News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Number 9 *13th November 2020*

Dear Parents,

Thank you all so much for supporting us to make things as Covid secure at school as possible. It has been so impressive to see almost all parents wearing their face coverings, distancing from one another and arriving / leaving in a timely manor. I am really grateful. Thank you.

Parent / Teacher Meetings
I hope you found the Google Meet parent meetings useful this week. It's not an ideal way of meeting as it's harder to share with you the children's wonderful work, but I do hope you feel a little more informed now as to how your children are getting on. Although the technology worked for most parents, I know there were some cases where techno-gremlins crept in and sabotaged your meetings. If you didn't manage to meet up with the class teacher please do drop them a line or call school and we can either try again on Google Meet or your child's class teacher will phone you instead.

Christmas is coming!
This year more than ever, we want to make Christmas in school memorable for the children, and in a positive way! We have been worried that Covid-19 would scupper our Christmas plans at a time when the Christmas spirit is needed more than ever. We are therefore making huge efforts to make sure the children have the best Christmas at school ever! I will be updating you with information (and requests) over the next few weeks, but I thought you would like to know some of things planned:

- Reception / KS1 Nativity – this will go ahead with each class taking part, but we will film it, put everyone and everything together digitally and send you a link to watch it.
- Christmas Service – Similarly this will be produced and filmed by classes in their bubbles and then put together for viewing in the last few days of term.
- Christmas tree and decorations – We hope to have a tree again this year, but rather than have it in the hall we will have it outside for all to enjoy! Classes will also decorate their rooms. Usually we just decorate the hall and corridors, so will need lots of extra decorations. If, when you are getting your decorations out, you have some spare, we would be grateful for donations.
- Christmas cards – the Christmas post-box will be set up outside for children to post cards to their friends in school. Please note though that final collection will need to be earlier than usual (11th December) to allow quarantining and sorting time, so get your children writing their cards early this year!
- Christmas Jumper Day – children can wear a Christmas themed jumper on Friday 11th December.
- Christmas dinner – this will be in the last week of term and held in classes instead of the hall – staff will still make it a very special dinner with crackers etc.
- Class parties – rather than our usual cinema afternoon we hope to have class Christmas parties this year.

PTA support
As I am sure you are aware fundraising from the PTA has been significantly diminished over the last 9 months. The PTA have been wonderful in continuing to provide those extras for the children that our budget can't stretch to. Recent expenditure has included Forest School, additional Chromebooks, phonics readers for KS1, maintenance of the minibus and some new fish! This has now meant that the PTA have used up much of their reserves, and there is now very little left until we can start out fundraising efforts once again.
There are, however, still three easy ways that you could support your PTA at the moment and I would urge you to consider them:

- Use Easy Fundraising when you purchase online. If you Google 'Easy Fundraising' and then add Cumnor Primary School PTA as your chosen charity when you sign up, then the school gets at least a 1% donation from all your online purchases. Companies involved include Amazon and John Lewis.
- Make a regular donation through Direct Debit. Forms are on the website in the 'Our School' section
- Make a one off donation through Scopay. Next time you are paying for a book, visit or school dinner, consider making a donation too.

Virtual Visit from The Brothers McLeod

We are looking forward to welcoming children's authors 'The Brothers McLeod', who will be visiting Years 3, 4 and 5 on the 18th November. Just a quick reminder now that if your child would like a signed book, then you should log on to your Scopay account to order a copy of 'KNIGHT SIR LOUIS AND THE DREADFUL DAMSEL'. before Friday 20th November.

Next week's Lunch Menu:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Chicken and Sweetcorn Pizza OR Cheese and Tomato Pizza Slice Diced Herby Potatoes Sweetcorn, Peas Apple Crumble with Custard	Oven Baked Sausages OR Vegetarian Sausages Mashed Potatoes Baked Beans, Carrots Oat and Apricot Cookie	Spaghetti Bolognaise OR Macaroni Cheese Broccoli, Carrots Raspberry Cupcake	Oven Baked Beef Burger in a Roll OR Southern Style Quorn Burger in a Roll Sweetcorn, Green Beans Fruit Cheesecake	Fish Fingers and Chips OR Quorn Dippers and Chips Peas, Baked Beans Iced Fruit Smoothie

What's my child been doing this week?

Reception	Adding and taking away 1, learning about weddings and making our own bouquets in forest school.
Year 1	Making a lift the flaps castle poster, building strong castles and measuring everything!
Year 2	Learning x2 facts, writing to Mr Read about Remembrance Day and creating poppy artwork.
Year 3	Using our multiplication and division facts in maths, practising and testing spellings learned for homework this term in English, and using our history and art skills to make Saxon shields.
Year 4	Measuring in and converting units of mass, finding out about World War I and writing Remembrance poetry.
Year 5	Converting improper fractions to mixed numbers, creating 3D rainforest insects & bugs and learning how fair trade benefits cocoa farmers.
Year 6	Creating maps of Europe and learning the names and locations of European countries, developing football skills and converting fractions, decimals and percentages.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read