News from Cumnor CE School

Love to Learn, Learn to Love

Spring Term Number 1 *10th January 2025*

Dear Families,

Happy New Year!
We've had a positive and busy start to the new year at school, with everyone settling back into the routine very well after a few weeks of well-deserved rest. It has been a real joy to see all of the children again and to hear about what they got up to over the break.

Mrs Harris
At the end of the Spring Term, we will sadly be saying farewell to Mrs Harris, who has been part of our office team for an incredible 21 years! As is most certainly correct, we will be making sure we wish her all the best for her retirement in a suitable way, so more information around plans will follow. We wanted the school community to know in good time as Mrs Harris is such an integral part of our school.

Admin vacancy
Mrs Harris' news means that we have a vacancy for a School Administrator. More information about this role can be found here. The warm welcome provided in our school office not only reflects but exemplifies the ethos and values of the school and it is therefore critical that we seek someone who can continue to offer this to the team.

Term Dates for 2024/25
Term dates for the next academic year are now live on our website:
https://cumnorprimaryschool.co.uk/information/parents-information/term-dates

Census day: Thursday 16th January
School dinners for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are all funded by the government under the Universal Free School Meals scheme. The funding though comes to the school and we use it to pay The School Lunch Company for the dinners. The strange thing about this system is that the funding is based purely on the number of children who have a meal on two particular days of the year, the next of which this year will be Thursday 16th January.
If, for example, only 50% of children have a meal on these days, we receive 50% of the funding, resulting in a funding loss for the school of around £17,000. We would, therefore, really appreciate it if you could order your Reception or Key Stage 1 child a free school dinner on *Thursday 16th January*. Please feel free to send in a packed lunch as a back-up if they have not had a school dinner before. Many thanks.

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	**Creativity** Next week in assembly, we'll be thinking about different types of creativity required to make big things happen. This weekend, you might like to think about the ways in which you can demonstrate creativity. I'd be keen to hear any ideas on Monday…
Reception	Acorn Class have leapt into the New Year with great enthusiasm for our Superheroes topic beginning with the story and adventures of Supertato. As part of our learning we have made Super Fruit Smoothies and we have been busy rescuing and capturing the characters from the story. We have introduced a learning carousel to our daily timetable for the children to develop key skills and this is working well. Finally, in Maths, we have been practising seeing amounts without needing to count (subitising).
Year 1	We have had a tremendous start to our learning about the weather this week! We have made weather wheels with Mrs D and read about different types of weather in non-fiction books. In maths we are also learning about place value in 2 digit numbers and in music we are starting to use our voices and instruments to make long and short sounds.
Year 2	In Cherry Class this week we have been looking at money. We have identified coins and have been counting pounds and pence. In English, we read The Snail and the Whale. We wrote our own versions of the story with an adventure at the end. We started our DT project for this term by adding the first layer of paper mache to our soon-to-be hot air balloons.
Year 3	Birch Class have returned to school full of enthusiasm for our new topic, Robots. This term we will be reading The Iron Man for our class text and The Wild Robot for pleasure. In maths we have been looking at related multiplication and division facts and how we can use the facts that we do know to work out the facts that we don't. In PE we are learning how to use the gym equipment safely and create a sequence of movements.
Year 4	This week we have enjoyed catching up with the things everyone has been doing over the Christmas break, and our first piece of writing was a recount about this. We embarked on our new topic which begins in 'The Stone Age' and we handled a replica hand axe to get a feel for what it might have been like to have lived in that time. In French we started to learn words for modes of transport.
Year 5	A great first week back in Year 5! We have started our Ancient Greece topic and researched some gods and goddesses. We have also started reading "Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief." In maths, we have started a new unit on multiplication and division.
Year 6	Oak Class have had a brilliant start to the term and have come back ready to learn! This week in maths we have started looking at ratios and in English we have started to develop our descriptive language skills. In art we have started designing our multimedia pharaoh headdress portraits.

Clubs

Clubs will start from next week. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly at the end of the session.

Diary dates:
Key dates this term

Friday 17 January	AM	Year 2 Fire Service visit
Tuesday 21 January	PM	Year 4 Swimming Starts
Tuesday 21 January	PM	Year 1 Winter Walk
Thursday 30 January	TBC	Year R & Year 6 Heights and Weights check
Friday 07 February	Evening	KS1 & KS2 School Discos
Thursday 13 February	All Day	Year 5 Portals to the past day
Friday 14 February	9am	Acorn Class assembly
Monday 17 - 21 February	All week	Spring half term break
Thursday 6 March	All day	World Book Day
Wednesday 12 March	All day	Crocodiles of the World trip
Friday 14 March	Evening	Quiz Night
Monday 17 - Friday 21 March	All week	Year 6 Residential - Yenworthy
Monday 17 March	All day	Acorn Class Trip to Cogges Farm
Wednesday 19 March	All day	Year 3 Trip to Hampton Court
Tuesday 25 March	TBC	Acorn Class Vision Screening
Tuesday 25 March	PM	Year 1 Spring Walk
Wednesday 26 March	All day	Year 2 Trip to Winchester Science Centre
Thursday 27 March	All day	Year 4 to Chedworth Manor
Friday 28 March	9am	Year 6 Residential Assembly
Friday 28 March	7pm	PTA Bingo Night
Wednesday 2 April	2.30pm	iRock Concert
Thursday 3rd April	AM	Easter Service at St Michael's Church
Friday 4th April	1.15pm	Break up for Easter Holiday
Tuesday 21st April	All day	INSET Day
Tuesday 22nd April	8.50am	Return to school for summer term

Yours sincerely,

Steven Badger, Headteacher

Universally Challenged?

Join Quiz Night!

Starter for Ten:

- Teams of six (Don't have a team? We can speed-date you on the night)
- £10 per person (book via quizcumnorschool@gmail.com or just turn up)
- Complimentary bar snack food, one free drink and prizes
- Cash (and card) bar

Friday 14 March | **7.30pm**

Cumnor Primary School
Oxford Rd, Cumnor, Oxford
OX2 9PQ

Contact: quizcumnorschool@gmail.com

INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

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

Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. 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 1073883. Full T&C's at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30.11.24

Girls aged 7-10 Years old

Do you want to have Fun,

Make New Friends

& Learn New Things?

Then join 2nd Botley Brownies

Tuesdays 6:15pm to 7:45pm

Contact:

secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com

Every Wednesday during term-time 4.00 - 5.30pm

Outdoor Explorers

Hill End
A place of possibilities

£8.00 per child

TASTER SESSION
WEDS 12 FEBRUARY, 4PM

Experience the magic of nature & the joy of outdoor adventure, together with your children, after school each Wednesday:

- Fun outdoor self-led activities
- Hands-on nature exploration
- Unwind, connect with the environment & make friends

www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

SCAN ME FOR INFO!

Children's BOOK CLUB

1st Saturday of every month, 10am at

Westgate Library

Sign up at the library or write to us at:

westgate.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk