

# Girls' Newsletter - 24th November 2023

# Key Dates.....



# A Message from Mrs McShane

Dear Parents,

We have been steeped in history this week with Year 4 having their Greek day filled with activities and food tastings to consolidate their humanities learning and on Friday the Year 5 girls' experiencing what school would be like in the Victorian era under the tutelage of a very strict Mrs King. More on both days later in the newsletter.

As part of their "People who help us" topic, Reception girls were very excited to see the fire engine and talk to the firefighters when they came on Monday; and on Friday, they welcomed Nurse Tracy to talk to them about what her role entails. With all these fabulous visitors we have had over the weeks I wonder what seeds may have been sown for future careers!

Years 5 and 6 treated us to a delightful afternoon concert on Tuesday, having been at all of the girls concerts over the years it is really wonderful to see how they have developed. not just in their skill but also their confidence when performing.

We are delighted to share the news that Sara, Alyssa and Abigail have made it through to the ISA National Finals in swimming to be held at the Olympic Pool in London They will be representing London South; Sarah will be swimming 50 metres back stroke and Alyssa and Abigail will be in the freestyle relay squads for their respective year groups. Well done, girls!

A request that parents are prompt when collecting their daughters either at the end of the school day, clubs or after school care. At the end of the day teachers often have meetings or clubs to go on to. We are finding that an increasing number of people are late to collect at the end of 5.00pm clubs or after school care at 6.00pm. Please allow time for your journey so that you are not delayed; your daughter has already done a long day and will be tired; the teachers also have their own families with young children, or other commitments, that they need to get to. Your delay has the knock on effect to staff delayed causing stress and possibly incurring them costs. As a school we value, and put an emphasis on family, and this includes staff.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents to school on Thursday for 'A Look at Learning'. This is an opportunity for you to spend a little time with your daughter discussing her learning with her. Parents are welcome into the school between 8.00 and 8.30. Your daughter will have chosen some pieces of work of which she is proud and will talk to you about them. We will make learning questions available for you to guide your conversations and ask you to write a comment for your daughter. You do not need to stay for the full 30 minutes, but we do ask people to leave promptly by 8.30 so that the girls can start their lessons as normal. Please note that this is not a time to talk to teachers about your daughter's progress.

There are lots of things coming up in the school calendar, please keep abreast of what is on and what is needed. The Christmas post box will be in the school Foyer from 4th December, Elfridges will take place on 7th December and the girls are all allocated set times to browse and make their purchases. We will be having Christmas Jumper Day and Buddy Christmas parties on Friday 8th, the girls exchange a small gift with their buddy, this should have a value of no more than £5, please.

We still have some non-regulation pinafore dresses (Reception, Year 1 and 2) and non-Cumnor coats. Please make sure that you have ordered the correct uniform from Perrys.

If you have any forms outstanding, please return them to the office as soon as possible - some are long overdue.

We are looking forward to the last couple of weeks of term with Nativities and the Christmas concert, please continue to help your daughter to learn her words. I know that all these events will be magical, and the girls will have a sparkle in their eye (and maybe there will be a tear in parents' eyes too).

Have a fabulous weekend, it is set to be chilly so perfect for wrapping up warm to go for a walk and play dragons!

"Don't compare yourself to others. Be like the sun and the moon and shine when it's your time." —Unknown

# Cognita Connect Update.....

We have sent out enrolment codes to those parents that have notified us that they are having problems logging into the app, so please check your emails and re-activate your account if you haven't done so already. If you are still having problems please let us know so that we can get the team to investigate further or if you have not informed us yet please do so as soon as possible.

# Important Info/Reminders.....

\*\*All Extra Curricula Activities/Clubs and Squads finish on Friday 8th December\*\*

I would urge you to, **"Once a week, take a peek" so** that we can keep headlice at bay. They are not uncommon, nor are they anything to be ashamed of. They are pesky things and there needs to be a whole school approach to eliminating them. This is a reminder to actively check your child's hair as head lice don't always cause an itchy scalp so many people will be unaware that they are infected. We understand girls like to wear their hair down, but we do request that long hair is tied up to minimise head-to-head contact in school. Treating head lice is not a problem. Detection and effective ongoing treatment of head lice is key to reducing the outbreaks.

Where to Peek: Close to the scalp and behind the ears. the back of the neck, the top of the head and under the fringe

What to Peek for: Adult lice are 2-4 mm long. Immature lice are even smaller. Live lice remain close to the scalp. Nits are dead or empty eggshells.

Checking for lice might not be your idea of fun but it's really no big deal and shouldn't be a stressful experience for you or your daughter. It is just a normal part of every family's personal hygiene routine, like brushing your teeth or washing your hair. Remember to check your own hair too. If you find any live lice, please treat the whole family and repeat treatment a week later.

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

#### Reception

Reception Fire Brigade visit.

















## Year 2

Year 2 have made some short videos in their ICT lesson. They used the iPads to take short videos and still pictures and then pieced them together using the iMovie app.



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### Year 2 - Diwali

Last Friday, Year 2 were lucky to have a visit from Vasudha's mum who talked to us about Diwali. She told us all about the festival and why is it so important and we learned some new and interesting facts. Thank you for coming in!



## Worry Post Box and Worry Monsters

This week the ABAs have reminded the girls about the class worry monsters. Anyone can post a message in the worry monster's mouth if they are worried about something and are finding it hard to talk about it.

The ABAs felt we needed something to be able to share their worries at playtime if they could not tell the adult on duty. We have installed a red worry post box and anyone can post their worry. We would still encourage the girls to tell the teacher on duty as then it can be resolved straight away.

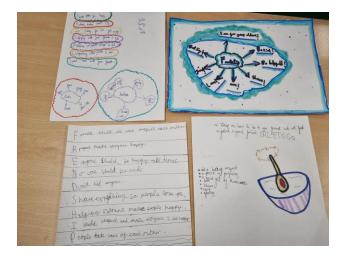
If posting their worries, the girls are reminded to add their name so that a teacher can follow the problem up with them.

Well done to the ABAs for a great idea to ensure pupils always have an opportunity to share how they are feeling and ask for help to solve their worries.



## Year 3

Year 3 have been learning about the importance of friendship, how to communicate with each other when there are differing opinions, and what it means to be a good friend.



### Year 4

On Monday, Year 4 were transported back to Ancient Greece. The girls came in resplendent in their Greek goddess dresses and took part in a range of activities. They competed in chariot races and discus in the Olympics during PE, winning gold medals. They then made laurel wreaths to honour their attempts. The children made clay pots and will decorate them to show the different stories of the gods and goddesses once they are dry, they used the same myths to act out the famous stories. Finally, they tasted a range of Greek food such as flatbreads, hummus, olives, yoghurt, honey and figs. The girls had an amazing time and really worked hard putting all of their learning into action!











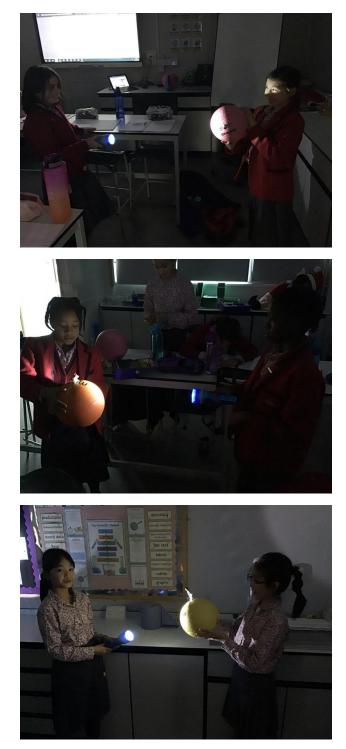






## Year 5 Day & Night

Year 5 have been investigating and exploring the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.





## **Titanic Brochures**

In Year 5 we have been studying the Titanic and the girls designed a promotional brochure advertising all the facilities on board and trying to persuade people to join the cruise.



## Anti-bullying training

Year 5 and 6 delivered training to the Year 1-4 anti-bullying ambassadors (ABAs) last Friday. As part of the training, the girls looked at the role of the ABA, signs that might tell you someone is sad, lonely or being bullied and what they can do to help.

The Y3-6 ABAs received their new lanyards to ensure they are easy to spot in the playground if someone needs their help and the Y1 and 2 ABAs have their high-visibility jackets to ensure they are easy to find.

The Year 5 and 6 ABAs were confident, supportive and encouraging-well done girls on being such strong role models to your Cumnor 'sisters'.

















## They just can't stay away!

On Friday, we were delighted that Ela, Rachna and Arielle (now in Year 7 at Reigate Grammar) came back to pay us a visit. They planned an informative and supportive talk for the Year 5 and 6 pupils on exam preparation and transition to Senior School. They also reminded the girls that even though they have left and moved onto secondary school, they still follow the Cumnor Values - a reminder that these values instil qualities for life. The girls also enjoyed supporting some of the younger girls in their learning and with practising their Christmas play. Thank you, girls, it was lovely to see you again.



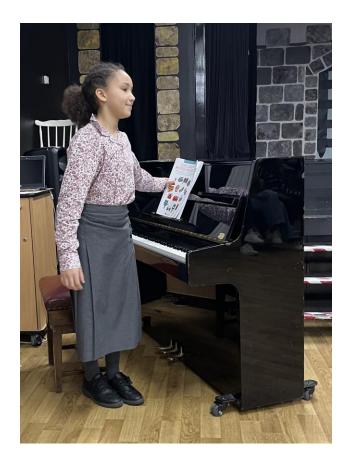
# Music.....

## Year 5 & 6 Soloists Concert

Year 5 and 6 musicians treated their parents and peers to some wonderful performances in their Soloists Concert this Tuesday afternoon. Thank you to all of the performers, who did a fantastic job and worked hard to show off their stagecraft skills and to introduce their pieces thoughtfully and confidently. Thank you also to the teachers for preparing them, parents for supporting their practice at home and at the concert and also to their classmates who listened so attentively and supportively during the performances.

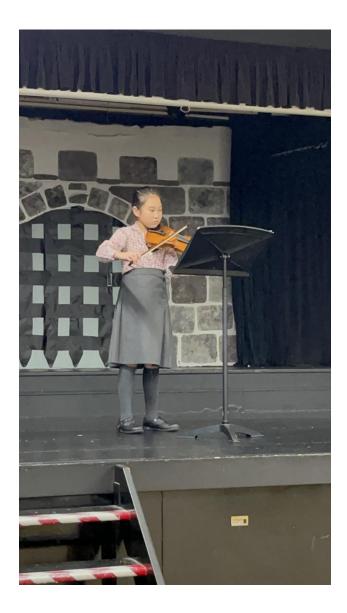


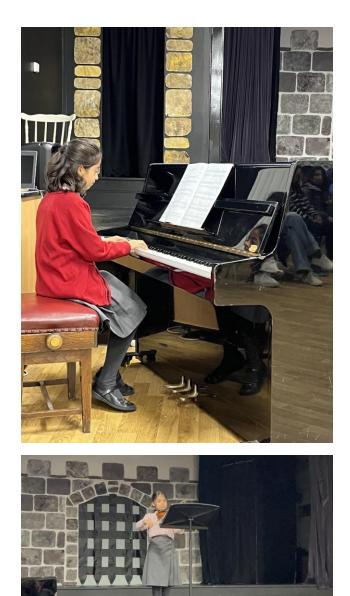




























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## Sport.....

# Hawthorns Netball Match

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Year 6 and Year 5 went to play a Netball match at Hawthorns.

Year 6 played first, and our game was split into four 6-minute quarters. The first quarter went well because we scored 3 goals and there were some incredible interceptions made by Izzy. The second quarter we didn't score however neither did Hawthorns. On the third quarter, all their players switched positions, so we were thrown but still managed to score a goal. By the last quarter everyone was exhausted although Cumnor scored another 2 goals. It was an amazing match and Cumnor won 6:0, with every goal scored by Serena(our epic shooter). Avani was rightfully voted player of the match.

Finally, year 5 played and ,unfortunately, they lost 4:3 with an unlucky goal in the final few minutes. Daisy-as C-made some great passes and so did Bethany as GA. To end the match, we all got a delicious match tea of sausage rolls and crisps. Also, a huge thank you to Mr OB and Mrs Harvie for organising this match. We hope to play Hawthorns again soon.

Shyla.

## Spotlight on Digital Safety.....



In assembly this week we looked at keeping our minds and bodies healthy. Part of this involved discussing screen time. Use this poster of handy tips to have a conversation with your daughter about screen time.



PTA Events.....

**Cumnor House Girls' PTA - Elfridges** 





## Merry Market & Santa's Grotto

Cumnor House Boys' and Nurseries are putting on a Merry Market event, Saturday 2nd December from 1pm to 4pm at the Boys' School site. They would like to invite all families and friends to join in on all the festive fun!

To purchase tickets for the Christmas Fair and Santa's Grotto please check out the links on the flyers below.



1 - Merry Market Tickets



2 - Grotto Tickets



3 - Stalls