# News from Cumnor School

*Autumn Term Number 1* *8th September 2023*

Dear Families,

**Thank you**
It has been a real pleasure to meet many of you in the mornings as you arrive at school. As I have discussed with many of you, what has struck me most is the real sense of community established through collaboration between yourselves and our wonderful staff. It has been a joy to get to see the children learning and settling into their new classes so wonderfully. I thoroughly look forward to working with you in order to ensure the best for the children.

**Parking**
As is often the case in schools, I can see that parking presents its challenges here at Cumnor. In the first instance, please may I appeal to the sense of community I mention above and ask that everyone respects the law around driving on pavements. The pedestrian safety website found here makes reference to this. Consideration towards this means that we can not only ensure the safety of the children but also support families with pushchairs, those pushing bikes and those who require more space for accessibility reasons.

**Chess**
I'm aware that many of you expressed an interest in chess continuing in some way after Mr Read's departure from school. This was something which we discussed in our handover and I'm delighted to say that we are currently in the process of arranging lessons for Year 4, as well as a club for those wishing to continue to develop their skills. I will update you as soon as we have further news regarding this as it does rely on the sourcing and availability of a tutor. It was particularly encouraging to read about the DfE's endorsement of the teaching of chess in schools over the summer!

**Contacting Mrs Hannah Lawfull - SENDCO**
Please note that Mrs Lawfull has a new email address - sendco@cumnorschool.co.uk. We would always encourage you to talk to your child's class teacher first if you have any questions or information about your child's needs, but do feel free to contact Mrs Lawfull via email.

## Are you interested in making a difference to future generations?

## School Parent & Carer Governor Required

Do you want to make a difference to our school community? If so, being a parent & carer governor could be just the role for you. The governing body is looking for a parent or carer to join them.

The school wants to ensure that every child in our care is happy and safe and to offer them every opportunity to learn and to succeed during their time with us. With new leadership at our school, we will be looking to set a vision and strategy that will allow us to identify the key priorities to continually improve standards for our children and, manifestly provide with them with the broadest curriculum and number of opportunities. It is vital that our children are developing the necessary skills to adapt and grow in our ever-changing world. We need your help and experiences from the parent & carer body (and wider world) in order to achieve this.

Parent and carer governors hold a unique position of having the parental viewpoint of the school. First-hand experience of how the curriculum is delivered and how the school is seen by the parent and carer community enables parent and carer governors to bring a different perspective to the strategic management of our school.

Parent and carer governors can make the link between the parent and carer community, world of work and education and constructively support the success of our school. You don't have to be an expert in education, and we welcome interest from every year group, walk of life (particularly business, finance and fundraising) and culture to bring a diverse set of perspectives and views.

The governing body currently meets monthly during the school year (up to 11 meetings). Our meetings generally take up a couple of hours each time on a weekday evening with preparation required beforehand. Outside of meetings governors also undertake monitoring visits on key areas of school life and training is available to enhance your contribution. Being a governor is a good way to offer you personal and professional development in return for supporting the school and our children deliver its strategic aims.

There is one vacancy arising and these roles are a rewarding and effective way of making a voluntary contribution to the lives of our young people. If you are interested in our children's future, have energy and enthusiasm, and want to help with directing the school's future, please do put your name forward.

If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me:
governor.christophers@cumnorschool.co.uk

**PTA Committee News**

Welcome back! We are already busy planning a variety of social events for everyone to enjoy throughout the school year and look forward to seeing you at all of them!

**What is the PTA?** Did you know, all Cumnor Primary parents/carers and teachers are automatically members of the *Cumnor Primary Parent Teacher Association* (PTA)? That includes you! We are a registered charity, led by a committee consisting of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and several General Committee Members - all volunteers.

The main role of our PTA is to provide opportunities for parents, staff and pupils to get together socially and have fun! Events include the *School Disco, Christmas Fayre, Quiz Night, Family Bingo, Pre-loved Uniform Sales, Easter Hunt, Summer Fete, Raffles* and *End of Year BBQ*. We also 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 have funded over the last few years 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…), music lessons and of course, ice-lollies for all the students on Sports Day!

**We need you!** It takes a brilliant team to organise PTA gatherings and fundraisers, and events simply will not go ahead unless we have the people to make them happen. Please join the team! We would welcome new members from ANY year and would especially love for some Reception class and more Year 1 parents to join the team. With such a variety of things you can help with as part of the PTA Committee it's a brilliant way to get involved with your child's school. Contact us at cumnorschoolpta@gmail.com to express your interest/ask any questions or come along to our brief AGM, 6pm at the School Disco bar on Sept 29th to find out more.

**Uniform Sale:** Shorts, trousers, dresses, jumpers, shirts, PE kit - you name it, we've got it! Come along to our first pre-loved uniform sale of the school year next Monday 11th Sept after school 2:45-3:45pm and Tuesday 12th Sept before school 8:30-9am in the school hall. All uniforms are just **£1** per item (shirts 3 for £1). Some items are brand new! So, bring a big shopping bag and stock up! Next sale after this will be in January.

**School Disco:** Our first big social event of the year will be the School Disco on **Friday Sept 29th** with KS1 dancing from 5:30-6:30pm and KS2 from 6:45-7:45pm. More details coming soon. We hope to see you there!

Keep an eye on these newsletters for PTA news and info on upcoming events. You can also join us on Facebook at:
https://www.facebook.com/Cumnor-Primary-School-PTA-2303883376352068/

**Lunches next week (week 2)**

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ham Carbonara with fusilli pasta<br>OR<br>Margherita pizza with diced potatoes<br>OR<br>Jacket Potato with Beans | Mexican Bean Quesadilla with rice<br>OR<br>Macaroni Cheese<br>OR<br>Jacket Potato with Tuna | Roast Chicken<br>OR<br>Quorn pieces with Yorkshire Pudding<br>OR<br>Jacket Potato with Tuna | Beef Burger in a Roll<br>Vege Sausage Roll<br>OR<br>Jacket Potato with Cheese | Fish Fingers<br>OR<br>Quorn Dippers<br>OR<br>Jacket Potato with Tuna |

**What has my child been doing this week?**

| School Value of the week: | Quality |
|---|---|
| **Reception** | This week our newest pupils have been getting to know their classroom and one another. We have been exploring the classroom provision, playing and sharing together and learning our teachers names. It has been a lovely, gentle and sunny start to the year! |
| **Year 1** | This week Willow Class have been learning the months of the year, practising their snipping skills and counting and sorting objects. We have also been learning what the primary colours are and how to make other colours by mixing them. |
| **Year 2** | Year 2 have settled in extremely well! This week we have been identifying and using adjectives to describe characters from books and ourselves. We learnt 'the owl and the pussy cat' off by heart and performed our rendition to Mr Badger. We have been looking at what it means to be a good leader and discussing healthy lifestyles in-line with our current topic: fighting fit. |
| **Year 3** | Year 3 have settled really well into KS2 and have been learning their new routines. We started our class book "How to train your dragon" and have started to plan our own dragon stories. We have also used atlases to identify continents and countries. |
| **Year 4** | Beech class have started the year very positively and are settling into the Year 4 expectations and routines well. We have started reading Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes and learned a new sport: Danish Longball. |
| **Year 5** | Year 5 has been wonderful at picking up the new routines in Maple. We have started to look at place value in maths with a focus on Roman numerals. We have started our class book "Journey to the River Sea" and have made predictions about the plot. We have also mapped the countries of South America. |
| **Year 6** | Year 6 have had a brilliant week settling into their new responsibilities as Year sixes. In Maths we have started exploring place value and in English we have begun reading our new class book 'Orphans of the Tide'. In computing, we have started to develop our understanding of variables and how to program them in Scratch. |

**Diary dates for this term:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Monday 11th September | 3.00PM | PTA Uniform Sale |
| Tuesday 12th September | 8.30AM | PTA Uniform Sale |
| | AM | Year 5 start swimming lessons |
| Wednesday 20th September | 2.30PM | KS1 Reading Meeting |
| Friday 29th September | 5.30PM | PTA Disco |
| Tuesday 3rd October | 1.00PM | Year 6 First Aid training |
| Thursday 5th October | AM | Harvest Festival at St Michael's Church. Families welcome. |
| | All Day | Poetry Day. More info to follow. |
| Tuesday 10th October | All Day | Year 3 Hill End Trip |
| Wednesday 11th October | All Day | Year 5 Living Rainforest |
| Friday 13th October | AM | School photographs |
| | | KS1 Story Time |
| Tuesday 17th October | All Day | Year 6 Trip to Oxford |
| Thursday 19th October | Evening | Acorn Class Books at Bedtime |
| Monday 23rd - Fri 27th Oct | | HALF TERM |
| W/b Mon 30th Oct | | Parent Teacher Interviews |
| Monday 6th November | AM | Flu Vaccinations |
| Tuesday 7th November | All Day | Year 6 Hill End |
| Thursday 9th November | AM | Year 2 Trip to Synagogue |
| Sat/ Sun 18th / 19th November | | Preschool Nearly New Sale |
| Wednesday 22nd November | PM | Year 4 Trip to Matilda |
| Friday 24th November | | INSET DAY |
| Friday 1st December | | Non Uniform & Tombola donation day |
| Friday 8th December | Evening | PTA Christmas Fayre |
| Tuesday 12th December | Evening | KS1 Nativity |
| Wednesday 13th December | Afternoon & Eve | KS1 Nativity |
| Monday 18th December | 6.00PM | Carols by Candlelight |
| Tuesday 20th December | AM | Christmas Service at St Michael's Church. Families welcome. |
| Tuesday 20th December | 1.15PM | End of Term |

Yours sincerely,
Steven Badger

# ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS BOOK FOR SEPTEMBER

**Book now online**
Visit www.irockschool.com/enrol

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Bookings for rock and pop band lessons at your child's school in September are still open! Enrolling is straightforward, and iRock now offers a **first-lesson money-back guarantee**. iRock provides a fantastic opportunity for children to learn music in their very own band, leading to a positive impact on their overall wellbeing and confidence.

**How it works:**

- There is no experience necessary to join, and all of the instruments are provided by iRock.
- Your child can choose from drums, keyboard, electric guitar, or vocals (subject to availability). They'll play the same instrument every week and join their bandmates in 30-minute weekly lessons.
- Lessons are held during the school day and are led by one of our experienced band coaches, who will guide your child through every session. *Some sessions may take place straight after school*
- Lessons are available from Reception to Year 6, with children grouped by age. Children can choose their band name and learn their favourite songs.
- Band sessions build towards a concert at the end of each term, providing a great way to showcase just how far they have come.
- Children in Years 2, 4, and 6 will be enrolled in a Group Performance qualification by RSL.
- NEW Access the iRock parent portal to view your child's band memories, song choices, manage your subscription and much more!*

You can subscribe to iRock through our monthly subscription plan, which spans 11 months with no payment required in August. We offer full flexibility, allowing parents to cancel their subscription at any time. By subscribing, you're guaranteed a minimum of 33 lessons throughout the academic year.

For availability and cost please visit: **www.irockschool.com/enrol** and search for your school. For any helps please call 0330 174 2655

Kind regards,

Joshua Franklin
Founder
**iRock School of Music**

**Proudly supporting**

CAMKIDS
The Cambodian Children's Charity

"My daughter is so excited when it's iRock day at school! She loves playing in the band"
**Google Review**

MUSIC MARK

RSL

## New Football opportunity for Girls aged 5-11!

**Cumnor Minors FC is now a Wildcats Centre, and running weekly Wildcats sessions in term-time. These are ideal for girls who are new to football, and we aim to help girls to have fun, make friends, and play football!**

**The sessions are run by FA-qualified, DBS-checked coaches with years of experience coaching girls' football.**

**To book your Wildcat onto a session, click on the link below:**

**http://faevents.thefa.com/bookevent?eventID=7209**

OXFORD RFC

# Minis TAG RUGBY

**STARTING**
EVERY SUNDAY
FROM THE 3RD
SEPTEMBER 10:15am

**OXFORD RUGBY CLUB**
NORTH HINKSEY PARK
OX2 0NA

**FREE TASTER SESSIONS**
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-8 YEARS
OLD THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

Tag Rugby is "SAFE"

MATCHES & TOURNAMENTS

QUALIFIED COACHES

FITNESS & FUN

## AGE 5-8

**TEAMWORK | RESPECT | ENJOYMENT**
**DISCIPLINE | SPORTSMANSHIP**

enquiries@oxfordrfc.com
CAR PARKING AVAILABLE