



Cumnor Boys' & Nursery

Friday 1st December 2023

Key Dates - Early Years and Boys' School

All school dates for this term are available to view on the 'Calendar' section of your Cognita Connect app.

EARLY YEARS

Tuesday 5th December 2:30pm, Purley Kindergarten Nativity (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

Thursday 7th December 10am, Reception Nativity (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

Friday 8th December, After School Clubs/Activities Finish

Monday 11th December 10am, Purley Pre-School Nativity (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

Monday 11th December 2pm, South Croydon Pre-School Nativity (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

Tuesday 12th December, Christmas Jumper Day (click [here](#) to view letter)

Tuesday 12th December 2:30pm, South Croydon Kindergarten (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

Wednesday 13th December, Reception and Purley Nursery Last Day of Term, collection at 11:45am

Friday 22nd December, 6pm South Croydon Nursery closes for Christmas

BOYS' SCHOOL

Wednesday 6th December 7pm, Carol Service at Croydon Minster (click [here](#) to view letter)

Friday 8th December, After School Clubs/Activities Finish

Friday 8th December 2pm, Year 1 & 2 Nativity at St. Mark's Church (click [here](#) to view letter, form for reserving tickets has now closed)

Tuesday 12th December, Christmas Jumper Day (click [here](#) to view letter)

Tuesday 12th December 4:30pm, Informal Concert

Wednesday 13th December, Last Day of Term - finish times as follows*:

- 12:00pm Year 1 & 2
- 12:10pm Year 3 & 4
- 12:30pm Year 5 & 6
- 12:45pm Year 7 & 8

*There will be no PM shuttlebus service or After School Facility on 13th December

A Message from Miss Edwards



Dear Parents

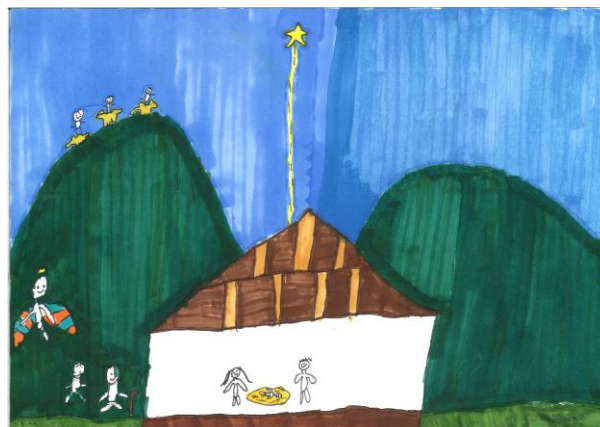
As the winter chill sets in and the festive spirit fills the air, we are nearing the end of the school term. We, at Cumnor House **extend our heartfelt season's greetings to each and every one of you**. It's a time to come together, appreciate the moments that make us smile, and express gratitude for the community that we are part of.

We have so many delightful **events, performances, and activities** over the next week and a half that will showcase the talents and hard work of our incredible pupils. Please ensure you have checked the calendar and the key dates at the top of the newsletter.

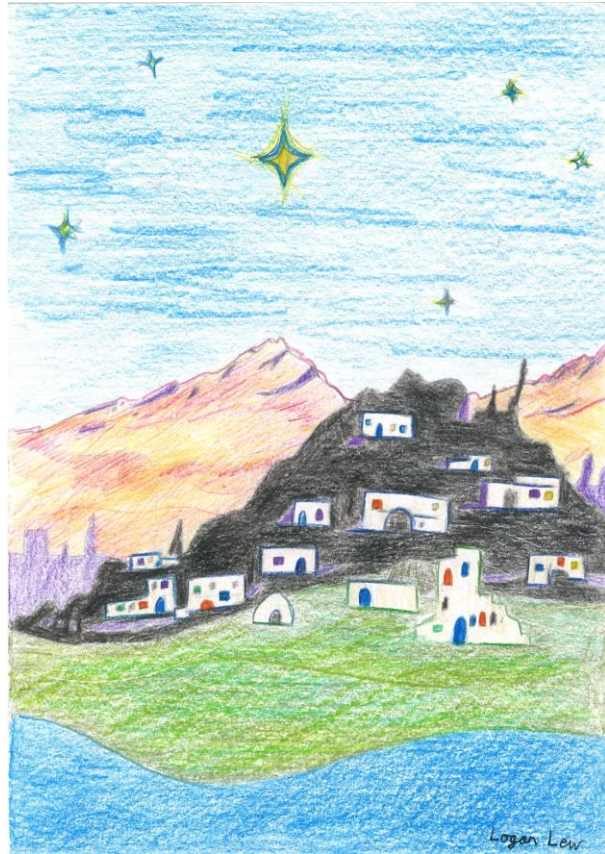
On **Wednesday** evening **Mr Jones** and I were invited by **Chris Ramsey, Headmaster** to attend the **Whitgift Autumn Collection Concert at the Fairfield Halls**. It was an absolutely beautiful program of musical talent and I am proud to report that no less than 27 ex Cumnor boys were either singing or playing as Whitgift pupils. Some of the sixth formers who were on prefect duty remembered us too and they were grilled by Mr Jones as to whether they will be continuing with a maths based degree at University! It is always lovely to hear how our former pupils are getting on and to see their parents too.

Our boys were also asked to perform with the Whitgift Choirs and were **fantastic ambassadors for our school as usual**. Thank you to **Miss Secker** for working with the boys on the superb Oliver Medley. The **row of red blazers stood out in stark contrast** in between the Whitgift boys - Well done, boys!

You will see some **amazing pieces** submitted by some of our boys for the **Art competition** for the **Carol Service programme**. Each one is very special and tells the Christmas story beautifully. Well done to all the boys who worked hard on their art and I am looking forward to seeing the winning entries in the programme on Wednesday evening. I do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for our **Carol Concert at the Croydon Minster on Wednesday 6th December from 7pm**. It is always a very special occasion.



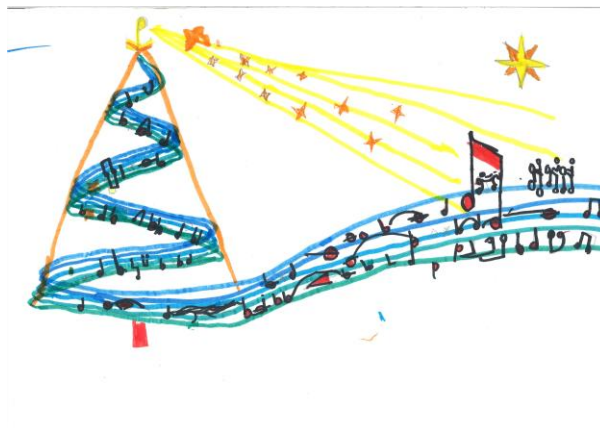












Year 8 Trip

Thank you to **Mrs Jackson** and our Driver **Mr Watts** who took the **Year 8 boys** out this week. Here is Mrs Jackson's report below.

Year 8 had a fantastic trip to The National Army Museum on Tuesday. We travelled by school minibus to Chelsea, and the boys were immediately impressed by the Challenger Tank parked on display outside the entrance! Their interest was then further piqued by the helicopter hanging in the atrium.

We spent time exploring the exhibits and discovering unexpected information about the history and functioning of the British Army and its plethora of connections around the globe. Throughout the visit, Year 8 were able to take photographs with their laptops and some even filmed videos to use in their class assembly next term. They researched the exhibits before their visit, so all had a clear focus for their information gathering whilst there - as will be evident in their class assembly.

Of particular interest were the interactive opportunities. A huge favourite was the whole wall, parade ground marching, led by an AI simulated commander. The boys loved trying to march in time (or not!) and the realistic responses to their attempts caused much laughter. Trying on a bear skin replica hat and standing to attention in a guard box gave a few boys an understanding of the itchiness and discomfort experienced when wearing dress uniform in the military. There are many other interactive exhibits at the museum, and Year 8 would recommend you visit the museum to see for yourselves.

All in all the boys had a great day and would like to thank Roy for driving the minibus, but also for sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm throughout the day. They especially enjoyed trying to challenge his knowledge, but on the whole he could offer up information on the majority of their questions.

This was another successful outing deepening the boys' understanding of the CHS curriculum. The diversity on display and the connections the boys' were able to make with their in-class learning, have enriched both their understanding and their enthusiasm for more history based learning. The trip is the perfect bridge between this term's topic of WWI and next term's topic of WWII.

Mrs Jackson

Head of Humanities











Year 2 Superheros



Our **Year 2 teachers and pupils** embarked on a **special mission** today to spread the Christmas cheer and save the day.

As an exciting and meaningful end to our Superhero topic, Year 2 have been superheroes for the day. They began with team superhero swimming races, then made superhero masks. This afternoon they used their superhero muscles to walk to St. John's Care Home in Haling Park Road, where they were eagerly welcomed by the staff and residents. All the boys performed some Christmas songs, which were met with smiles and applause. Finally they left Christmas cards that they had made for all the residents. We walked back to school, proud that we had made a difference to our community, and each boy received a superhero certificate for bringing happiness to the community. Well done, boys.











Stars of the Week



Our Year 1 and 2 stars for this week:

1C - **Kacper**

1L - **Roman**

1S - **William G**

2CT - **William S**

2R - **Alexander W**

Well done, boys!

Also **congratulations** must go to our **swimmers** who, once again, did phenomenally well at the **London League first round** at JAGs this week. You can read Mr Fitzgerald's report below.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more exciting news and events in the new year. Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with joy, love, and prosperity.

I look forward to seeing you at the PTA Merry Market tomorrow!

Kind Regards

Miss Edwards

PTA Merry Market, Saturday 2nd December



Get ready for a festive frenzy at **Merry Market** tomorrow!



Join us for **Winter Wonderland Games, Frosty's Cafe, House of Santa, Carolling Corner, a visit with Santa** and more!

Ticket sales have now closed but you can pay at the gate.

Let's make Merry Market unforgettable!



Swimming

Well done to all of the boys who competed in the first round of this year's **London League** on Wednesday at JAGS. We were competing in one of four separate galas where the results from all the galas will then be merged to form a **virtual gala**. The first 6 teams from this virtual round will then compete in the **area final for all schools south of the river**. We were in a particularly strong gala with **3 of the 5 schools who competed, making up 3 of the top 4 schools in last year's final**.

Our **boys swam exceptionally well** and put in a very **dominant display**. We had many personal best times and finished first or second in **32 of the 44 races** showing great strength and depth, we were especially **dominant in the relay events** winning all of the Year 3, 4 and 5 relays and winning the

squadron relay by over half a length. **We won our gala very convincingly** and look forwards to the final to be held next term.

A special mention to the boys who competed in **Year 6** and I was especially impressed with the two **Year 5** boys who swam up an age group to help out the team.

Keep up the hard work in preparation for the Final to be held next term.

Mr Fitzgerald

Head of Swimming

Perry Uniform - Christmas Delivery Information

Orders placed **by 12pm on Tuesday 19th December 2023 will be dispatched on Wednesday 20th December 2022**

Orders placed **after 12pm on 20th December 2023 but before 5pm on 27th December 2023, will be dispatched on Thursday 28th December 2023.**

Orders placed **after 5pm on 27th December will be dispatched on 3rd January 2023.**

This includes express/next day delivery services which will be received the day after dispatch, not the day after an order is placed.

Named orders or personalised orders will be delivered in the first week of January.

All delivery dates above are subject to stock availability.

Our telephone lines will be closed from 5.00pm on Wednesday 20th December 2022 until 9am on Tuesday 2nd January 2023. E-mails will be monitored intermittently over this time if parents would like to contact us: info@perryuniform.co.uk



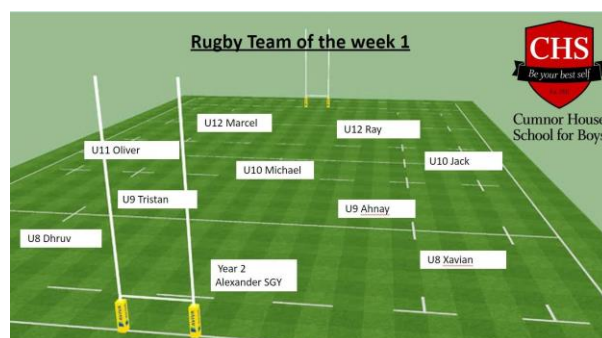
Sport

The U10's took part in a '**Mr Brotherton and Mr Jones**' masterclass in ball presentation. The boys learned how to fall, protect the ball and present it to their teammates in the most efficient way possible. Very impressive, boys!



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Rugby Team of the Week



Mr Brotherton
Director of Sport

Music

Music News

Two weeks ago we had our second **Teatime Concert**, this time for boys in **Year 5** who entertained us with performances on a range of instruments. We were also joined by 3 boys from **Years 3 and 4** who are taking exams next week, giving them a chance to perform to an audience as well as listen to some of the older boys. It was lovely to be joined by **parents and staff**, and the timing of the concert provided an excellent way to finish the school day. Thank you to all the boys who performed.

Following feedback from boys, parents and staff, next term we will have **Teatime concerts for all boys in Years 2, 3 and 4** who are learning instruments, so keep an eye out after Christmas for these dates.

Thank you for all the artwork entries sent in for the **Carol Service Programme Competition**. We had a tough job, and the boys who were successful will find out at the Carol Service! We have displayed the artwork submitted in the Music House and it will be returned to the boys at the end of term.

Earlier this week some of our **Choristers** went to **Fairfield Halls** to be part of their **Autumn Collection Concert**. They enjoyed watching a wide range of performances, the favorites being the Corps of Drums, with their light up sticks and drums, and the Jazz Band. They then joined **Whitgift's Year 7 boys to perform a selection of songs from Oliver!** They were complimented on their behavior both in the rehearsal and the performance, and **Mr Miller, the Head of Choral Music at Whitgift** has asked me to thank them for being so well prepared and helping to lead the singing! I hope this can be reflected in the Carol Service next week.

Dates for the rest of this term for Years 1 - 8

Saturday 2nd December – **Little Voices** and some **soloists** are performing at the **Merry Market**. **Chamber Choir** will also be leading some **Carol Singing** for everyone at **3pm**.

Wednesday 6th December - Carol Service – all **Choirs** and the **Senior Bell Band** will be going down to the **Minster** during the day to rehearse before the service in the evening. **Brass Ensemble** will be playing at the end of the service but will rehearse in school on Tuesday as normal.

Thursday 7th December (pm) – **Chamber Choir** to visit **Purley Gardens Care Home** to sing for and with the residents.

Friday 8th December – **Year 1 and 2 Nativity Performance** 2pm at St Mark's Church, Woodcote.

Tuesday 12th December – Informal **Christmas Concert** 4.30pm - **String Orchestra, Woodwind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Year 5 Bell Band and Jazz Band performing** – a lovely way to finish the term!

Miss Secker

Head of Music

Early Years

Christmas is in full swing in **Reception, Pre-School** and **Kindergarten** with the nativities, decorations and even a visit from some elves this morning. As always the classrooms are full of glitter and excitement ready to showcase their productions. Please make sure you have checked the calendar and aware of the dates, time and locations of all the nativities on over the next two weeks.

Congratulations to all the children this week who received the **Star of the Week** or **Gold Award**.

Stars of the Week

Pre-School South Croydon: **Zyra**

Pre-School Purley: **Theo**

RA: **Asher**

RL: **Hayder**

RW: **Ralph**

Gold Awards

Pre-School South Croydon: **Harrison**

Pre- School Purley: **Grace**

RA: **Ethan**

RL: **AJ**

RW: **Raymond**

Congratulations to all these children.

Reception





Reception

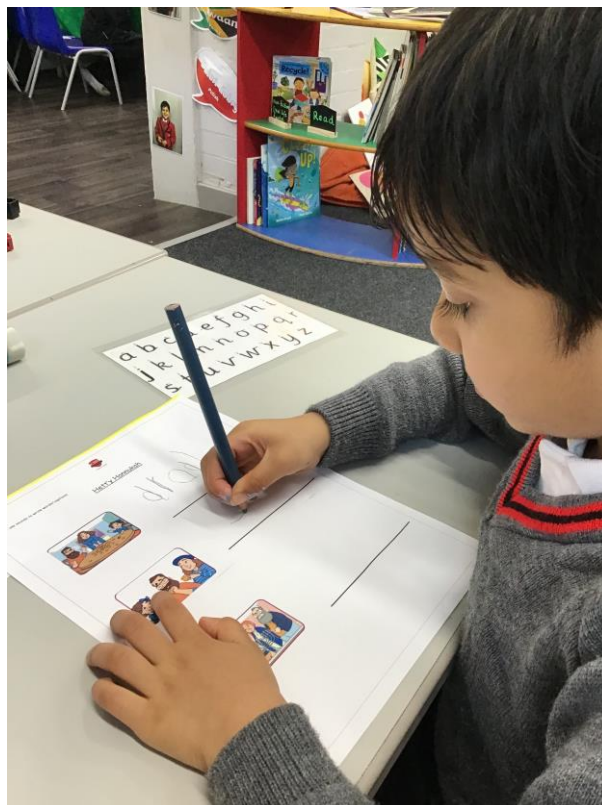
This week **Reception** have been very busy practising their Nativity. They have been working hard with **Miss Secker** on learning the songs and signs in Music, and also practising their lines during our

rehearsals. Please continue to go over these with your child at home to support our rehearsals at school – thank you!

We have been looking at the **Jewish festival, Hanukkah** this week. We read the story '**Hetty's Hanukkah**' to help us learn all about the **Jewish traditions** during this celebration. From this, the boys have begun to investigate the similarities and differences of all the celebrations we have focused on over this half term.



At the end of the week, **to mark the first day in December**, we had a very **special visitor**. Yes, that's right, **Buddy the Elf** has arrived at Cumnor House and he is here to keep a close eye on us all. Due to his arrival, we decided to post our very important letters to Santa, just in time for Christmas! Fingers crossed he sends us a letter back!





Pre-School

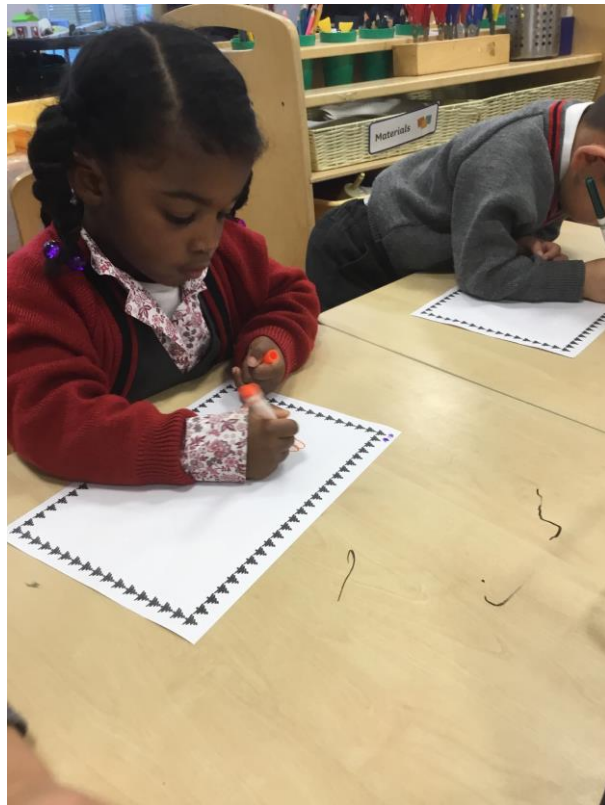
Pre-School South Croydon

This week in Pre-School we have been fully immersed in the Christmas spirit. We have been threading candy canes, to develop our fine motor skill. Adding the shape presents to the Christmas tree and creating some lovely Christmas gifts to take home with clay. In Literacy we have drawn a Christmas list of the presents we would like, there were some great detailed pictures. We have been working hard to practice and learn our nativity play and songs. The children have done amazing!

Your children's outfits should be in Pre-School now, if not please could these be in as soon as possible.

If your child does not attend Pre-School on a Monday please could they meet us at the Purley site at 1.30pm ready for the show at 2pm. We will have their costumes with us if they are in Pre-School.







Pre-School Purley

Our children are very busy making Pre-School ready for Christmas. We are singing, dancing and making the most wonderful Christmas cave filled with gingerbread men, baubles and lights.

Our play – A little Nativity songs make our school feel very festive.

We look forward to sharing this beautiful Nativity story with our families on **Monday 11th December**. Our day is busy with our phonics learning and Fred Talk activities. We have made reindeer soup with carrots and sprouts- Lots of fun. We had a fun birthday disco celebrating Mrs Hollands, Theo and Aaron`s birthday. Just a little glimpse of our week together.





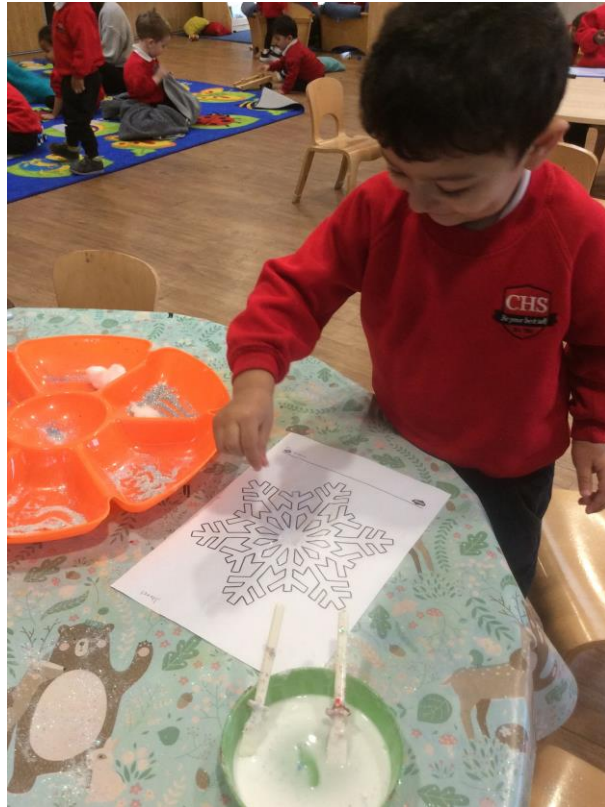
Kindergarten

Kindergarten South Croydon

This week, **Kindergarten** has been busy with making Christmas decorations to put up around our room. Also, we have been writing our letters to Santa to tell him what we want for Christmas, we have been practicing our Christmas songs for our Christmas carol service so all of the mummies and daddies can hear our beautiful voices. The children are learning about Santa, snowmen, and the little elves that work in Santa's workshop. We have also decorated outside our class room with a big Christmas tree and big Santa Claus so you can come along and take your picture with him!







Kindergarten Purley

As we get close to Christmas the children have been posting their letters to Father Christmas and Rudolph. We have had various shaped letters. Squares, triangles, rectangles and circles in several different colours. The children have recognised the colours and shapes, they have then needed to

identify the correct post-box for each shaped letter. The children have worked very hard, often holding the shape up to the shape silhouette on the post-box in order to check they have the right post-box. This has been a very popular activity throughout the week





