News from Cumnor School

Spring Term Number 4 *31st January 2020*

Dear Parents,

You may have noticed that we've been having trouble with the school's heating over the past week or so. It seems that one of the heating pipes under the school hall has ruptured and so the hot water isn't getting any further than there! The engineers have come to work out a solution and will start work on rectifying the problem next week. In the meantime, each classroom has at least one powerful portable heater which keep our work spaces warm, and the two outside classrooms are unaffected as they have independent gas fired heating. It's just really th e hall and the corridors which are a little chilly so we are hoping that the heating problems shouldn't impact on the staff or children's work excessively.

Maths Day

We have all had a wonderful maths day at school today exploring how maths is in everything, even stories. If you want ideas on how to develop this theme at home have a look at http://www.mathsthroughstories.org.

If you are interested generally in how we teach maths at Cumnor School, do check out the school website – School Information - Curriculum Information – Maths. You'll find the current skills progressions for each class and there's also a copy of the school's Calculation Policy which explain how we teach different elements of maths at each stage. They are both really useful documents to show you what and how we've been teaching maths to your child.

Year 5 visit to Ufton Court

Year 5 had a great day at Ufton Court last Friday. They went for a workshop on the Ancient Greeks: dressing up, finding out about Greek Culture and re-enacting the story of Helen of Troy.

School Council

The school council met with The School Lunch Company this week. They talked about their favourite meals and the food they were less keen on. One of the hotter topics for debate for our environmentally minded councillors was that of the use of beef (around 10% of harmful ozone destroying gasses come from cattle farming) and palm oil (see Henry's article in The Pupils' Eye December 2019). The School Lunch Company agreed to review their meal choices in light of these discussions in time for the Summer / Autumn menus.

Cumnor Chess Squad

Well done to our chess squad of Toby, Hazel, Joshua, Caleb, Olly and Henry who all played 2 chess matches each against St Joseph's A and B teams. They all acquitted themselves well with some very close games. Well done to all of them and especially for demonstrating some super behaviour.

Governor News
As well as looking at the monitoring which has been underway since the last meetings, we reviewed the school's calculations policy and the website. We also had a detailed look at the school budget and financial situation. We continued to look at ways to enhance the school's budget and the possibility of a school fund raiser was discussed. If you have any skills in this area and time to spare to help us with this, we'd be pleased to hear from you.

PTA Committee News:

Personalised Bags for Life: Looking for fun gift ideas for family or friends? Or just a bright and sturdy Bag for Life for your weekly shop? Our school children are preparing specially designed **Bags for Life** with their own self-portraits and names printed on them! We are creating 2 different bags: The "Infants" bag will include Reception, Year 1 & 2 portraits and the "Juniors" bag will include Year 3 – 6 portraits, each with 3 fun designs to choose from. (Macaroon, Summer or Fruit) Sample bags are on display in the school office.

This is a school fundraising activity and the bags will be just £5.50 each. Should you wish to order more than one bag, just increase your payment for the amount of bags required. You will find an order form attached to this newsletter, as well as one sent home with your child today. Please pay via https://www.scopay.com/login.html and return your order form to the office by **Friday February 14th**. Any queries, please contact Melanie Bernstein at melanie.bernstein@live.co.uk or 07773 585422. Thank you for your continued support!

Quiz Night: Our fabulous school Quiz Night is now only 1 week away on Friday February 7th from 7pm for a 7:30pm start. **As of this morning, there were only 3 tables left!** So please contact Tom tcc21uk@yahoo.co.uk OR sign- up by the school office at drop-off ASAP. The bar will be open for business, the complimentary snacks will be delicious and there'll be a variety of trivia questions to suit everyone! It's just £6 per person with a maximum of six people per team. Come as a full team / trio / pair or solo and join up with others on the night! Everyone is welcome including friends, family, work colleagues, etc. We hope to see you there!

WEEK 2 menus:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ham and Pineapple Pizza Or Bean Burger in a Roll	Spaghetti Bolognaise Or Sweet and Sour Quorn with Rice	Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding Or Vegetarian Toad-in-the-hole with Gravy	Homemade Sausage Plait with New Potatoes Or Vegetarian Pasta Bolognaise	Oven Baked Breaded Fish Fillet Or Mediterranean Vegetable Tart

What's my child been doing this week?

Reception	Making our super smoothies, adding two groups of numbers and learning our diagraph zz.
Year 1	Writing our stories of Jenny Sun, halving and doubling numbers to 20 and learning from Reverend Widdess about followers of Jesus.
Year 2	Subtracting using number lines, writing our own adventure stories and making predictions in science.
Year 3	Learning about equivalent fractions, reviewing the Iron Man by Ted Hughes and learning to format text and pictures using Google Docs.
Year 4	Putting fractions on a number line, practising spelling homophones and finding out about the building of Stonehenge.
Year 5	Multiplying fractions by whole numbers, planning our Greek myths and starting to make bird boxes in our environmental lessons.
Year 6	Reading Howard Carter's diary and writing our own diary entries; translating, reflecting and rotating shapes and creating a pyramid themed dance.

Next week:

Thursday 6th February	All Day	Year 2 visit to Winchester Science Centre
Friday 7th February	PM	Visit from the local PCSO to talk with year 5 and 6.
Friday 7th February	9.00am	Year 1 class assembly - friends and family welcome
Friday 7th February	Evening	PTA Quiz

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read
Headteacher