



CHS Boys' & Nursery Newsletter

Friday 9th February

## 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

**Monday 12th to Friday 19th February, Half Term**

**Friday 23rd February, House Spelling Bee**

**Monday 26th February 3:30pm-5pm**, Reception Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

**Tuesday 27th February 10am-5pm**, Pre-School Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

**Wednesday 28th February 12pm-4pm**, Pre-School Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

**Thursday 29th February 10am-4pm**, Pre-School Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

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## **BOYS' SCHOOL**

**Monday 12th to Friday 19th February**, Half Term

**Wednesday 21st February**, Bronze House Music Final

**Thursday 22nd February**, Silver and Gold Music Finals

**Friday 23rd February**, House Spelling Bee

**Friday 23rd February 3:30pm-5pm**, PTA Year 1 & 2 Film Night (Sold Out)

**Tuesday 27th February 5pm-8pm**, Year 1,2,3,4 Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

**Tuesday 27th February 5pm-8pm**, Year 5 Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

**Wednesday 28th February 10am**, 6T Class Assembly (Parents welcome)

**Thursday 29th February**, Year 6 Trip (details have been sent via a 'Notice')

**Thursday 29th February 5pm-6:30pm**, Year 1,2,3,4 Parent Progress Meetings

**Thursday 29th February 4:30pm-6pm**, Year 5 Parent Progress Meetings (details will be sent via a 'Notice')

*A reminder details of all sports fixtures are available on the [CHS Sports Website](#)*

## A Message from Miss Edwards



Dear Parents

A productive week had by all. On Monday I presented an assembly for the Upper and Lower School focusing on **Children's Mental Health Week**. This year the theme was, '**Your Voice Matters**' and we reflected on all the ways in which we have provided the boys with the opportunity to have a voice. We have a post box for the boys to post any concerns or feedback that the boys would like us to know particularly if they feel too shy to speak in person. They also have a digital post box in Year 3 to 8 where they can alert us. Not only do we have these ad hoc check ins but also a regular survey received by form tutors to ensure that we know how they are feeling. Our wellbeing toolkit contains many strategies for the boys to learn strategies to deal with any issues they are having and these can be in the form of group meetings, drop in sessions, or a chat with someone they trust.

**Congratulations** to all our boys who have sat **entrance exams** over the last few months. Offers day can be an anxious time for the boys and parents but you have all done exceptionally well and should be congratulated on **many offers and scholarships** which really show the fantastic progress and achievements of all our boys.

**Congratulations** must also go to our **swim squad** this week who came home from Jags as **London League winners**. A fantastic performance on Wednesday evening and well done to **Mr Fitzgerald** and his team for their continued hard work and passion.







We also celebrated **Lunar New Year** with the help of our **fantastic PTA**. We finished the week with a Lunar celebration with music, dragon dancing, delicious rice balls and more. Thank you to everyone who took part and a special thank you to Mrs Shen for the beautiful music. The boys enjoyed the celebration and the lucky red envelopes and it was a lovely way to end the half term and welcome a lucky and prosperous new year.

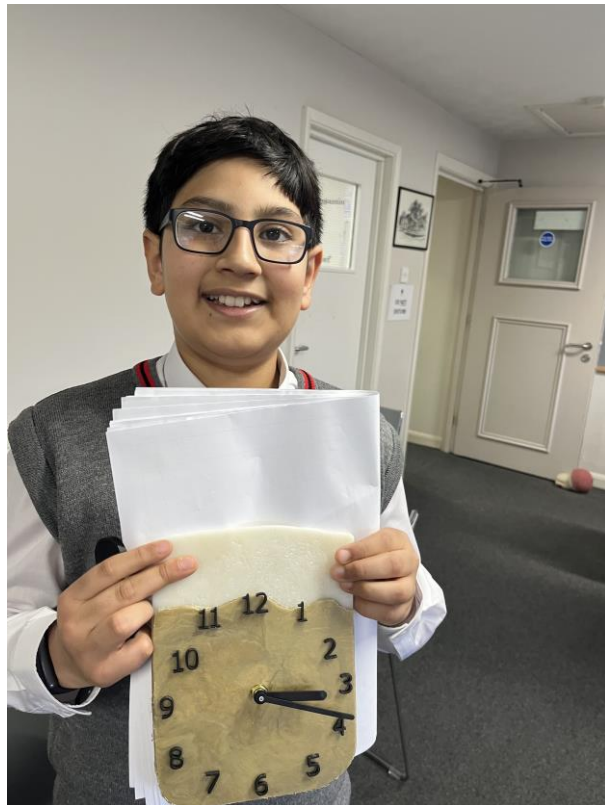
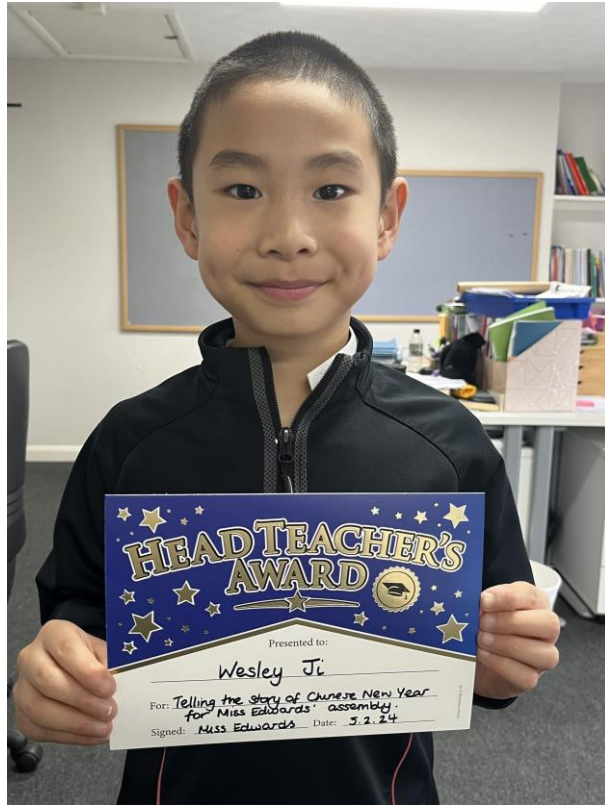
**6B** also treated us to an **Internet Safety lesson** in the form of a **class assembly**. This was excellent with so many important and interesting facts. I was impressed to see such confidence in public speaking as it was delivered brilliantly. It was Internet Safety Day on Tuesday, something that we always discuss with the boys and they have been learning about how to stay safe online during their form times and PSHE lessons this week. I know that they are well versed in this as they did extremely well in the quiz section of the assembly.



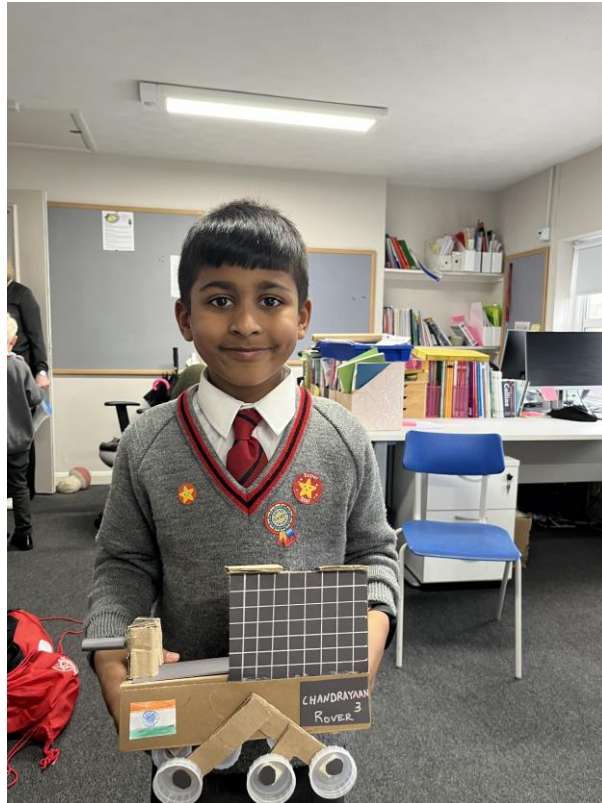
**Sebastian** in **5T** competed in the **2024 Surrey Swimming Championships**, having achieved the qualifying time for all 14 events in the 10/11 year age group. Although the competition was tough, he made all but one final and won Gold for 400m Freestyle, Silver for 200m Backstroke, Bronze for 200m Butterfly, came top 5 for various others and is now very close to several regional times! He managed to conserve some energy for the London League finals - well done, **Sebastian!**



Some super work this week from **Parth** in **Year 7** who made this clock in DT from upcycled plastic bottle lids, a well deserved Head's certificate for **Wesley** in **Year 2** who told us all about the story of Lunar New Year in assembly and **Arjun** in **Year 2** who has made a fantastic solar vehicle.







Our Stars this week are:

1C - **Leo**

1L - **Maximillian**

1S - **Harrison**

2CT - **Arthur**

2R - **William**

Well done, boys! I think **Mr Jones** was also hoping to receive a star of the week badge!



Finally, on **Friday** we welcomed some of our **Pre-School pupils** who will be joining us in **Reception in September**. Our little Cumnor Chefs with aprons and hats had so much fun making biscuits and cakes. It was also lovely to see the parents and have a cup of tea and a chat. If you have any questions about Reception next year or you have not already signed up please do get in touch with our admissions department at [admissions@cumnorhouse.com](mailto:admissions@cumnorhouse.com).

I hope you are all having a fun half term.

Kind Regards

**Miss Edwards**

**Head of School**





## Cumnor House Boys' School Presents Shrek the Musical JR!



We warmly invite the Cumnor community to join us in March to enjoy the Boys' School production of Shrek the Musical JR:

### Performance Dates:

- 7pm, Wednesday 13th March
- 7pm, Thursday 14th March

**Venue:** Caterham School

**Tickets:** To purchase your tickets please [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/chs-present-shrek)

## Calling all STEM Profession / Science Loving Parents!



**BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK – 10/03/23 – 17/03/23**

Dear Parents,



The Science Department are busily preparing for **British Science Week** next month. We are organising visitors, speakers, trips, workshops and special activities. This year's theme is '**TIME.**'

We are asking all parents with a **STEM background** (doesn't have to be your profession, we welcome those with a genuine love of science and engineering) if they would like to be a part of the week's activities.

Activities could range from talking to our older boys about your work and what it entails, running a short workshop based on your job or supporting science activities across the school. It will be a great way to be involved in our school, plus you'll earn Brownie points with your son!

Any time that you can donate will be greatly appreciated – from one 45 minute period to a whole day.

Please email if you are interested and would like to discuss this further.

Keep posted for BSW competitions and activities.

Many thanks

**Norma Hibbert**

**Head of Science**

[norma.hibbert@cumnorhouse.com](mailto:norma.hibbert@cumnorhouse.com)

## Swimming



We have had a very busy week of swimming with both the **London League Final** and the heats of the **National IAPS** held over the past few days. We have also received the results of the **Croydon Schools heats** which were held the previous week. Our boys were very dominant in all of these events and put in great performances. Please see below the report for each competition.

### **London League Final**

Having qualified first against the 23 schools who competed in the first round, we had high hopes that we would be able to defend our title from last year. The boys didn't disappoint, and we put in a very dominant display and ran out convincing winners against the 5 other schools who had made it through to the final.

Our strength in depth really shone through especially in the relay events where we won every relay in Year 3, 4 and 5 and won 11 of the 15 relays in total. A special mention to the three Year 5 boys who swam up an age group and competed for the Year 6 team.

We will now go on to compete in the Grand Final along with the second and third schools in our gala and the top three schools from north of the river final. Please see below the full result.

1st - Cumnor House Boys' School

2nd - King College Wimbledon

3rd - JAGS

4th - Finton House

5th - Croydon High

6th - Wimbledon High

### **National IAPS heats**

We hosted one of the preliminary rounds of this year's **National IAPS competition** at **Whitgift School**. There are heats held all over the country and over 6000 swimmers compete. Our swimmers swam exceptionally well, and we look forwards to receiving the overall results where the tops 20 swimmers in each event will qualify to compete in the National finals which are held at the London Aquatic Centre in June.

A special mention must be given to our **Year 5** boys, who are an extremely impressive team. **We have been Year 5 National Champions for the past two years and the times that these boys swam yesterday were significantly faster than the times that our boys achieved in the qualifying round over the past two years.** I have very high hopes that this team is capable of breaking the long-standing National relay record at the Finals. There is a lot of competition for places in this team with at least 7 boys looking to be selected for one of the 4 places in this team.

I would like to say a massive 'Thank you' to Whitgift for not only letting us use their pool to host this event, but also providing us with their staff to make sure that the event ran so smoothly.

### **Croydon Schools**

We were once again very dominant in the qualifying round of this competition. We finished first and second in every Year 4 & 5 race except one where we were first and third! It would be a great achievement to finish first and second in every one of these races in the finals. The Year 6 boys also swam exceptionally well. They are fastest qualifiers in both relays events and have qualified in medal positions in all their events. The **Finals** will be held at Trinity School on **Wednesday 21st February**.

Keep up the great work in preparation for these upcoming Finals!

Kind Regards

**Mr Fitzgerald**

**Head of Swimming**

## Early Years

Dear Parents,

This week in assembly we read 'Pop up Gremlins' to support with Internet Safety Week. This taught the children the simple rules 'Stop, Close, Tell'. Most of our children now have access to iPads or other devices at home and ensuring that they are kept safe is essential. The children really loved the book and this was a gentle introduction to support their understanding of internet safety.

This week we also read 'Ruby's Worry' as part of mental health week. I love this book and the author as the group of books really help young children to develop their emotional language and is a great way to help open up discussions with young children about when they have been worrying about. Books are an amazing tool to support learning but also to broach difficult conversations. If you are ever needing any support on ideas for book please reach out to myself or one of the team and I am sure we will be able to share a long list with you.

Congratulations to all the children who received the **Star of the Week** or **Gold Awards**.

### ***Stars of the Week***

Pre-School South Croydon: **Tani**

Pre-School Purley: **Oviyan**

Kindergarten Purley: **Levi**

RW: **Viraaj**

RL: **Ibrahim**

RA: **Petru**

### ***Gold Awards***

Pre-School South Croydon: **Laura**

Pre- School Purley: **Kasen**

RW: **Kur**

RL: **Hayder**

RA: **Asher**

Congratulations to all these children.

Kind Regards

**Mrs Upfold**

**Head of Early Years**

### **Pathway to Pre-School**

Some of you may be aware that we have opened a new classroom at Purley. We have seen increasing demand at our Purley site and we want to ensure the quality of education continues. This classroom will be called **Pathway to Pre -School (P2P)**. It will be for children that are ready for their next steps in learning and are moving up to Pre-School in September 2024. If we feel your child is ready based

on our observations and assessments you will have received a letter. If you feel your child could be ready, please feel free to reach out to us via email or on the gate in the morning after half term.

### **Additional Days**

We are getting very busy in the nursery classes, which is normal for this time of year. If you are considering increasing your child's days, as they move towards Pre-School or Reception, please ensure you give us at least a month's notice as we are now starting to fill up on some days. If you are considering increasing days in the summer term it is important you let us know now and secure that place to avoid disappointment.

## Reception

This week in Reception, the boys have been thinking a lot about their own mental health for 'Children's Mental Health Week'. We read 'Ruby's Worry', wrote our own worries on a worry monster and thought about how we can deal with our worries. We also spoke about the importance of asking for help and how speaking to someone we trust can help us to feel better.

On Tuesday it was 'Safer Internet Day'. We discussed ways to stay safe online and what we should do if we feel unsure anything we come across on the internet. The boys had lots of thoughtful ideas on how to protect themselves, keeping their personal information safe and who can help them.

We have continued with our Lunar New Year festivities, taking part in lots of fun activities related to this festival. The boys created their own dragons in recognition of 'The Year of the Dragon' and they had the privilege of watching the Year 8 pupils perform a dragon dance to them. RL performed a brilliant assembly about 'The Great Race', thank you to everyone who came to watch them!

In Maths, we have enjoyed exploring capacity using different resources and liquids. We have asked lots of questions and tested our predictions. We experimented with containers of different shapes and sizes, liquids and solids and used spoons/cups and other equipment to measure with.

Well, done boys, for all your hard work! We wish you all a super and restful half term!









## Pre-School



### Pre-School South Croydon

This week has been a very busy week in South Croydon Pre-School. We have been learning about 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and talking about height and length. We measured our shoes against our friends to see whose feet are the longest.

Tuesday we had 'Safer Internet Day' and we read the book 'Pop up Gremlins'. We all know we need to 'Stop, Close and Tell' if something pops up on our tablets at home.



We have also been learning about Luna New Year and the role play area was turned into a restaurant serving wonderful food from various places including China and Korea. We used paint to draw the Chinese numbers and talked about the different beautiful writing they have. To end the week we were lucky enough to have a performance from the older boys.

**Please can I remind parents of the parking at South Croydon. The end of the drive, by the fence is for parent parking. Please do not park along the walking barriers or space behind the gates. This is for safety of the children and others on site.**











### **Pre-School Purley**

Our week has been filled with dragons, lanterns and wonderful stories such as the 'Magic Paintbrush' and the 'Great Race'. Our children with Mrs Edmonds made a magnificent dragon to celebrate the coming Lunar New Year of the dragon.

Miss Tuli and the children made beautiful lanterns to decorate our classroom ready for the Lunar New Year.

Mrs Mehrali and the children made our Great Race animal headbands ready for our Cumnor Great Race which linked to our Maths this week looking at ordering.

Our Maths learning linked with Number 7 going to Devon showed us how much our children are understanding and enjoying our sessions. It was lovely to use the trains on our lucky number 8 train track. It is lovely to see our number strips being posted in the post box each morning.

Our Jack and the Beanstalk plants went home with our little gardeners, we hope your beanstalks grow very tall children.







Kindergarten

Kindergarten South Croydon



This week we have been focusing on the Pat-a-cake rhyme. We have role played a baker shop where they could dress up as the baker and had pretend money to buy bread and cakes from the shop. The children enjoyed decorating pancakes and made some cupcakes at the end of the week. We've started doing some valentines craft ahead of valentine's day. The children have enjoyed the Chinese New Year performance from the older boys and have enjoyed all the crafts we have been doing for it. We are looking forward to half term week for lots more fun!





### **Kindergarten Purley**

This week we have been celebrating Lunar New year, with a variety of activities. Last Thursday we were lucky enough to have a visit from Alexandra and Natasha's mum who started off our celebrations beautifully, explaining to the children about the traditions around their celebrations. All

the children were then given fortune cookies and red envelopes with a surprise gift. We have been decorating lanterns with dragons on, playing with red rice and learning to use chopsticks to pick up spaghetti. We helped Pre-School decorate a dragon for us all to take part in a dragon dance. We then rein acted the Great Race, with all the children wearing their own animal head dresses.







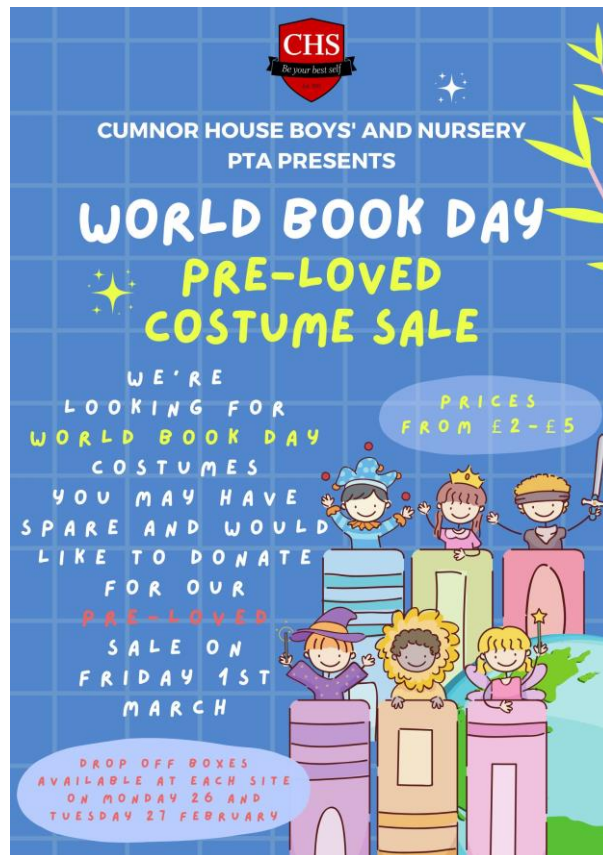






PTA

World Book Day Costume Sale



### Quiz Night Friday 8th March 6:00-10:00 pm Machan Kitchen

The Cumnor House Boys' and Nursery PTA would like to invite you to Quiz Night.

Delve into your banks of useless trivia and join us for a night of fun, laughter and friendly competition with Quiz Master Mr. Jones.

Come down and enjoy a lovely two course Sri Lankan cuisine at the **Machan Kitchen** from **6:00-10:00 pm** on **Friday 8 March**.

Tickets are **£30\*** (plus booking fee) which includes a drink on arrival, a Sri Lankan two course meal and nibbles. Bottles of wine can be pre-ordered using the payment link. Tickets will close at midnight **Tuesday 27th February**.

Gather your friends and create teams of **4 or 6** and email them over to [cumnorhousepta@yahoo.com](mailto:cumnorhousepta@yahoo.com) by **Friday 1st March**. Those without a team will be allocated one.

Please remember to bring a few coins, for a few fun icebreaker games!

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chspta/t-krlqynj>

*\*Please note that tickets are non-refundable.*



CUMNOR HOUSE BOYS' AND NURSERY  
PTA PRESENTS

# QUIZ NIGHT!

DO YOU HAVE WHAT  
IT TAKES TO BE THE  
ULTIMATE QUIZ  
CHAMPION?

£30 PP  
+ BOOKING FEES

FRIDAY, 8TH MARCH

6:00 - 10:00 PM

MACHAN KITCHEN

48-50 SOUTH END,  
CRO 1DP



GATHER YOUR FRIENDS AND JOIN US FOR QUIZ NIGHT WITH  
QUIZMASTER MR. JONES (DEPUTY HEAD)!

[HTTPS://WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHSPTA/T-KRLQYNJ](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chspta/t-krlqynj)