including a few pieces of sign language."

Teacher Nikki Clark said: "What was really nice was we were approached by Sophie's Attic.

"A friend of theirs had bought some of Happy Hands UK's products at a trade fair and she

showed them to Sue who was so impressed that she asked us if we would be involved with her shop."

Happy Hands UK Managing Director Zoey Skelton toured the shop with the rest of the company.

She said: "I enjoyed looking around the shop and seeing what they had done with our products. It was very exciting."

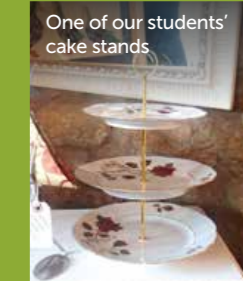
Fellow Sixth Former, Elle Smith, who helps to handles promotions for Happy Hands UK, added: "Sue and Helen were very nice and I enjoyed looking around the shop at their products."

The other members of Happy Hands UK are fellow Sixth Formers, Elsie Davis who is Finance Manager and Paul Blamire who also handles promotions. This term the Sixth Formers have been joined by Year 11 students Ronan Kelly, who is Production Manager, and Chloe Critchley who has taken on the role of HR Manager.

Miss Clark added: "We wanted Ronan and Chloe to join the company because it will help them to prepare for their transition into the Sixth Form. They are both doing well in their new roles."



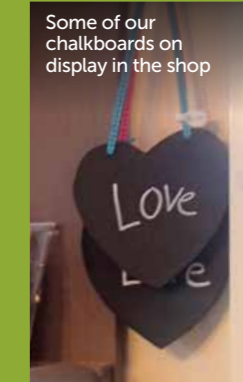
Sophie's Attic owners Sue Still and Helen Clarke with our students



One of our students' cake stands



Our tea cup candles and tea cup pincushions



Some of our chalkboards on display in the shop



One of our aprons

TRIP ENRICHES SIXTH FORMERS' STUDIES

A group of Sixth Formers hope to receive top grades this summer after taking part in a fact-finding mission in Norfolk. A number of Geography students and a group of Travel and Tourism students visited north Norfolk in February to study the area and its coastline.

The Year 12 students were accompanied on the trip by CBA Director of Geography Maxine Hopewell.

She said: "Our Geography students investigated different fieldwork techniques in different locations and looked at the effectiveness of different management strategies along the north Norfolk coastline, cost benefit analysis and flood risk management.

"The trip was massively important to them. When we returned I went through past exam questions and the experience they gained from the trip had enabled

them to answer the past papers comfortably.

"They were all a pleasure to be with on the trip and they represented the Academy very well."

Geography student George Tebbutt said: "We looked at case studies of coastal defences in six locations and we examined things like coastal management strategy and re-branding coastal towns.

"It is easier to visualise things when you study them on location."

Travel and Tourism Teacher Peter May added: "This visit will help my students to get top grades as the practical experience of seeing subject topics will remain with them for a long time.

"They were able to see what a small seaside destination looks like and they questioned residents about their views on Cromer and how it could be improved. It was a good experience for them and for us."



Travel and Tourism students Shannon Butler and Xenia Stankovska with Geography students Jessica Sawford, Megan Tebbutt, Harry Tomkins and George Tebbutt at Cromer

BIG BAND IS PRETTY SHARP

An award winning band which was launched earlier this year is going from strength to strength.

Our new Big Band won Silver at the regional final of the National Concert Band Festival just weeks after it formed at the beginning of the academic year and is improving all the time thanks to regular rehearsals during Session 4.

The band is mainly made up of Year 9 and 10 students, most of whom are GCSE

music students, and is conducted by teacher Lucy Wass. She said: "Previously we had had a Jazz Band but that was quite small. We thought it would be fun to start up our first Big Band which could play popular music and more songs that our students would know.

"The band has done really well since it was launched. It performed incredibly well at the National Concert Band Festival and went down very well with the audience at the Academy's Christmas Concert. The students have really taken to it. They all turn up to rehearsals during Session 4 every week. None of them need chasing – they all want to be here."

The band is currently rehearsing for its performance at the Oundle Festival of Music and Drama in April.

Its repertoire will include Valerie and Happy from Despicable Me 2. The band also hopes to participate in our Academy's musical tour of Holland in July.

Miss Wass added: "We're always happy for more musicians to join us. Students need to be at Grade 2 level at least to join."

The Big Band meets after school on Wednesdays in AU6.

Below: Lucy Wass conducts our Big Band during a Session 4 rehearsal



GREAT SEASON FOR BASKETBALLERS

Our Year 7 and 8 Girls Basketball Team had a fantastic end to a brilliant season. The girls performed well during all their games and made it to the finals of their latest tournament at Lodge Park in February.

The team played Lodge Park, Montsaye and King John in the competition but were beaten in the final by Oundle and Kings Cliffe by two baskets.

CBA Basketball Coach Natasha Dunstone said: "The team improved during every single match. Not many of them had played basketball before this but they all played brilliantly, they were very enthusiastic and did very well.

"This is the second time we have run a Year 7 and 8 Girls Team and the players are keen for us to enter a Year 9 and

10 Team into competitions for the first time next year. We're also hoping to organize some friendly matches this year."

Miss Dunstone is assisted by fellow coaches James Aston and Phil Woolley.

The team included Teegan McCardie, Annie Amato, Amelia Duncan, Leah Campbell, Andela Keres, Lauren McMullen,

Bethany Hughes, Jasmine Bishop, Jasmine Sawyer, Charlotte Goode, Emily Henderson, Millie Sidwell, Milica Tovilovic, Angel Jacques, Khairat Ahmed and Kazia Carter.



DESIGN CLASSICS INFLUENCE LIGHTING PROJECT

Talented Sixth Formers are designing lighting for their AS 3-D Product Design course. Thomas Ewers, Jacek Lambach and Danielle Shields have been challenged to design and create lighting that is influenced by a design theme from the past 100 years.

Danielle has taken her inspiration from Pop Art and is creating a Lotus flower design, Jacek is creating lighting inspired by Blobism, which is characterised by curved and

organic shapes, and Thomas's work has been influenced by Cubism.

Design and Technology Teacher David Harley said: "Their design work shows the story of how they each came up with their basic concepts and developed them further to completion.

"They are all working very hard towards creating their finished products."

The project will make up 50% of their final marks.



Sixth Formers Thomas Ewers, Jacek Lambach and Danielle Shields at work on their projects

SESSION 4 PROJECT BOOSTS STUDENTS' LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS

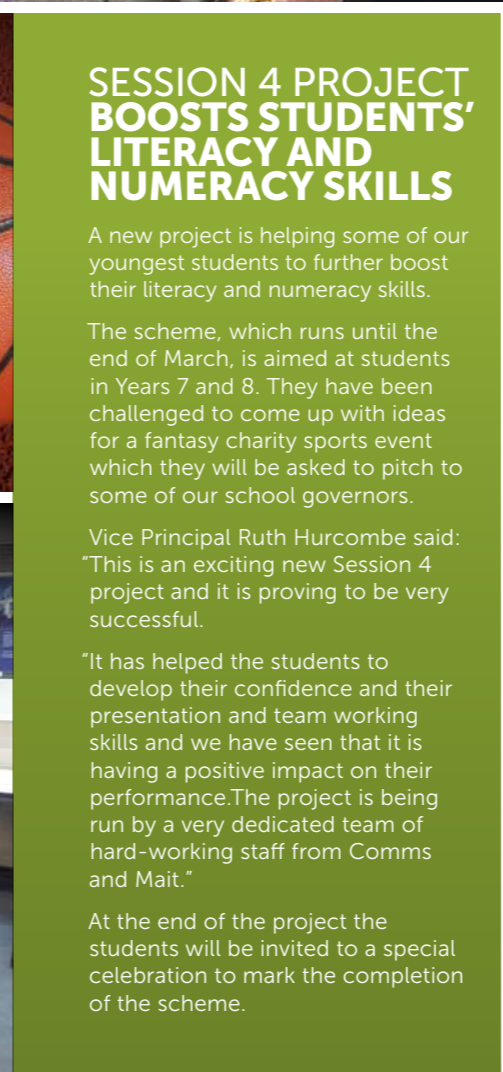
A new project is helping some of our youngest students to further boost their literacy and numeracy skills.

The scheme, which runs until the end of March, is aimed at students in Years 7 and 8. They have been challenged to come up with ideas for a fantasy charity sports event which they will be asked to pitch to some of our school governors.

Vice Principal Ruth Hurcombe said: "This is an exciting new Session 4 project and it is proving to be very successful.

"It has helped the students to develop their confidence and their presentation and team working skills and we have seen that it is having a positive impact on their performance. The project is being run by a very dedicated team of hard-working staff from Comms and Mait."

At the end of the project the students will be invited to a special celebration to mark the completion of the scheme.



STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CAREERS IN AGRICULTURE

More than 20 students are learning vital skills which could help them secure careers in agriculture.

A group of students from Years 9, 10 and 11 are working towards their awards and certificates in Level 1 Land Based Studies, Estate Skills, Horse Care and Agriculture thanks to the Academy's links with Moulton College.

The students take part in sessions at Moulton College every week and have completed a variety of challenges, including herding sheep, building pens, supervised tractor driving and animal care.

Corby Business Academy Teacher Caren Brown said: "The course provides a great opportunity for our students.

'On top of the new skills they have acquired they have also learned to be independent and the course is helping them to make choices about what they want to do post-16.'

Other activities include cooking, leading horses through obstacles and caring for newborn lambs.

Our younger students will receive awards once they have completed their six month course and our older students will receive certificates at the end of their two year course.



Year 10 student Ben Freer at Moulton College

TEXTILES PROJECT YIELDS FANTASTIC RESULTS

Textiles Teacher Abbie Parsons said: "The controlled assessment gives the students the chance to show off the skills they have learned which is vital as textiles is a practical subject."

"Each of the students had the chance to pick a design brief which suited their style from a choice of 12. They did all the design work for their pieces last year and began their practical work in Term 1."

"I am very impressed with our students. They are keen and volunteered to come in over the holidays to work on their projects. They have come up with some very creative ideas and have taken advantage of the great facilities we have at the Academy. This has allowed them to push their Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing skills which are essential to have in the textiles industry."

The remaining 40% of their final mark will come from their GCSE exam which will test their knowledge of textiles and their understanding of issues relating to the industry.

Our talented GCSE textiles students hope to impress examiners with their wide variety of exciting products.

The Year 11 students have been hard at work designing and creating a range of items, including dog coats, children's playmats and colourful dresses.

The students have produced the creations for their controlled assessment which is worth 60% of their final GCSE mark.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME IS WELL UNDER WAY

More than 60 students are striving ahead with their Duke of Edinburgh Award schemes.

In total 45 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 are working on their Bronze Award and 16 students from Year 12 are hard at work on their Silver Award.

The majority of students are well under way with the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections of the challenge which they need to complete in order to be successful.

CBA Active Teacher Natasha Dunstone is co-ordinating the Awards at our Academy.

She said: "We have students who are learning computer programming, cooking, textiles and new musical instruments for their Skills sections. We've also got students who are volunteering for charities and libraries and lots of students who are working as coaches."

"We've got exciting things to look forward to next term, including an overnight stay at Grendon to help the students prepare for the Expedition which they must complete to get their Awards. The visit to Grendon will give them the chance to practise skills they will need such as map reading, putting up tents and learning to cook on a stove. They will also take part in team building activities to enhance their communication skills."

"Throughout Term 5 we will also run sessions to reinforce what the students have learned at Grendon. The Awards scheme has proved to be very popular and the students are working very hard."

Our Bronze Award students will also take part in a practice expedition in Rutland and a practice expedition will be arranged for our Silver Award students.

The practice expeditions will be followed by the final Expedition during which the students will be assessed. At the end of the year students in Year 9 will be given the opportunity to sign up for the next Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme programme so they can begin working on it during the summer holidays.

The Awards scheme is also benefiting several staff at our Academy who have been receiving training so they can be recognised as Duke of Edinburgh supervisors and assessors.



Karla Downs, 15, exhibits the dress she made



Abby Reilly, 16, with the dress she created



Natasha Clements, 15, shows off the dog coat she designed



Samantha Loveday, 15, displays the child's dress she has produced



Edward Boaden and Joe Shirlaw enjoying Harry Potter Book Night



Treats for Harry Potter Night



Potions ingredients



Chloe Earl and Abby Moynagh read their copies of First News

HARRY POTTER NIGHT WAS MAGICAL

Our Library was magically transformed into Hogwarts for the inaugural Harry Potter Book Night.

About 60 students from CBA, Brooke Weston and Corby Technical School, including Harry Potter, Hermione Granger and Draco Malfoy, entered the magical world through our Library doors that had been dressed to look like Platform 9 ¾.

Once inside they had to take a test to prove they were not Muggles before they could

take part in a series of tasks, including Care of Magical Creatures, Transfiguration and Potions Class.

Librarian Amy McKay said: "This was by far one of the best events we have ever done. It was amazing."

"The event was organized by our Assistant Librarian Christina Mangin and she did a fantastic job. The level of detail was incredible and made it a very special event. Harry Potter Book Night has brought the books to life for a new generation. It was wonderful to see staff and students from all three schools having fun together."

The night was so popular that students had to apply for tickets because places were limited. When the students arrived they were split into different houses and took part in a series of tasks.

During the Care of Magical Creatures session the students were challenged to

find Hagrid's missing creatures which were hidden around the Library and work out a hidden quotation from one of the books.

During the Transfiguration task they had to decipher blurred pictures. In the Potions Class each house had to choose six ingredients, such as Griffin Claw, Bats' Eyes and Unicorn Blood, to make up a potion.

The night also featured a Great Feast during which students could sample a variety of treats, including Cauldron Cakes, Butterbeer, Herbology Bites and Harry Potter inspired sweets.

There were also prizes for the Best Wizard and the Best Fancy Dress and students were presented with copies of the First News newspapers, wanted posters and identity cards.

Our party was one of 10,000 events which were held across the world to celebrate the inaugural Harry Potter Night organized by Bloomsbury Children's Books on February 5th.



Representatives from *inscentive* and *Tea Time Aromas* receive their awards at the RS Components Trade Fair

COMPANIES PICK UP TOP AWARDS

Our Young Enterprise companies have won a large collection of awards so far this year.

Tea Time Aromas, which sells sophisticated reed diffusers, won two awards for Best Trade Stand at the Northampton Trade Fair and the Wellingborough Trade Fair and the Best Sales and Marketing award at the Stamford Trade Fair.

The company and another of our Young Enterprise companies called *inscentive* also swept the board at the RS Components Trade Fair where they won the Bernie Howell Trophy for Best Trade Stand and the Frank Maguire Shield for Best Sales and Marketing respectively.

CBA Young Enterprise Link Teacher Alex Allan said: "I have been incredibly impressed with the way our students have performed at the trade fairs they have attended."

"The students are very professional and I am very pleased with them."

Both companies are made up of Year 12 students.

CURRICULUM DAY FEBRUARY 2015

Hundreds of students took part in a variety of challenging activities designed to develop their business skills and prepare them for life after CBA during our latest Curriculum Day. The stories here give you a taste of some of the projects they were involved in during the event.

BUSINESS LEADERS HELP STUDENTS IMPROVE THEIR INTERVIEW SKILLS

Business leaders gave up their time to carry out mock interviews with 70 Year 12 students.

The interviewers included RS Components Inventory Liaison Team Manager Sarah Wilkin.

She said: "This initiative helped the students to appreciate their skills and translate them into something useful for the adult world."

Fellow interviewer, RS Components Global Content Editor for Cable Accessories

Juliet Rogers, added: "The interviews were a success. The students were polite and a credit to the school."

Sixth Former Daniel Bottrill said: "This was my first interview situation and the feedback was very useful."

The interviews were conducted by employees from RS Components, independent retail consultant Bridget Watts and Building Services Design head of communication and human resources Amanda McCormick.



Our students taking part in the mock interview process

TASKS DEVELOP STUDENTS' BUSINESS SKILLS

Our older students took part in tasks and sessions designed to boost their business skills.

Our Year 9 students produced plans for a housing project run by Young Enterprise called Developer For A Day.

Year 10 students took part in a CV workshop and external experts ran sessions called Maximise for Year 10 and 11 students which provided tips on how to improve memory and motivational techniques.

About 80 Year 10 and 11 students attended external work placements, students worked on video CVs and Year 11 art students took part in a workshop at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Year 9 students Joshua Scott, Tay O'Neill, Kurtis Read and James Bragg with their Developer for a Day plans

Year 9 students attend a lecture by Young Enterprise's Robin Neighbour on Developer For a Day



ACTIVITIES CHALLENGE OUR YOUNGEST STUDENTS

Year 7 and 8 students took part in projects to develop their enterprise skills.

In the Greenbull Challenge students made soapbox go-karts from recycled materials.

There were 1960s inspired sessions which included dancing, fashion, a cookery project that culminated in a party and the chance to create pictures inspired by artist Victor Vasarely.

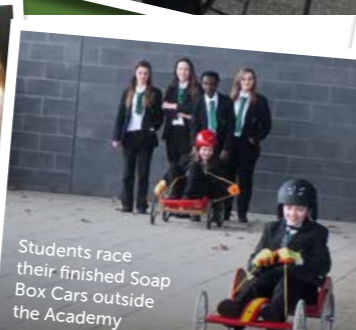
Students took part in dodgeball, a dizzy challenge, an obstacle course, a coconut shy challenge, a tug-of-war and a treasure hunt for the Wipeout project.

In the Tales of the Unexplained initiative students learned about Jack the Ripper and witchfinders, cracked codes, took part in scientific experiments and looked at story writing.

In The Future project students learned about science fiction, created alien planets and life forms and produced and edited music for a science fiction film.



Students get to work on creating their Soap Box Car



Students race their finished Soap Box Cars outside the Academy



Young cooks prepare for the 1960s feast



Students enjoy their 1960s themed party and some of the treats on offer



Students work on their 1960s pictures



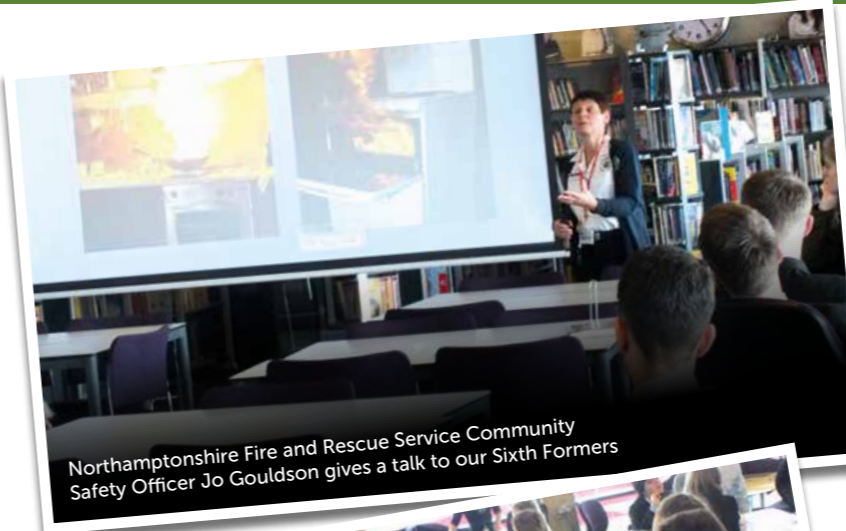
Scientists recreate exciting experiments



Students edit a piece of science fiction themed music



Students run like the wind in Dodgeball



Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Safety Officer Jo Gouldson gives a talk to our Sixth Formers



Sixth Formers play the Funployment board game

SESSIONS PREPARE OLDER STUDENTS FOR LIFE AWAY FROM HOME

Informative sessions were arranged for our Sixth Formers to help them get ready for life after CBA.

The sessions looked at time management, finance and how students could make the most of their university life, keep themselves safe away from home and promote their skills.

Students worked in teams to build up their CVs with the skills required to gain a graduate job whilst playing Newcastle University's board game Funployment.

Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service community safety officer Jo Gouldson led a fire safety session and Northamptonshire Police's PCSO Alex Franklin gave a talk about road safety.

Finally, Sixth Form art students visited the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge for a workshop.

STUDENTS CREATE THEIR OWN ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

One of our Sixth Formers has created a student version of the CBA Anti-Bullying Policy.

The document has been compiled by Tyler Robertson with help from our Senate group and it begins with the statement that our Academy recognises that students and teachers have the right to feel safe and secure.

The policy also clearly sets out what types of behaviour are classed as bullying, who people can turn to for help at school and the addresses of useful websites.

Vice Principal Ruth Hurcombe said: "Students from our Senate group have prepared a new version of the Academy's anti-bullying policy.

"It has been designed so that it will be clear to students and is in language that they will be able to relate to easily."

The policy was published this term and students were made aware of it during an assembly. It will also be published on the Academy's website.

RUGBY PLAYERS VISIT TWICKENHAM

A group of our keen young rugby players visited Twickenham as part of the RFU's All Schools Rugby programme.

The students from Years 7, 8 and 9 joined other talented players from across Northamptonshire on the visit to Twickenham where they watched a varsity game between Oxford and Cambridge.

They also visited the World Rugby Museum which contains more than 25,000 pieces of memorabilia.

ACADEMY RAISES OVER £1,000 FOR GOOD CAUSES

Staff and students at our Academy raised more than £1,000 for three worthy causes.

We raised £1,053 by making donations in exchange for wearing non-uniform for one day and from the sale of cards and candy canes. The money was split between Save the Children, Children In Need and the Kettering General Hospital Fund.

Our 2014 Spelling Bee competitors Nicole Ford, Lauren McMullen and Chloe Baker



ACADEMY TO HOST MAJOR TOURNAMENT

Our Academy will host a prestigious foreign languages tournament for the fourth year in a row. We will welcome students from 44 schools from across the East Midlands to the regional final of the Foreign Language Spelling Bee.

Students will be tested on their knowledge of French, German and Spanish and

our Academy has entered teams of Year 7 students into the French and Spanish competitions.

The Spelling Bee competition will be held on Wednesday 29th April. Our Year 9 students will also compete in a Translation Bee competition for the East region in the summer.

They will take part in the French and Spanish sections of the competition and will have to translate words from English into their foreign languages in three different tenses.

STUDENT ABSENCE

A student's absence from school can be reported on the Academy's website.

On the Academy's home page at www.corbybusinessacademy.org there is a section called Report An Absence. Once parents or carers have clicked on it they will be asked to provide the student's name and year, the reason for their absence, the day of absence and their own name and contact details. Parents and carers may be contacted later in the day to confirm that the information that has been submitted to the Academy is correct.

TERM DATES

Our remaining term dates for students for 2014-15 are:

Term 4	Ends Friday 27th March 2015
Term 5	Tuesday 14th April 2015 - Friday 22nd May 2015
Term 6	Monday 1st June 2015 - Tuesday 21st July 2015
Term dates for 2015-16 are available on the Academy's website.	

LANGUAGES TEAM SHARES ITS BEST PRACTICE



Our Modern Foreign Languages team has been sharing information with our sister schools in the Brooke Weston Trust. Representatives from the Trust visited our Academy after Christmas to learn about our examples of best practice. During the visit they sat in on our lessons as part of a fact finding mission to find out how languages are taught in different schools.

PHOTO CONSENT

At CBA we like to celebrate our students' achievements and bring you the latest school news in In Press and on the Academy's website.

CBA will assume that parental/ carer consent is given regarding the publishing of your child's photograph unless you provide CBA with written instructions to the contrary which we can then acknowledge and use to update our systems.

If you wish to provide written instructions on photo consent please email: RHenderson@corbybusinessacademy.org

UP TO DATE CONTACT INFORMATION



Please inform the Academy of any change to your home address, telephone number or mobile number. This is to ensure we have the most up to date information in case of emergencies. The Academy must be informed of any changes via letter or via email to RHenderson@corbybusinessacademy.org



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PRESS

GET IN TOUCH

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of In Press. If you have any items for our next edition please email our press officer **Catherine Bontoft** at cbontoft@corbybusinessacademy.org

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