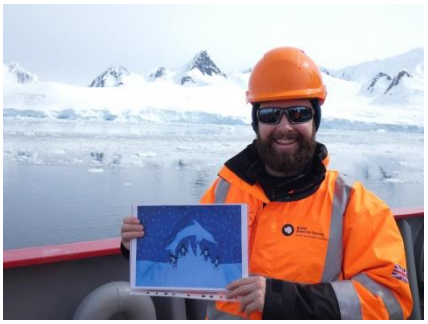
News from Cumnor School

Spring Term Newsletter **Number 6** **9th February 2018**

Dear Parents,

Year 2 visit to Winchester Science Museum
Our Year 2 class spent the day on Wednesday at the Science Museum in Winchester. They all had a fabulous time trying everything out and getting to grips with the science displays they have there. All behaved beautifully and were great ambassadors for our school.



Antarctic flags.
Earlier in the year some of our Year 6 children and reception children designed flags to help raise awareness about global warming "In the interests of al mankind". Their flags were then then taken on an expedition to the Antarctic. We had some photos back this week showing the Antarctic explorers near the South Pole with the flags.

Internet Safety Day
We spent some time during Tuesday's Internet Safety Day, reminding the children of ways to stay safe online. The children are generally very good at keeping themselves safe online, but reminders never hurt. You may also notice that there's now a CEOP online safety button at the bottom of our website which you or the children can use if you are worried about any suspicious online activity.

Phantom of the Opera
Year 6 went to Matthew Arnold School on Monday this week to see their production of The Phantom of the Opera. It was a wonderful performance and it was great to see so many of our ex-students taking to the boards. Our children were so inspired that some recreated their own version of Phantom at lunchtime and playtime this week – maybe they'll be the ones we go and see next year!

Illness
As is often the case, there have been plenty of coughs, colds and a little flu around this term but I am hoping that the half term break will help ease this a little. It is worth noting though, that we have had some other health related problems this term including threadworm, slap-cheek and of course a never ending battle with nits. Please could you check your children this half term, especially for signs of threadworm and nits and hopefully we will all return to school after the break a little healthier!

Message from Acorn Class
This term is almost over and it is already time to think of the next one!
This is a quick note to let you know that there will be a slight change in the curriculum for the next half term: The children will not be doing formal PE in the hall for the next 6 weeks so they won't need their PE kits until after Easter, Mrs Barry will lead the class on Monday afternoons and take this opportunity to teach music to the children in the music room.
In addition, the children will take part in Forest School every Tuesday afternoon and we will also be trying weekly gardening lessons!
We are all looking forward to these new experiences and hope the children will enjoy them too!
In the meantime, we wish you all a refreshing half-term! Kind Regards, The Reception Team

From your PTA:
Bingo Night: Friday March 23rd. A fantastic family night for all ages, so pop it in your diaries! 5.30 - 7.30pm entertainment with the bar staying open until 8.30pm so we can socialise! Pulled pork rolls and pizza on offer so save yourself the cooking that night.
Don't forget to collect your green token from Waitrose in Botley and pop it in the Cumnor School PTA box to help raise funds for the school!
2nd hand uniform sale at both parents evenings, 6th and 7th March.

World Book Day
On Thursday 1st March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. The theme this year is 'Share a Story'. We would like pupils to bring in a photograph of themselves sharing a story with somebody at home in an unusual place or in a creative way. There will be prizes (in the form of book vouchers to be spent at our book fair) for our favourite photos.
After half term the pupils will also be set a homework challenge that will involve them having a look at the books inside their home and trying to find the oldest, smallest, thickest and most unusual books.
During the day at school pupils will have the chance to share a book with a buddy and the teachers will be sharing some of their favourite books - with pupils being given the chance to choose which one they would like to listen to.
As usual we would like to encourage everyone to dress up in a book themed outfit. We would appreciate a donation of £1 per child to be split between Bookaid and improving our own stock of school library books. Take a look at the World Book Day website for costume ideas that you can make at home: https://www.bookaid.org/support-us/world-book-day/world-book-day-dress-up

After the success of 'Books at Bedtime' for our Reception children in the autumn, this is being extended to all Key Stage 1 children. All of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and their families are welcome to come back to school at 5.00pm on 1st March to share stories, enjoy a hot chocolate and read to one another for an hour or so. We hope you can come.

Each child will receive a £1 book token on World book day that can be spent at our scholastic book fair which is being held the following week: on the 8th and 9th March before and after school. If you would be able to help run the book fair, then please let the school office or Miss Jones know. Half of the money made at the book fair is returned to us by scholastic so that we can buy books for the school so please do come along and support this event.

Finally, as we are thinking about sharing and discovering new books, this would be a good time to have a bit of a rummage at home for any forgotten books that have been borrowed from the school libraries. Copies of some popular books that we have ordered in recent years (such as the David Walliams books) seem to have been absent from our library shelves for a while now. It would be great if these could be returned for others to enjoy. Also if you have any books at home that your children no longer want then we would be very grateful for any donations!

Thanks for your support in helping us to celebrate World Book day in school. It is a day that the children always enjoy and it provides a wonderful opportunity to talk and get excited about books.

Congratulations to Matthew Arnold School
Following their OFSTED inspection in January, the inspection findings have now been released. The inspectors concluded that the school was still 'Good', and the report states that *"the school has demonstrated strong practice and marked improvement in certain areas. This may indicate that the school is improving towards being outstanding."* Congratulations to all of their staff. It's great to know that the secondary schools that most of children go on to are so good. A copy of the inspection report is on the Matthew Arnold School website.

Pre-school Cake sale
Pre-school will be having a cake sale at the top of drive today from 3.10pm.

What has my child been doing this week?

Reception	Writing the story of 'Lost and Found', learning about money and solving sums using pennies.
Year 1	Creating, and hiding, pipe-cleaner animals to find out about camouflage, making our own camouflage pictures and learning the story of the Chinese New Year animals.
Year 2	Reading poetry, practicing problem solving and performing our circus skills to our Year 5 buddies.
Year 3	Spelling words with double consonants, practising multiplication tables and investigating magnets.
Year 4	Comparing angles and labelling them acute, obtuse and reflex angles, learning about Iron Age hill forts and enjoying our final Forest School afternoon.
Year 5	Writing newspaper reports about 'The Wooden Horse of Troy', practicing long multiplication and working on our own Greek projects.
Year 6	Creating pyramids and shabti models out of clay and working on our slide show presentations about the Egyptians.

Have a wonderful half term break.
Yours sincerely,

Ed Read