



Girls' Newsletter - 8th December 2023

Key Dates.....

Tuesday 12th December

- Carol Service Rehearsal during the day
- KS2 to be collected at 4pm to go home and rest - **After School Care will be available for KS1 ONLY until 6pm**
- 6pm Carol Service at St Mark's, Purley - **Mandatory for KS2**

Wednesday 13th December

- Last Day of Term - finish times as follows*:

Reception, Year 1 & 2 - 11:45am

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 12pm

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

A Message from Mrs McShane

Dear Parents,

It has been a busy and festive week here at Cumnor Girls. The Reception girls performed their "Twinkly Nativity" play with such confidence demonstrating how far they have come in just a short time. And Years 1 and 2 entertained us with, "Noone wraps like an Elf" a tale of saving Christmas by averting the dastardly plot to kidnap Santa! Both performances were well attended, and it was lovely to welcome so many people into the school. I was so impressed with all the girls for the manner in which they delivered their lines clearly, sang their songs with such enthusiasm, and that they had managed to learn so many words. Cumnor Girls Really Can!

Next week it is the turn of the prep department to perform in the Carol Concert. Please spend some time with your daughter learning words (particularly Year 3) this weekend. This includes the congregational carols, so that they can perform with confidence. Girls will need to arrive from 5.30 in smart uniform - no blazer required – smart, polished shoes and hair tied back in Cumnor colours (no

novelty scrunchies etc. please). The Carol Concert will begin promptly at 6.00pm and will last about an hour. There will be a retiring cash collection for the schools' elected Croydon based charity - Legacy.

The girls thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas shopping in Elfridges on Thursday. Elfridges has really grown over the past years and is now a veritable cornucopia of gifts. There is a fabulous atmosphere as the girls go shopping, choosing what they think their family will really enjoy. The thought that goes into this act of choosing and giving is really very special. Elfridges is a huge event that requires a lot of work in the lead up to the event with the ordering and wrapping of gifts and with lots of volunteers on the day – Thank you to our remarkable PTA for arranging this event for the girls.

On Monday, Reception ventured off to “Christmas Unwrapped” where they took part in activities to learn more about the Christmas story – read all about it later.

The girls arrived, resplendent, in their Christmas jumpers this morning, eyes shining and excited for the day to come. Christmas lunch - a smorgasbord of deliciousness lovingly prepared by Miss Julia and her team and served by teachers. The girls, and staff, feasted and loved having tablecloths and crackers. After this were the buddies' parties, with party games, dancing and an exchanging of gifts between buddies. There was also the chance to meet with Santa and his naughty head elf! Thank you to all staff, our wonderful team in the kitchen, and Santa Claus and his elf for making this afternoon such a fabulous time for the girls.

As we are approaching the end of term girls are bringing in cards and I know that some like to add sweeties or chocolate to them. Can I gently remind parents that we must be very careful with any food items due to the nature of allergies that we have in school so ask for this not to be done. If you want to share sweet treats of any nature, we ask that this is done at the end of day collection so that parents can make an informed choice on behalf of their daughter. Thank you.

I am very excited to say that we have had some Year 6 results already from two schools with 11 offers and 3 scholarships many more to come.

A little reminder please do not do 3 point turns in the lane

As the Christmas holiday approaches many of us are looking forward to spending time with our friends and family, celebrating being together, sharing laughter and meals together. Unfortunately, this can be a particularly hard time of year for some local families who rely on **Purley Food Hub** and will not be able to indulge as the rest of us do. I would love it if we were able to over fill our "one tin bin" with things to help local families at this time. These can be essentials but also some festive treats – the things on their most wanted list are:

Tins of plain chicken and ham, packet and tinned potatoes and tinned peas and carrot; tins of dessert fruit, puddings, jellies and packet custard. Bottles of squash and jars of red jam (strawberry and raspberry). Donations of Christmas biscuits and children's chocolate/sweet treats would add a welcome festive touch!

Think of it as a gift to an unknown friend. Thank you, in advance for your support.

Wishing you a fabulous weekend.

“It’s easier to take than to give. It’s nobler to give than to take. The thrill of taking lasts a day. The thrill of giving lasts a lifetime.” - Joan Marques

Important Info/Reminders.....

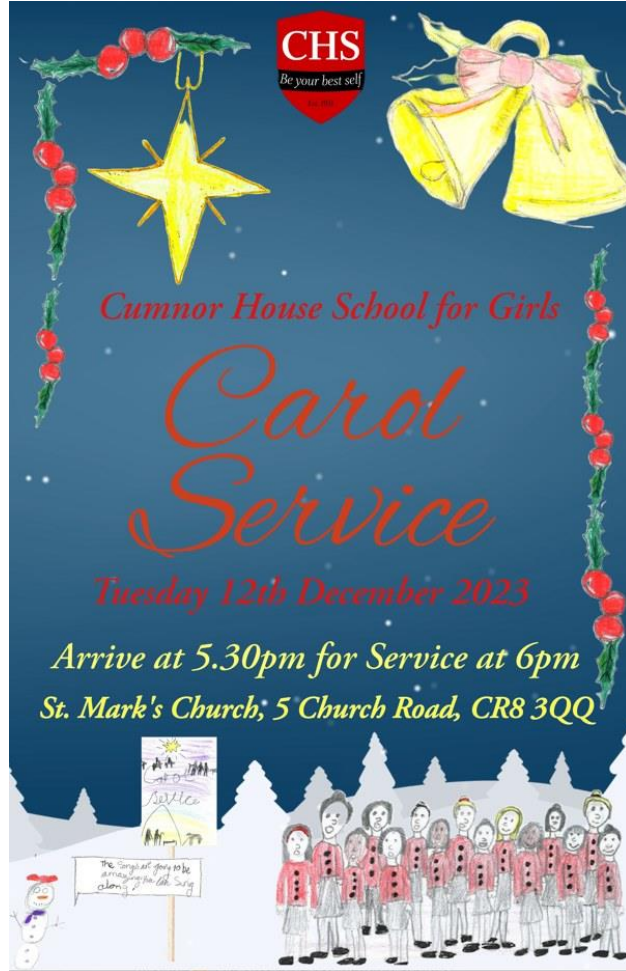
****There are no Extra Curricula Activities or Squads next week****

Changes to Year 4 & 5 Swimming Lessons

Due to some timetable changes next term, the new swimming days will be:

Year 4 - Friday

Year 5 - Thursday



Carol Service Years 3 to 6

The Carol Service will be taking place on Tuesday 12th December at 6pm at St Mark's Church, Purley. We will be rehearsing in St Mark's Church during the afternoon of 7th December. Please make sure that your daughter is in school with a SCHOOL COAT as we will be walking to and from the church and cold temperatures are forecast.

Dismissal from school will be at the regular time for all prep students on the day of the Carol Service as, due to availability of the venue, we are rehearsing later in the day than in previous years. As it is the last week of term there will be **no after school clubs** for Prep students on this day.

It is expected that all girls in Years 3 - 6 will take part in the Carol Service and we ask that they are **back at the St Mark's at 5.30pm** to be signed in and warmed up, ready to perform. **Uniform** should be worn (cardigans but no blazers) and can we request that all girls wear grey socks or tights for the occasion, particularly if they are wearing a skirt with their uniform. Hair should be tied neatly back off the face in regulation Cumnor colours. The St. Mark's team have asked us to remind you that there is **NO onsite parking** available for parents at the church but there is ample parking in the surrounding streets.

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

Reception - Christmas Unwrapped

This week Reception went to ChristChurch in Purley to attend their Christmas Unwrapped workshop. A wonderful afternoon learning about the Nativity story got us all in the Christmas spirit and kicked off our festivities in fine style. The girls all had the opportunity to complete various crafts to enhance the story and made a class book to bring back to share at school. All the girls were entranced by Jude's story telling and the volunteers at the Church were very impressed by their knowledge and outstanding behaviour.

















Year 4

After a couple of weeks drying, Year 4 have finally painted their pots that they made on Ancient Greek day! The girls looked online and researched traditional Ancient Greek patterns and myths that would typically adorn authentic Greek pots. Don't they look like they could have just been dug up? A wonderful end to our topic!







Sport.....

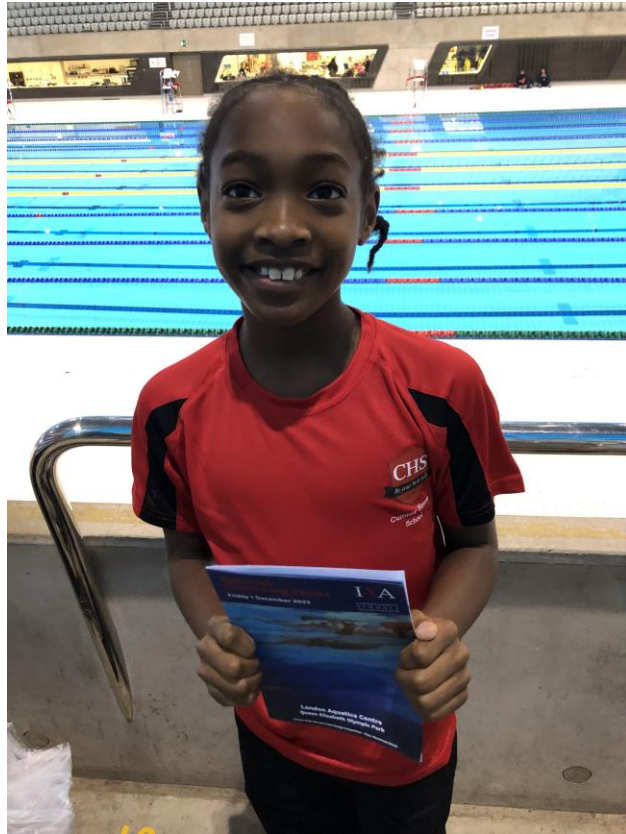
ISA National Swimming Final

On Friday 1st of December Alyssa, Sara and Abigail went to compete at the ISA National Swimming final at the Olympic pool. The three girls were amazing. Truly did London South proud. Alyssa and Sara were so nervous but held their own. Sara's race was up first with the 50m backstroke. It really was a close one there really wasn't much between them. She pushed through and secured 5th place.

Alyssa was the first member of the Freestyle relay team to swim. She set off well, and kept pushing. The team finished strong and secured 5th place.

Abigail's race was nail biting with lots of shouting! She was the final member of the team to swim and in true Abigail form she chased them down and managed to claw back from 3rd place to 2nd place. It was neck and neck for 2nd place but she pushed and secured the silver medal.

by Mrs Haley





Spotlight on Digital Safety.....



Keeping safe online this Christmas is easy when you've ticked off our top tips

Online shopping

Learn how to spot the difference between genuine and **fake websites**, secure and **insecure payment pages** and authentic and **counterfeit goods**.

Scams

Beware of **fake links** in emails, texts and posts, and email attachments. This also goes for callers impersonating your bank, a retailer, delivery firm or software support company. Or texts claiming to be

from a parcel firm telling you there's a 'delivery fee'. If in any doubt, always call the organisation on the number you know to be correct.

Phones, tablets & computers

Protect all new or second-hand internet-connected phones, tablets and computers with a **reputable security app/software**. Add a new **PIN or passcode** as soon as you power up. Ensure all devices are **backed up** automatically so you don't lose your precious documents and photos.

Updates

Download updates to software, apps and operating systems on all your devices as soon as you're notified that they're available. Better still, set them to update automatically. Otherwise, they could be infected by malware, resulting in fraud or identity theft.

Mobile apps

Download apps **only from official sources** such as App Store, Google Play or Microsoft Store. Getting them elsewhere could result in fraud or identity theft.

Smart devices & wearables

Always set up new **passwords on internet-connected devices** like voice assistants, appliances, cameras, kids' toys and fitness watches as soon as they're switched on. Using the factory-set default passwords could result in them being hacked. Always use different passwords for different devices, websites or accounts for the same reason. And remember that **voice assistants** are designed to hear everything!

Gaming

When you're **gaming**, avoid oversharing, griefing, in-game overspending and pirated games. Keep track of how much time you're spending online. Keep an eye on your kids' gaming, check on PEGI age limits for the games they're playing and talk to them about who they're or playing and chatting with.

Pre-owned mobile devices

Do a factory reset to erase your data if you're selling or gifting a computer, mobile device or console. You can find out how from the manufacturer's website. If you've bought or been given a used device, remove the previous owner's settings and data if this hasn't already been done.

Oversharing

Is **what you share on social media** really necessary? Is it respectful? Could it be helping a fraudster, or telling a burglar you're away? Could it be giving your children an unwanted digital footprint? Think before you post, and also take some time over Christmas to review your device and app **privacy settings**.

Out & about

Wi-Fi hotspots in cafés, pubs, hotels, on public transport and other public places may not be secure. Or they could be fake, set up by a fraudster. So don't use them if you're doing anything confidential online. Protect your devices from theft, loss and prying eyes.

Protecting your children

Talk to your children about safe and responsible internet use, including what they share, who they're talking to and the type of content they access, including apps and games. Consider downloading a respected parental control app and using ISP content filters. Make sure your children aren't running up bills in games and other apps.

Video calls

Many of us will be catching up with family and friends via video call. **Make sure it's safe and secure** by using a service that needs a strong password, and don't share the call invitation or details outside the person or group on the call.

For more information on how to stay safe online this festive season, visit www.getsafeonline.org

Other.....

Extra Curricula Activities Spring Term 2024

| DAY | ACTIVITY | YEAR GROUP | TIME | TEACHER | PRICE | Notes |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------------|-------|
| MON | | | | | | |
| | Science Club | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | NM | FREE | |
| | Well-being Club | Years 3 - 6 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | JJ | FREE | |
| | Journalism Club | Years 3 - 6 | 4.05pm - 5.00pm | AK | FREE | |
| | Football Club (min 8) | Years 3 - 6 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | JDH | FREE | |
| | Training Ensemble | Years 2 - 6 | 4.00pm - 4.45pm | FM | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Swim Squad | Years 2 to 4 | 4.00pm - 5.15pm | RJ,CS | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| TUES | | | | | | |
| | Lego Club | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | SM | FREE | |
| | Dance Club | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | AB | FREE | |
| | Board Games Club | Years 3 - 6 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | TW | FREE | |
| | Art Club | Year 5 & 6 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | LE | FREE | |
| | Ukulele Club | Years 3 - 6 | 10.10am - 10.30am | TW,FM | FREE | |
| | Chamber Choir | Year 5 & 6 | 1.00pm - 1.45pm | FM,TK | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Hockey Squad | Year 3 & 4 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | JDH | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Swim Squad | Year 5 & 6 | 4.00pm - 5.15pm | RJ,CH | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Coding Club - KS1 | Year 1 & 2 | 4.15pm - 4.00pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| | Coding Club - KS2 | Years 3 - 6 | 4.15pm - 5.00pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| WED | | | | | | |
| | Little Voices Choir | Year 1 & 2 | 1.00pm - 1.30pm | FM,TK | FREE | |
| | Funby Program (Fine/Gross Motor Activities) | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | HC | FREE | |
| | Creative Writing Club | Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | SK | FREE | |
| | School Choir | Years 3 - 6 | 7.45am - 8.30am | FM,TK | FREE | |
| | Music & Drama Scholars Drop-in | Year 5 & 6 | 10.10am - 10.30am | FM,TK | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Hockey Squad | Year 5 & 6 | 4.00pm - 5.00pm | JDH,GM | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Yoga - KS1 | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.20pm - 4.05pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| | Yoga - KS2 | Years 3 - 6 | 4.10pm - 4.55pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| THURS | | | | | | |
| | Animal Club | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.15pm - 4.00pm | AT | FREE | |
| | Digital Leaders Club | Years 4 to 6 | 4.05pm - 5.00pm | SS | FREE | |
| | Swim Squad | Years 4 to 6 | 4.00pm - 5.15pm | GM,DM | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Future Gymnastics | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.30pm - 4.30pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| FRI | | | | | | |
| | Chamber Ensemble | Years 4 - 6 | 1.00pm - 1.45pm | FM | BY INVITATION ONLY | |
| | Short Tennis | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.20pm - 4.00pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| | Chess Club - KS1 | Reception, Year 1 & 2 | 3.20pm - 4.00pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |
| | Chess Club - KS2 | Years 3 - 6 | 4.05pm - 5.00pm | External | SEE SEPARATE CLUB LETTER | |

Please contact the following for these additional activities:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Brownies | Monday Mrs Angela Cale | 07979 791 416 |
| Drama | LAMDA Lessons (Individual/Pairs/Groups) Mrs T Kimber | tam.kimber@cunmorhouse.com |

All places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.
These Clubs are also subject to change.

Primary Maths Challenge - Bonus Round!

Congratulations to...Anushka, Saanvi, Serena & Shyla

As they scored 20+ in the PMC they have been invited to participate in the **BONUS ROUND** of the PMC taking place in the week of 5-9th February 2024

