



COTTESMORE SCHOOL

WELCOME

The children of Cottesmore have achieved an extraordinary amount this term across academics, sport and the arts and we are immensely proud of all they have accomplished.

In particular, we warmly congratulate our scholars who have secured scholarships to leading senior schools including Charterhouse, Downe House, Worth, Canford, Ardingly and Eastbourne College.

These achievements are a testament not only to their individual talent and dedication, but also to the spirit and commitment of the entire Cottesmore community.

THE TRIAL

Last month, pupils at Cottesmore put Richard III on trial for the alleged murder of the Princes in the Tower - with help from honorary judge Mr Baird.



Pupils split into defence and prosecution teams based on their own initial verdicts, then cross-examined 11 historical witnesses in a courtroom packed with fierce debate and sharp questioning. Every pupil took the floor, delivering at least one speech and making their case heard.

In an incredibly close finish, the Defence Team clinched victory 145–142, sealed by a superb captain's closing speech.

AN EXCITING VISIT

The term started with an exciting visit, we were delighted to welcome voice actor and author Lizzie Waterworth to the school for an inspiring session on speaking with confidence. Lizzie is best known for voicing the title character in *Horrid Henry*.





Lizzie shared her journey in to voice acting and storytelling, offering practical tips to help pupils find their voice and communicate with confidence. Through engaging conversation and real-life examples, she showed that confidence is a skill that can be developed.

The pupils left buzzing with enthusiasm and new techniques they can use in class, presentations and performances. A huge thank you to Lizzie for a fantastic and memorable visit.

ART

It has been a busy and inspiring term in the Art Department.



In early March, our Art Scholars enjoyed a visit to the Courtauld Institute of Art in the heart of London, where they explored The Griffin Catalyst Exhibition: Seurat and the Sea. The exhibition captivated the students, sparking their imagination and providing a wealth of inspiration for their own creative work.



Later in the month, we were delighted to welcome local artist Katy Edgington to the department. She shared insights into her creative process, explaining how she uses bright, bold colours to bring her artwork to life.



The children thoroughly enjoyed hearing about her experiences and were inspired to create their own vibrant paintings, experimenting confidently with colour and expression.

CHESS



The 47th Annual Chess Congress was a wonderful celebration of strategy, concentration and sportsmanship, bringing together some of the brightest young minds from across the region.

We were delighted to welcome teams from 13 schools, each competing with great enthusiasm throughout the day.

The standard of play was exceptionally high, with closely contested matches and impressive displays of tactical skill at every level. After a series of hard-fought rounds, it was Windlesham House who ultimately claimed a well-deserved victory, demonstrating remarkable consistency and composure under pressure.

The event was not only a showcase of competitive chess, but also a testament to the spirit of camaraderie that defines the Congress. Pupils supported one another, formed new friendships and represented their schools with



pride. Congratulations to Windlesham House on their triumph and sincere thanks to all 13 participating schools for making the 47th Annual Chess Congress such a memorable and successful occasion.

GEOGRAPHY



In March, our Form 4 pupils took part in a fieldwork visit to Juniper Hall, Box Hill. The trip focused on a Weather and Microclimates enquiry, providing pupils with valuable hands-on experience outside the classroom.

During the visit, pupils observed, measured and analysed different weather conditions and microclimates. The main aim was to investigate weather patterns through practical fieldwork, while developing key geographical skills in data collection and analysis.

SCIENCE FAIR

On 19th March, our annual Science Fair took place, welcoming over 100 children from a range of local schools for a day of discovery and hands-on learning.

The event began with a judging session, where students presented





their individual science projects. There was an impressive variety of investigations, including studies on ice cream melting rates, post-exercise heart rate recovery and the impact of temperature on mobile phone battery life. Each project offered fascinating insights and demonstrated the students' curiosity and creativity.

Following the judging, the focus shifted to an exciting engineering challenge: bridge building. The children were divided into teams and provided with a set of materials and instructions to construct their bridges. Once completed, each structure was tested by gradually adding weights until only one remained standing. The team whose bridge held the greatest load was crowned the winner.

CONCERT

The annual concert, held on 6 March 2026, was a wonderful celebration of musical talent from across the school. The varied programme featured a range of performances, including moving vocal pieces, impressive solos on piano, violin, cello and trumpet, as well as several whole-school performances.

The repertoire spanned a wide variety of musical genres and each performance was delivered with great poise and musicality. The confidence and skill demonstrated by the pupils were remarkable and reflected the considerable hard work and dedication they have shown in their musical studies.

The concert was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and served as a fitting testament to the rich musical education at Cottesmore.

CARSON CUP



Another year, another brilliant Carson Cup. Bathed in sunshine and backed by a fantastic crowd, both the junior and senior races delivered excitement from start to finish. The atmosphere was electric, with everyone cheering each other on, making it a truly memorable and enjoyable day for all involved.

The senior boys' winner was Elliot Daruty, the senior girls' winner was Lara Worth and the junior winners were Max Deval and Augusta Von Bruhl-Pohl.



BAKE OFF



In March some of our pupils spent time in the kitchen alongside our Head Chef, creating a delicious selection of baked goods. From cupcakes to cookies, their creations were a great success.

To round off the day, the cakes and biscuits were sold to raise money for the Whizz-Kidz charity. Well done to everyone involved for their enthusiasm and teamwork.



SPORTS

It has been a successful term for sport, with pupils across multiple disciplines demonstrating both commitment and achievement. A particular highlight has been the Boys' 1st Hockey team reaching the IAPS Finals, an accomplishment not achieved for many years and a testament to the squad's hard work, resilience and teamwork throughout the season.

In the pool, there has also been encouraging progress, both the junior boys and junior girls relay teams qualified for the nationals. This reflects the strength and depth of our swimming programme, as well as the commitment shown in training.

Cricket preparations are already well underway, with the girls making an earlier than usual start this year. Indoor matches last term, an exciting new addition, have provided valuable match experience and set a strong foundation ahead of the outdoor season.

There have also been notable successes in team sports. The Under 10 girls should be congratulated on their victory at the Penthorpe soccer tournament, where they displayed excellent skill and determination. Meanwhile, the Under 11 rugby team enjoyed an outstanding Lent term, finishing the season undefeated, a superb achievement that highlights both their talent and consistency.

Overall, it has been a fantastic term of sport, with much to celebrate and plenty of momentum as we look ahead to the coming season.

PRE PREP

What an exciting term it has been in the Pre-Prep. Our children have been busy exploring, learning, and celebrating together.

Dinosaurs and Farm Adventures

Reception has roared into learning with a fascinating dinosaur topic, which included an inspiring visit from Horsham Museum. Meanwhile, Year 1 joined in a wonderful trip to Washbrooks Farm, discovering more about living things and their habitats.

History Comes Alive

Years 2 and 3 have enjoyed hands-on history experiences, exploring Fishbourne Roman Palace and taking part in drama workshops right here at school. Year 3 even created their own dramatization about the Romans, bringing history to life in the most creative way.

Celebrations and Special Days

The Pre-Prep sparkled during Chinese New Year, with children learning about traditional clothing, number writing and stories. World Book Day was a fantastic



celebration of reading, with everyone sharing their favourite authors, enjoying lots of books and dressing up as spectacular characters. Our Mother's Day celebration was a heart-warming event, with enthusiastic singing and touching poems reminding us how special our families are.

Fire Service Visit

We were lucky enough to have a visit from the fire service in March which all of the Pre-Prep were able to enjoy. The team shared stories



of how they rescue people from fires and emergency situations and even showed the children how the sirens and hoses worked.



Fun and Fitness

Pancake races brought laughter and excitement, as every child joined in with sheer glee. Our term's clubs have also been thriving, with children enjoying a rich variety of sports, arts and crafts, chess, and choir.

SALVETE

We said hello to five new gap students in January who have all settled in remarkably well. From the very beginning they embraced school life with enthusiasm and positivity. They have built strong relationships with pupils and staff alike already and have quickly become highly valued members of the Cottesmore community. Welcome Hugo, Huw, Clementine, Gwyneth and Grace.

TERM DATES – SUMMER 2026

Wednesday 22 April	Term begins	17.30
Friday 1 May	Weekend Exeat begins	16.00
Monday 4 May	Weekend Exeat ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
Friday 22 May	Half Term begins	16.00
Sunday 31 May	Half term ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
Saturday 13 June	Sports Day	
Saturday 13 June	Weekend Exeat Begins	14.00
Monday 15 June	Weekend Exeat Ends	19.00 (No Chapel)
Friday 26 June	Junior Play	16.30
Wednesday 1 July	Term Ends	11.00