



Cumnor House
School for Girls

Girls' Newsletter - 1st March 2024

Upcoming Key Dates.....

All school dates for this term are available to view on the 'Calendar' section of your Cognita Connect app, please regularly check to keep up-to-date with upcoming events at school.

- **Monday 4th March to Friday 8th March** - Book Fair Week
- **Wednesday 6th March** - Year 5 & 6 Fitness Games Qualifiers @ Seaton House (please see sports website for further details)
- **Wednesday 6th March** - Year 3 & 4 Performing Arts Recital (please refer to the 'Notice' sent out on Cognita Connect for further details)
- **Thursday 7th March** - Year 1 Trip to Sutton Ecology Centre (please refer to the 'Notice' sent out on Cognita Connect for further details)
- **Thursday 7th March** - PTA Mother's Day Pop-Up Shop
- **Thursday 7th March** - PTA World Book Day Tuck Shop from 3pm to 4.30pm

- **Friday 8th March** - *International Women's Day & World Book Day (please refer to the 'Notice' sent out on Cognita Connect for further details)*
- **Monday 11th March** - *Year 3 Roman Day (please refer to the 'Notice' sent out on Cognita Connect for further details)*
- **Monday 11th March** - *Year 6 Trip to Temper Temper Chocolatiers (please refer to the 'Notice' sent out on Cognita Connect for further details)*
- **Tuesday 12th March** - *Year 3 & 4 Inter House Hockey*
- **Wednesday 13th March** - *Year 5 & 6 Inter House Hockey*
- **Wednesday 13th March** - *Celebration Evening*
- **Saturday 16th March** - *Year 3 to 6 Cross Country League @ Woodcote High School - Parents welcome (please see sports website for further details)*

A Message from Mrs McShane

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your determination regarding our VoP, nearly 60% of parents did complete it which is, after all the issues, the best response rate that we have had in all the time that I have been Head! The survey is now closed, and I am collating all the comments. I will feed back to parents in due course. Please remember that the VoP is not the only time that you can feedback to me, I do operate an open-door policy so please do pop in to see me, call to make an appointment at the office, or drop me an email at amanda.mcshane@cumnorhouse.com.

Over the past few weeks, I have had an increasing number of questions relating to Labour's plans to impose VAT on school fees. A great deal of work has been happening, and continues to go on, in the background to calculate risk to both parents and the business, we are unable to give any definitive answers as the situation is still uncertain but please read the attached letter which I hope will offer a little more clarity.

[VAT Letter](#)

Year 1 had a fabulous trip to learn about St Patrick's Church and Year 4 stepped back to Tudor times at Hampton Court Palace. Trips take a great deal of planning and preparation and are exciting and rewarding for the girls but hard work for the teachers. Thank you to them, and to the parent volunteers who accompanied, for your hard work and dedication.

We are looking forward to the PTA quiz this evening, I am certain that there will be a high degree of friendly competition. Thank you to the PTA for arranging this event.

The McShane Bars are selling well, and the girls are excited to be winning their prizes, the next opportunity for the girls to select prizes will be during assembly on Monday.

A lot is going on next week with the Scholastic Book Fair all week leading to a combined International Women's Day and World Book Day event on Friday. It would be really lovely if mums could think of one

piece of advice that they would give to their 11 year old self and share it with me so that I can create some content for social media. I think it would be really powerful for the girls to hear your words of wisdom.

Years 3 and 4 have an afternoon Performing Arts Recital on Wednesday beginning at 2.30pm to which parents are most welcome. Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in the qualifiers for the Fitness Games at Seaton House, parents are not invited to this.

Thursday brings the PTA Mothers' Day pop-up shop, this is the same day as Year 1 girls venture out to the Sutton Ecology Centre, so we will make sure an alternative time is found for them to go shopping.

There will also be a PTA World Book Day tuck shop on Thursday.

Thank you to the Year 5 parents who have signed up to come and discuss future schools with me, if you haven't yet made an appointment, please do so as soon as possible. Also on schools, Year 6 parents, hopefully you have made your decision as to which senior school to choose, please let them know as soon as possible so that wait places can be released.

we are looking forward to the Celebration Evening on Wednesday 13th March. This is an evening where we like to show off all the remarkable things that we do with our girls. The evening runs from 5.00pm to 7.00pm and everyone is welcome. Please note that on this day there will be no teacher-led clubs or squads and there will be no after-school care beyond 4.15pm. Girls should come to school to show you around in school uniform. Pupils, and their siblings, must remain with parents all the time that they are here – the teachers will be leading activities in classrooms and will not be able to supervise children. The adventure trail area will be out of bounds. Some girls will be required to help lead an activity or to take part in a demonstration, letters will go out to these families separately. As would be expected, the PTA will be selling a variety of drinks. We are really looking forward to welcoming you, and prospective families, to the school.

The torrential rain this morning marked the first day of meteorological spring, hopefully, the sun will start to shine again soon!

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome." Anne Bradstreet

Important Info/Reminders.....

School Trip Consent Forms

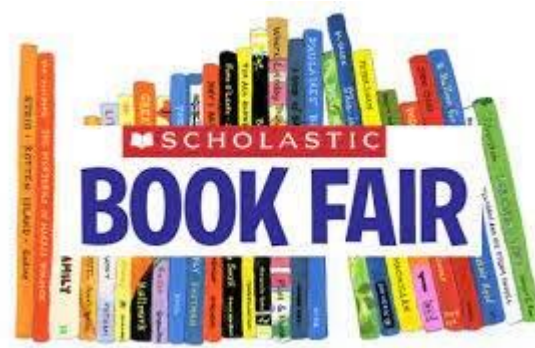
This is a reminder for **Year 6** parents to please complete the consent forms on Cognita Connect for their daughters' upcoming trips. (Please refer to the Notices that were sent out on Cognita Connect for further details.)

Year 6 - Temper Temper Chocolatiers - Monday 11th March 2024

Book Fair Week

Next week, from Monday to Friday, we will be holding a Book Fair in Piccadilly from 3.15pm – 4.30pm. This will be a cashless system and there will be lots of books to browse and purchase. World Book Day vouchers can be used as part payment.

Do come and support this as the school will then gain more books for the School Library.



World Book Day /Inspirational Women's Day

Next Friday 8th March will be Inspirational Women's Day combined with World Book Day.

There will be lots of activities throughout the day including a Guest Speaker. Please could all the girls come in dressed as an inspirational women.

At the end of the day, there is a last chance to browse the book fair and read with your child in the hall. Pre-Prep children will come from 3.15pm until 3.45pm and Prep children will come from 3.45pm until 4.30pm. Please bring a cushion to sit on.

Thank you for all your support and the day promises to hopefully be inspirational for the girls.

Celebration Evening - NO Teacher-Led Clubs or Squads

Further to the notice that was sent out earlier today, please note that there will be no teacher-led clubs or squads taking place after school on Wednesday 13th March due to the Celebration Evening.

After School Care will be available until 4.15pm, please book via Cognita Connect.

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

Year 1

This week Year 1 went on a trip to St Patrick's Church in Wallington. The girls were able to bring their learning to life by exploring different areas of the church. They were given the opportunity to play some notes on an organ and to learn some of the hymns. We all had a great time!

















All of Year 4 went to Hampton Court Palace.

At Hampton Court, we had different workshops about jobs and hierarchy. In our first workshop, we learnt about the chain of being. At the bottom of this chain was the Devil second to last was Earth. At the second to the top was the king and at the top was God. In the great hall, we saw where the servants would sleep and where they would eat and have parties. The second workshop taught us about the different jobs that we would have such as 'gong scourer,' which is cleaning the toilet pit! We went into the chapel that Henry 8th would have prayed in that chapel where we saw his royal crown. All around the corridors were famous paintings of Henry VIII and his family including his son his mum and grandmothers were displayed. We had an amazing time and learnt lots of interesting information about the Tudors.

By Kezia







Spotlight on Digital Safety.....



It is always good to remind children that anyone they meet online that they do not know in person is a stranger.

Here is a useful poster to allow for a discussion with your child.

Digital Stranger Danger

People you only know online are strangers. Not everyone on the Internet is who they say they are, so it's important to be careful when talking to people online.

Beware of Strangers

Any person online who you have not met in real life is a stranger.

Some strangers use the Internet to gain the trust of children and take advantage of them. This is called *grooming*.

Strangers online can:

- Change their location to pretend to be from your school or area
- Use a fake name or username to appear to share your interests
- Use a fake age to seem like a child you could be friends with
- Use avatars (images or characters that represent online users) to hide who they really are
- Pretend to be interested in the same things as you by asking questions about your interests or hobbies

Live Streaming

Live streaming is when two or more people have live video conversations on social media or online streaming apps.

Live streaming can be dangerous because strangers may target sites such as Snapchat, Facebook Live, Periscope and Omegle, to groom or abuse children.

Staying Safe Online

To stay safe online, make sure you:

- Never accept friend requests from people you don't know.
- Never use a webcam or live streaming app with strangers.
- Never share photos of yourself with strangers.
- Never meet with anyone you've only ever talked to online, unless you're with a parent or guardian.

If a stranger has contacted you inappropriately, tell a trusted adult (such as a parent or teacher).

If you feel as though you're in danger and need help straight away, call the police on 999.

SayStream

PTA News.....

CUMNOR HOUSE PTA PRESENTS

MOTHERS DAY POP-UP SHOP

GREAT GIFTS AT GREAT PRICES
£3-£15



THURSDAY 7TH MARCH

GIFTS FOR MOTHERS + **GIFTS FOR GRANDMOTHERS** + **GIFTS FOR MOTHER FIGURES**

THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT

CUMNOR HOUSE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
DURING SCHOOL HOURS

TO BUY CREDIT CLICK HERE
or your daughter can use a Monzo or other payment card

Talk to your class rep about volunteering