News from Cumnor School

Spring Term Number 9 *10th March 2023*

Dear Parents,

Acorn Assembly
Our Acorn Children performed beautifully this morning. It was a real joy to see their enthusiasm and love for school and learning. Well done to them and our Acorn team for the fabulous work they do with them.

NEU Teachers' Strike - Wednesday and Thursday 15th and 16th March
As you are aware, the NEU has planned strike action for teachers on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. Of our 11 teachers almost all of them are members of the NEU and have let me know already that they intend to strike.

Once again, we have considered the issues of the safe supervision of children on the strike day, given the number of teachers striking, and so as a result of the significantly reduced staffing levels across our school, school will be **closed to all children on both the 15th and 16th March**, with the exception of a small number of invited students who will be contacted separately.

The strike action also precludes teachers from setting remote learning for children. However, the school website has a range of online learning sites that would be suitable for home learning on the strike days. Please use the school's curriculum maps (in the curriculum section of the school website) and the topic overviews sent out at the beginning of this term to identify areas to focus on during the day. Alternatively, children can revisit areas they feel less confident with and also simply read for pleasure.

While the school has been formally notified by trade unions of their intention to strike, there is also the possibility that through ongoing negotiations the strike may not take place. As you may be aware the dispute is between the unions and the government. I will, of course, let you know if the situation changes. This is the last of the planned strike days. The Year 3 trip to Hampton Court Palace will go ahead as planned; please meet at the school bus stop at 8.00am. Please note there will be no after school activity clubs on strike days.

After School Club Charity Raffle
T.A.S.C. and Breakfast Club will be hosting a raffle in the last week of term before Easter in aid of Sobell House. Should you wish to purchase tickets (£1 per strip) or even just donate, there will be T.A.S.C. staff members on the drive collecting at the end of the school day. We have been donated a number of amazing prizes from numerous companies- big and small/national and local- so please do join in and help support this fantastic cause. A list of what you could win will be posted on The After School Club's Facebook site. Thanks, Sally Rose and Adrian Williams.

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	Trust
Reception	This week we have been reading the story of Little Red Riding Hood and thinking about the choices she made. We have been extending our knowledge of number composition by making number bonds to ten and we have celebrated our assembly success by decorating and eating fairy cakes!
Year 1	This week we have been learning about turns (half turns, full turns, clockwise, anticlockwise, etc.), working in groups to make a "wave" dance, and writing about the first disciples of Jesus.
Year 2	This week we have been investigating the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We have been researching African animals and writing our own fact files to display our facts. We have been learning about the holy week and how christians celebrate easter.
Year 3	We have been dividing by 4 and 8 this week in maths. We have started reading 'The Tempest'
Year 4	In maths, this week, we have been learning how to describe the position of a coordinate and translate its position up/down/left/right. We have painted our torcs a beautiful, glistening gold and we are learning songs which fit with our history topic.
Year 5	This week we have been comparing fractions, decimals and percentages in maths. In English we have used figurative language to describe the characteristics of the Minotaur and our own mythical beast. We have added a temple to our art collages.
Year 6	This week in maths we have been learning about Ratio. In English we have been exploring narrative poetry with Mary Howitt's poem 'The Spider and the Fly'. We also have had a history lesson via zoom all about Archaeology and ancient Egypt from an archaeologist that is an ex-pupil of Cumnor Primary School.

Diary dates for next week:

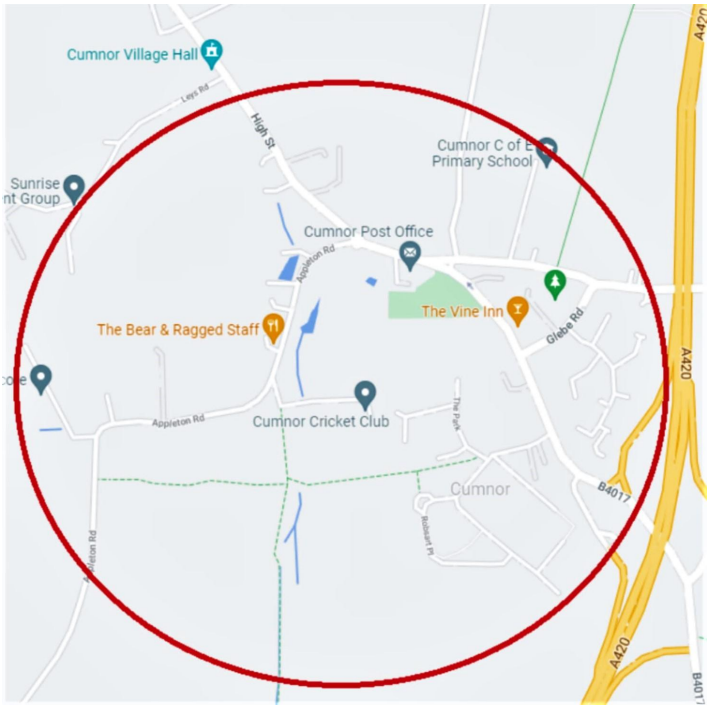
Tuesday 14th March	All day	Year 4 visit to Chedworth Roman Villa
Tuesday 14th March	AM	Year 3 start swimming lessons
Wed and Thur 15th and 16th March	All day	School closed as a result of NEU teachers strike
Thursday 16th March	All Day	Year 3 trip to Hampton Court Palace
Friday 17th March	9am	Year 4 sharing assembly. Parents welcome.

PTA Committee News

B-I-N-G-O! All the family are invited to **FAMILY BINGO NIGHT** at Cumnor School on **Friday March 24th**! Join in 6 exciting games of classic bingo, called by our compere extraordinaire, Year 3 teacher & Deputy Head, Mrs Axford! Doors and food open at 5:30pm. Games start at 6pm sharp and will run until about 7:30pm. Just £3 per person/£10 per family to play all 6 games with lots of prizes to be won! Delicious dinner of pizza or pulled pork on a brioche bun available, with the bar open until 8:30pm! A super-fun night for all!

CHOCOLATE If you can, when you are out and about shopping this month, please pop an extra Easter egg or chocolate bunny in your basket for the school. We would really appreciate any donations of chocolate or Spring-themed items (stuffed toys, craft-kits, new kids books, etc) that we can use as prizes on Family Bingo Night. The more the merrier! These can be dropped into the school office any time before March 24th. Thank you.

SPRING HUNT While the weather this week hasn't been quite the start of spring we'd like to see, we are optimistic it will improve in time for the return of the Spring Hunt around the village – something the whole family can do and enjoy together! The Spring Hunt will run from 25th March finishing on 1st April with a fun event at the school.



We need your help to make this event a success! If you live within the red circle shown on the map above, and could display a picture of something spring related (flowers, eggs, bunnies, lambs…) in your front window as part of the hunt, please let us know! You can either design it yourself or we can provide something for you to display. Just email us at cumnorschoolpta@gmail.com by Friday 17th March so we can get everything planned in time. Thank you!

Lunches next week (week 1)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Macaroni Cheese OR Margherita Pizza OR Jacket Potato and Beans	Minced Beef Puff Pastry Pie OR Shepherdess Pie OR Jacket Potato and Cheese	No Dinners	No Dinners	Fish Fillet OR Crispy Quorn Dippers OR Jacket Potato and Cheese

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read