



Cumnor House
School for Girls

Girls' Newsletter - 19th January 2024

Upcoming Key Dates.....

- **Saturday 20th January** - *Years 3 to 6 Cross Country League @ Woodcote High School - Parents Invited*
- **Monday 22nd January** - *Year 5 Prevent Lessons*
- **Wednesday 24th January** - *Year 6 Hockey v Aberdour (a) - Parents Invited (see team sheet or sports website for further details)*
- **Friday 26th January** - *U8 to U11 Croydon Schools Swimming Gala @ Trinity*
- **Monday 29th January** - *Year 5 Prevent Lessons*
- **Tuesday 30th January** - *Year 3 Hockey v Aberdour (a) - Parents Invited (see team sheet or sports website for further details)*
- **Wednesday 31st January** - *Year 5 & 6 Hockey v Ewell Castle (a) - Parents Invited (see team sheet or sports website for further details)*
- **Thursday 1st February** - *Look at Learning (8am to 8.30am)*

- **Thursday 1st February** - Year 3 & 4 Hockey v Ewell Castle (h) - Parents Invited (see team sheet or sports website for further details)
- **Friday 2nd February** - PTA Movie Night (details to follow)

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

A Message from Mrs McShane

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a cold week it has been, but there has been a warm air of happiness and a joy of learning in all the classrooms this week, each girl bringing their own particular brand of warmth and sunshine to the school. I feel I must do a shout-out to our wonderful Year 6 girls, through what has been the hardest of times, they have been working hard to prepare for their senior school exams, interviews, and scholarship days. They are showing such fortitude, resilience, and determination and we are immensely proud of them. I look forward to sharing the results when we have them all in.

This half term we will be focusing on the Cumnor Value – “Belief”, this is not just thinking about our faith if we have one, but more about belief in ourselves. Having the self-knowledge that we are capable of more than we sometimes imagine; the belief that we can succeed if we try. We often talk about helping our girls to be more resilient in their learning and fostering a strong self-belief is a huge part of this. I believe that our Year 6 girls are typifying it at the moment and are being great role models and inspirations to the younger girls.

In this cold weather please make sure that your daughter is wrapped up warmly, particularly if she has PE or Games, she will need her base layers and the older girls need gloves (with a grip so the hockey sticks don't slide!) We still have some non-regulation Cumnor coats being worn to school, please make sure that your daughter has the official Cumnor coat available from Perrys. Similarly, hats and gloves should be red or black to match the uniform.

I am aware that families with siblings at the Boys' School get messages regarding events that are happening there and then there is a query about whether we are doing the same thing at the girls, this is usually posted on WhatsApp pages and people worry that they have missed a school communication from the Girls' School. The Girls' and Boys' schools do not always do the same events so if you have not heard from the Girls' school about something, then it is not happening here. The two schools do liaise on

many, but not all things – we are like siblings rather than twins. If you are unsure about anything, please contact the office or your form teacher directly as this will avoid any miscommunication.

Pick-ups from after-school care post 5.10pm – if you are collecting your daughter from after-school care after 5.10pm you may drive into the school car park rather than parking on the lane, this is because all other children should be off-site by this time. If you do this, please park “tidily” so that you are not causing an obstruction or danger to other parents and their children. During these dark evenings please all be especially careful to look to ensure that there are no children in your path. We must all, always, put safety first.

We had a lady visit from “The Good Schools Guide” this week to carry out an independent review of the school. It was a very busy day as she talked to pupils, staff and parents; she visited lessons and had a full tour of the school – given by Mihika and Sophia. She particularly enjoyed lunch with the girls and was full of very complimentary things to say about everyone to whom she had spoken. I am not sure when the review will be published but we will let you know.

"Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained." Marie Curie

Important Info/Reminders.....

Music Scheme

If your daughter is in Year 3 and you have not paid for the Music Scheme, please would you go onto payments on Cognita Connect and make the payment. Many thanks.

Absence Notifications

Please can we remind parents that if your daughter is going to be late/absent from school can you please call the school office on **020 8668 0050 option 2** and/or email her Form Tutor **and** admin.purley@cumnorhouse.com for **each day** of her absence.

Late/ill - please inform us **by 9am** each day

Appointments/other - please inform us at least **24 hours** in advance where possible

Lost Property.....

The below glasses have been in the office for a while now and no one has claimed them. Please can you check whether they belong to your daughter and let the school office know. We will keep them until next Friday and if not claimed they will be disposed of.



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

Year 1

As part of our Humanities topic 'Never Eat Shredded Wheat' Year 1 have been learning about different types of homes. We went for a local walk to see what different types of houses we could spot. The girls

learned how to use a tally chart to record how many of each type of house we saw. It was a little chilly on our walk but the girls enjoyed keeping track on their clipboards!





Year 3

The girls have been learning about rocks and the different ways that they are formed. In their science lesson this week, they carried out different tests to look at the different properties and whether there is any correlation. They investigated whether the rocks floated, how durable they were, and their permeability.





Year 4

Following on from their work on teeth over the past couple of weeks, Year 4 moved on to learning about the digestive system on Thursday. They followed the journey of a delicious breakfast of Weetabix and a banana and replicated the process that happens when we eat our food. The girls mixed saliva (water) and stomach acid (orange juice) with the food to break it down so it was easier to digest. It then travelled to the small intestine (a pair of tights) where all of the nutrients were absorbed and the waste arrived in the large intestine for the final destination- the toilet!











Year 5 Geography Investigation

Year 5 examined where rainwater goes in different parts of the school grounds and they became experts at drains and guttering! They also learned the terms impermeable and permeable.









Sports.....

Swimming Gala @ Cumnor Boys' School

On Thursday 18th January the girls' school and the boys' school organised a mixed friendly squad swimming gala. Each swimmer swam all four strokes in seeded heats, both the girls and the boys swam fantastically, with children breaking PBs.

A big congratulations to Posy who has again broken the Cumnor girls' 17m swimming record for Year 2 in frontcrawl, backstroke, and breaststroke. Thank you to parents for your continued support and we look forward to doing the gala again next year.



Spotlight on Digital Safety.....



Digital Leaders' Competition

The Digital Leaders are excited to launch a competition ahead of Safer Internet Day on 6th February.

The theme is 'Inspiring Change' and is focused on using the internet to make a change for the better.

Pre-Prep are invited to enter a poster linked to positivity and the internet.

Prep are invited to write a poem about positive uses of the internet.

Entries are to be handed to Mrs Syradd via form teachers or the Office by 6th February.

We will announce the winners in the assembly on Friday 9th February.

Good luck!

Enter our competition pre-prep!



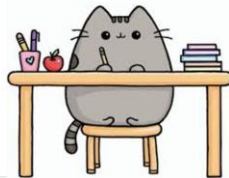
Your task is to create a poster about how you can stay safe on your device. The winner will win a MYSTERY prize!!! Hand in to Mrs Syradd on Tuesday 6th February!

1 - Pre-Prep

Attention Prep!

Due Date:
All entries must be in by the 6th of February ...?

Hand in to Mrs Syradd and the digital leaders will judge the entries.



Enter our poetry competition to win a fabulous prize!!! Your task is to create an exciting poem about how to be positive when online. Make sure that you think outside of the box!

2 - Prep