News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Number 4 *29th September 2023*

Dear Families,

An early 'Thank You!'
After reviewing feedback around clarification on uniform and setting a transitional period of this academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to say a huge 'Thank You' to those who have already gone to efforts to move towards this. The children are looking much smarter and we thoroughly appreciate your cooperation with this, despite the introduction of the transitional period.

Harvest Church Service
Two weeks ago, I shared information about our Harvest Service and collection for The Community Emergency Food Bank. Parents are warmly invited to attend. The service will be held on the morning of Thursday 5th October. We anticipate a service start time of 9.15am in order to allow the children to be registered before walking to The Church. Children will come into school as normal and should bring their donation with them please. Items that would be greatly appreciated are listed below:

The food most urgently required is:

Starred items most critical

* Fruit juice	Tinned Fruit
* Toilet roll	Long-life milk
* Sugar	Cereal
* Tinned vegetables (not tomatoes or pulses)	Biscuits
* Tinned/Packet Puddings	Bottled Sauces
Jams/other spreads	Coffee/Hot Chocolate
Tinned Meat	Practical Toiletries

Mrs Lawfull's Charity Run!
As some of you may know, I broke my leg in May 2022, and I have been gradually recovering since then. I managed to run the Oxford Town and Gown 10km in May (very slowly!), and over the summer I signed up to run the Oxford Half Marathon (21.1km!) on Sunday 16th October 2023. I will be running with my daughter, and raising funds for Yellow Submarine which is an award-winning Oxfordshire charity that believes people with learning disabilities and autism deserve to live life to the full, something that is dear to me. They help children to develop their life skills which increases their life chances, and they help them to build their social skills, confidence, independence and ultimately their employability. I know several people who have benefited from this charity's work, including Mrs Stockford's son, and I believe it is a truly worthwhile cause. If you feel you could spare some pennies please follow this link:

#We can Yellow Submarine

Hannah Lawfull - Oxford Half Marathon for Yellow Submarine

Thank you so much! Mrs Lawfull ☺

PE and Sports Update

This year at Cumnor School, we hope to be able to access a range of sporting activities organised by our Area Partnership Team. This will involve small groups of children, predominantly in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6), visiting other local schools to take part in sport or games. These opportunities could be either during school hours or afterwards. Transport is a huge challenge for us. We plan to take children to events in staff members' cars, or on coaches where numbers deem it financially viable. We will also be asking for parental help to transport children as needed. Our ability to access additional sporting activities will depend on the help you are able to offer. Thank you in advance for any support you can provide should you be contacted about a games event.

Email communications

Thank you for your patience with our email challenges over the past couple of weeks. Our IT contractors have been working hard in the background to resolve the issue but this is a problem being experienced by many Oxfordshire schools and it seems there are no quick fixes. We are now able to use a mailing system attached to our existing database which should mean that communications are a lot smoother going forward. If you would like to change the emails you are / are not receiving after this afternoon's communications please contact the school office. All communications from the past couple of weeks are available on our website. Please do check your child's class page for any missed letters.

Blenheim Christmas competition

Your child will be bringing home a blank design page to do at home if they wish. Please note the closing date is Monday.

Calling all young artists, budding designers and costume creators…it's your chance to win a very special Blenheim Palace Christmas prize for you and your family….
We would like you to imagine and design an amazing costume for one of the tiny mice who appear in the themed State rooms at the Palace this Christmas. This year, the theme is Sleeping Beauty, so we would like your mouse's costume to be inspired by the Sleeping Beauty story. They could be wearing a skirt, dress, hat, boots, a cloak, fairy wings or even a onesie as long as their costume fits the Sleeping Beauty theme. Use felt tips, pencils, crayons, paint or whatever other artistic medium you choose

The competition is open from 4:00pm Friday 15th September until 4:00pm Monday 2nd October, so there's no time to waste in getting those creative juices flowing!

WINNER'S PRIZE

The winner's mouse and their fabulous costume will then be handmade into a perfectly crafted model by award-winning TV and film prop maker Clare Elliot (who has made models for Postman Pat, Wind in the Willows, Mars Attacks! and more) and go on display in the Palace for the festive season along with all of the other exquisite Sleeping Beauty themed decorations. In the New Year, the winner will then be sent their mouse model to treasure and keep forever.

And that's not all – the winner will also receive six tickets for their family and friends to the Exclusive Preview of Christmas at Blenheim Palace on Thursday 16th November, with entry to Sleeping Beauty inside the Palace from 4pm where they can spot their 'mousterpiece' proudly on display! They will also receive six tickets for the Illuminated Trail within the Blenheim Palace grounds, running from 6pm on Thursday 16th November, as well as a Christmas themed afternoon tea for six at The Orangery and a special goody bag filled with treats from Hotel Chocolat to be picked up on the day. Last but certainly not least they will receive a short break for up to 6 people at Blenheim Palace Lodge Retreat, brought to you by Darwin Escapes.

RUNNERS UP

There will be four runners up prizes too – a family ticket (four people) to the Exclusive Preview on Thursday 16th November - in each age group below: 4 and under, 5 - 6, 7 – 8 and 9 – 10.

HOW TO ENTER

Please go to https://www.blenheimpalace.com/whats-on/events/christmas/christmas-competition/ to download your entry sheet and find out how to enter. We can't wait to see all of your delightful designs…good luck!

PTA Committee News

The long awaited School Disco is TONIGHT with KS1 dancing 5:30-6:30pm and KS2 dancing 6:45-7:45pm!

There'll be a professional DJ on the decks! Face-painting, glitter tattoos, glowsticks, pizza, snacks & drinks for sale! For adults, the bar will be open in the KS2 kitchen, serving a fantastic selection of beer, wine & fizzy drinks with space to sit & chat while your kids are dancing. This year, there will also be a 'quiet area' in the KS1 library, where children can take a break from the noise of the disco or just hang out when it's not their year group's turn to be in the hall. Every child must be accompanied to this event by an adult who will remain in the school and be responsible for them at all times. KS2 children will not be allowed into the hall during the KS1 disco and vice-versa. If you are only coming to the KS2 disco, please don't enter the school until 6:45pm. Tickets on the door. £3 per student (adults go free!) and include unlimited free squash! See you there!

Keep up with all PTA events by joining us on Facebook at: Cumnor Primary School PTA Our brief Cumnor Primary School PTA AGM will be held in our School Disco Bar Friday Sept 29th, 2023 at 6pm. Everyone is welcome!

Lunches next week (week 2)

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

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	Perseverance
Reception	This week we have been looking at the letters n,o,p and learning the sounds they represent. We have visited forest school and made kites which we flew. We also tested bubbles, feathers and leaves in the wind. Today we have made our own bread hedgehogs. We hope you enjoy eating them!
Year 1	This week we have been hearing an eyewitness account of the moon landings from Mrs D, learning to name different 3D shapes in maths and learning to use our marvellous sense of hearing in science.
Year 2	Cherry Class have been exploring the use of verbs in English, learning pairs of numbers that make 50 in Maths and practising emotional regulation through the use of our Zones of Regulation and some classroom yoga! This has contributed to our "Healthy Living" theme, which we have continued to develop through making posters.
Year 3	We have had a fantastic week ordering numbers up to 1000. We've been working hard on our dragon stories and also produced some amazing sentences using apostrophes for contractions.
Year 4	This week we have been comparing the characters of Miss Honey and Miss Trunchbull, learning how to round numbers to 10, 100 and 1000 and, in Science, designing question and answer circuit boards using Roald Dahl's stories and characters. We also had a lot of fun learning how to play chess and catching newts in forest school!
Year 5	This week we have produced a timeline of the history of chocolate. We have also painted our rainforest flowers beautifully! In English, we have written a persuasive letter and in maths we have worked on rounding numbers.
Year 6	This week in maths we have started to focus on multiplication and multiplying a four digit number by a two digit number. In English we have been writing a description of an invention that you might find in our class book. In geography, we have been looking at how Cumnor and the surrounding area has changed over time by analysing maps.

Diary dates for next week:

Monday 2nd October	All Day	The start of Poetry Week in school
Tuesday 3rd October	Year 6	Basketball event at St Swithuns School. Children involved have been notified.
Thursday 5th October	9.15am	Harvest Festival at St Michael's Church. Families welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Badger

CUMNOR PRIMARY SCHOOL
DISCO
PIZZA
Friday September 29th
Pizza, sweets & bar (booze & soft-drinks)
£3 ENTRY includes unlimited squash!
Parents MUST stay... NOT a drop & go!
KS1 5:30-6.30pm & KS2 6:45-7:45pm