



Cumnor C.E. School Newsletter
Oxford Road Cumnor OX2 9PQ
Telephone 01865 862337
Email office.3223@cumnor.oxon.sch.uk
www.cumnorprimaryschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Ed Read

Summer Term Newsletter No. 5
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Dear Parents,

Congratulations to Mrs Pottle!

Last autumn, I nominated Julie Pottle for 'The Primary Science Teacher of The Year' award. She was shortlisted before Christmas and an assessor came out to see her work and talk with us at school in the spring. **We have now found out the she has won!** As well as the prestige of winning, Julie becomes a fellow of the Primary Science Teacher College, and will be involved in much of the research and teaching projects. Unfortunately her award ceremony will not be until October, so we'll all have to wait a while before we can see the award, but I wanted to congratulate her now as it really does show what we all knew anyway – what a fantastic science teacher she is!

Staff Moonwalk

I am sure you will join me in wishing some of our staff; Tracey Rooma, Diane Axford, Natalie Kerby, Katherine Jones, Helen Stockford, Nicola Joyce and Sara Harris the best of luck for their Moonwalk this weekend. Thank you to all those parents and children who have shown their support by sponsoring them. They have now raised over £1,000 for Breast Cancer Support.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CumnorShowgirls>

SATs

Well done to all our Year 6 children who took the SATs in a calm and sensible manner. I know they all did their best and should be proud of themselves regardless of what their eventual score turns out to be!

Governors update

Earlier this week we had our termly Full Governing Body meeting. We started by welcoming our new Parent Governor; Prince Adebowale Ademiluyi (Henry's dad in Reception). As always there was a full agenda: We looked at reports from the Resources Committee where our budget for the coming year was set. It was noted that the budget is still incredibly tight but we managed to submit a balanced budget without going into deficit. We prioritised staffing (as people are our most valuable resource) and are able to keep the same staffing level as last year.

The School Improvement Committee fed back on their meeting which included the updating of some key policies. These are all on the website if you would like to see them.

In light of the new government decision to force all schools to become academies, this was another item on our agenda. A few days before the meeting the government did a U-turn on this policy, and so we will no longer be forced into academisation. We went ahead with a discussion on this subject anyway and concluded that there was still no evidence to suggest that Cumnor becoming an academy would benefit the school and children here. We agreed not to pursue academy status and so remain with the Local Education Authority. We will review this decision as and when circumstances change.

From Your PTA

Tonight is the school Quiz which is always a great night. We do have two tables as yet unsold so if you are free tonight to support the school please do come along and we will find you a team. The Quiz pays for the year 6 leavers packs and events and so it is incredibly important. The event is at Cumnor Old School at 7.30pm, entry is £5 or £30 a table and there will be a raffle and cash bar.

Please may I remind you to bring any unwanted uniform to the school office prior to Sports Day on June 9th. Also if anyone has any unwanted shelves or shelving unit we would be very grateful to take them off your hands.

We have joined a scheme for Riverford Organic Veg Boxes. If anyone is considering getting a regular veg box then please look at the PTA board for info. If we use the allotted school code when buying the veg box then Riverford will donate a percentage to the school.

What's my child been doing this week?

Reception	Counting in 2s and 5s and starting our Japanese 'Ninja' becoming learning Ninjas and looking at the tale of Little Inchkin.	
Year 1	Dino Week – after visiting the dinosaur Professor (Phillip Powell) and looking at his collection of fossils we also had a visit from another dinosaur expert (Brooke Johnson) to tell us more. The week finished with a visit from an actual dinosaur!	
Year 2	Division problems, making our own African cooking pots and enjoying a trip to the Synagogue.	
Year 3	Writing and performing play scripts, learning some mental strategies for subtractions and designing our own Mehndi patterns.	
Year 4	Writing and performing radio adverts, multiplication and division problems and creating some stunning collages of the journey of a river.	
Year 5		Enjoying watching our eggs hatch into fluffy little chicks and following their rapid growth over the course of this week, learning about their life cycle and completing a chick diary. One more week to enjoy them!
Year 6	SATs I'm afraid, but plenty of sport, cooking and a trip to the park too!	

Next week

Friday 20 th May	9.00am	Year 2 class assembly, friends and family welcome.
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I hope to see you later at the quiz, if not have a lovely weekend. And if you find yourself up in the early hours of Sunday morning, think of our staff walking the streets of London!

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher