News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Newsletter **Number 7** **20th October 2017**

Dear Parents,

What a fabulous way to end the half term with a wonderful assembly from our Year 2 children. They certainly showed us how healthy they are with wonderful singing, dancing, gymnastics and lots of information about keeping a healthy diet. Well done to everyone involved.

Books at Bedtime in Acorn Class

Our Reception children and staff came back to school on Thursday evening to enjoy some hot chocolate and stories in their pyjamas before bedtime. Parents had a chance to look around the classroom and see their children's learning journeys too. The event was really well supported so thank you all for coming back. I hope everyone enjoyed the evening.

PTA Disco and AGM

I hope you and your children had a great time at the children's disco and the adult bar at the PTA Disco last week. It was very well attended and everyone seemed to be having fun. It was good to hold the PTA AGM at the same time. Thank you so much to all our PTA members for the fantastic work they do in supporting the school. A special thank you to some old hands who are stepping down including Anne-Marie Baverstock (who has been our wonderful chair.) The whole team have been brilliant with their hard work and dedication and we all owe them a huge debt of thanks. Also, many thanks to the new members who have signed up to join us, and especially to Adrian Pitts who has now taken over the role of chair.

Visit from Korky Paul

We are all very excited about Korky Paul visiting after half term. He will be running workshops for the children, reading his books and creating some illustrations for us. If your child wanted a signed book from Korky, orders should have been placed by now. There maybe a few signed books available on the day although this can't be guaranteed. Competition entries should be returned to school by the first Tuesday after half ready for Korky to judge them.

U9 Tag Rugby event

We were very excited to host the West Oxford Schools Partnership Tag Rugby fun event on Monday this week. Our Y3/4 team of Willem, Rama, Pippa, Rhys, Libby, Ollie, Kodey and Kelly did us proud and scored lots of tries! Well done team.

Football event

Our football team also had a match this week, hosting a friendly against Appleton. All the children did really well and were great sportsmen. Jackson particularly excelling himself especially with a cracking goal – definitely a contender for goal of the year!

From your PTA
Firstly, thank you to all who attended the Disco last Friday. It was a fantastic night, all the children had a brilliant time and so did the adults! Thank you to all who helped set up and clear away. We raised a brilliant £300.95 for the school!

Dates for your diaries are Thursday 23rd November which is non-uniform day. The children can wear their own clothes and in return bring in items for the Christmas Bazaar which can be anything really: soft toys, chocolates, smellies, booze, gifts, toys etc (no cans of food though, especially baked beans!)
The Christmas Bazaar is December 1st 5.30 - 7.30pm. This is a wonderful evening for families, with stalls, chilli, bar, games, the choir, and even a visit from Father Christmas.

Late arrivals

As the term has gone on and we've all got tireder, we have noticed a growing number of children who have been finding it hard to arrive on time! The front doors open at 8.35am and there are early morning activities for the children to get on with which will often link with the work they are doing that day. Registration is at 8.50am with lesson beginning straight afterwards. Children who arrive late not only miss out on the early morning starter activities and introduction to the lessons, but also disturb the other children on arrival and may need extra support to catch up. Thank you to all of those parents who do manage to get their children here on time.

Operation Christmas Child
Our School Council are keen on supporting Operation Christmas Child this year. Samaritan's Purse organise for Christmas boxes, (shoeboxes) full of gifts to be distributed to children around the world, who may live in war zones or poverty and may not necessarily receive many gifts or even simple things that we take for granted such as soap, toothpaste, pens and paper. The children should have come home with a leaflet about Operation Christmas Child and we will start to collect the filled shoe boxes in after half term. Even if you are not able to fill a completes shoe box, a partially filled shoebox, or just a few gifts will always help as we can put these together to create completed boxes.

School photos
All the children will be having individual photos taken on the first Friday after half term. If you would like photos taken with younger siblings then the photographer will be in school from 8.15am to take these (just turn up – no need to book)

New Dinner Menus
These have been sent home with the children today and a copy will be available on the website shortly.

Parents evenings
Parents evenings are being held in the second week after half term on 7th and 8th November. Appointment slips will be sent out on the first Monday after half term, but in the meantime, keep a space available in your diaries please.

Year 6 Secondary School Application
As most Year 6 parents will know, the deadline for secondary school applications is Tuesday 31st October. Parents should apply online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

New indoor mini tennis course
Learn tennis, have fun, make friends. New indoor tennis course at Matthew Arnold School, Botley. Thursdays 5 – 6pm for 5 – 8years.
7 weeks just £24 – book and pay online starting Thursday 2nd November 2017.Places are limited so book now: www.oxfordsportsltc.org/book

Straight after half term:

Monday 30th October	8.50am	Children return to school.
Tuesday 31st October	PM	Flu Vaccines for Reception and Years 1,2,3,4.
Wednesday 1st November	All day	Korky Paul visit to school.
Friday 3rd November	All morning	Individual school photos taken.

What's my child been doing this week?

Reception	Learned about and celebrated Diwali, Mrs Axford read us a story as our mystery reader and we developed our knowledge of alliteration and 2D shapes.
Year 1	Telling the time to the O'clock, writing how an apple pip grows and looking for signs of autumn on our nature walk.
Year 2	Practising for our class assembly, writing a recount and saying goodbye to Harriet and Elizabeth.
Year 3	Drawing symmetrical patterns, learning about prepositions and discussing baptism in R.E.
Year 4	Writing book reviews of Matilda, learning the difference between pulse and rhythm and drawing in the style of Quentin Blake.
Year 5	Writing persuasive letters, reflecting and translating shapes and finishing our truffle boxes.
Year 6	Composing soundtracks to scenes from fantasy stories, performing gym routines and writing biographies.

Have a lovely half term break,

Yours sincerely,

Ed Read