News from Cumnor School

Summer Term Number 1 *21st April 2023*

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, I hope you had a lovely Easter break.

Well done to our Year 1s who launched straight into their class sharing assembly today, treating us to a fabulous presentation on their work about the seasons. Their acting, speaking and singing were all really enjoyable. Well done to all involved.

Strike Action
The Teacher's Union NEU has called for another two days of strike auction on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May.

Once again, we have considered the issues of the safe supervision of children on the strike day given reduced staffing levels across our school. On **this occasion we will be open to Reception (Acorns) and Year 6 (Oaks) ONLY. School will be closed to all other children on 27th April and 2nd May,** 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 strike days. Please use the school's curriculum maps (in the curriculum section of the school website) and the topic overviews sent out this week 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.

After School Clubs

Club places have now been allocated. Most school after school clubs are due to start next week, please see the club confirmation emails. However please note there will be no clubs on Thursday due to the strike action.

Young Art Oxford Art Competition
This week we had the results back from the Young Art Oxford competition that many of our children entered back in February. There were over 3,000 entries, so we are delighted to have 8 pieces of artwork from our children selected for exhibition. Many congratulations to Lucy, Nina, Bill, Sadie, Azalia, Ava, Imogen and Ruben. The judges were particularly impressed with Bill's work which came a fabulous third in the competition. If you would like to see the artwork, you can on the 13th May in the Newman Rooms at St Aldates from 10am until 5pm.

Coronation Heads-up!
With the Coronation of King Charles fast approaching, we are looking forward to our own school celebrations, most of which will take place on Friday 5th May, the day before the Coronation.

Themed around volunteering help in our local community, class activities will include visiting members of our community (from the older to the younger), or litter-picking and weeding at various locations around the village. At school, one class will be creating seed-bombs, one for each child in school to disperse around the school grounds in order to enhance the natural beauty of our surroundings.

However, as most of these activities will be taking place off the school premises, we are very hopeful that some of you lovely parents and carers will be able to offer an hour or two of your time to accompany one of the classes to help provide sufficient adult numbers. Teachers of each class will be letting you know about the day and time of their particular activity. Please keep an eye out for details if you would like to help.

At school on Friday 5th May, the children will be joining together at lunchtime for a whole-school picnic as a way of celebrating the natural loveliness of our own school environment. KS1 children may have a picnic lunch provided by school, or bring their own from home. If your child is in KS2, please can you provide a packed lunch or order from school on the day. It will be a Non Uniform Day and we will be asking everyone at school to dress in **natural** colours (and suitably clothed for outdoor activities including a special trip to Forest School) to reflect the King's life-long interest and concerns about the environment and the natural world.

All that remains for us is to hope that Mother Nature volunteers a day of lovely weather to support us in our endeavours! (And of course for our new King in his!) Mrs Jill Delacovias

Year 6 Aspirations Day
I hope you managed to consider the letter we sent out last week regarding our Aspirations Day for Year 6 children. The date for this will be FRIDAY 19th MAY. The experience aims to provide the children with the opportunity to explore different jobs/careers and businesses so that they may begin to think about their own futures and employment. We would be absolutely delighted if you or someone you know could spare us a half a day or even an hour to come in and talk to our children about their jobs with the support of the class teacher. So if you are a dance teacher, a vet, a builder, an engineer, a driving instructor, a scientist, a secretary, a plumber, a teacher, a midwife or anything else and you would like to join us in helping our children have high aspirations for their future please contact Kim Rogers for more details on kbenton_proctor@hotmail.com or give Lisa Moor in the school office your details.

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	Thankfulness
Reception	It has been an exciting week exploring what treasures we have in our outside learning space. We have been on a minibeast hunt, recreated our beautiful blossom tree on our classroom window and have rescued a baby rabbit who had been born deep in our sand pit.
Year 1	This week we have been using our performing skills to practise our assembly as well as starting to learn about dinosaurs through various non-fiction texts. We have also got out the skipping ropes in PE lessons (see photo) to practise our jumping and balancing skills, with the aim of working up to skipping races by sports day next term!
Year 2	This week we have been revising money in maths. We have started reading Robin Hood - one of our class texts this term. In PE we have been practising our map reading skills in orienteering and we have been looking at different notations in music.
Year 3	We have started reading Varjak Paw by SF Said and have been getting to know the main characters. In maths we have been revising place value up to 4 digits. We also started our Incredible India topic by finding India in the atlas and and drawing our own maps of India.
Year 4	This week we have been using our planning, writing and editing skills in our own piece of writing, as well as reading our writing aloud. We have begun finding out about Mole and Rat in 'Wind in the Willows', and we have been looking at major French cities, their location and how to pronounce their names.
Year 5	We have started reading Kensuke's Kingdom and have drawn a map from descriptions in the text about what the island looks like. We have shown teamwork skills in benchball and we used an animation app on the Ipads to show Michael's journey round the world.
Year 6	We have been recapping written methods of calculation, measurements and angles in maths. We have started our class book 'Brightstorm' by Vashti Hardy and have practised answering reading comprehension questions focused on our class book. In DT we researched and analysed the features of Airships to help us prepare for the Brightstorm Challenge where we will be making model Airships.

Lunches next week (week 2)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Margherita Pizza OR Cheese and Mixed Pepper Pinwheel OR Baked Potato with Tuna Mayo	Chicken Katsu Curry with Rice OR Roasted Vegetable Pasta Bake OR Baked Potato with Beans	Roast Gammon OR Roast Quorn Sausages OR Baked Potato with Cheese	Beef Burger in a Roll OR Vegetarian Burger in a Roll OR Baked Potato with Beans	Bubble Coated Salmon Fillet OR Crispy Quorn Dippers OR Baked Potato with Cheese

Diary dates for this term::

Wednesday 26th April	All day	Year 1 visit to The Oxford Museum
Thursday 27th April	All day	Possible Teachers Strike
Monday 1st May	All day	May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2nd May	All day	Possible Teachers Strike
Wednesday 3rd May	2.30pm	Year 5 residential visit meeting
Friday 5th May	All day	School celebrating the King's Coronation
Monday 8th May	All day	Bank Holiday
W/B Tuesday 9th May	All week	Year 6 SATs week
Friday 19th May		Year 6 aspirations day
Wednesday 24th May	AM	Class photos
Thursday 25th May	PM	Year 6 visit to Junior Citizens project
Friday 26th May	All Day	Whole school sponsored walk
W/B 29th May	All week	Half Term
Monday 5th June	All day	Inset Day - staff only
Tuesday 6th June	All day	Year 4 visit to Coleshill
Friday 9th June	9.00am	Year 2 class sharing assembly - friends and families welcome
Thursday 15th June	PM	Singing Club at Festival of Voices
Friday 23rd June	9.00am PM	Year 5 sharing assembly- friends and families welcome PTA Summer Fete
Tuesday 27th June	All Day	Year 3 visit to Sutton Courtenay
Friday 30th June	9.00am	Year 3 class sharing assembly - friends and families welcome
Tuesday 4th July	All day	Year 6 end of term treat day
Wednesday 5th July	All day	Year 2 visit to Earth Trust
Wed 5th - Fri 7th July	All day	Year 5 residential visit to Bristol
Friday 7th July	9.00am	Year 4 class sharing assembly - friends and families welcome
Tuesday 11th July	PM	Sports afternoon - friends and families welcome
Friday 14th July	PM	PTA Leavers BBQ
Wednesday 19th July	9.30am	Leavers church service - Year 6 families welcome
Thursday 20th July	9.00am	Leavers assembly - Year 6 families welcome
Thursday 20th July	1.15pm	Term Ends

Tuesday 5th September	8.50am	Children return to school

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read