



COTTESMORE SCHOOL

Intro

A term full of characteristic Cottesmore energy and purpose draws to a close. Our pupils have embraced their academic pursuits, enjoyed sporting successes and relished new opportunities for learning both in the classroom and in their leisure time.



Sports Round-up

Following a strong start before Christmas, the boys continued their excellent form throughout the rugby season.

16 matches were lost to the weather, but across the board, they won 87% of their games, with unbeaten seasons for the U13, U11 & U10 teams.



The 2nds were the standout netball team, winning all their games this term.

The 1st boys' hockey team was led by Player of The Season and Golden Stick winner Josh P, and won all but one of their games. Collectively, our 11 teams won 68% of their games and were unfortunate that a whole block with Brambletye was cancelled due to the snow on 9th March!



Girls football is really taking off on the circuit. For the first time they had full blocks arranged with other schools and put in a great showing. The plan is to extend the season from next year.

Mixed Set matches are the highlight of any term, as was the case recently. Played out in front of several dozen parents, Mixed Set Senior Soccer was won by Drakes, and Mixed Set Junior Hockey was won by Scotts.

At the IAPS Regional swimming qualifiers, Troy, Kayla & Elliott each won their races. We are still waiting to find out if they, and the Small Schools relay team, will qualify for the National finals in June!

Carson Cup



The Carson Cup was run on very soft ground this year, so there wasn't much chance of any records being broken. Sports Scholar Josh capped a very good term for him personally by winning the senior boys race.

Lily, also having recently been awarded a Sports Scholarship, won the senior girls race. The junior races were won by Leo and, for the second year in a row, Esther. Clives won the Set Competition.

IAPS Ski Competition

A fantastic adventure awaited a group of Cottesmorians travelling to Ponte di Legno, Passo Tonal, Italy for the 10th anniversary of the IAPS Ski Championships 2023.



Select pupils from Cottesmore were chosen to attend the event which included the Giant Slalom, their signature event and as well as a new Parallel Slalom race.

The Cottesmore School skiing team were the top medalists at the championships. They enjoyed individual success in Giant Slalom with Bianca as Girls' National Champion and Alejandro named Boys' National Champion. The Boys' U13 team won gold in the Parallel Slalom and the Giant Slalom.

Chapel

The Chapel Choir has once more enhanced the worship in Chapel, performing at services on exeat Fridays. They have worked hard to produce excellent performances, singing in harmony with confidence. The highlight was the Admission of Choristers Service in which 18 new members were welcomed into the choir and this gave them the opportunity to sing to a packed chapel, making it a truly special occasion.



The Concert

The Cottesmore School Concert was a wonderful showcase of the students' musical talents. The programme was diverse and featured a range of genres and styles that kept the audience engaged and entertained throughout. In addition to a number of solo performances, there were fine contributions from the Orchestra, Chapel Choir and Singing Group as well as renditions of songs from Michaels Hurd's "Jonah-Man Jazz" by the juniors, seniors and the whole school. The performers were confident and accomplished, and it was clear that they had worked hard to prepare for the event. Overall, the concert was a fantastic display of the musical education and opportunities offered at Cottesmore School, and it was a pleasure to witness the students' hard work and dedication pay off in such an impressive way.

World Book Day

World Book Day at Cottesmore this year was a fun and colourful affair. The costumes were fabulously vibrant, varied and vivacious!!! We had a Book Quiz, a Costumes Catwalk and lots of Story Time throughout the day. My highlight, however, was The Masked Reader where lots of hidden teachers disguised their voices and read extracts from popular literature, and the children had to identify The Masked Reader! It was brilliant fun and we are already looking forward to next year!!



The Cottesmore Chess Congress

Cottesmore School was delighted to host its Annual 44th Cottesmore Chess Congress this term. The Congress is a collective celebration of local chess talent, with 51 players from nine Independent Prep Schools taking part. A total of six rounds were completed and the day concluded with prize giving for both team and individual winners. The competition was particularly tough this year, including four England players and twelve Sussex & Surrey county players.



Poetry Declamation



The Poetry Declamations Finals this year hosted thirty-one poems in an hour!!! Lisa Kerr, the Principal of Gordonstoun Junior School, was our brilliant judge. She was so kind, helpful, knowledgeable and warm with her comments. Well done to all finalists, and congratulations to all the forms for really mature, clear and charismatic declamations. Our junior form winner was 3HY with their menacing recitation of Ted Hughes' Hawk Roosting. The senior form winner was 4AL with Eden Rock by Charles Causley. In the individual competition, the junior winner was Jack M with Jenny Joseph's Warning, and the senior prize went to Isla D who not only performed A Winter's Breath but also wrote it.

Declamations is a Cottesmore treasure, and the performances in this year's final certainly crowned a very special end to the term. Well done and thank you to Mrs Price, Mr de Renzy Martin, Mr Waller and Mr Gold for preparing the children so well.

World Awareness Week

France was the focus for this year's World Awareness Week and Cottesmorians savoured opportunities to learn more about our European neighbour's customs and culture. France has provided a wealth of opportunities for study, as well as cultural activities. World Awareness Week even extended to the kitchen, where our chefs and their team produced a range of dishes from France.

Pre-prep News

An exciting and busy term in the Pre-prep has seen the children enjoy lots of topic learning,

including Fairy Tales, Romans, Toys, and Scientists and Inventors. They all enjoyed a wonderful World Book Day, celebrating their favourite authors, and a fantastic trip to Amberley Working Museum, where they explored many exhibits enhancing both their historical and their science understanding. Some other highlights were pancake relay racing and taking part in the Carson Cup cross-country race. Learning about Chinese culture was enjoyed for Chinese New Year, where children presented their experiences and understanding. The entire Pre-prep enjoyed performing a very special assembly for Mother's Day. The term was wonderfully rounded off with a fabulous Easter Egg Hunt in our beautiful grounds.

Fun Activities

Once again, a fine choice of activities both in and out of school gave Cottesmoreians plenty of scope to test their abilities in their leisure time. Trips out included the ever-popular Laser Quest, Crazy Golf, Axe Throwing, Clip'n'Climb, the cinema and pottery workshop.

Staff News: Salvete

Five new gap students arrived in January from Australia and they have all settled in very quickly to the Cottesmore community. Each one immediately began making significant contributions to their duties in school, as well as on the sports field.



DIARY DATES – SUMMER TERM

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| Wednesday 19 April | Term begins | 17.30 |
| Friday 28 April - Monday 1 May (BH) | Weekend Exeat begins Weekend Exeat ends | 16.00 19.00 (No Chapel) |
| Friday 12 May - Sunday 14 May | Weekend Exeat begins Weekend Exeat ends | 16.00 18.30 |
| Friday 26 May - Sunday 4 June | Half Term begins Half Term ends | 16.00 19.00 (No Chapel) |
| Saturday 17 June | Sports Day | |
| Saturday 17 June - Monday 19 June | Weekend Exeat begins Weekend Exeat ends | 16.30 19.00 (No Chapel) |
| Friday 30 June | Junior Play | 16.30 |
| Wednesday 5 July | End of Term | 11.00 |

*A Happy Easter
from
Tom and Lottie
Rogerson*