Cumnor C.E. School Newsletter
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Autumn Term Newsletter No. 13
4th December 2015

Dear Parents,

Maths Meeting
It was really good to see so many of you at our maths meeting on Wednesday evening. I hope you found it informative and useful. The main emphasis was on the launch of 'MyMaths' a web based maths support programme that we will be using to supplement our work in this area. By now you should have your login details, (if not, please let the school office know and we will make sure they are sent to you) and your children should know how to log in too! Any problems; let us know! (Using 'Mymaths' on iPad, you will need to download the free puffin browser to your iPad. Open the puffin browser and go to the 'Mymaths' website).

Staff News
We will be sorry to lose Mrs Katey Vane (Year 3 Teaching Assistant) at Christmas. She has been a fabulous addition to our staff over the past few years. We wish her well in her future endeavours. Katey's three afternoons in Year 3 will be filled by Mrs Vittoria Robinson until the summer. We are also pleased that Mrs Natalie Kerby will be providing some additional afternoon Teaching Assistant support for our Year 1 class.

We are delighted for Mrs Jodie Pates (Year 6 Teaching Assistant) who has let us know that she is expecting a baby in the spring. She is hoping to start her maternity leave at Easter. Mrs Sarah Eaton has agreed to take on Jodie's hours in the short term (certainly until the SATs are complete) and we will let you know of other arrangements as they are finalised.

Eco Warriors Bug Hotel Competition
We had lots of entries for the Bug Hotel competition, they really were great. Only one could be selected to be made into a full size 'hotel', so, many congratulations to Martha Gates whose amazing design was chosen. Thank you to everyone who entered. Maybe they could make their own versions from their designs for your home garden?

You would have noticed, I'm sure, how much hard work the Eco-Warriors have done over the past few months. I am delighted to say that their enthusiasm and fabulous initiatives have now earned them the Eco School Silver award! Well done Eco-Warriors. Green Flag status next?

Reception and Key Stage 1 Nativity
We are all looking forward to seeing the children performing 'Born in a Barn' next week. Tickets went home earlier this week (2 tickets per family per performance). If you didn't receive yours, please let us know.

Kitchen Hygiene Inspection
Along with all restaurants and work place kitchens, our school canteen is also subject to stringent hygiene regulations. The county council send out teams of inspectors every few years to check on the conditions in these kitchens. On Monday we had our latest surprise inspection. This was the first one since Carrieann and her team took over through The School Lunch Company and I am pleased to say that they have retained full marks, achieving the full five stars for hygiene. Well done to Carrieann, Sue and Tatiana and thank you to them for their hard work and commitment to our school dinners.

School Christmas Dinner
Our School Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday 17th December. The dinner will be a traditional Christmas one, with roast turkey and all the trimmings and ice cream for dessert. The meal is free for all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. It will be £2.10 for all Key Stage 2 children. If your child would like a vegetarian option, please could you let the office know as soon as possible, so that Carrieann can cater accordingly? If your child does not want to have the Christmas dinner, they may bring in a packed lunch and will still eat with their friends in the hall.

Carols by Candlelight
We are looking forward to our KS2 Carols by Candlelight evening on 16th December at 6.00pm. We have some of the children playing instruments for us and the choir singing as well as enjoying a few traditional sing-a-longs. I do you hope you can make it.

Gospel Choir visit
As you may know, we have some representatives of a Gospel choir visiting school on the last Monday of term. They will be performing in assembly and then running workshops with the Key Stage 2 children for the rest of the day. There will also be a performance with the children at the end of the day at 2.45pm which parents are welcome to attend if you would like to.

School Post Box
Our School Post Box will be in the front Entrance Hall from Monday next week. Please can you encourage your children to use the post box rather than giving their cards out by hand. Our Year 6 children will empty the box every day and make a delivery to each class in the afternoon. Envelopes should be marked clearly with the recipient's full name and which class they are in.

From Your PTA
We are really looking forward to seeing you tonight at the Chilli Christmas Bazaar. Do remember that we will be providing chilli and hot dogs so you can dine with us! The school choir will be welcoming us at the start of the bazaar at 5pm. See you there.

What has my child been doing this week?

Reception	'ai' and 'ee' sounds, days of the week / months of the year and helping Porro write a letter to Father Christmas.
Year 1	Making fabric heraldic pennants, looking at 3D shape and following up from out trip to Oxford Castle.
Year 2	Writing a class story ending, telling time and making predictions about what will happen to popcorn when we heat it.
Year 3	Excel bar charts, solving time problems and exploring the story of Jesus birth.
Year 4	Equivalent fractions, newspaper articles and looking at Christmas symbolism.
Year 5	Using descriptive writing for effect, the 24 hour clock and looking at different perspectives of the Christmas story.
Year 6	Presenting facts about European countries, creating and interpreting pie charts. Learning about using colons / semi colons.

The next two weeks:

10th December	2.00pm & 6.00pm	Reception / Key Stage 1 Nativity
14th December	All day	Gospel Choir performance and workshops
16th December	PM	Choir singing at Oxenford House
16th December	6pm	KS2 Carols by Candlelight at school
17th December	Lunchtime	Christmas Dinner and Show
18th December	9.30am	Christmas Church service
18th December	1.15pm	School closes for the Christmas holidays
Monday 4th January	8.50am	Children return to school

I hope to see you all at the Bazaar tonight.

Yours sincerely

Ed Read