



News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Number 5

1st October 2021

Dear Parents,

Year 6 visit to Oxford

Our Year 6 children had a great day out in Oxford on Thursday. We were worried about the weather but the rain held off for much of the day. As well as visiting The Story Museum, they enjoyed a wonderful tour of the city looking at some of the key literary related sites. Well done to all – lots of compliments about their great behaviour and enthusiasm too!



Peripatetic Music Lessons

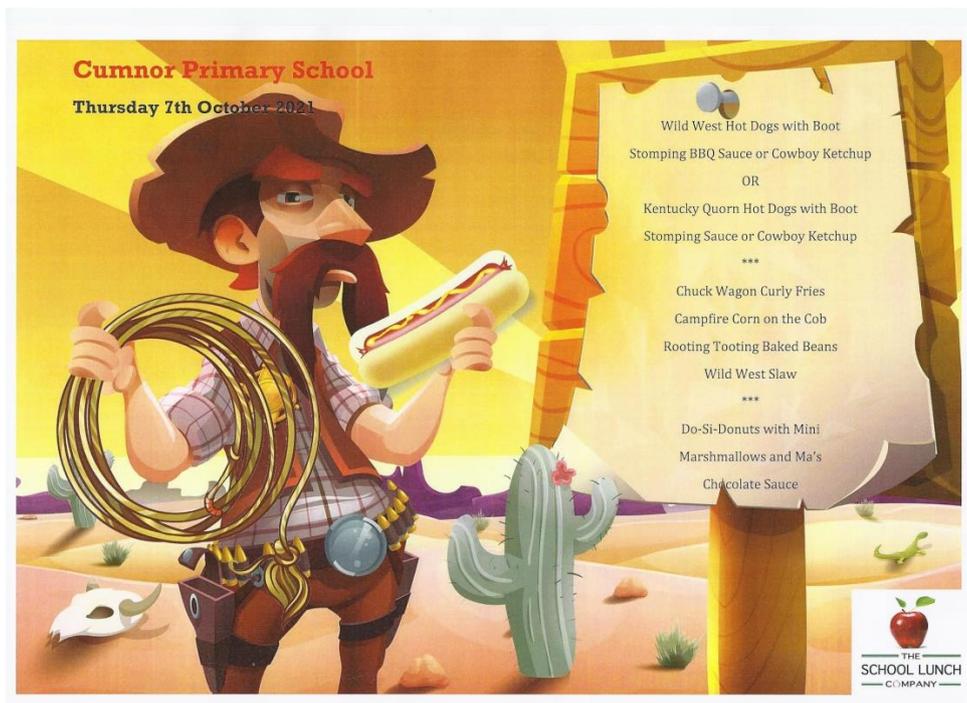
We are in the process of re-establishing extra music lessons for children who would like to learn a musical instrument individually or in small groups. We are hoping to be able to offer a range of instruments including piano, clarinet, flute, saxophone, cornet and trumpet as well as establishing small band instruments such as drums, keyboard, electric guitar or vocals through 'iRock'. We will send out full details in next week's newsletter. However, on Monday we have an assembly by Music for Schools who teach brass and woodwind instruments and there will also be a zoom meeting for parents with questions at 4.15pm on Wednesday. Follow this link to register your interest: [MFSF Information Event - Zoom – Music for Schools Foundation](#) Please also see the attached flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.

School Dinners on Thursday Next Week

School dinners for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are all funded by the government. The funding though, comes to the school and we use it to pay The School Lunch Company for the dinners. The strange thing about this system is that the funding is based purely on the number of children who have a meal on Thursday 7th October and Thursday 20th January. If, for example, only 50% of children have a meal on these days, we receive 50% of the funding, resulting in a funding loss of around £17,000.

We would, therefore, really appreciate it if you could encourage your Reception or Key Stage 1 child to have a school dinner on Thursday 7th October. Thursdays aren't always our most popular day so, as an additional incentive, The School Lunch Company are putting on a one off special 'Wild West' meal that we hope the children will enjoy. Key Stage 2 children are welcome to have the meal as well, at the usual cost of £2.45 per meal. Thank you for your support.





Covid update

Although we have one child currently absent due to Covid there are a lot of bugs and other infections around at the moment. It is really hard to ascertain if these are Covid or something else. We have had a few people contact the office this week with queries over what tests they should be taking if their child is ill:

- If your child has covid symptoms (government guidance is still sticking to high temperature, continuous new cough and loss of taste / smell) then they should **isolate and take a PCR test**.
- Other family members can also have PCR tests but if not, should take Lateral Flow tests.
- We ask that if a family member has a positive PCR test then you consider keeping the children home too (remote learning will be set).

The government guidance is as follows:

“Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result should stay at home and self-isolate immediately. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange to have a PCR test as soon as possible... People who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 can also take a PCR test, as they are at higher risk of being infected even if they do not have symptoms.... LFD tests are not as accurate as PCR tests in all circumstances, but can detect a similar number of people with high levels of coronavirus as PCR tests. They are mainly used in people who do not have symptoms of COVID-19.”

Harvest

We are pleased to be able to celebrate our Harvest Service in the church this year. In order to reduce any Covid risks though, we will be holding two services, one for Key Stage 2 and one for Reception and Key Stage 1 (We are doing this for our assemblies as well at the moment). Both services will be on Tuesday 5th October. Unfortunately, parents and family members will not be able to attend on this occasion. We will be collecting food for Oxford Homeless Pathways once again so if you are able to make a donation (see the list below of items they would really like) then please send your child in with them on Tuesday 5th October.

- Jams/other spreads
- Sugar
- Tins of Vegetables (not tomatoes or pulses)
- Tinned and Packet Puddings

- Tins of Meat
- Tins of Fruit
- Cereal
- Biscuits
- Bottled Sauces
- Coffee/Hot Chocolate
- Practical Toiletries

Year 6 Garden Club Soup Sale

After managing to grow some veg at school last year, Year 6 will be making soup using the produce from our school garden as well as other edible goodies and selling them after school on Friday 8th October. There will be a discount if you bring your own cup or mug. Please come and support them on Friday by the Year 6 classroom outside door.

West Oxford Young Singers - a brand new choir for your child

Does your child enjoy singing? Would they like to sing with children from other schools and perform in concerts? Oxfordshire County Music Service are hoping to start a brand new Young Singers choir in West Oxford. The choir will meet at West Oxford Primary School on Wednesdays from 4-5pm in term time, and be open to children in school years 3-6. We will sing a wide range of songs as well as developing the children's singing and wider musical skills. There will be regular performance opportunities, including joining together with other Music Service choirs and ensembles. The choir will be led by two experienced teachers from the County Music Service and will cost £4.50 per session. We plan to have our first practice on 15th October, and children are welcome to come for a trial session before committing. If your child would like to give the choir a try, please contact Jo Gill jo.gill@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Diary dates this term:		
Monday 4 th October	12 ish	The Womens Tour Cycling event will be passing through Cumnor and some of the classes may go along to support.
Tuesday 5 th October	9.30am	Key Stage 2 Harvest Service
Tuesday 5 th October	10.30am	Reception Key Stage 1 Harvest Service
Wednesday 6 th October	4.15pm	NEW *Music for School Zoom meeting for parents* MfSF Information Event - Zoom – Music for Schools Foundation
Thursday 7 th October	All day	National Poetry Day
Thursday 7 th October	Lunchtime	New * WILD WEST DINNER*
Thursday 7 th October	All day	New *Year 5 Living Rainforest Trip*
Friday 8 th October	3.10pm	Year 6 Soup Sale
Wednesday 13 th October	AM	Author Eamonn Reilly visiting Key Stage 1
Friday 15 th October	AM	Individual Photos in School
W/B 18 th October	After School	Parent / Teacher Meetings (virtual)
25 th – 29 th October – Half Term Break		

PTA NEWS - AGM

Thanks to Covid, we have started off another school year in an unusually quiet way, without any of the exciting events we traditionally put on for the students and their families. Keeping the health of our whole school community in mind, the PTA will not be putting on any indoor all-school events until at least 2022. There may be no disco/movie night or Christmas Fayre happening, but we will still be doing our annual **Cauliflower Cards** fundraiser and the **Big Christmas Raffle** in the lead up to Christmas, plus anything else we can think of! We sincerely hope the New Year will see us back on track with lots of PTA activities and fun to be had!

Did you know, all Cumnor Primary parents/carers and teachers are automatically members of the Cumnor Primary Parent Teacher Association? Our PTA Committee consists of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and several General Committee Members. We are all volunteers. There is one parent liaison or 'Class Rep' for each year, from Reception through Year 6. The role of a PTA Class Rep is to make sure parents in their year are aware of what PTA events are happening and what volunteer opportunities are available at those events, as well as to answer any questions about PTA-related activities. If you have any fundraising ideas for the PTA but cannot attend a PTA Committee meeting yourself, please tell your Class Rep so they can pass it on to the Committee.

The main role of our PTA is to provide opportunities for parents, staff and pupils to get together socially and have fun! In a normal year we organise and run the *School Disco, Christmas Fayre, Quiz Night, Family Bingo Night, Pre-loved Uniform Sales, Summer Fete, Raffles* and *End of Year BBQ*. We arrange things like *Cauliflower Christmas Cards* and *Bags for Life*. We put on refreshments at the *Nativity shows, Carols by Candlelight* and *Sports Day*. Phew!

The PTA also fundraises for the school so that our children can have the best and brightest time possible in and out of the classroom. Things we've funded include reading books, Chromebooks, digital class cameras, electronic whiteboards, outdoor play equipment, the KS1 climbing frame, movie days, Year 6 Leavers activities, Forest School and science equipment, fish tank upkeep, friendship benches, various visitors to school (poets, authors, musicians, puppeteers, cooks, illustrators...), Year 3 music lessons and of course, ice-lollies for all the students on Sports Day!

We need you! Please join Adrian, Amanda, Amy, Andria, Bruce, Emma, Joe, Jonathan, Lisa, Melanie, Rachel, Rosanah, Sarah, Sinead, Tara and Tiffany on the PTA Committee! Whether it's planning an event, shopping for the best burgers and sweets, gathering prizes from sponsors, setting up or taking down tables, cooking pizza to perfection, painting a sign, booking the DJ or bouncy castle, thanking sponsors, counting and taking pennies to the bank, researching new fundraising opportunities, decorating the hall, maintaining the second-hand uniform, sourcing Christmas lights, completing a risk-assessment, running a stall, collecting and ticketing items for the tombola, selling raffle tickets or... it takes a brilliant team to do it all and the PTA do need more available volunteers to keep all this going!

We would welcome new members from any year and would especially love for some Reception class and Year 1 parents to join us. Within the committee, the roles of Reception Rep, Year 4 Rep, Year 5 Rep and Treasurer are currently vacant. So, if you're thinking about joining us this year, now is the time! Please contact us at cumnorschoolpta@gmail.com to express your interest or find out more.

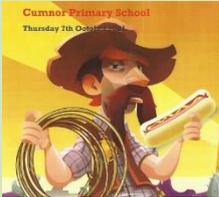
This year's **PTA AGM** will be held at school on **Tuesday October 19th 3:20pm** at the KS1 playground shelter. This is when we announce funds raised over the last year, bid farewell to leavers and vote in/welcome any new committee members. Everyone is welcome!

Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar this Saturday

Oxford Brookes will be hosting a one-hour interactive virtual session on Saturday 2 October at 11am - 12pm. This session is FREE, fun for all the family and most suitable for 5-12 years. In the session we will be exploring things to do with light presented by Bright Sparks Science and Dr Adam Bibbey lecturer in sport psychology at Oxford Brookes University. Registration for the event is required (<https://brookes.zoom.us/j/92111111111>).

Thank you very much and we hope to see you there!

School Dinners Next Week (week 2):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ham and Cheese Pizza OR Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Jacket Potato with Beef Chilli OR Jacket Potato with Cheese and Beans	Roast Chicken OR Quorn Fillet	<p>WILD WEST DINNER</p> 	Breaded Fish Fillet OR Cheese and Tomato Pinwheel

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read
Headteacher



MUSIC FOR SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION



LEARN TO PLAY!

INFORMATION EVENT

Wednesday 6th October
at 4:15pm

www.mfsf.org.uk | 0345 375 2466
Charity No. 1067859

We are an independent registered charity that provides small group lessons on Clarinet, Flute, Alto Sax, Cornet and Trumpet, and Recorder for younger children.

Our assembly in school today taught your child about how musical instruments work.

To find out how to give your child the opportunity to learn to play an instrument at school, with lessons starting from £3.75 each, just come along to our Zoom meeting!

The meeting will last for around 30 minutes and there will be time to answer any questions you might have.

Please visit
www.mfsf.org.uk/attendzoom

Enter your details and we will send you the Zoom link for the meeting or send you more information if you can't attend.

What our pupils say about learning with us:

“ It's really fun and it gets you off your phone! If you play an instrument you can get inspired by all kinds of music. It gives me something good to do and makes my family really proud. If you can't speak with words, you can speak with music. ”

We look forward to meeting you and starting your child's musical journey!