College Road Chronicle

Value of the month: Courtesy

Issue 91

Friday 30th January 2026

www.collegeroadschool.co.uk

College Road Primary School

Message from Mrs Francis

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 3 seems to be whizzing past with so much going on; it'll be Half Term before we know it! Last week, we had a fantastic Ocean-themed dress-up day; there were some super costumes filled with creativity. Thanks to your generosity, we have raised £203 towards our Ocean Arts Week in May. Thank you for supporting this event – every little helps. Check out my Book Club recommendations on the next page for art-related good reads,

As you may have seen on Class Dojo, we had another super assembly visit from Jonathan Marshall from the Plymouth Centre for Faith and Cultural Diversity to teach the children about Buddhism. He is such a wonderfully engaging speaker that the children listened incredibly attentively and could remember the story that he told them during last year's visit.

Kittiwake's Class had a magical time visiting the National Marine Aquarium earlier this week. They received an excellent interactive guided tour and took part in a craft workshop making whales or fish. Great fun was had by all!



Earlier this week, Mr King took a group of Year 1s and Year 2s to the Life Centre to take part in an indoor athletics competition. The children worked their socks off and represented College Road so beautifully. Well done to the team who took part.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend, Mrs Francis 😊

Trim Trail Update

Great news! We have very kindly been awarded just under £8,000 towards our trim trail project by North Yard Community Trust, which we will add to the £4,500 generously donated by the PTA. This still leaves us with about another £9,000 to raise, which we are busy working on at the moment.

New School Cook

I am delighted to introduce our new catering Manager; another Jo! She has been covering the kitchen all this term and has been successful in her application to be our permanent cook. A very warm College Road welcome to Jo!



Letter from Bridget Phillipson – Secretary of State for Education

I received a letter from Bridget Phillipson last week, a copy of which you will find attached to this email. She was congratulating the pupils and staff of College Road for the excellent end of Key Stage 2 results of our Y6 pupils last July who received free school meals. She said, "Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement." We were one of only a few schools in the city to receive such a letter, so we are extremely proud of the children and staff for all their hard work.





Talented Artists

Last week, a group of pupils took part in a super workshop with an illustrator called Mikayla Shuker. She is teaching them about illustrative techniques and the aim is to produce illustrations for a book following another couple of sessions. Our budding artists absolutely loved their learning and can't wait to continue with their project next time.

Important Dates for your Diary

5th February – Year 3 Art trip to Stoke Damerel Art Department
6th February – Year 5 and 6 Indoor Rowing
9th-15th February – Children's Mental Health Week
10th February – Safer Internet Day
11th February – Y3 trip to Dartmoor Zoo
13th February – Last day of Term 3
23rd February – First day of Term 4
26th February – Y4 Viking Experience – Soapbox Theatre
2nd March – Special musical concerts with Kip and Elfyn for all classes
3rd March – Babcock engineers visiting Year 2
5th March – World Book Day
6th March – Dr Plot visiting Year 3

Class Attendance Week Ending 23.01.26

Kittiwakes – 97.24 %
Guillemots – 97.24 %
Shearwaters –96.55 %
Little Egrets –97.14 %
Oystercatchers 89.33%
Sandpipers –77.67%

Week Ending 30.01.26

Kittiwakes – 95.52%
Guillemots – 97.93%
Shearwaters – 97.24%
Little Egrets – 96.43%
Oystercatchers – 93.67%
Sandpipers – 84.33%

Star Books

W/C 19.01.26

Puffins – Jagger
Y1 – Isla
Y2 - Lexi
Y3 – Darcie
Y4 – Norah
Y5 – Niamh
Y6 – Yohannes



W/C 26.01.26

Puffins – Lennon
Y1- Isla
Y2 – Kass
Y3 - Violet
Y4 – Rory
Y5- Sarina
Y6 - Pippa

Values Ambassadors

Congratulations to our Values Ambassadors! Each week, 2 children per class are chosen because of the great values they have displayed all week.

Week Ending 23.01.26

Puffins - Jagger & Ewan
Kittiwakes – Aspen & Johan
Guillemots – Lexi & Wynter
Shearwaters – Hunter & Taran
Little Egrets – Mia & Mimi
Oystercatchers – Sarina & Maddison
Sandpipers – Selin & Tiaya

Week Ending 30.01.26

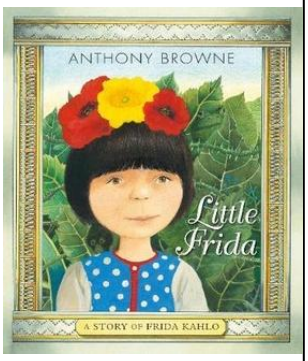
Puffins – Mariella & Albie
Kittiwakes – Sidiki & Charlotte
Guillemots – Violet & Medlyn
Shearwaters –Raffy & Dexter
Little Egrets – Mia & Olivia
Oystercatchers - Travis & Sebastian
Sandpipers – Mia & Evelyn T

SEN and Family Matters

The Family Hub at Morice Town is a wonderful source of advice and support for all families. Here are links to their website https://www.larkfamilyhubs.co.uk/ You can self-refer for support or we can help you complete a referral. Also, if you would like advice about anything to do with SEN, there is a new phoneline you can call: 01752 307049, or you can contact PIAS https://www.plymouthias.org.uk/ who can provide advice.

Book Club Key Stage 1

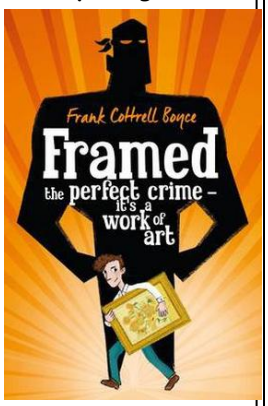
As we have been raising money for Arts Week, I thought we would focus on Art-related books this week. This beautifully illustrated book by the wonderful Anthony Browne tells the true story of artist, Frida Kahlo's life. As with all of his books, Anthony's drawings are so deep and intriguing that each page can be dwelt on for ages, revealing more and more the longer you look. Although I have said this is for Key Stage 1, any age reader will enjoy this book.



Here is a link to buy the book on Amazon: https://amzn.eu/d/hpBGAeS

Book Club Key Stage 2

The story centres on Dylan Hughes, the only boy left in a small Welsh mountain town called Manod, where there is little work and a shrinking community. His parents run a garage and Dylan's logbook of customers captures his small-scale horizons.
Then one day, a convoy of vans arrives at the disused mine, taking into storage the entire collection from the National Gallery of Art. Dylan's interests are football, cars and Ninja turtles - but, through these, the worlds of high and low culture collide and this changes everything.
This is an immensely entertaining book, about the power of art to bring about change and to redeem. It is beautifully characterised, funny and profound.



You can buy it from Amazon here: https://amzn.eu/d/0SU

Learner of the Week Certificate Winners

Week Ending 23.01.26

Puffins – Darcie
Kittiwakes – Aspen
Guillemots – Theo
Shearwaters – Sofia
Little Egrets – Uju
Oystercatchers - Henry
Sandpipers – Leia

Week Ending 30.01.26

Puffins – Lily
Kittiwakes – Billy
Guillemots –Phoebe
Shearwaters – Rory
Little Egrets – Ruis-Lu
Oystercatchers – Jasper
Sandpipers – Annabelle

In Art, Puffins have been using different materials, such as egg boxes and feathers to make owls.






Year 1 have been creating animals in ICT and using speech bubbles containing text to make the animal sounds.






A group of children from KS1 took part in an Athletics event at the Life Centre.







Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic trip to
The Aquarium





















An artist, who specialises in illustration,
will be coming into our school every term to work
with a group of children from each KS2 class.
These children show a particular talent in the arts.












Years 3 and 6 did so well and had lots of fun
taking part in the Bike-ability programme.









