

CUMNOR HOUSE SCHOOL

3 FEBRUARY 2017



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

A few words from the Headmaster

Yesterday I attended the Cognita Schools improvement network meeting in London. This was an opportunity for all Cognita head teachers in the UK to meet and discuss educational matters. There was a focus on teaching and learning, students' achievements and personal development. In the morning we had a very enlightening debate on meta cognition, and why this can have a very positive impact on how children learn. Much of the information I picked up will be passed onto teachers in our staff meeting on Monday afternoon.

On Wednesday morning Mrs. Mallett and I attended a 'Coffee and croissants morning' at Treetops Purley. This was an opportunity for nursery parents to discuss the transition to Reception with us, and to ask questions about the process. Feedback I received was positive, in that the morning was enjoyable and informative. I then visited the Reception classes, as the boys have been working on the theme 'tropical forest animals'. The posters they produced were wonderful, and I am sure mainly the boys' own work. Well done to Mrs. Collins and her team, the Reception boys are making excellent progress across all areas.

We have finally managed to get a full week of sport that has not been affected by the weather. Well done to the senior teams for some fine results on Wednesday afternoon. Good luck to all boys competing in the Regional Rugby Tournament at Epsom College on Sunday. Finally, we send Cumnor House Old Boy Elliot Daly our best wishes as he starts on the left wing for England in the first round of the Six Nations Championship.

Floyd Steadman

6B ASSEMBLY



The boys of 6B rose to the challenge of interpreting and acting out the story of the Prodigal Son, in an assembly based on making mistakes and fresh starts. The class was divided into three groups, where they organised everything from the narration of the story to the props for each scene. Each group brought their own charm to the story! All of the ideas for props and how each scene should look were the boys' choices. Well done to the 6B boys as they produced a slick, organised assembly, despite only one full rehearsal.

Congratulations 6B from a very happy form tutor.

Mr Barnett

THE STEINWAY HALL EXPERIENCE

On Friday 20th January, Daniel King and I were taken to Steinway Hall in London with Mr Sizer and Daniel's mother.

There were many grand pianos and baby grands. I was awe struck.

We then went to the masterclass session. Steinway had called in Charles Owen, one of Britain's greatest pianists to come and listen to each pianist and give them tips on how to improve their playing.

6 pupils from 3 different schools had been selected for this opportunity. We had 10 minutes to practise with a baby grand before we were called onto stage to play the full size concert grand. Surya was on first playing a Haydn Sonata.

This was a really useful session and good quality time was spent. I had learnt that there were so many fine details to add to my piece just to make it that much better!

After the ordeal but yet fascinating master class, Charles said his goodbyes and we went on a phenomenal tour around the hall with a man called George Soole. He explained how there were only 2 places in the world that made Steinway pianos - New York and Hamburg. A Steinway grand piano is hand-crafted and takes 12 months to make - 3 years if you include the two years it takes to dry and season the wood. We met a technician who works on pianos that people like Lang Lang or Vladimir Ashkenazy play when in London. Lang Lang is currently one of the most famous pianists on the planet and has performed at many important events.

Then we saw the action of the piano being taken out. The mechanics are very complicated with over 12000 parts – much more than a formula one car! Then Surya was invited to play a piano that had been rebuilt after 100 years.

After seeing all the pianos being worked on we went back up to the shop to see the new ones: some plain, everyday black pianos, a dreadful white one and even one black one that was coated with real gold leaf and carvings!!!

Apart from the session with Charles Owen, the best part of the trip for me was seeing a piano which played by itself. It was controlled by an iPad and real recordings from famous performers were played by the piano!

This special piano called the Steinway Spirio piano starts at around £80,000. Incredible!

The Steinway master class experience was one that I will never forget and I have learnt a lot from it.

Special thanks to Mr Sizer and the staff that enabled this wonderful trip to take place.

Daniel King and Surya Vijayanand



3M ASSEMBLY

The theme of 3M's assembly this week was "**Be grateful for what you have got**".

The boys shared their experiences of all the things that they are grateful for in life that money can't buy.

They entertained everyone with songs, poems and plays on the theme. We had an appreciative audience of family, pupils and teachers.

Mrs McLaren



LONDON LEAGUE SWIMMING GALA

Well done to all of the boys who competed in the London League area final. This was an extremely high standard gala and we had some very good swims. We finished 4th overall and were one place away from qualifying for the Grand final. We had some excellent swims, but also made some costly mistakes especially at the start of some races. Well done to the year 5s who were the overall winners for their year group.

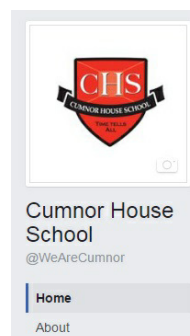
Mr Fitzgerald



LIKE OR FOLLOW US?



If you have not done so already, please 'like' our Facebook page or 'follow' our Twitter page **@WeareCumnor**. There are lots of stories and pictures of the boys' latest activities inside and outside the classroom.



MORE SNOW ANYONE?

Our budding Science Club members enjoyed making artificial snow recently. With the addition of water they watched soft jelly-like pieces fluff up to life and set about exploring textures. Of course the building of snowmen followed!

Mrs Marange



STAR OF THE WEEK

Danes

Normans

Romans

Saxons

Raiyaan Abdul-Mughis

Oscar Brown

Nicholas Lee

Eesa Chaudhri

3J

7B

5L

3J

EVENTS FOR WEEK BEGINNING 6 FEBRUARY 2017

Monday 6 February	Tuesday 7 February	Wednesday 8 February	Thursday 9 February	Friday 10 February
Staff Meeting No After School Activities except After School Club and Instrumental Lessons U13A v Milbourne Lodge (H) 3.00 - 4.30 p.m.	U11 A - D v Shrewsbury House (A) 1.30 - 5.00 p.m. Epsom Strings Day All Day	Year 2 Trip to Kidzania All Day U12 A v Aberdour (H) 1.30 - 4.00 p.m. U13 A & B v Shrewsbury House School (A) 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.	4S Assembly (Parents Welcome) 8.30 a.m. Year 7 & 8 Swimming - London League Area Final 4.00 p.m.	