



**COWLEY**  
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Friday, 19th December 2025

MR CORMACK'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## What's On in January

7th January	Students return to Cowley
13th January	Y13 Music Performance
20th January	Y11 Progression Day
22nd January	Y9 Parents' Eve
27th January	Y9 Chemistry at Work
28th January	Y9 - Y11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
29th January	Y12 & Y13 Parents' Eve

## Principal's Award



Congratulations to the students who were part of yesterday's Principal's Award. To be nominated from a year group is a huge achievement! Very well done!

## Student Voice

Each Wednesday, the staff here take time to meet with our students to genuinely listen to their perspectives and hear what matters most to them about our school.

This week, I had the privilege of meeting with them myself, and I was incredibly proud of what I heard. The students spoke with confidence, maturity, and real insight about how the college is supporting them in reaching their aspirations. Their feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and it was clear how deeply appreciative they are of the dedication, care, and hard work shown by our staff every day.

## Y11 German Trip



Some of our Year 11 students are currently in Germany, enjoying a wonderfully festive visit to the Christmas markets. They have had a fantastic time soaking up the atmosphere, experiencing the culture, and embracing the sights, sounds, and traditions of the season.

As part of their visit, students also travelled to Dachau Concentration Camp, just outside Munich. They took part in a highly informative guided tour, learning about the camp's establishment in 1933 through to its liberation in 1945. This powerful and moving experience provided students with a deeper understanding of history and an opportunity for thoughtful reflection.

It is a pleasure to see our students representing the college so positively, while broadening their horizons through this enriching opportunity.



### Cowley Choir



The Senior Choir have had an incredibly busy and rewarding few weeks, and I could not be prouder of their commitment and generosity.

They were delighted to give a private performance for the St Helens Rotary Club, followed by performing at a Community Christmas Party, which was a truly wonderful and warmly received event.

On Sunday, the choir also took part in the Carols by Candlelight service at St Helens Parish Church, and more recently performed at the Young Carers Concert held at the United Reformed Church.

Many of you will know that the choir has been supporting this cause through performances since 2016, and through their continued dedication and generosity, they have now raised over £6,000 for Young Carers. This is a remarkable achievement and a true reflection of the values we strive to instil in our students.

### Christmas Concert



Our Christmas Concert took place at the Sixth Form on Wednesday and it was a wonderful evening showcasing dancers, singers, and bands from across all year groups. It was a fantastic night filled with talent and festive spirit. Thank you to everyone who attended to support our students.

### St Andrews Church Service

Earlier this week, Year 7 and Year 8 students visited St Andrew's Church for their annual Christmas service, a much-anticipated highlight of the school calendar.

The service featured beautiful performances by the College choir, a series of meaningful readings, and a joyful sing-along to close the event. It was a wonderful celebration that truly captured the spirit of the season.

### Extreme Reading Challenge

A reminder about the fun, and completely optional reading challenge that our literacy co-ordinator, Mrs Cunliffe has set our students for over the Christmas break. See the poster that is in this newsletter for categories and details on how to enter.





## Masked Singer



The school was full of festive spirit as we held our own version of The Masked Singer earlier today. Staff embraced the occasion by dressing up in costume, performing a range of festive tunes, and keeping everyone entertained throughout.

Despite some very questionable guesses along the way, there was plenty of laughter, and most importantly, everyone had a great time celebrating together.

## Christmas Jumper day



It was wonderful to see so many students and staff wearing their Christmas jumpers today, bringing colour, cheer, and a real sense of festive spirit to the school. Even more importantly, the day helped raise money for Willowbrook Hospice, making it a joyful occasion that also supported a very worthwhile cause.

I would like to wish everyone a safe, restful, and well-deserved Christmas break. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on 7th January, refreshed and ready for the new term.

Mr Cormack



## Attendance Prize Draw

For the last 10 school days, Mr Bennett has run a daily attendance prize draw for the chance to win a £10 Love2shop voucher. Well done to all 10 winners!



# EXTREME READ

For this reading challenge, students are invited to have a photo taken of themselves reading in the most creative, unusual, or unexpected place they can think of!

categories



**Email your photos to:**

[Theextremeread@cowleysthelens.org.uk](mailto:Theextremeread@cowleysthelens.org.uk)

**Runs: 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - 7<sup>th</sup> Jan**

COWLEY  
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

APPLY

NOW

for September 2026 entry



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