



News from Cumnor CE School

Love to Learn, Learn to Love

Autumn Term Number 8

23rd October 2026

Dear Families,

A terrific first term of the year!

It has been a positive start to the 2026/27 academic year at Cumnor School! We've celebrated many successes including welcoming some new staff and new children. Across the classes, we have seen a real effort going into all aspects of school life. We hope you have a great week next week and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 3rd November.

We are the writers of Cumnor School!

This year, we are working on raising the profile of writing across school. As part of our work last year, in light of 'The Writing Framework' - a useful piece of guidance from the DfE, we recognised the importance of spending time on getting the basics right. For younger children, this is particularly focused on pencil grip, handwriting and the understanding of what constitutes a sentence. Research shows that this is incredibly important in supporting children in thriving as writers as they move through the primary age range where they will be writing for different purposes and audiences. Children in Years 5 and 6 have already filled our corridor with quality pieces of poetry and some diary entries based on the book they have been studying in class. Whilst almost impossible to read in the photos, hopefully this will provide an idea of how impressive it is.



Results

The website has now been updated to include the results of Statutory Assessments from last academic year. We are incredibly pleased with the results which reflect the hard work and dedication of the entire school community. Please see the link [here](#).

Water from Steel

Last week, Steel kindly provided every child with a bottle of water to support one of his key messages about the importance of staying hydrated. Although we recognise that these are single-use plastic bottles, we have decided to distribute them to the children today.

We would be grateful if you could reinforce the importance of recycling at home by encouraging your child(ren) to recycle their bottle once they have finished using it. Thank you for your support in helping us promote both healthy hydration habits and environmental responsibility.

Comparative Judgements to support accurate assessment in writing

We have recently purchased some software to support the accurate judgement of writing from Year1 to Year 6. The tool utilises AI to provide the most accurate assessment of writing. A guide for parents can be found [here](#).

Poppy Appeal

We have been provided with a range of poppy-based items by the Royal British Legion which our Year 6 School Councillors will be selling for donations before and after school during the first week after half term. They will be based on the picnic table and can only accept cash, please.

Parking Reminder

Thank you for parking considerately on the roads near School, ensuring that both the pavements and the road have enough room to pass. Please do remember that The Vine have kindly offered their car park for drop off / pick up times, to relieve pressure on the road.

Lunches

We are delighted by the increase in the uptake on lunches. Please do continue to pre-order lunches on Arbor as this helps the kitchen to ensure they have enough food ready! Please discuss food choices with your children as many are asking to switch meals as they explore the new menu.

Cauliflower Christmas Cards - deadline approaching

A reminder to parents that the deadline for returning Cauliflower Cards artwork is Tuesday 3rd November and that they should be ordered online and then returned to the class teacher so that they can be sent off.

Money found

Some money was found on the school drive this afternoon and has been handed in to School. If you have lost some, please contact the school office with the details.

Clubs

Clubs will not run on days the school is not open (e.g. bank holidays/ inset days). Clubs will not run next week or on Monday 2nd November (inset day). Gymnastics will run on 11th December as it's not running on 23rd October and 27th November. Spanish club will run until 9th December.

News from my child's class:

School Value of the week:	Aspiration
	We continued to explore 'Aspiration' through our overarching value of 'Curiosity'. We thought about the subjects and jobs which make us ask questions.
Reception	This week in Acorn Class we have been using the language of comparison in maths, we have been continuing to learn the letter sounds b, c, g and h in phonics and we have been learning about the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. We have created our own dotty art installation in the classroom just like her work! We also enjoyed our Books at Bedtime event on Thursday evening - thank you to everyone who was able to come!
Year 1	This week we have been learning how to find parts by adding and subtracting. We also went on an Autumn walk around Cumnor looking for signs of Autumn. We followed this up by drawing a map of our route and identifying landmarks.
Year 2	We have enjoyed a good end to the term this week! We did well in our reading assessments and have been logging on to the Chromebooks in computing. We used textures in paint in art to explore and create imaginary houses.
Year 3	This week in maths we have learnt how to use column addition to solve calculations. In English we completed writing our own dragon stories based off of 'The Water Dragon' and in art we sculpted dragon eyes out of clay and painted them.
Year 4	We have had a very successful last week of this term. The children have focused well and worked really hard on a piece of free writing. They have completed a unit of addition and subtraction where they have impressed me with the way they have quickly picked up new skills. We have also been enjoying a final week of Danish Longball where the children have refined their strategies for effective team play. Well done, year 4!
Year 5	This week we have launched our chocolate project! We have our group names and exciting ideas for our truffle campaign. We have also completed our last lesson about the Amazon rainforest and discussed how we can preserve it for future generations. In maths we have explored square and cube numbers.
Year 6	This week we had a wonderful trip to Oxford where we learnt all about evolution and explored the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. After that we went through the streets of Oxford and learnt about the exciting inspiration for classic stories such as Alice in Wonderland and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. In school, we have published our final diary pieces and delved into BIDMAS in Maths. We've also been learning how to keep ourselves safe with a fire safety talk. What a great week to finish a wonderful first half term!



PTA Update

CUMNOR PRIMARY · PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2026

AUTUMN TERM 2026

🍁 Happy Half Term, Cumnor Families!

NEW!



ART & GIFTS

Cauliflower Christmas Cards

Your child's amazing festive artwork has gone home today, along with an order form for this year's Cauliflower Christmas Cards. Please return both the artwork and the completed paper order form to school by Tuesday 3rd November, straight after half term. Don't miss out on these adorable keepsakes — the perfect Christmas gift for family and friends!

PSST...

Exciting News on the Horizon...

We have a feeling our Sensory Wellbeing Garden and hub may be happening sooner than we first thought! We can't wait to share more very soon — watch this space.



🍁 Happy half term, everyone! See you all on the other side for an exciting run-up to the Christmas Fayre!

Main Committee Board Members:

Hannah Talbot-Falce (Chair) · Sarah Cohen (Secretary) · James Marriott (Treasurer) · Jude Goldacre (Communications)
...and many more brilliant volunteers who help make it all happen!

Diary dates: The diary dates listed below may not be exhaustive and are subject to change.

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October	School closed	October half-term
Monday 2nd November	School closed	Inset day
Friday 6th November	9am	Year 4 Class Assembly (families welcome to the school hall)
Friday 6th November	School Day	Year 6 Trip - Hill End
Tuesday 10th November & Thursday 12th November	Tue 2:30 - 6:00 Thursday 2:30-5:30	Parents' evenings
Wednesday 18th November	School Day (late return)	Year 4 Trip to London for Matilda
Friday 20th November	School Day	Christmas jumper/Tombola Donation day
Friday 27th November	Time TBC	Christmas Fayre
Thursday 10th December	PM/Evening	Reception - Year 2 Nativity
Friday 11th December	PM	Reception - Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	14:20 pm	Irock concert (families welcome)
Friday 18th December	09:00 am	Christmas Church Service St Michael's Church
Friday 18th December	13:15 pm	End of term
Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2027	School closed	Christmas holidays
Monday 4th January	Inset Day	School closed
Tuesday 5th January	08:50	School starts

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Steven Badger'. The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Steven' and last name 'Badger' clearly distinguishable.

Steven Badger

Headteacher

Pet Blessing Service

Bring your pet!
to a special family service at
St Michael's Church, Cumnor

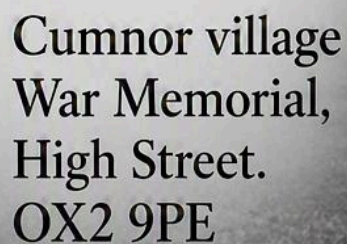
Sunday 25th October
service starts at 10:30am

OR
BRING A
PHOTO
OF YOUR
PET!



ALL PETS MUST BE SUITABLY CONTROLLED: ON
LEADS, IN BASKETS/CRATES/BOXES/COVERED
BOWLS AT ALL TIMES PLEASE!

Act of Remembrance



THIS HALLOWEEN...
PUMPKIN NIGHT
RETURNS!!

OCTOBER
FRIDAY | 30 | 5 PM - 10 PM

***TRICK OR TREAT YOURSELF TO A NIGHT
FULL OF MUSIC, LAUGHTER, AND CHILLS!***

At The Bear and Ragged Staff, Cumnor

A Family Friendly Evening

Hosted by

The Cumnor Mayors

In aid of 3 GREAT charities

SeeSaw, Flexicare & SSNAP

Come along and enjoy:

Fancy dress, Fireworks,

Raffle, Auction,

Food, Drinks,

Music and MORE!!

Mind Over Matter
Fitness Centre

Calm Yoga For Children

6-week block of yoga
classes involving mindful
movement, breathwork &
creative crafting

Tuesdays: 15:45 - 16:30

November 3, 10, 17, 24 > December 8 & 15

6 sessions for £60

Book now through
our website!

www.mindovermatterfitnesscentre.co.uk

Builds Strength,
Flexibility &
Confidence



Reduces Stress &
Supports Better
Sleep



Boosts Focus &
Concentration



Harcourt Hill,
Oxford, OX2 9AT

For Ages 8-11

**MIND
OVER
MATTER**
FITNESS CENTRE



BOTLEY SCHOOL'S



FIREWORKS NIGHT

COME EARLY FOR REFRESHMENTS AND BBQ



FRIDAY
6th NOV
2026



DOORS OPEN
6.00 PM



DISPLAY STARTS AT 7PM

BOTLEY SCHOOL, ELMS ROAD, OXFORD

Early Years and KS1 Teddy Bear Hunt in the early years garden.

5pm--6pm, FREE Entry, please bring
a torch for the hunt. Refreshments will also be available for sale.

TICKETS

ON PARENT PAY, AT BOTLEY LIBRARY AND ON EVENTBRITE
CHILD £4/ADULT £8/FAMILY (2 ADULTS + 3 CHILDREN) £20 IN
ADVANCE OR £5/£10/£25 ON THE DOOR

SPONSORED BY BIDWELLS

SCAN HERE



EVENTBRITE TICKETS

1st Botley Rainbows & Brownies *Fairy Trail*



Keep the magic alive!

Volunteer and make a difference to girls in your local community!



Get Involved

All girls welcome to join for after-school adventures!

Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
1 st Osney Rangers	1 st Osney Rainbows		1 st Botley Rainbows	South Oxford Guides
	1 st Osney & 2 nd Botley Brownies			
	1 st Osney & 3 rd West Oxford Guides		1 st Botley Brownies	

Rainbows: age 4–7

Guides: age 10–14

Brownies: age 7–10

Rangers: age 14–18



ONE CITY
ONE COMMUNITY

FREE TICKETS

THE MGROUP STADIUM – OX3 0NQ



SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER

2PM | VS REACONSFIELD TOWN



SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER

2PM | VS FLEET TOWN



SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER

2PM | VS FARNHAM TOWN



SCAN HERE AND USE THE CODE:

SCHOOL



OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMPS!

For children aged 4–16

**Book sessions online at
www.ignitesportuk.com**

- OFSTED Registered
- Childcare vouchers accepted
- HAF funded places – please enquire at:
office@ignitesportuk.com



COME AND PLAY HOCKEY!



**OXFORD HAWKS
HOCKEY CLUB**

**Fun, friendly hockey for
girls and boys of all abilities**

From Reception to Year 13

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

Whether you're completely new to
hockey or already love the game,
everyone is welcome.

2 FREE TRIAL SESSIONS

Come along and give hockey a try —
we can provide a stick if you need one!

TRAINING / MATCHES

Tuesday evenings & Sunday mornings

We're a friendly and welcoming hockey club where
children can learn, have fun and develop their hockey
skills in a supportive environment.

Get in touch to arrange your
two FREE trial sessions:

juniors@oxfordhawks.co.uk



North Oxford - OX2 8EQ - right next to Cutteslowe Park
www.oxfordhawks.co.uk



Modern Art Oxford

HALLOWEEN HALF-TERM

CREATIVE STUDIO

Free, open every day (Tue-Sun)

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Free, drop-in on Thu 29 Oct

ACTIVITY BACKPACK

Pick up for free & explore the galleries

Find us at:

30 Pembroke Street, OX1 1BP
modernartoxford.org.uk