



Cumnor House
School for Girls

Girls' Newsletter - 19th April 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. (Please note that these are subject to change if necessary)

- **Monday 22nd April** - *Extra Curricular Activities Commence*
- **Tuesday 23rd April** - *Year 5 & 6 Residential Meeting 6pm-7pm*
- **Tuesday 30th April** - *Class Photos*
- **Wednesday 1st May** - *Year 5 & 6 ESSA Relay Championships (selected pupils) - Parents welcome (please see sports website for further details)*
- **Wednesday 1st May** - *Year 5 Maths Challenge at Royal Russell - selected pupils (please refer to the letter that was sent via email to those parents)*
- **Thursday 2nd May** - *Year 6 Bake Off Competition*

- **Friday 3rd May - Maths Day** (details have been sent via a 'Notice')
- **Friday 3rd May - Year 4 Class Assembly - 8:30am to 9am** (Parents welcome)

A reminder for Parents that all sports fixture details are available on the [CHG Sports Website](#)

A Message from Mrs McShane

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back. I hope that you have had a good break with some time for rest and relaxation, the girls certainly came back with joy and renewed vigour.

Hopefully, we will have more sunny days and blue skies to warrant the summer uniform! I think parents have found it a little tricky navigating the change to Summer uniform with the weather being unprecedentedly cold. The expectation is the Summer uniform is worn after Easter and this is with white socks – either long or ankle (not trainer) socks. The thinking is that by this term the classrooms will be warmer, the temperatures will rise as the day progresses and the girls are active at playtimes. However, we acknowledge that the weather this week has been pretty chilly in the mornings. We want to be utterly clear about the expectations on uniform and for this to be consistent. With this in mind, we have discussed a couple of concerns that have been raised and will accept some girls wearing white tights if they are particularly affected by the colder mornings until May half-term if the weather remains cold. After this time, all girls will be expected to wear white socks. We feel this is a fair compromise as it has considered the current weather conditions and will ensure our girls are not feeling cold and unhappy but will also look aesthetically pleasing alongside their summer uniforms. Please also note that if modesty shorts are worn under the summer dress, they must be shorter than the dress.

On Tuesday the Year 6 girls held a successful cake sale, there were some truly amazing looking, and indeed tasting, creations by the Year 6 girls. Well done Girls, for completing this project with such enthusiasm and attention to detail. Watch out, Mary Berry!

Last term we entered some girls into the ISA Handwriting competition, and I am delighted to announce that Rose in Year 2 won First Prize and Kezia in Year 4 was Highly Commended. This a national competition and so the girls have done exceptionally well. A huge well done to Eunice in Year 5 and Anaysha in Year 1 who were also selected to represent the school.





Also, at the very end of last term the Year 5 girls took their ESB (English Speaking Board) Examination, this was their entry-level award in Speech (Entry 3). I must say that from the presentations that the girls gave in assemblies, we had high hopes for their scores. The girls conducted their presentations with confidence and great aplomb, speaking with clarity and demonstrating a great knowledge of their chosen subject.

It was good to welcome parents of both boys and girls of Year 4 when they came to find out more about the residential trip on Thursday evening. This is always a fabulous trip offering the girls, and boys, a fabulous opportunity to experience life of days gone by! Year 5 and 6 parents will be having their meeting on Tuesday, and this will begin promptly at 6.00pm

Staff news – We welcome back Mrs Currie who returns from her maternity leave and will resume her job share with Mrs Kestell. And Mrs Kestell will be going on Maternity leave at the end of this term. Mrs Easthope, who joined us in September to teach Art to years 3 -6, has made the decision to retire fully from the end of this academic year, when she joined us she was a breath of fresh creative air and we are very sorry to see her go but fully understand the lure of holidays outside of school holiday time! Mrs Lee who has been a stalwart teaching assistant in Year 1 has been a part of Cumnor for many years and the girls have benefited greatly from her quiet kind patience, is also retiring. After half term, we will welcome back Mrs Pettinger to Year 6 and Mr Warren will then be with us for one day per week until he comes back as a full-time and permanent member of staff in September. We are currently recruiting to fill these roles; we have had a great deal of interest, and I am sure that the successful candidates will be worthy of Cumnor!

This is a very busy term, with much to look forward to, please keep checking the calendar and any messages on Cognita Connect.

Maths Day on Friday 3rd May – the girls will be required to dress up so we are giving you plenty of notice to be creative – all details were sent via a 'Notice' on Cognita Connect earlier today.

Advance notice that we have class photos on Tuesday 30th April, and summer uniform and blazers to be worn, please.

“If we have the attitude that it’s going to be a great day, it usually is.” Catherine Pulsifier

Important Info/Reminders.....

Reminder that Year 5 & 6 Swimming Squad cancelled on Tuesday 23rd April

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

Ski Trip

The 2024 ski trip was nothing short of exhilarating, going down as a resounding success. Throughout the week, our students embarked on a journey filled with joy, laughter, and unforgettable experiences. From the slopes to the hotel, each moment was packed with adventure and enjoyment.

Amidst the breathtaking views and powdery snow, our children not only indulged in the thrill of skiing but also discovered newfound talents and skills. With each run down the slopes, their confidence soared, and their skiing techniques sharpened. Moreover, the trip served as a catalyst for personal growth, as students forged bonds of friendship that transcended the confines of the classroom.

As we reflect on the memories created during this extraordinary week, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the students who contributed to its success. Whether conquering a 3600-meter peak or triumphing over Mr. Beattie in a friendly game of bowling, every achievement was celebrated with contagious enthusiasm. To each participant, your unwavering spirit and zest for adventure made this trip an unforgettable one. Keep your eye out for the upcoming video to check out all the fun.

Well done, and here's to many more adventures ahead!

Mr Beattie, Mr Blackford and Mrs Lewis













ESB Examinations

We are so proud of the Year 5's and Saanvi in Year 6 for gaining excellent results in the ESB exams.

The girls each had to learn a poem with at least 3 verses, read an extract from their favourite book - chosen by the examiner, and also give a 3-minute presentation on a topic of their choice and respond to questions from a small peer group.

They gained 14 distinctions and 4 with Merit Plus. A phenomenal achievement and the girls put in such a big effort to get those results.

Thanks to Mrs Kimber for coaching them and to all the staff who heard their presentations and poems.



Year 6 Bake-off

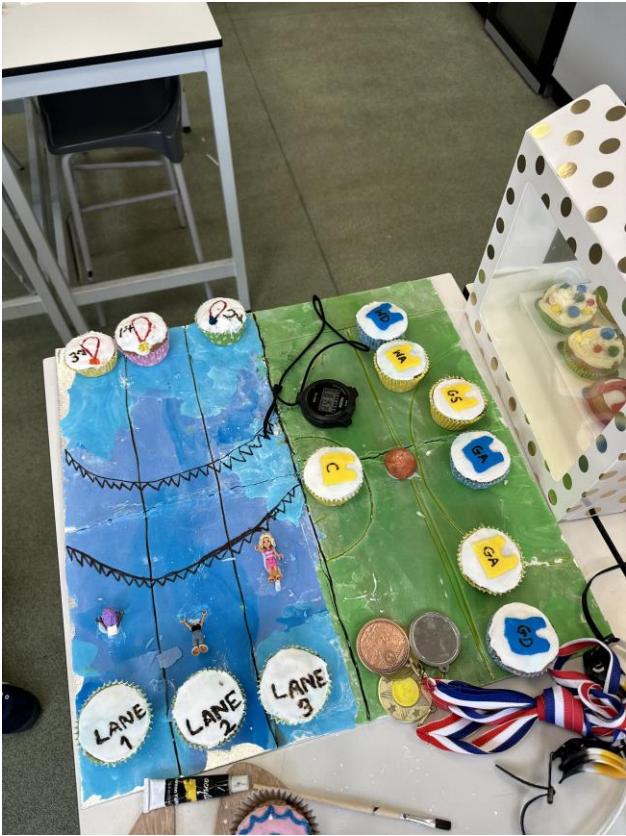
In the bustling world of culinary creativity, our school recently witnessed a delightful showcase of talent and nostalgia as students competed in the Cumnor House Bake Off Competition – Showstopper themed around cherished school memories. The event, a celebration of both culinary artistry and fond reminiscences, left taste buds tingling and hearts brimming with sweet nostalgia.

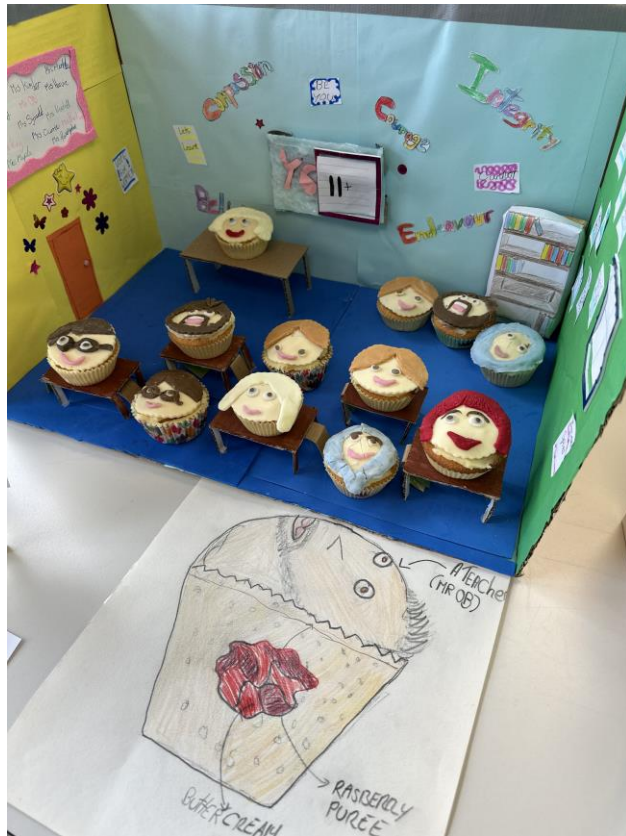
With the theme of "School Memories" as their guiding light, students poured their creativity into crafting miniature works of art that encapsulated the essence of their educational journeys. From the thrill of the playground to the quiet solitude of the library, each cupcake served as a tiny time capsule, preserving cherished moments in sugar and frosting.

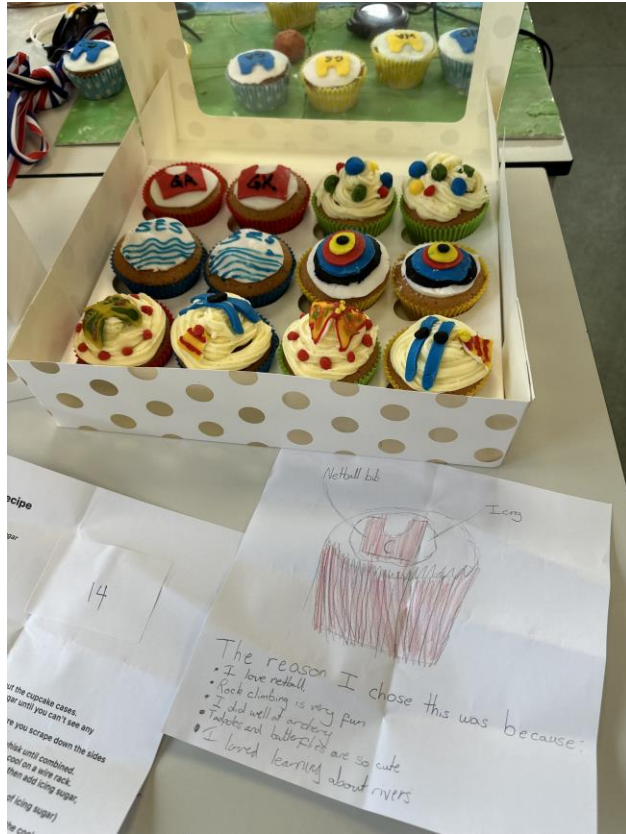
Judging such a delectable array of cupcakes proved to be a delightful challenge for our panel of esteemed judges. They meticulously evaluated each entry based on criteria such as presentation, flavour, and adherence to the theme. As they sampled the cupcakes, smiles spread across their faces, transported back to their own school days by the sheer nostalgia encapsulated in each bite.

After much deliberation, eight standout entries emerged victorious, their cupcakes earning rave reviews from both judges. Results will be out on Monday at the assembly. Finals of the Cumnor House Bake Off will be held on 2nd May.

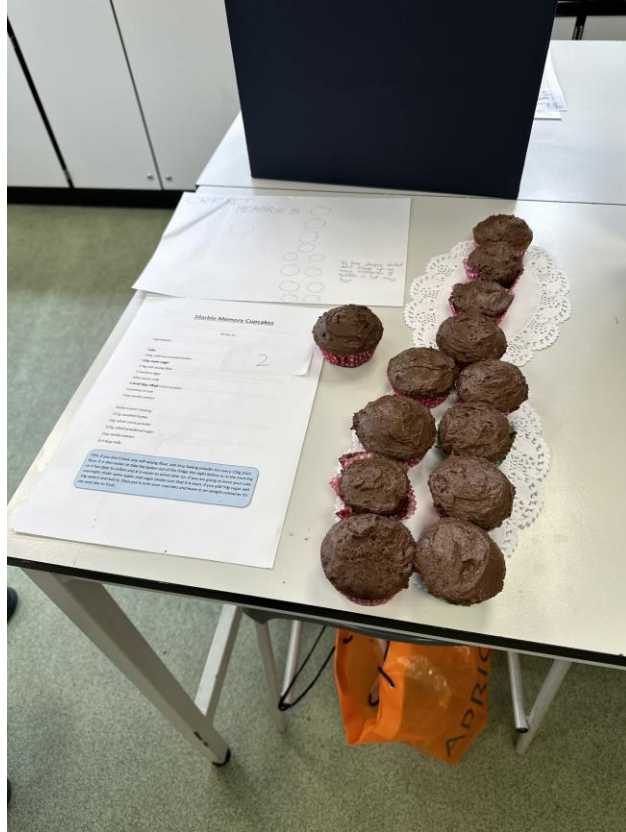




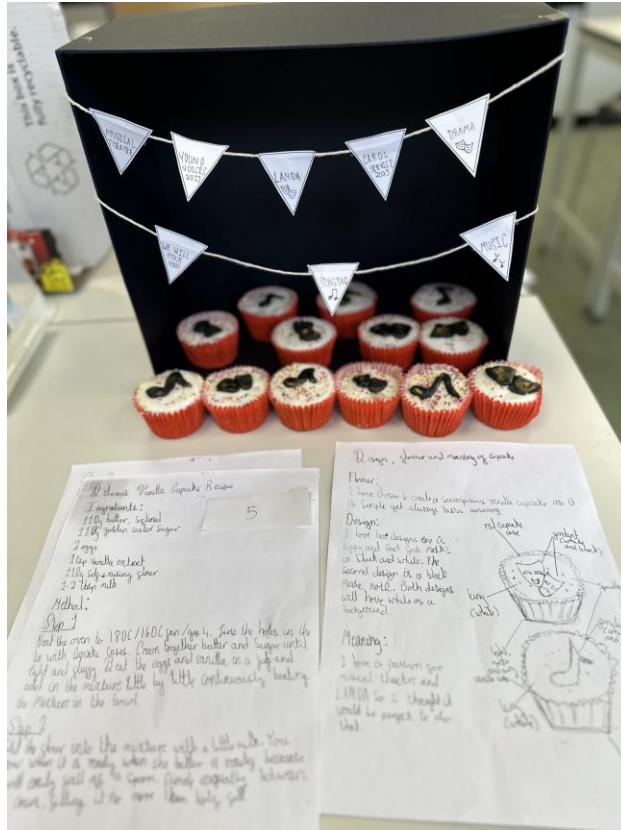






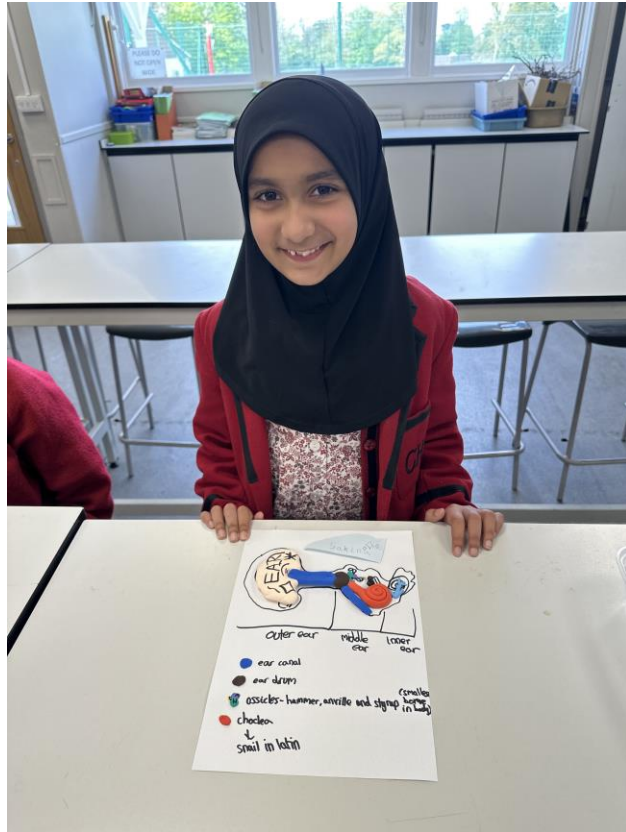






Year 4 Science

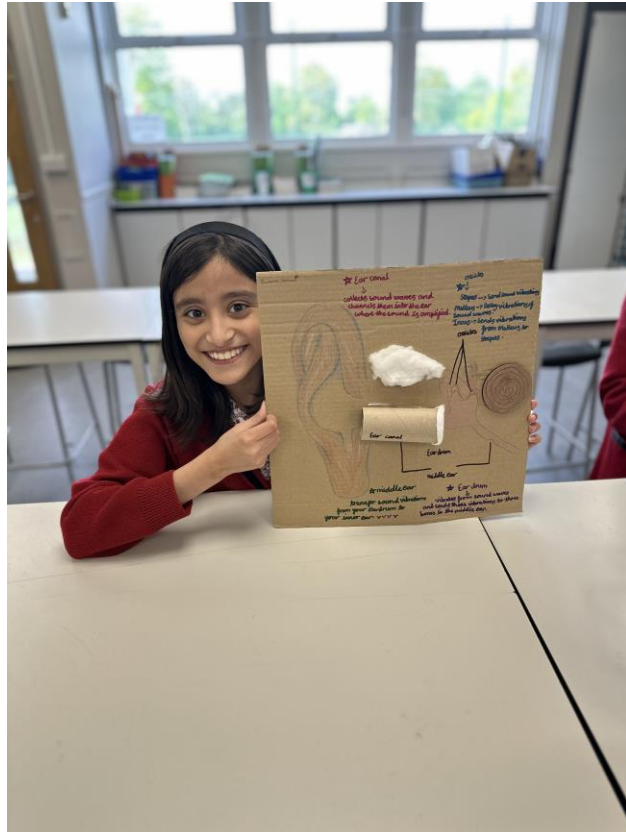
Year 4 have been learning all about sound and how we hear things. Over the Spring break the girls were tasked with creating a model of the ear, this consolidated some of their learning. The girls were inventive with the materials that they used and have produced these amazing creations. Great work, girls!











Form Captains

The new Form Captains were elected this week. Congratulations to the following girls, we know that you will be great role models.

Form captains:

Reception - Emily and Serena

Year 1 - Zariya and Anaysha H

Year 2 - Cecilia

Year 3 - Urszula

Year 4 - Sophia B and Libby

Year 5 - Paris

Year 6 - Avani

Spotlight on Digital Safety.....



It can be a confusing world online with so many different apps and platforms. Here is a quick guide to platforms which have an older age limit making them inappropriate for primary school aged children to use.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

Why are there age restrictions on social media platforms?

Many social media platforms have an age restriction of 13 years or over. This is because you have to be at least 13 years old to give consent for your personal data to be collected and processed.

What is the minimum age for UK account holders on these social media platforms?

13	16
Facebook	Vimeo
Instagram	Telegram
Snapchat	Tumblr
TikTok	
X (formerly Twitter)	
Pinterest	
Twitch	
Reddit	
Messenger	
Discord	
Skype	
YouTube	
WhatsApp	



The above age restrictions are based on the age required by the individual platform. This may differ from the age ratings suggested on app stores such as Google Play or App Store.

Other.....

Scholastic Books

It was lovely to receive all the free scholastic books and there were so many that we were unable to display all the ones we received. Mrs Turner, our librarian, was very pleased to receive new stock. If you would still like to purchase books from Scholastic, then we will continue to receive commission. Just visit the website www.scholastic.co.uk and make sure, if you purchase any books, that you highlight Cumnor House School for Girls.



ISEB Writing Competition

The ISEB has launched a Time to Write Competition and winning stories will be turned into illustrated books!

We have had some lovely entries so far for the competition but this is the final call.

The Competition is open to **Years 3- 6**. If you would like your daughter to enter the competition, please look at the [Time to Write competition website](#) where you will discover the theme, word count, and some writing resources.

The final day to receive entries will be Wednesday 24th April



Thank you to our PLT and PTA

We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for our new playground equipment and a big thank you to the PLT for asking for pupils' feedback in choosing the equipment. The new equipment includes:

Cricket sets

Netballs

Badminton nets, racquets, and shuttlecocks

Crazy golf sets

Lawn darts

We are saving them for use on the field when the weather gets a bit warmer!





Therapeutic Parent Support Group

Healing
Growth
Connection



The Parent Space

Facilitated By: Michelle Watson, B. Ed (Hons) MA, UKCP
Jessica DiMascio, BA (Hons), PG Dip, BACP

Come and be supported by Jessica and Michelle as they provide a safe, confidential, and non-judgemental environment for you to explore and process the challenges of parenting.

Come and be supported by gathering with other parents who are experiencing some challenges too.

Come and let us connect.

Beginning Thursday 2nd May 2024
7PM-9PM

Ripley Arts Centre
24 Sundridge Avenue
BR1 2PX





Michelle and Jess have many years of experience working therapeutically with individuals aged 3 years to adult, within independent schools and other clinical settings. Within their work, they noticed an absence of - and great need for - a space for parents to come together, connect and feel supported.



Often, it's not only strategies that parents need. The Parent Space was created as a place for parents to share their stories and experiences of parenthood within a guided and supported setting.

As a parent, it can feel like a never-ending task, juggling the competing demands of work, home and family life. The Parent Space helps to address this balance and to focus on your own needs alongside your relationship with your children.



Together, we look forward to welcoming you on this 8-week journey - to be supported in sharing the highs and lows of parenting.

Price for two parents: £150 per session. Price for individual parent: £100 per session
Please note there will be a non-refundable £100 deposit to secure each place.

For further information, or to set up a free 20 minute introductory consultation call, please contact us at: enquiries.theparentspace@gmail.com

