



News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Number 10

12th November 2021

Dear Parents,

Staff News

Today we said farewell to Nicola Joyce, who has been working in the office for the past 6 years. Like us, I am sure you have appreciated her friendly reassuring and cheerful manner in and around school and on the phone. We do wish her all the best for her future endeavours, and are sure that we'll still see her around.

This week we interviewed and appointed Mrs Lisa Moor to replace Nicola in the office and hope that she will be able to start in a couple of weeks time.

Christmas events

We are all really excited about getting all our Christmas events back up and running this year. We have quite a lot going on! Below is an outline so that you can start to get as excited as us, and we'll send out more detail in the weeks to come.

- Wednesday 1st December: Christmas Post box goes up – children can post cards to be delivered to their friends around the school until the end of term. The post box will come down again Thursday 16th December.
- Tuesday 7th December: Key Stage 2 Carols by Candlelight – an outdoor carol concert for Key Stage 2 children and families.
- Friday 10th December: Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – Children can wear a Christmas jumper for the day if they wish. (£1 donation to Save the Children)
- Friday 10th December: Christmas Craft Fair – The children will be making and selling a range of Christmas cards on the front playground after school. The PTA will also be manning a variety of stalls in lieu of the Christmas Fair which we still aren't able to hold this year.
- Monday 13th December: Santa Fun Run – the children will be able to dress up in either a Santa hat or with their Christmas Jumpers on for a fun run around the school field cheered on by their friends in other classes. The whole West Oxfordshire Partnership of Schools are running similar events that day.
- Tuesday 14th December: Nativity - a 6pm performance of Babushka by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Year 1 parents invited to watch.
- Wednesday 15th December: Nativity - a 2pm performance of Babushka by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Reception parents invited to watch.
- Wednesday 15th December: Nativity - a 6pm performance of Babushka by Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Year 2 parents invited to watch.
- Thursday 16th December: Christmas dinner and parties – the children will be enjoying a traditional Christmas dinner at school followed by their class parties in the afternoon.

- Friday 17th December: KS1 Christmas Service - A traditional Christmas service at St Michael's Church.
- Friday 17th December: KS2 Christmas Service - A traditional Christmas service at St Michael's Church.

Year 6 Maths Challenge

On Thursday we took 4 of our Year 6 young mathematicians to a competition at St Edward's School, where they tested their mathematical prowess against 18 other Oxfordshire Schools. Jess, Kate, Samson and Bjorn were totally focussed, brilliantly behaved and really successful, coming a superb third. Well done to all 4 of them.

From the PTA Committee

Ho! Ho! Ho! We are gearing up for the Christmas Season and are really looking forward to all the school festivities next month! Of course, our annual **Big Christmas Raffle** will be happening and the prizes will be fabulous as ever! If you, or any business you know, are able to contribute a prize for this year's draw, please let us know by dropping a line to CumnorSchoolPTA@gmail.com. Food, wine, tickets, vouchers of any kind would be hugely appreciated. It all really helps to make the event more exciting and all funds raised go right back into our school.

Call for Christmas jumpers! Does your family have a surplus of festive jumpers from Christmases past? Any the kids have grown out of or one that's been sitting in the back of the closet for a few years? Please donate them to the PTA! Our plans include a **Pre-Loved Christmas Jumper Sale** in early December where shoppers can find something festive and fun to wear for a great price and those lovely jumpers can find a new home. Please drop them in to the school office or contact CumnorSchoolPTA@gmail.com to arrange collection from your home. The sooner the better. Thank you!

Thank you everyone who supported and participated in our **Cauliflower Cards** festive fundraiser! A total of £231 was raised for the school! As usual, the designs were fantastic and we're sure the recipients of all the cards, mugs and other gorgeous gifts will be delighted to see the children's creations!

Our PTA is registered with **easyfundraising**. Throughout November, they are running a **Spin to Win** daily giveaway that we would LOVE every single Cumnor School family to participate in. Simply go to <http://efraising.org/5bhQxYCr8Q>, register with easyfundraising if you haven't already, nominate **Cumnor School PTA – Oxford** as your chosen cause and spin! Every day, you'll get another chance to win up to £50 for the school. It is free to play and if you click on a retailer afterwards (no purchase necessary), you get an extra spin! Please have a go!

The PTA Committee would like to say farewell and **thank you** to Mrs Joyce. We are very grateful for the ever-cheerful support she has given the committee throughout her time in the school office and wish her all the very best in her new endeavours!

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	Sausage Plait OR Vegan Sausage Roll	Breaded Fish Fillet OR Cheese and Tomato Pinwheel

Online Safety

Please see this week's parent guide to WhatsApp. I hope you found the online parent workshop useful this week.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 17 th November	AM	Barn owl visit for Year 2
Thursday 18 th November	5.15pm	Books at Bedtime for Reception and Year 1
Thursday 18 th November	2.45pm	Year 6 residential visit meeting
Friday 19 th November	All Day	Whole school art day
Tuesday 23 rd November	AM	Year 2 visit to the Oxford Synagogue
Wednesday 1 st December		School Christmas postbox opens
Wednesday 1 st December	All Day	Year 1 visit to Oxford Castle
Monday 6 th December	All Day	Year 3 visit to Hill End
Tuesday 7 th December	6 – 6.45	Key Stage 2 Carols by Candlelight
Friday 10 th December	All Day	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 10 th December	After School	Christmas Craft Stalls
Monday 13 th December	Day	Santa Run
Tuesday 14 th December	6pm	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performance of Babushka (Year 1 parent invited)
Wednesday 15 th December	2pm	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performance of Babushka (Reception parent invited)
Wednesday 15 th December	6pm	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performance of Babushka (Year 2 parent invited)
Thursday 16 th December	Lunch Onwards	School Christmas dinners followed by class parties
Friday 17 th December	AM	KS 1 and KS2 Christmas Services at St Michael's
Friday 17 th December	1.15pm	Term ends
Wednesday 5 th January	8.50am	Children return to school.

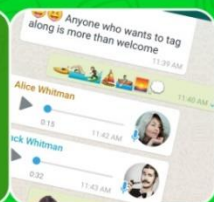
Yours sincerely



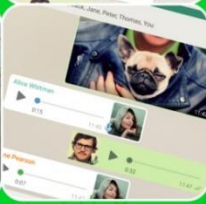
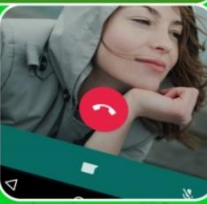
Headteacher



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.



AGE RESTRICTION
16+



What parents need to know about WhatsApp



AGE LIMIT CHANGE
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES
Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with somebody they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING
WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a 'simple and secure way to let people know where you are.' Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



Top Tips for Parents



CREATE A SAFE PROFILE
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

REPORT SCAM MESSAGES
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam.'

LEAVE A GROUP
If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES
If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

SET TIME LIMITS
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/apr/26/whatsapp-plays-40-bar-under-16-the-mystery-is-how>; <https://whatsappbrand.com/>; <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-update-latest-india-hoaxes-forward-messages-app-download-a8456711.html>

