

WEEKLY DIGEST



On behalf of Cumnor House Boys' School and Nursery, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It has been an excellent start to the academic year and I was very excited and pleased to have launched our new Day Nursery at our South Croydon site in October.

"If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people."

The autumn term is always such a busy one in the school calendar. Looking back through the term's newsletters it is amazing how much our children take part in. I asked my Senior Leadership Team to help me record the highlights of my first term at Cumnor House and quite literally there are too many to list here, but our new drop off system in the mornings, Anti-Bullying week (with odd socks), Fireworks night, Remembrance service, Open Day, extra-curricular days (Roald Dahl, French Day to name but a few!) and various trips really stood out for all of us. **Needless to say, the children have had a brilliant term, full of great learning experiences and inspirational activities.**

Sport and Music have continued to shine at Cumnor House and once again we have shown excellence in our performances. Under 11 Surrey Champions in football, representation by our choir at Canterbury Cathedral and an outstanding Carol Service truly demonstrates the exceptional outcomes of our students.

Sadly we say goodbye to Mrs Macintosh and Mrs Cheshire who are leaving at the end of this term and I thank them for their efforts. Looking forward to the New Year, I am delighted to welcome **Sarah Boyle** who will join us in January as English teacher, with responsibility of Drama, and will be supporting 6T (previously 6M), alongside Mr Turner, who will continue as 6T form tutor until the end of the year. Miss Sarah Boyle joins us from Cobham Hall School, Kent and has ten years teaching experience in English and Drama.

I am sure 2018 will bring continued excellent teaching and learning, sprinkled with fun and inspiration to Cumnor House School pupils and further opportunity for both the Boys' and Girls' schools to collaborate on new and interesting projects.

Many thanks to the Parent Association for their fundraising efforts this year. A number of worthy causes have been supported this year and they have all really benefitted from the monies that have been raised.

Thank you to all the staff, parents and children that make Cumnor House such a special place to be and for making me feel so welcome in my first term with the school.

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 8th January 2017. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year from myself and all the Staff at Cumnor House School and Nursery.

Best wishes
Daniel Cummings
Headmaster



WEEKLY DIGEST



As the term draws to its close, it is a time of reflection- looking back at the accomplishments and achievements of the last three months. Highlighted in this edition of our newsletter is an impressive number of successes and wins by our girls and staff too (more on that later.)

As a Head, this is my favourite time of the year for post: every envelope I open is either a Christmas card or yet another confirmation of an offer and / or a scholarship for one of my girls from senior schools. These offers are well deserved; and testament to the learning journey our Year 6 girls have had here at Cumnor.

Throughout the term we have played many matches: winning (7:1 in one!) lots, losing some and drawing some. We can proudly announce that our U10 cross country squad came first out of all of Croydon schools and our swimmers won the ISA Regional swimming gala, securing a place in the National Finals at the Olympic Park in January. Not stopping there, another amazing achievement for our girls was in the November Numeracy Challenge through Mathletics placing Cumnor House School for Girls 10th out of over 400 schools.

When asking the girls about their highlights of the term, there were so many, all with different themes: lessons, trips, sport...; one comment stood out particularly: "**Being part of a netball team and visiting other schools for netball matches it was a bit nerve wracking at first but now we love it**". To me, this is who our girls are: determined and resilient, which results in success and enjoyment.

One of my many highlights is the feedback that our girls have been given by members of the public on no less than three occasions when out on school trips. Teachers leading these trips have been approached and told how impressive our girls' behaviour is. We are collectively, incredibly proud.

As alluded to earlier, staff success: I am proud again to be able to say that our very own Mrs Halliday was asked to speak at the Cognita Teaching and Learning Conference due to her knowledge, skillset and expertise. Mrs Carlisle's mathematics and problem solving session for parents was a great success and incredibly informative (as well as entertaining!) and she has now produced and sent a help-guide for all Key Stage 2 parents.

Speaking of Mrs Carlisle, I am sure you will want to join me in wishing her all the very best as she leaves at the end of this term to have baby number two. We are excited to meet the new arrival in the new year. We would also like to welcome Mrs Solanki, who will be taking the mathematics and form teacher reins from Mrs Carlisle.

However, and in whichever way you celebrate this holiday, I would like to wish you all a happy and restful few weeks; and I look forward to see you all again in the New Year on Monday 8th January.

With very best wishes

Dina Mallett

Headmistress



SCHOOL NEWS



Stars of the Week:

Awarded: Friday 8th December 2017

CLASS	STARS	REASON
RC	Dastan	For always trying very hard to be his best self and having very nice manners.
RM	Elina and Ashni	For fantastic performances in our school play.
RN	Josh	For trying really hard to be his best self.
1M	Zaynah	For ALWAYS being a happy and positive member of the class and always making Miss Maple smile.
1S	Tobias	For always being helpful at school.
1SC	India	For being helpful in class.
1T	Liam	For his excellent contribution to the Nativity.
1W	Kai K Archie E	For his enthusiastic dancing in our Nativity. For his fantastic effort during our school Nativity.
2C	William S	For his super effort and for speaking so well in the Nativity Play.
2G	Zain	For following the Cumnor Way.
2H	All of Y2	For their fantastic performance of 'A Midwife Crisis'!
2L	All of Y2	For doing so well in the Christmas play and working so hard to learn all of their lines!
2S	Nikai M Sankara	For trying his best to follow the Cumnor Way. For being kind to others.
Special Award	Esher (Y2)	For being very helpful in the lunch hall.



SPORTS NEWS

Cumnor House School dominates in inter school galas.

Both CHS Boys and Girls schools have dominated at inter school swimming galas in recent weeks. The boys who put in a very dominant display against both Banstead Prep and Royal Russel; winning each gala convincingly. Out of the combined 52 events at these galas, CHS Boys won 50 of these. The CHS Girls U7-U11 swim squad also performed exceptionally well at the Royal Russel meet, winning or placing highly in their races and achieving a fantastic win!



The Cumnor Girls & Boys Swimming Team have performed fantastically well and have won all galas that they have taken part in so far this academic year. A particular highlight was winning the ISA Regional London South Prelims on 18th November. We look forward to seeing our girls representing the region at the ISA National Swimming Championships at the Olympic Park on January 21st, good luck Matilda, Ella, Mia, Zara T and Jessica.



Swim to Win Results

Well done to all of the swimmers who competed in 'Swim To Win's second annual gala on Saturday. All of the boys and girls thoroughly enjoyed the gala and there was some outstanding swims throughout the day. Special mention to Archie Phipp's who won the 'Swim To Win' most improved swimmer of the year.

SPORTS NEWS—Netball

This term the Cumnor girls have been busy! The teams have played or represented the school at 50 netball matches, galas and cross country events, achieving some fantastic results. As well as all girls in Years 3-6 taking part and supporting their Houses in House Netball.

All cross country squads (U8-11) took part in the Croydon Schools Cross Country competition, competing against almost 200 runners in each event. The U10 team ran their hearts out with Matilda coming first place and the overall team securing team first place out of all the schools in Croydon. Well done Girls!



The U9s (A&B) and the U11s (A&B) played their last matches of 2017 against Aberdour last week. The conditions were cold and chilly but this didn't stop the Cumnor girls putting in some brilliant performances. A particular well done to the U9Bs who won 7-1 and the U11Bs who won 7-0.



Netball Fixture	Player of the Match
U9 A – Aberdour	Avery
U9 B – Aberdour	Ella
U11A – Aberdour	Temi
U11B – Aberdour	Sahana



REMINDER:

Please visit our Sports Website and Twitter Page, which showcase all of the upcoming fixtures and results.

Visit: www.cumnorgirlssport.com



@cumnor_girls

SPORTS NEWS—Netball

This week has been an exceptionally busy week for Sport at Cumnor Girls with 7 netball matches, a swimming gala and house netball. The girls competed in all weather conditions, but still managed to finish with smiles on their faces.

Netball Fixture	Player of the Match
U8A- Royal Russell	Anoushka P
U8B- Royal Russell	Hadia M
U9A- Royal Russell	Adachi A
U8A- Aberdour	Lola S
U10A- Aberdour	Penelope C
U10B- Aberdour	Naima- Grace O



Junior Player of the day	Junior Excellent Effort Award	House
Avery C	Yingning H	Keller
Zara T	Hadia M	Seacole
Meenakshi D	Sienna T	Parks
Jessica C	Rose R	Knightingale

Senior Player of the day	Senior Excellent Effort Award	House
Toni A	Desai A	Keller
Jasmin O	Sahana S	Seacole
Matilda P	Samara S	Parks
Eloane R	Farwa R	Nightingale

Congratulations to the winning House Keller who came 1st by one point in House Netball.



SCHOOL NEWS

Stars of Wonder....

Reception and KS1 put on two outstanding performances of 'The Midwife Crisis' last week. With stunning acting, well learnt and deliver lines, harmonies, fantastic costumes and fun dance routines, the girls wowed 2 audiences full of parents and grandparents. It was clear to see how much the girls enjoyed being up on the stage and it was a privilege to see how confident they all were! They made me very proud!

I would like to extend my thanks to my colleagues in Reception and KS1 who supported me during the rehearsals and performances, especially Mrs King, who worked with Reception, ensuring they knew their singing words. Mrs Kimber - Head of Drama



Stars of Night....

Last week, the Reception boys performed 'The Bossy King' as their Christmas Nativity. All the boys looked fantastic, said their lines clearly and sang beautifully! The boys have been working hard in rehearsals and it definitely paid off. Thank you to the parents for providing the costumes and all for all their support. Well done Reception. We are very proud of you! Mrs Phillips



SCHOOL NEWS

Letters to Father Christmas

On Thursday 30th November the Reception girls walked down the lane to the Lord Robert's Post Office, with some very special letters. They had all written a letter to Father Christmas! At the Post Office we received lots of compliments on our behaviour as we queued to purchase our stamps and put our letters in the postbox. On the way back we waved to the girls and boys at the Nursery.



Gingerbread Decorating

Today we had a visit by Sean Coughlan, from Coughlan's Bakeries. He came in to do some biscuit decorating with the boys to celebrate Christmas, but also to tie in with our topic, 'Best of British'! The boys had a great time decorating their biscuits, and each class had their own 'Star Baker Award'. Thank you to Sean for coming in – the boys had a lovely time.



The 3 Star Bakers! Well done, boys!

SCHOOL NEWS

Pre-Prep Christmas Lunch

Our wonderful catering team have created delicious Christmas lunches this week across the schools and nurseries. The children have thoroughly enjoyed digging in to a traditional Christmas lunch, with crackers and fantastic Christmas hats!



Movember Magic



Many thanks to all the boys, parents and staff that supported this worthy cause. We managed to surpass the team total from last year - currently standing at £792. You can still donate at <https://moteam.co/cumnor-comrades?mc=1>

SCHOOL NEWS

Choristers Christmas performances at Croydon Minster & The Whitgift Centre



The Choristers have held many performances this autumn, from visiting the senior citizens at Sunrise Home for Senior Living, the Whitgift Centre to support Marie Curie and Lives not Knives, to the annual Christmas Concert at Croydon Minster. With all choirs taking part at the Minster, the setting and performance was described by invitees as 'magical' 'poignant' and 'uplifting'.



SCHOOL NEWS

Reception Reindeer Visit

On Friday the Reception boys jumped in the minibuses and set off for Woodcote Green Garden Centre to see the reindeer. When we arrived we were very excited to see all the Christmas decorations, and then we spotted the reindeer! They were laying down having a rest so we had a chance to read some reindeer facts. We found out that the reindeer's fur helps them to swim, and that a male reindeer is called a bull, a female is a cow and a baby reindeer is a calf. We then went on a Christmas hunt around the garden centre collecting Christmas stamps on our way. We had lots of fun and hope to visit the garden centre again soon.



Christmas Workshops

This week, we welcomed some of the Nursery children to our Reception classrooms for a Christmas Workshop. There were lots of Christmassy activities to complete and each child went home with a bag full of goodies they had made, including the very popular biscuits they had decorated.



SCHOOL NEWS

Mathlete challenge success!

Below are the top points scorers from Novembers Mathletics Challenge. Abirami was the whole school points winner with a phenomenal 34,000 points! Amazing results girls. Thank you once again for all your hard work. Mrs Carlisle



ICT skill development in Y2.

This week Year 2 have been continuing with their touch typing in ICT and are having lots of fun learning new keys and the correct fingers to use. We are quickly becoming fiery typists and winning lots of badges!!!



SCHOOL NEWS

Understanding British Values...

On Tuesday 28th November, the year 6 girls went on a trip to London to aid their understanding of British values and to attend a concert at St Martin in The Fields.

The children spent a thrilling day walking past all the great sights of London. From Buckingham Palace, with the unexpected delight of seeing 2 horse drawn royal carriages and a royal car exiting through the back gates. To seeing the Changing of the Guards on Horse guards Parade. This ceremony takes place each day and a very helpful policeman explained to us what was going on. It was exciting to see the guards on horseback and to hear the Royal trumpeters playing.

After admiring Westminster Abbey, entering the Supreme Court, and walking up Whitehall, Downing Street and the Cenotaph to Trafalgar Square. It was then time to enter St Martin In The Fields for the lunchtime concert. This was being given by the Concordia Foundation and featured music by Schumann, Debussy and the world premiere of a piece composed by Matthew Edwards. This was a beautiful concert and was a real treat for the girls to hear wonderful music in such a tranquil setting.

The girls had a wonderful day and Mrs Kimber, Mr Tindall and Mrs Davison really enjoyed spending the day with the children furthering their knowledge of the traditions and customs of our country.

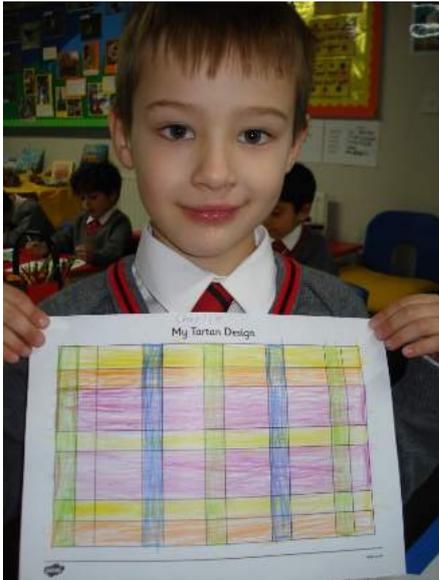
Mrs Tamasine Kimber, Head of Drama



SCHOOL NEWS

Year 2's Scottish Day

In Year 2, the boys have been looking at British landmarks, food and traditions. We celebrated St. Andrew's Day on 30th November by finding out more about Scotland. We learnt a Scottish dance, designed our own tartan patterns, listened to bagpipes and ate shortbread.



Rehearsals starting for Summer production



Year 6 have just started on their rehearsal journey towards their big musical - which will be presented in June 2018. This year the girls will be performing 'The Lion King Jr'.

There was much excitement when Mrs Kimber announced what the show would be and when the Showkit turned up, complete with Djembes (traditional African drums) we all knew what an exciting process it would be getting the show from 'page to stage'.

We are going to document our rehearsal journey with a rehearsal diary that we will share with you over the coming months! The first part of the process has been

learning how to work as an ensemble and about how professional companies work in the rehearsal room. We have developed our own rehearsal rituals, including welcome rhythms and warm up routines. We have also written a contract to ensure we always bring our best work to the rehearsal space. Last week, Mrs Kimber held auditions and we now know the roles we will playing!

We are excited to be starting to learn the music and we will update you on our progress at the beginning of next term! Mrs Kimber and Year 6

NURSERY NEWS

Dear Parents

I would like to thank all the Parents and Grandparents, who took time out of their busy daily routine to come and see the nursery concerts, this week and last. The children have worked so hard over this term and I would like to thank all the staff and the children for the brilliant shows.

This week the children have been busy exploring snow and ice as part of the Christmas and autumn activities, these activities have included, writing letters to Santa, making reindeer celebration biscuits, whilst all having a visit from Buzz the Elf!

It is with great sadness I announce, that we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Cheshire, who will be leaving Purley nursery at the end of term. Mrs Cheshire joined Cumnor House Nursery in 2009 and is moving on to spend more time with her family. We wish Mrs Cheshire the best of luck.

Dates for this week.

The nursery will be taking part in the school's Christmas jumper day on Friday 15th December.

Term Time children will be leaving at 11.45am on Friday to enjoy their well deserved Christmas break.

51 Week children will break up on Friday 22nd December at 6.00pm.

From all the staff at Cumnor House Nursery we wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year. See you all in 2018.



Merry Magnetism

In Chestnuts class, this week we linked Santa living in the North Pole to magnets having a South Pole and a North Pole. The children discovered that a magnet produces an invisible magnetic field all around it. Opposite poles attract each other and snap and stick together. The children explored feeling the magnetic forces as they pulled towards one another.



NURSERY NEWS

Nursery Christmas Concerts...

This week the children have held four very successful Christmas concerts at both of our settings. The children have been practising very hard and all the concerts were a great success!



Christmas Activities...

The children have been taking part in different Christmas activities this week. They have enjoyed making Christmas stars and also had fun decorating and writing in their Christmas cards! They have also been writing some letters to Santa.



Christmas Lunch

Today we had our Christmas lunch; the children thoroughly enjoyed having their Christmas lunch all together we had crackers for the children and all the trimmings. We had made our own Christmas party hats and had a wonderful time.



NURSERY NEWS

Lego Shaping..

The children in Chestnuts used Lego to form outlines of 2D flat shapes, we have been learning to consolidate the number of sides each one has. During outside play the children were encouraged to look for these shapes in the environment too.



The letter 'O'.

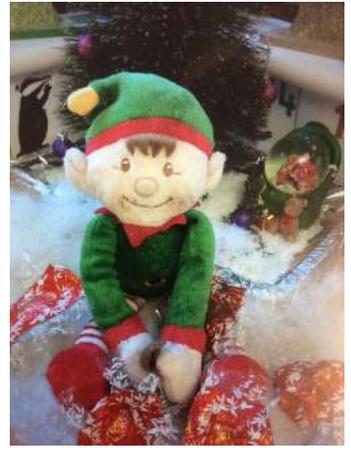
This week in Pines in our read, write focus time, the children are looking at and sounding out the letter "O" using the letter templates to trace round to develop their hand writing skills and pencil control.



NURSERY NEWS

Elf visits Chestnuts

We have had a little visitor arrive in Chestnuts class this week from the North Pole. He is a little elf from Santa's workshop who has been sent by Santa as he heard the children in Chestnuts are such delightful and well behaved children and are learning their phonic sounds and numbers really well. The children decided to name him "Buzz". He is a very mischievous Elf as each morning the children come in to discover his antics from the evening before, eating chocolates, spilling paint and glitter, hiding in the winter wonderland tray and hanging from the Christmas decorations! Buzz returns through his magic door back to the North Pole each night reporting to Santa how the children are using gentle hands and sharing the toys with their friends. Santa was so impressed with the feedback regarding how well the children sang at their Christmas concert, that he sent the class a gift of a Santa workbench to enjoy.



Reindeer Ginger Biscuit Making

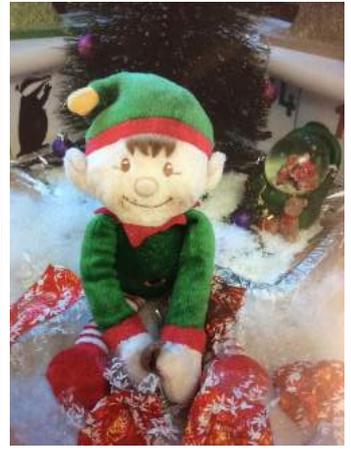
Today we were busy little chefs making Reindeer ginger biscuits. We used lots of maths language such as more, less, big and small, counting each spoonful of ingredients as we added them to the bowl. We also took turns in mixing the ingredients together, cutting and decorating the biscuits once cooked.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Elfridges

A huge thanks to the PA who organised a fantastic Elfridges event this week. Keep an eye out under your Christmas tree on Christmas Day. We hope you will enjoy your surprise gifts your daughter picked for you!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Santa is coming to Lord Roberts on the Green!

Come down and visit Lord Roberts on the Green this Christmas and meet Santa himself!

Children can post their letters to the North Pole and visit Santa and his elves at the same time!

Tickets are £12.50 which includes a gift and the opportunity to take as many photos as you like of this magical moment! Please call 0208 660 2000 to book tickets or ask a member of staff in store.

Don't forget to mention Cumnor House Boys/Nursery School when booking tickets!!!



TICKETS
£12.50
PLEASE MENTION
CHS BOYS/NURSERY SCHOOL
WHEN PURCHASING
TICKETS!

**TICKETS INCLUDE
A GIFT
& PARENTS ARE
ABLE TO
TAKE UNLIMITED
PHOTOGRAPHS**

POST YOUR LETTER
TO THE NORTH POLE
AND VISIT SANTA AND
HIS ELVES AT THE
SAME TIME!!

Come and visit
**Santa's
Grotto**
**8th to 24th
December**
10am-3pm

**LORD ROBERTS
19 UPPER WOODCOTE
VILLAGE
PURLEY
CR8 3HF**

**CALL 0208 660 2000 TO BOOK
OR ASK A MEMBER OF STAFF IN STORE**

LORD ROBERTS
ON THE GREEN

CALENDAR

Cumnor House Boys Calendar

FRI 15TH	End of Term	
	Reception, Purley	11.45am
	Year 1 & 2	12.00pm
	Year 3 & 4	12.10pm
	Year 5 & 6	12.30pm
	Year 7 & 8	12.45pm
	Peter Pan, Redhill Parents' Association pantomime event	2.00pm
SPRING TERM	Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2018	

NOTE: NEW START OF DAY PROCEDURES

From 8th January 2018 all Y1–Y8 boys will be encouraged to have a relaxed, but earlier start to the learning day. Our new start of the day procedures will be as follows:

- Drive drop off arrangements will remain the same, please continue to be courteous to other Pampisford Road users
- Children are not to be dropped off before 7.45am unless they attending an extracurricular activity or breakfast club
- The Tunnel Gate will open from 7.45am and for 15 minutes there will be a member of SLT staff on duty in the playground to supervise the boys
- The bell will be rung and the boys will then be asked to go to class, where teachers will be waiting for them in the classroom (not to line up)
- Therefore, boys are encouraged to arrive at school between 8am and 8.15am and then go directly to their classroom
- Boys arriving after 8.15am will be at risk of a late mark, unless travelling on school transport

I feel the benefits for this new relaxed, but focused learning start to the day are:

- More time with form tutors to support boys pastorally and academically
- Opportunities for early morning work and readiness for the learning day ahead
- Less lateness across the school
- Punctuality for assemblies
- Calmer start to the day
- More time for form tutors to have a meaningful welcome for each individual boy in the class
- More opportunities to check home learning books and home/school communications
- More learning time and improved focused use of curriculum time for the boys
- Improved results

CALENDAR

Cumnor House Girls Calendar

WED 13TH	KS2 Carol Service Practice	
THU 14TH	KS2 Carol Service Practice, St Mark's Church Beauty and the Beast visit to school KS2 Carole Service , St Mark's Church	9.00am 2.15pm 6.00pm
FRI 15TH	End of Term Reception Year 1 - 3 Year 4-6	11.45am 12.00pm 12.15pm
SPRING TERM	Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2018	

For regular updates visit our website: www.cumnorhouse.com or follow us on social media:

Follow the Boys School: [@WeAreCumnor](https://twitter.com/WeAreCumnor)



Follow the Girls School: [@Cumnor_Girls](https://twitter.com/Cumnor_Girls)

Follow the Girls Sports Department: [@chsfixtures](https://twitter.com/chsfixtures)



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