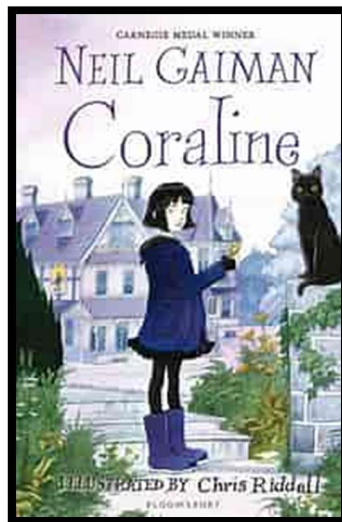**Book-** Coraline

Author- Neil Gaiman

Publication Date- 2nd July 2002

Genre- Dark fantasy, coming of age

Book Reviewed by- Aaheli Mukherjee, 8A (Session 2024-25)

Major Characters-

- Coraline Jones- Protagonist
- The other mother- Antagonist
- The other father- A tool created by the other mother
- The black cat- Coraline's accomplice
- Mr. Jones- Coraline's father
- Mrs. Jones- Coraline's mother
- Miss. Forcible and Miss. Spink- Coraline's neighbors
- Mr.Bobo- Another of Coraline's neighbours
- The ghost children- allies to Coraline

Synopsis- Neil Gaiman's 'Coraline' is a dark fantasy coming of age novella where the author talks about family and its various forms. The author draws a stark parallel between the two worlds presented in the story; the real world and the other world by mirroring all of the characters except Coraline and the black cat. The storyline follows the protagonist, Coraline, who comes across a secret door to the other world and must save herself and her family from evil forces. She is offered a permanent stay in the other world which has Coraline's ideal family but the offer comes at a rather scary price.

Thoughts- The book is indeed a must read. It has an intriguing plot and a relatable main character. There is an element of suspense and thrill to the book which keeps readers on their toes. The buttoned eyes of the characters in the 'other world' provide a creepy motif. The story of 'Coraline' teaches us the value of 'home', finding the courage within. The writing is very creative and imaginative. The book makes you feel eerie from within in both fear and anticipation for what's to come. This is what makes 'Coraline' the masterpiece that it is.