



News from Cumnor CE School

Love to Learn, Learn to Love

Autumn Term Number 15

20th December 2024



Dear Families,

Merry Christmas!

We have reached the end of what has been a really action-packed term! Thank you to everyone who has joined us at any of our special events over recent weeks. On behalf of everyone at Cumnor School, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a great start to the New Year.

iRockers rock Cumnor

On Wednesday, our iRock bands treated Years 2 to 6 as well as their families and friends to a brilliant concert. It has been fantastic to see so many of our children have the opportunity to perform in front of an audience over the past few weeks. The bands not only work as teams but they demonstrate their talents by switching instruments each time we see them.

Carols by Candlelight

On the performing theme, I was incredibly proud of the children who played a piano solo as part of the Carols by Candlelight event on Monday. In addition, we were treated to another wonderful performance from our school choir, who have put on quite the series of events this festive season. I was astonished by the quality of singing when Miss Davidson challenged those who had gathered together to sing carols as is traditional: acapella!

Thank you to the Co-op in Botley!

We have been working closely with the co-op this year and they have been exceptionally generous! They kindly donated the supplies for our year 2 class to make christingles. Click the link below to read their blog post about their Christmas event. Merry Christmas Co-op!

<https://www.ckmoxford.com/blogs/a-day-of-christmas-fun-in-botley-coop>

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	Generosity This week in assembly, we learnt about Project Malachi, a housing scheme that supports homeless people in Ilford run by The Salvation Army. We compared Malachi's actions in donating his money from the tooth fairy to that of the widow in last week's story. We also read the story of The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson. This story shows us how small acts can make a big difference.
Reception	We have been working incredibly hard training as Elves this week and were delighted to receive a well done for Father Christmas and the Elves today. We have enjoyed our first school trip to the Theatre and we have taken part in a drama workshop and attended our church Christmas Service. We are ready for Christmas now!
Year 1	This week, we have used all our maths learning from the whole term to solve lots of problems! We have also made jam jar lanterns and enjoyed our trip to Pegasus Theatre to see the Elves and the Shoemaker.
Year 2	This week we have been practicing measuring objects in maths with Mrs Broadhurst. We finally finished The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark. We had a Christmas crafternoon and got stuck in!

Year 3	Year 3 have enjoyed singing along to Taylor Swift to learn their 8 times table, we have continued to look at underlying themes in our book Beowulf and we have discussed the issues of bravery, friendship and good versus evil. We have also enjoyed making Christmas cards as an end of term treat.
Year 4	Year 4 enjoyed some Christmas fencing on Monday! They have been writing some original pieces on all sorts of Christmas themes and been consolidating their times tables by colouring some Christmassy pictures.
Year 5	We have played the Great Elf game in maths this week. We had some very profitable groups and some happy elves at the end! We have read and discussed "Twas the Night before Christmas" in English. We have made our own videos in computing.
Year 6	This week we have been running our own Christmas tree business when we played the Great Elf game in maths. In English we finished our travel websites and shared them with year 5 and in music we have been practising singing Stille Nacht in German to prepare for the Christmas church service.

Clubs

Club places have now been allocated and clubs will start from the second week of term, commencing on 13th January.

A note from your governors...

We hope that you are enjoying the leadup to the Christmas holidays in and around the school (only five sleeps left until Christmas day itself!). Your governing board have to a person spent time with the school across all of the events held. Most of us joined key stage one for the Nativity performances last week. A fantastic festive bake-off gracing the school hall stage, brilliantly directed and fabulously executed by three classes of engaging and talented young thespians! A number of us made it across to the Carols by Candlelight for a marvellous repertoire of burgeoning young musical talent (evenly supported by some mulled wine fuelled parents on the carol singing). The Christmas Service this morning was another proud display of how well the children represent our school within our community. We also want to recognise the hard-working PTA for coming together at the end of a long working week, at the start of December, to host and engage the school community with the Christmas Fayre. The kitchen was a hive of activity keeping everyone well fed, the bar was chiming empties like a local bottle bank and all the stalls and raffle kept everyone entertained, whilst much needed funds were raised for various school items and projects.

We had our fourth governing board meeting of the academic year as well last week. This term we have dealt with a number of items. We agreed with Steven the School Improvement Plan and School Self-Evaluation Form. Both of these documents are mandatory items for any school and are designed to ensure our school reflects on their provision and impact. This then allows the school to identify key areas of focus, in line with our vision, that will continue to see it move forward and continue to be successful. This is an ethos we as governors also take on board. We have started work on year two of our three-year governing board improvement plan. To help us develop as a governing team, we recently undertook an external board effectiveness review with the county to understand how we can continue to improve our support to the school. We will share the results of this review when it is published during 2025. Towards the end of this term, we spent time with the school and various staff members to understand better how the school continues to manage and develop areas such as our safeguarding system, e-safety, phonics and our staff's professional development. This, alongside a

review of the effectiveness of ring-fenced funding we receive for pupil premium, SEND, PE & Sport and families affected by the war in Ukraine, continues to give us confidence that our school and staff are extremely dedicated, professional and committed to supporting a safe and caring environment that provides a strong breadth of opportunity to every child.

If you would like to see our September, October and November governor board minutes they are now available at request.

The governing board would like to thank Steven and every member of staff for all their hard work and zeal during an always busy Michaelmas term. The buzz about the school has only increased since the new Acorn class sprung through the doors in September. This energy has crescendoed in the last few weeks as all the hard work from pupils and staff has come to fruition in not only the classroom and stage but also in the excitement when the school ventures out on school trips and when it engaged with the local community through recent concert performances.

We hope that you and your children have had a fantastic end to 2024 at the school, and that you are looking forward to an exciting couple of weeks at home.

Have a great Christmas!

Tom Christophers, Chair

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steven Badger', written in a cursive style.

Steven Badger
Headteacher



Winter 2024/2025

Newsletter

FREE
until
JAN 25



Understanding the Teenage Brain
Watch this recorded session in your own time, to learn why our teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.

Thursday
5th Dec
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Supporting a Child with ADHD
Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.

Tuesday
17th Dec
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Facing Defiance
Effective interventions for handling defiant behaviour. ADHD, ODD and PDA relevant as well as regular challenging behaviour. Introduction to the FACE programme - Facing Defiance - 6 week course

Tuesday
7th Jan
19:00 - 21:00
£24



Anxiety-Based School Avoidance
Understanding and supporting children who are anxious about school. Steps you can take to help them back into the classroom.

Thursday
9 Jan
19:00 - 21:00
£24



AUTISM: Improving Communication
Looking at how small changes in how we communicate with children on the spectrum can lead to big improvements.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk. info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



WINTER TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each
If you can't make the date ask for the link to the recording, available for 48 hours afterwards
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
go to the PARENT page

FREE - Decreasing Depression FREE - Anxiety Explained	25 NOV 20 JAN
What is ACT?	26 NOV, 21 JAN
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 NOV
Supporting a Child with ADHD	5 DEC, 2 JAN
Understanding Anger	16 DEC, 13 JAN
Facing Defiance	17 DEC, 14 JAN
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	19 DEC, 16 JAN
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	7 JAN
AUTISM: Improving Communication	9 JAN
Raising Self-Esteem	27 JAN
Supporting Healthy Sleep	28 JAN
Improving Family Communication	4 FEB
Introduction to OCD	18 FEB

facefamilyadvice.co.uk. info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



Care on the move

How can we better understand everyday journeys for children with SEND?

Are you a family in Oxford or Swindon with children aged 4-11 who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)?

Take part in this new research project and help us shape the conversation.

Choose your preferred involvement from:

- Interview
- Keeping a diary
- Group workshop

Receive a gift card as a thank you!

Contact:
careonthemove@ouce.ox.ac.uk
07874 944 294

Find out More



Research approved by the University of Oxford Central
University Research Ethics Committee (Reference no RB467/RE300)



Economic
and Social
Research Council

Botley Bridges Xmas Hampers

The Botley Bridges Christmas Hampers are back! We'll be collecting and packaging food and gifts into hampers for local households who would find it helpful. We are open for donations, financial contributions, volunteers and hamper requests.

Together, let's spread some Christmas cheer in and around Botley!

WHAT TO DONATE:

Food items

- Tea / Coffee / Hot Chocolate / Squash / Soft Drinks (no alcohol)
- Christmas treats (Mince Pies, Biscuits, Selection packs)
- Jam / Marmalade / Honey / Syrups
- Tins or Jars - Fruit / Tuna / Baked Beans / Pasta Sauces / Soup
- Crackers / Biscuits / Rice / Pasta

Gifts

- For Adults - toiletries
- For Children
 - Bubbles / activity books / small craft sets / small construction sets
 - Books (for a variety of ages) / cards etc.



OTHER WAYS OF HELPING:

- To make a financial contribution, please go to our website <https://botleybridges.org/donate/> OR email treasurer@botleybridges.org for bank payment details
- To volunteer to take in deliveries, pack hampers or deliver, please contact Sue Dowe - sue@botleybridges.org / 07769 275084



DONATIONS DROP OFF:

- St Peter and St Paul's Church Hall, Botley on Wednesday 18th Dec 8am-7pm
 - Cumnor School, Botley School, West Oxford School or any Botley Bridges session during the week of 9-13th Dec
- If you cannot drop off at these times please email sue@botleybridges.org to arrange an alternative.

TO REQUEST A HAMPER:

- Fill in our request form <https://botley-hampers.webapp> or use the QR code
- Download form from the website and send via email to sue@botleybridges.org
- Ask for a paper form from your local school or preschool and hand it in



For more information, visit botleybridges.org Registered charity number 1172139



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

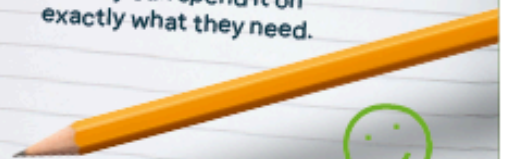
**CASHPOT
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Parentkind

HERE'S HOW:

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
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- 3** Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4** Shopping online?
Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5** We'll do the rest!
We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.



Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 16+. App & Opt in required.
0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072833.
Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30.11.24