News from Cumnor CE School

Love to Learn, Learn to Love

Summer Term Number 2 *2nd May 2025*

Dear Families,

Sports Day
Please see letter from Mrs Barry about Sports Day:

It is almost time for our annual Sports Day at Cumnor School and now seems a good time to share with you the details of the day. Sports Day will be held on **Friday 16th May from 9am until 12.30pm**, unless bad weather delays the activities until Friday 23rd May. We are holding the event earlier in the school year to try to avoid the excessive heat we sometimes experience in Term 6. Parental feedback suggested that the event would be easier to attend on a Friday than on a Monday as has previously been the case.

Children will bring home their PE kit on Thursday 15th May so that they can come into school ready to compete on Friday morning. All children require their proper PE kit including a T shirt in their house colour. They can remain in their kit all day - no other school uniform will be required. Please make use of your class Whatsapp groups to ensure children have their correct colour t shirt, or notify your class teacher in advance if there is a problem.

Children should come to school promptly on Friday to ensure the activities can start on time - it is a very busy morning!. Parents are warmly invited to attend and to join in the fun by wearing the appropriate house colours of their child! The event will take place on the Key Stage 1 field (the field at the front of the school) so please wait here once you have dropped your children off at their classroom. We hope to start Sports Day at 9.10am, after registration.

The morning will run in two parts. There will be a carousel of activities intended to be a lot of fun for the first part and running races for each class for the second part with a more competitive spirit.

At **12 o'clock**, parents are invited to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy with their children. Children will briefly go back to their classrooms to collect anything they need and parents are invited to go via the school drive to the back field where they will be reunited with their children. Hot school dinners will still be available to order and these will be eaten in the school hall as normal and so unfortunately parents will not be able to eat with their children in this instance. Any children who do not have a parent or carer present will eat lunch in their class groups with staff so please do not worry if you can not attend or can't stay for lunch. If your child wishes to eat with another family in your absence please ensure the family is aware of any allergies your child has. **The picnic will finish at 12.30pm** to allow 30 minutes for children to play on their respective fields as usual. This means that at 12.30pm children will be asked to line up in their class groups on the playground while parents make their way off the school field to help manage the goodbyes which can be difficult for some children. Your support with this is much appreciated.

I do hope you are able to join us for Sports Day - it is a special event in the Cumnor Calendar and what makes it particularly special is how inclusive the event is for everybody. Please come ready to cheer on and celebrate all our children's achievements.

Thank you as always for your continued support of sport at Cumnor School.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Barry
PE Lead

PTA Update

Earlier this week, representatives of the PTA met with Mr Badger, Mrs Moor (School Business Manager) and Tom Christophers (Chair of Governors) in order to consider ways in which we can continue to work together for the benefit of the whole school community. We discussed continuing to fund some of the regular items supported by the PTA, such as Forest School, guitar lessons, subsidising the cost of swimming coaches and leavers activities. We also discussed how, as well as being able to support short term needs, there is a place for PTA funds to be used to deliver on finishing some longer term projects that governors have been thinking about. A wonderful example of this is the development of the KS2 library. The bulk of the funds were raised by Linda Jeffreys, a governor with a specific interest in that area. The PTA then supported the realisation of this project as it drew to a close by paying for the decorating materials. On behalf of all of the school community, a big 'Thank You' to those who have been part of and supported the committee over recent years. It really does make a huge difference!

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 have set a vision, strategy and set of values 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 Wednesday evening with preparation required beforehand. Outside of meetings governors are encouraged to take part in school life as well as undertake monitoring visits on key areas of school life. 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 to 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 by the end of the day on **Tuesday 13th May**.

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

Tom Christophers, Chair of Governors

Get ready to set sail on a delicious adventure!

On Thursday 15th May 2025, our school meal provider, Radish, will be hosting a swashbuckling Pirate Theme Day in the dining hall – and it's going to be a feast fit for a captain!.
With a treasure trove of pirate-inspired dishes, we're sure the kids will be talking about this one long after the last chip is gone. Not only will the food be fun and flavourful, but we hope to spark imaginations and encourage some jolly good conversation!

Here's what's on the Pirate Menu:
🍔 Captain Jack's Burger in a Bun
🌱 Black Pearl Veggie Burger in a Bun
Jacket Potato with choice of filling
🍟 Served with Walk the Plank Chips or Potato Wedges, tasty vegetables, and a sweet dessert to finish your voyage!

Radish also caters for all dietary needs, whether your young pirate is vegan, gluten-free, or has specific allergies – no one misses out on the fun!. If your child is on the Allergy Menu, please check the attached Allergen Menu for more details.

⚠️ Important! Please order the meal preference on Scopay, don't worry if this has already been done as this can be changed. Head to www.scopay.com/login and let us know your preference before Thursday 15th May.

Anchors aweigh – we can't wait to see the kids enjoy this exciting day of food and fun!

The Oxfordshire all-age autism strategy 2025 – 2030

This strategy from the county aims to address the diverse needs of autistic people and their families living in the county, ensuring they have access to necessary resources and, where required, services and opportunities to lead fulfilling lives. They are now asking for feedback on the draft strategy and want to receive views on the overall strategy, its vision and its themes from anyone who has involvement or experience of being autistic or supporting people with autism.
The Oxfordshire all-age autism strategy 2025 – 2030

Opportunity to attend Parenting Puzzle Workshops

West Oxford Community Primary School are running a series of four Parenting Puzzle Workshops, and have some spare spaces for parents from other West Oxford Schools Partnership schools to attend. The Parenting Puzzle Workshops are provided by The Centre for Emotional Health (formerly Family Links).

> *'Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging. The Parenting Puzzle Workshops help deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life. It is a tried and tested programme, and helps us to think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.'*

Full details are in the attachment at the end of this newsletter
If you would like to attend, please contact Louise Siddle from West Oxford by Wednesday 7th May.
lsiddle@westoxfordschool.co.uk 01865 248862

What has my child been doing this week?

School Value of the week:	**Respect and Tolerance** Mrs Lawfull took the whole school assembly on Monday. The children thought about tolerance of others as well as being kind to ourselves. We shared the story of 'The Twirly, Wiggly Dance' by Farrah Riaz and Navya Raju.
Reception	This week in Acorn Class we have begun our Sunflower project in earnest. We have looked at what seeds need to grow, we have watched the lifecycle of a sunflower and we have made predictions about how long it will take to see our shoots appear. We have also heard the story of Bog Baby and made our own salt dough babies. Today we had Sam the tortoise come to visit us and learnt a little bit about these lovely animals.
Year 1	This week, we have been learning more about the Cumnor dinosaur and all about how fossils are made! We even got to handle some real ones on our Museum trip. In English, we have been enjoying the story of *Dear Dinosaur* and even wrote our own letters to the megalosaurus at the museum this morning!
Year 2	This week we have been looking at speech marks in English. We read the next two chapters of Robin Hood and independently wrote a summary of the story so far (some of us even used speech marks!) We had a fantastic forest school session where we printed with flowers and leaves - they're on display in the corridor.
Year 3	This week in maths, we have revisited fractions and learnt how to add and subtract them as well as partition the whole. In RE we have looked at how art is used to help us understand stories. We designed our own Indian tile prints in art. In computing we have learnt how to edit documents.
Year 4	Year 4 have been consolidating how to multiply and divide any number by 10 and 100. In Geography, we have been learning about aspects of the River Thames. Today, we enjoyed a really interesting trip to the Williams F1 base as part of our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning.
Year 5	This week we have started our decimal unit in maths. In English, we have recapped modal verbs and we have considered survival skills needed for an island. In Geography, we have named the different layers of the ocean and discovered which creatures live at certain depths. In computing, we used "I can animate" to plot a journey across the ocean.
Year 6	This week in maths we have been learning how to calculate the internal angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and polygons. In English we have been writing adverts to hire a crew for our Brightstorm Challenge. In computing we have learnt how to plan a party for the class using spreadsheets and how to make a chart summarising the data.

Clubs

As normal next week!

PTA Committee News

Our **next PTA Committee meeting** will be at **The Vine Inn** on **Thursday May 8th at 7pm**. We'll be looking at all the fantastic summer term events ahead, including the **Midsummer Festival & Outdoor Cinema**! Come join the team or just find out more about what we do and how you might get involved. Everyone is welcome!

Our **PTA Big Bookshop** will be open at our school's Summer Festival on Friday June 28th. We would welcome any donations of **children's books** for this popular stall! These can be dropped into the school office or just email cumnorschoolpta@gmail.com to arrange local collection from your home. Thank you!

The sun is shining and the weather is hot! Need some shorts or dresses to keep cool at school? We have lots of like-new items in stock in the **PTA Pre-loved Uniform Shop**! At just **£1 per item**, the shop is a fantastic way to outfit your children for less, save the environment and support the school all at the same time! Contact us by email at cumnorprimaryuniformpta@gmail.com for these or any other uniform items you need, and we will endeavour to provide it!

We are always very grateful for **donations** of clean, good-condition, saleable uniform, so please continue to donate mindfully to the black bin in the school bike shed. No dirty, stained, threadbare or non-standard school uniform items please. Thank you!

Diary dates:
Key dates this term:

Thursday 8th May	TBC	Class photos
Wednesday 14th May	TBC	Reception class vision screening
Friday 16th May	AM	Sports Day followed by family picnic
26th May - 30th May	All Week	Half Term - school closed

Yours sincerely,

Steven Badger
Headteacher

PIRATE DAY MENU

Main

Captain Jack's Burger in a Bun
or
Black Pearl Veggie Burger in a Bun

Served with

Walk the Plank Chips
Pirate's Treasure Peas and Baked Beans

Dessert

Jolly Roger Doughnuts

radish
IT'S ALL GOOD

PIRATE DAY

* ALLERGEN FREE MENU

Main

Captain Jack's Pizza (v)

Served with

Walk the Plank Potato Wedges
Pirate's Treasure Sweetcorn

Dessert

Jolly Roger Jelly
Fresh Fruit

*This menu does not contain any of the 14 named allergens: Celery, cereals containing gluten (such as wheat, barley and oats), crustaceans (such as prawns, crabs and lobsters), eggs, fish, lupin, milk, molluscs (such as mussels and oysters), mustard, peanuts, sesame, soybeans, sulphur dioxide and tree nuts (such as almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, brazil nuts, cashews, pecans, pistachios and macadamia nuts).

radish
IT'S ALL GOOD

CUMNOR PTA PRESENTS
FOR THE FIRST TIME...

MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL & OUTDOOR CINEMA

JUNE 28TH 2025

NEED YOU

Cumnor School PTA has a brand new event this year — and we'd love your **ideas, creativity, and connections!**

🎉Do you know a business that could sponsor us?
🎶Have skills in music, performance, or entertainment?
🎨Keen face painter, crafter, or karaoke enthusiast?
💡Or just full of ideas to help bring the day to life?

Join us for our planning meeting — share your ideas, get involved, and enjoy a drink!

- THURSDAY, 8TH MAY
- 7:00 PM
- THE VINE, CUMNOR

CAN'T COME BUT HAVE IDEAS... JOIN OUR NON-COMMITAL FRIENDS OF THE PTA GROUP

Friends of the PTA
WhatsApp group

CLICK HERE

Saturday May 17th

BOOK LAUNCH

St Michael's Church at Cumnor and its Parish: A History and Guide

by Edward Impey and Robert Evans

Copies will be available for purchase and signing
St Michael's Church • 6.00pm for 6.30pm
Saturday May 17th
Wine, soft drinks & nibbles
RSVP Parish Office (office@parish.org)

All proceeds from the sale of this guidebook go to the St Michael's Church Fabric Fund • www.cumnor.org

Don't miss this chance to meet the authors and learn more about the fascinating history of our Parish Church

Cumnor Pre-school presents...

NEARLY NEW SALE

Cumnor Primary School Hall

£2 entry

Saturday 3rd May, 5-7pm
Sunday 4th May, 10am-12pm

Buy and sell top-quality children's clothes (baby to primary school age), toys, books, games, maternity and nursery equipment
Bargains always on offer!
Card payments accepted

Cumnor Pre-school Nursery

To sell (60% seller 40% pre-school split) or for more information email:
nearlynewsalecumnor@gmail.com

Abingdon & Witney College | Oxfordshire Adult Learning

A FACULTY OF ABINGDON & WITNEY COLLEGE

FREE ENGLISH COURSE

Families Learning Together

FREE 12 week course for Parents and Carers at Botley Primary

- Practise your English skills
- Improve your confidence
- Get to know other families

Day: Fridays
Time: 1pm - 3pm
Dates: 25th April - 18th July
No session Friday 30th May
(half-term holiday)

Botley Primary School
10 Elms Road
Botley
Oxford OX2 9JZ

To book a place please contact Penelope Lea:

07342 880 923 penelope.lea@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk

Hill End

A place of possibilities

Go Wild This May Half-Term!

NEW WILD DAYS for 7-12 year olds

Bushcraft, nature walks, campfire cooking, and den-building in the stunning surroundings of **Hill End** and **Wytham Woods**.

From pond-dipping to minibeast hunting, our expert tutors will lead exciting hands-on activities, making learning fun while kids connect with nature and new friends.

Booking Essential: https://hill-end.org/news/wild-days

HillEndOEC | Hill_End | hill_end_centre

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ **01865 863510**

Now showing, CONFIDENCE!

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4–12 year olds shine

**❝ My son has adored his first term at Perform.
He has blossomed and I've seen his confidence grow every week.❞**
Pippa Wotton

PERFORM®
WATCH YOUR CHILD SHINE

Play is a POWERFUL THING

Perform classes help boost children's **confidence, concentration, coordination** and **communication** skills, as well as being lots of fun.

Our expertly designed drama, dance and singing sessions for 4-7s and 7-12s are run by experienced teachers, hand-picked for their warmth and approachability. They'll be with your child every step of the way – inspiring and encouraging them to develop vital life skills as they discover the joy of performing.

What does Perform offer?

- Performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps
- End of term presentation for family and friends

❝ Perform helps develop all key areas of a child in a fun, supportive and engaging way. It gives my daughter a brilliant sense of fun, community, purpose and pride in her achievements.❞
Begum Bari

Ready to try for free?

Your child's first class is free, so why not give it a go? Classes take place all over, have a look online or call us:

perform.org.uk/try 020 7255 9120

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Cumnor Cofe School** if they sign up by Sunday 1st June 2025. Parents should quote CUMC62025 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try. Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from here.

'Adolescence' TV show highlighted the issues

What is INCEL culture?
Isolation and rejection
Lack of positive role models
Over dependence on Smart phones
Screen addiction
Vulnerability to online bullying
Influenced by negative role models
Toxic websites
Violent behaviour & misogyny

Emotional Resilience for our Children

Online Talk for Parents

from FACE Family Advice £24

email Jane Keyworth, FACE Lead Facilitator

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Saturday 3rd May 10:00-11:30
Thursday 8th May 19:00-20:30

british certified trainer

Talks are recorded and available for 48 hours after each talk

How Parenting Puzzle Workshops have helped other parents

"So helpful to have ways of dealing with situations that happen on a daily basis"

"Wonderful! Could do this every day"

"Better than expected, made me think differently about toddler behaviour"

"It was a completely new experience for me but after the first week I was completely relaxed"

Check out familylinks.org.uk

The Nurturing Programme Parenting Puzzle Workshops

Where:

West Oxford Community Primary School

When:

Wednesdays 7-9pm:
14th May, 21st May, 4th June, 11th June

Contact details:

Louise Siddle and Emma Willis

lsiddle@wesoxfordschool.co.uk

01865 248862

FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health

familylinks.org.uk

FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health

Parenting Puzzle Workshops

Information for parents and carers

What is the Parenting Puzzle?

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Parenting Puzzle Workshops help deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

A tried and tested programme, it helps us think about what we do, why we do it, and how it makes us feel.

The Building Blocks of the Parenting Puzzle

the best chance in life

The Four Workshops

Workshop 1: Understanding Children's Behaviour, Listening and Communicating, Praise and Encouragement.

Workshop 2: Praise and Guidance vs Criticism, Child-led Play, and Positive Moments.

Workshop 3: Boundaries and Parenting Styles, Time to Calm Down, Dealing with Stress and Conflict.

Workshop 4: Choices and Consequences, Behaviour to Ignore, Putting the Puzzle Together, Looking after Ourselves.

Practical information

There are four 2-hour sessions with a tea and coffee break.

10-20 parents are invited and there are two Family Links trained group leaders.

Partners are welcome and it's also fine to come on your own or with another relative or friend.

Some groups provide a creche: check with group leaders beforehand.

You need to come to all four workshops: they fit together like a puzzle.

You will be provided with a copy of The Parenting Puzzle book to accompany the workshops.

ART CLASSES

A PLACE TO BELONG, GROW & CREATE

BOOK A TRIAL NOW!

- Art Classes for Children 6+
- Teen Art Classes
- GCSE & A-Level Support
- Holiday Art Workshops
- Seasonal Family Workshops
- Birthday Parties & Events

COMMITTED TO SAFEGUARDING | OFSTED REGISTERED | CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

07384 670391
oxford@art-k.co.uk
art-k.co.uk/class-oxford
37 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JN

art-K