



## Girls' Newsletter - 11th March 2022

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th March 2022

Cumnor House School

## *A Message from Mrs McShane*



Dear Parents,

In a few weeks' time, on 23rd March, we will be holding our Celebration Evening on Wednesday. A drop-in event from 6.00pm until 8.00pm. We will have sports and performing arts demonstrations, amongst other things, all the classrooms are decorated with displays of the girls' work and each room will have an activity taking place for the girls to do, the painted stones will also be displayed, though you may have to hunt for them. It is not a time to sit and look at your daughter's books, that is for "A Look at Learning" events, this is an opportunity for us to showcase and celebrate what takes place in our lovely school - things that parents do not always get the opportunity to see. Look in all the classrooms to remind yourself of the learning journey your daughter has travelled or indeed the one she has embarked upon. Some of the girls have been asked to assist with demonstrations and a permission letter will be sent out to those parents separately. All girls should attend wearing their school uniform.

This week has been very busy with auditions for the Inter-House Performing Arts competition. We look forward to an entertaining and varied programme this year. Thank you for your support in preparing the girls, we are really looking forward to this event.

It was wonderful to hold a Speech and Drama recital on Tuesday, to see the girls perform so confidently onstage to an audience was a joy. I was particularly proud as through the past two years these girls have not had the same opportunities of performance, however, they did not allow this to hinder them. It was a shame that some parents needed to leave early as they missed some treats.

We have had some remarkable sporting success this week in Netball, Cross Country and swimming and would like to commend the girls on their excellent sportsmanship as well as their outstanding results. A special thanks must go to Mr OB, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Harvie and Mrs Shaw for supporting and encouraging the girls' with their endeavours.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school once again for "A look at Learning." We hold these termly and fully understand if not all parents are able to attend every event. If you are attending, please note that the wearing of face coverings is no longer mandatory. The event is from 8.00am and request that parents leave by 8.30am so that the girls will be settled, and lessons can begin as normal at 8:40am.

With all the worrying news that the children cannot fail but to notice, assembly this week had a focus on joy. Reminding the girls to see joy around them. Many of the girls said that family and friends give them joy, but we also considered the things that give us a sense of awe and wonder – the brightness of the moon, or the new blossom on the trees for example. We talked about filling an imaginary jar with joy and when we felt anxious to open it and remember those things that make us smile.

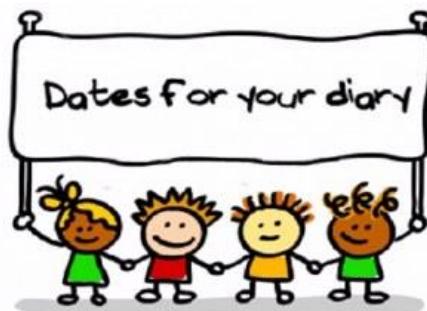
**"This is a beautiful day. I have never seen this one before."**

Maya Anjelou

Wishing you a happy and restful weekend.

Amanda McShane

Headmistress of Cumnor Girls



Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Pre-Prep Look at Learning Year 3 Hockey Tournament @ Banstead Prep (a)
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Hockey v Banstead Prep (a)
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Prep Look at Learning Year 1 trip to St Patrick's Church, Wallington 11am 12.30pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Netball finals @ Croydon High 4pm – 6pm
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Years 3-6 Cross Country League @ Woodcote High School
	Celebration Evening 6pm – 8pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Yr 6 Hockey v Seaton House (h) 2.30pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Mother's Day pop-up shop during school 11am Year 5 trip to Wilhelmina House
	Year 5 ESB exams
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 trip to Christchurch 1pm – 3pm UB-U11 Swimming Gala @ Royal Russell 4pm
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	House Performing Arts - Whole School 1pm (no parents)
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Inter-house Cross-Country Years 1-6, 1.30pm, PTA doughnuts and tuck shop sale during event
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Break up for Easter PTA Easter Egg Hunt
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term begins

## 'A Look at Learning'

We are writing to invite you to our, 'A Look at Learning' session. As you know now, the purpose of these sessions is to provide you with an opportunity for you to come into your daughter's classroom to **share** and **celebrate** some key aspects of their learning from this term.

There will be two sessions: one for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and one for Years 3 to 6. They will take place as an informal drop-in session between 8am - 8.30am.

### Pre-Prep (Reception – Y2) – Tuesday 15th March

### Prep (Y3 - Y6): - Thursday 17th March

All parents must be accompanied by their daughters to share their learning as they will have selected two specific examples specially to show you.

Below are some question prompts we would encourage you to use in your discussions with your daughters regarding their chosen pieces of learning. These will also be available in classrooms on the day.

- Why have you chosen this piece of work to show me?
- Why are you proud of this piece of work?
- What did you learn by doing this work?
- What skills did you use?
- What did you find difficult when completing this work?
- What would you do differently next time?

We hope that by empowering our girls to lead you through their learning, they will gain a greater confidence and a sense of achievement and success.

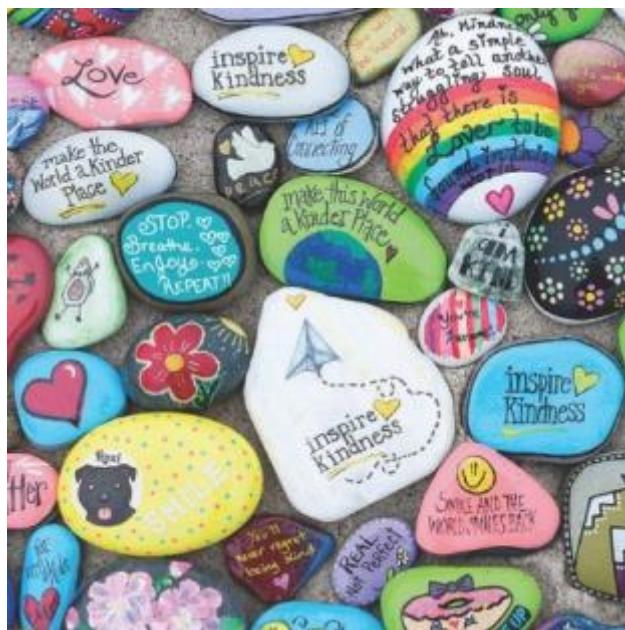
Please park in the Lane, being mindful of our neighbours' driveways, and come into school with your daughter through the Piccadilly entrance. Mask wearing is not mandatory.

This is always a joyous event and whilst we would like to see all parents, we fully appreciate that it may be difficult for some parents to attend due to work commitments – hence we hold these on a termly basis.

### **Painted Stones for Celebration Evening**

For celebration evening, we traditionally ask the girls to complete a home project. This year we would like to take the theme of Cumnor Rocks and ask each girl to paint a rock. Ideally the rock will be at least fist sized. They can be decorated in any fashion, as an animal, with a pattern, flowers, or a quote and a background – I am sure that you and your daughters will have plenty of creative ideas. I suggest using acrylic paints as they have good coverage and are bold colours. Please add a layer of varnish as we would like these to have a secondary purpose of being placed around the school grounds as decoration and as things for the girls to find and re-hide. We would like these to be completed and brought in to school by Monday 21st March please. I hope that all girls will participate in this activity – maybe some staff will too.





## *Reminders.....*

### **Food Tech - Containers & Hats**

A reminder that all girls in **Years 3 to 6** must bring in their **hat** and **container** on the day they have a **Food Tech lesson**. We will no longer be calling parents to ask them to bring them in so please help your daughter in making sure she has the correct items with her for the day ahead.

### **P.E Kits**

A reminder that all girls in **Years 1 to 6** must bring in their **P.E kit every Monday**, it is to be **kept in school all week** until Friday when it can be taken home for the weekend to be washed.

### **Extra Curriculum Activities**

Please note that **Journalism Club** Years 3 to 5 is **cancelled on Thursday 17th March 2022**.

Please remember to collect your daughter/s at normal time at the end of the day or alternatively you can book ASC through Cognita Connect.

All Extra Curriculum Activities run up until the preceding week prior to the end of a full term (**Friday 25th March will be the last day for the Spring Term**).

## *Sport News.....*

### **Netball**

On Tuesday the **Year 6 girls squad** made up of Savannah, Zara, Afua, Ashanya, Sumayya, Tien, Safaa, Tarryn & Daisy arrived at Margaret Roper School for the Croydon Schools qualifying tournament feeling nervous but excited as they were playing against schools who they had never competed against before.

First up were Christ Church who were, it turned out the toughest opponents on the day and defended well limiting the girls to a **5-0 win**. Next up were Margaret Roper A & B who were **beaten 6-1 & 12-0** respectively with **Tien, Safaa & Tarryn** showing off their shooting skills from a number of distances and angles. Our final match was against Woodcote where we ran out eventual **winners 7-0** with **Sumayya and Afua** dominating in both defence and attack. This meant that we ended the day with a **perfect record** and now advance to the **finals** which are being held at Croydon High on **Friday 18th March** with a 4pm start. The girls are already excited and looking forward to the challenge!

**We are so proud at how well all the girls performed, well done!**



### **Swimming gala**

It was a delight to be able to take the whole swim squad to Banstead Prep on Tuesday. It was the first time that Cumnor had been to Banstead for a swimming gala in many years. All our girls swam incredibly well and were a pleasure to accompany. Year 6 were particularly strong, as were all our swimmers that swam up a year group. It was not noticeable that they were racing girls a school year older. The final score was in our favour 116 points to 80 points.

**Well done swim squad!**



## Hockey

It finally felt like spring on Tuesday afternoon, when the U8A and U9A Hockey teams played Banstead Prep away. The girls certainly seemed to enjoy the sunshine! Despite the teams playing well, unfortunately for us the U8A team lost 2-0 and the U9A lost 3-0.

## Swimming Gala

On Wednesday afternoon **12 girls** from the **Year 4, 5 & 6** swimming teams took part in the **South of the River** swimming gala at JAGS and it certainly was a night to remember. With there being 10 schools, each event was split into 2 heats so no one knew until the medals were announced whether they had been fast enough or not which added to the drama. The Year 4 team of **Shyla, Serena, Avani & Aliyah** competed with great maturity finishing **7th** overall with **Shyla** an agonising **4th** in the **25m Freestyle** just missing out on a medal by 0.4s. The **Year 5** team of **Fatima, Ella H, Keisha & Arielle** were also very competitive as well with **Arielle** taking a well deserved **bronze** in the **25m Freestyle**. The **Year 6** team of **Ashanya, Tarryn, Afua and Tien** had a cracking evening with **Tarryn** taking **bronze in the 100m Individual Medley**, **Afua silver in the 25m Backstroke**, **Tien silver in the 25m Breaststroke** and then the team took **bronze in the 4x25m Freestyle relay** and **silver in the 4x25m medley relay** to finish **2nd overall**. Considering that the girls have not been able to swim since before half term makes all these results even more **astonishing** across **all 3 year groups** and the **girls** should be **incredibly proud of their efforts!**





### Cross Country @ Radnor College

Last Friday the girls from Years 3-6 went to Radnor College to compete in the regional qualifiers of the national cross-country championships. Here are some photos of the girls' from the event.









### *This week at the Girls' School.....*

#### **Reception**

Today at FOX Learning, we sat and looked at our beautiful surroundings. We're so lucky to be able to come to Farthing Downs for our outdoor learning. We decided to help our environment by looking for litter. We were a little sad to find quite a lot of rubbish.

Squeezing the litter picker, helped us to build strong fine motor skills to help us with our pencil control.







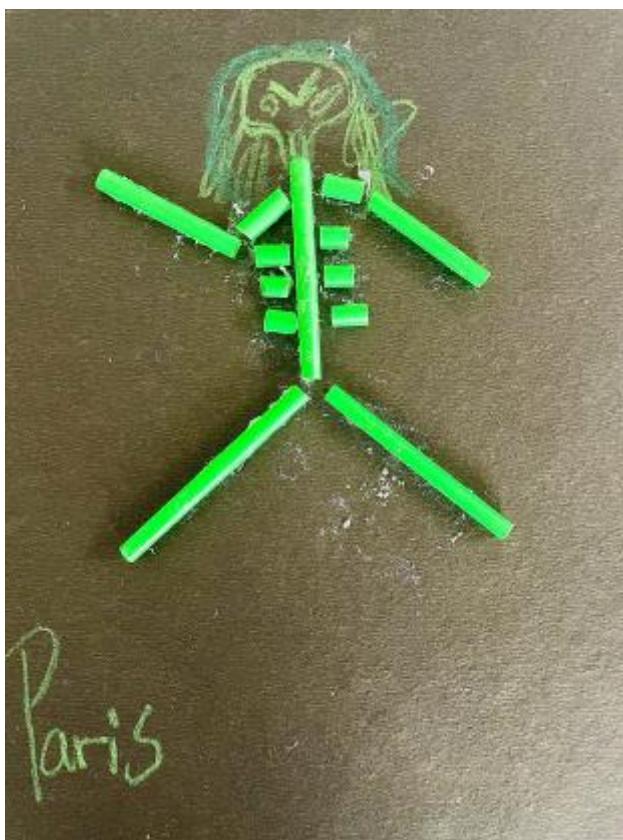




### **Year 3 Science**

In Science this week, Year 3 learnt about Marie Curie. We discovered the elements she discovered, how she invented the x-ray and how much of an inspiration she was to women in science. We decided to create our own x-ray images out of paper and coloured straws. Who else thinks all x-rays should be as colourful as ours?

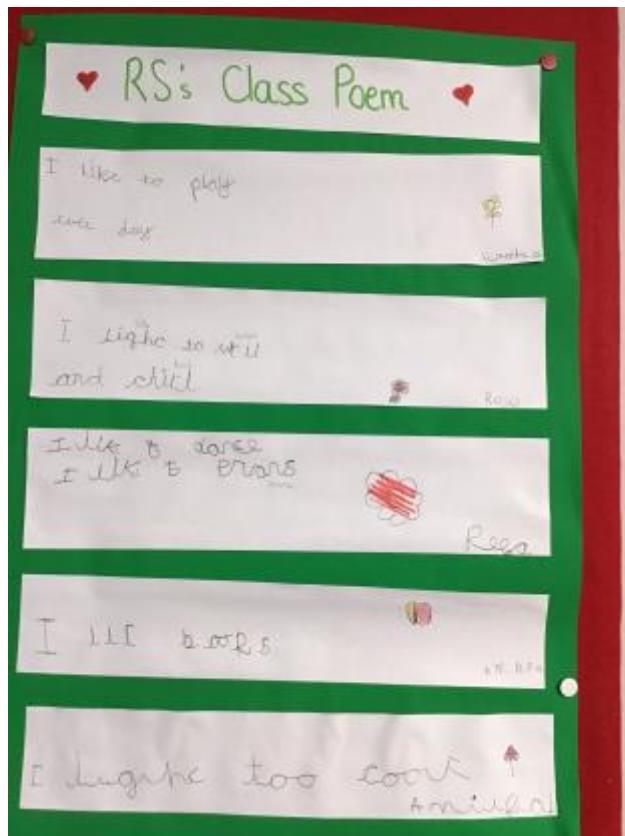


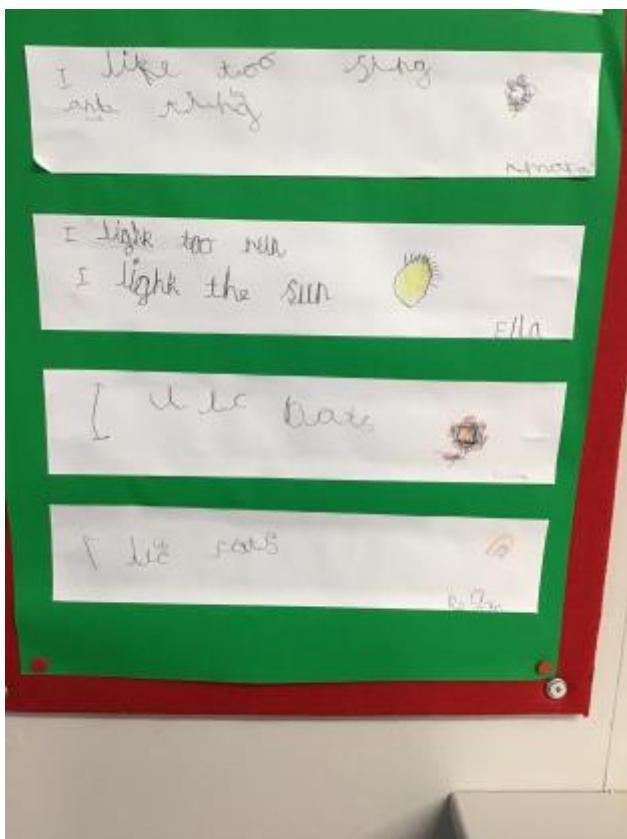


## World Book Day Poems

Last week, for our World Book Day each class did some poetry and we are delighted to share a selection of poems from Reception, Year 3, 5, and 6

**Reception** wrote a class poem about what they like to do.





**Year 3** explored poems based around senses, they discussed all 5 different senses including **sight, smell, taste, touch and hear** and then decided what images reflect their poems best to help publish their work.

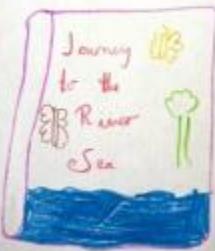
## If it was world book day

If it was world book day then I could smell the brand new books and I will read really well.  
If it was world book day then I would eat the fishes yummy meals.

If it was world book day then I could see the yummy tea.

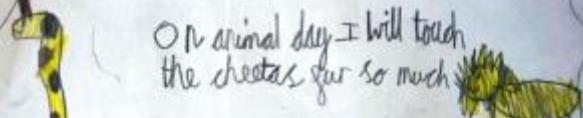
If it was world book day then I could hear the books whispering in my ear.

If it was world book day then I could taste the lovely book page.



## On animal day poem by Abigail

On animal day I will touch the cheetah fur so much.



On animal day I will taste the chicken that will get a chance.

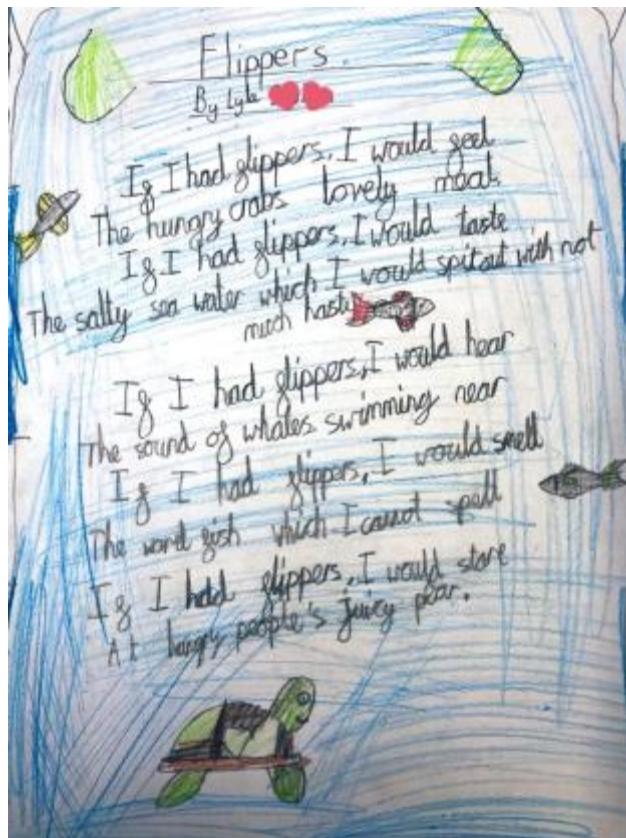
On animal day I will hear the bears roar with fear.

On animal day I will smell a nice sea shell.

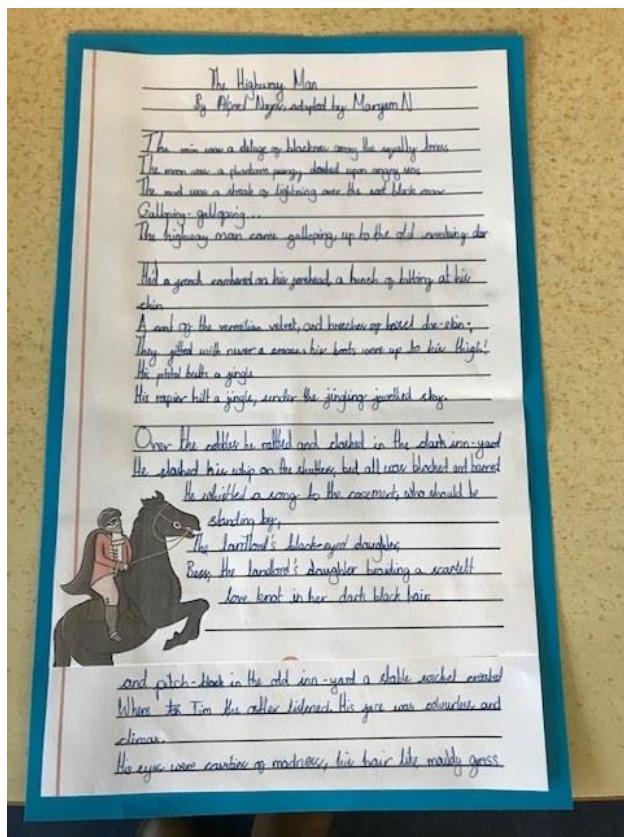
On animal day I will see the monkeys jumping in the tree.

On animal day I will dream of no one being mean.

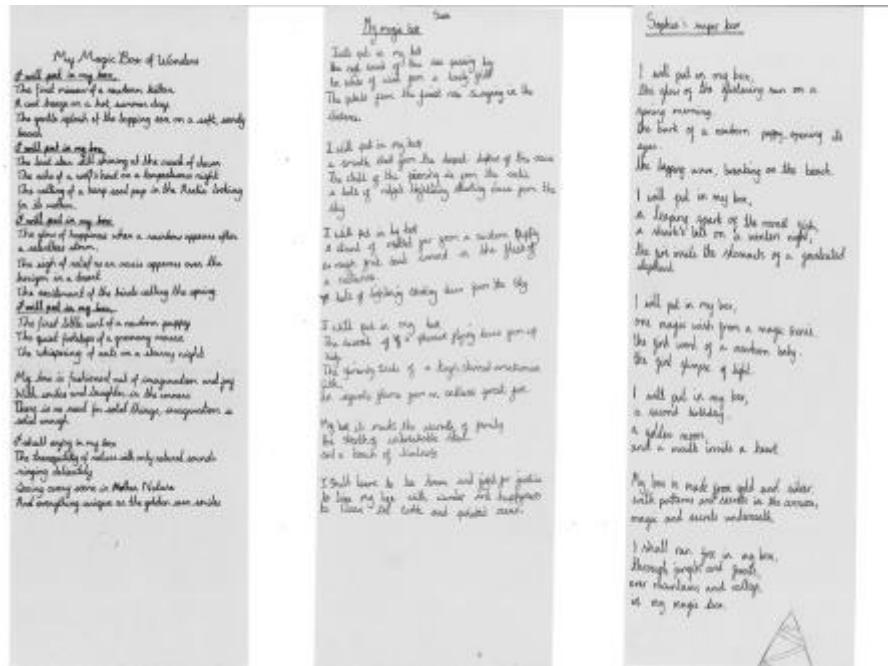




**Year 5** studied the **Highwayman poem** and they wrote their own version.



**Year 6** studied the **Magic Box** and thought about things they would like to put in their own magic box.



## Sumdog contest results

**Prep were amazing!** Cumnor Girls took up the **top 5** spots of the **final results** table. A big **well done** to **3D** who **won** the overall **competition** gaining themselves an **extra 5,000 coins** on Sumdog. We also wanted to say a big well done to **Abigail** in **Year 3** who came **1st** out of all the pupils who took part. With over **50,000** questions being answered, everyone who took part should be **incredibly proud** of themselves.

Position	Class name
1st	3D, Cumnor House School
2nd	4H, Cumnor House School
3rd	6P, Cumnor House School
4th	6SOB, Cumnor House School
5th	5K, Cumnor House School

## Music & Drama.....

Mrs Kimber and Mrs Myall were absolutely thrilled with all the auditions for the House Performing Arts competition this week. They saw 164 performances in total across all of the categories and had to make some very tough decisions as the standard was so high.

The running total for the house points awarded so far are:

**Blue House - 47**

**Green House - 58**

**Red House - 42**

**Yellow House - 41**

Points will be awarded during the final for each finalist depending on the place awarded to them by our judges on the day so there is everything to play for!

We are very much looking forward to the finals, which will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 30th March.

Congratulations to Ela in Year 5 who has passed her **Grade Three Speech and Drama exam** with a **merit. Well done Ela!**

## *Other News.....*

### **Challenging Gender Stereotypes**

As part of our PSHE lessons, we have been speaking with the girls about gender stereotypes particularly linked to jobs and careers. We are now hopefully, living in a world where 'male' and 'female' jobs are less in existence and the focus is on the best person for the job. As part of our discussions, we have also focused on aspiration and having no ceilings to become whatever you want to become both personally and professionally. This links to the Ofsted report which highlighted the role that schools should be taking in the prevention of sexual harassment in schools and, whilst aimed at secondary schools predominantly, encouraged us to think about how we can start to teach our pupils about positive relationships and equality between boys and girls in a primary friendly way.

We would be interested to hear from any of our parents whose job is one that was once considered a job for only a male/female with a view to share your story with the girls via an assembly, a talk within a lesson or a video. If you think this applies to you, or anyone you know, and would like to share your story with our Cumnor girls then please contact me on [sarah.syradd@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah.syradd@hotmail.co.uk) to discuss this further.

Mrs Syradd

## **Yellow Food Bin Donations**

Thank you for all the wonderful donations you have been adding to the Yellow Food Bin. This week the Reception girls helped to empty the bin, loading the items into Mrs Mearkle's car to take down to Purley Food Hub. Please have a look at the most needed items for March and hopefully we can continue to fill the bin and help those less fortunate than ourselves. Remember all items need to be non-perishable and able to form part of a healthy, balanced meal.



### **FOOD LIST - MARCH 2022**



At Purley Food Hub we provide food and other items to local people in crisis. Please consider donating one or more of **this month's Top Ten priority items:**

- Long Life Whole Milk
- Tins of Plain Meat - Ham, Spam, Chicken
- Small Packets of Dried Potato
- Packets of Custard
- Chocolate Drink requiring only hot water
- Small Bottles of Squash
- Size 5 Nappies
- Baby Wipes
- Unisex Deodorant
- Small Washing Up Liquid

*Thank you so much everyone for your continuing generosity.  
As a result, since 2013 we have been able to provide more than  
250,000 meals to struggling clients and their families.*

### **Summer Term 22 School Fee Preferred Payment Option**

Since our successful launch of the preferred payment option through Direct Debit, a significant amount of our Cognita parents have chosen to manage their parent account in this way. The Direct Debit option ensures the term's tuition fee is paid in full, shortly before or around the due date specified on the invoice and before the commencement of the new term, as set out in the Parent Contract terms and conditions.

One of the key benefits of signing up to the Direct Debit option is knowing, in advance, when the collection dates for each term will be, enabling you to plan ahead. The collection dates are stated on the email communication that accompanies the termly invoices.

The Summer 22 termly fee invoices for your school will be issued shortly. Should you wish to take up the Direct Debit payment option, please complete the Direct Debit mandate by 20th March 2022, following the instructions below, to enable this payment method to be set up on your account in time for the summer term.

If you already pay by Direct Debit, then there is no action for you to take. We will already have your account set up to automatically process payment direct from your bank account on the specified collection date.

Please contact [finance@cumnorhouse.com](mailto:finance@cumnorhouse.com) if you have any queries regarding this payment option.

### **Direct Debit – Set Up Preferred Payment Option**

By clicking on this link, you will be directed to your School's direct debit portal. Follow the instruction on the site to get this facility set up straight away. <https://portal.fastpayltd.co.uk/signup/personal-details/2546>.

From the Cumnor House Finance Team

### **PTA News.....**



Please click [here](#) to read the PTA News