College Road Chronicle

Value of the month: Courtesy

Issue 90

Friday 16th January 2026

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College Road Primary School

Message from Mrs Francis

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a super start to the Spring Term and there is a lovely feeling of absorbed learning as you walk around the school. I have been lucky to spend time in classes across the school this week and have observed children and staff working their socks off! So much super learning is going on.

Earlier this week, a team of Year 5s and 6s took part in a netball festival at the Life Centre. They worked very hard and won one of their games – a big well done to them all! 😊

On Monday this week, Year 5 began a course of 6 sessions with Livewell to learn about how to promote their own positive mental health and manage anxiety. With Children's Mental Health week at the start of February, this is a great opportunity for our pupils.

January's Value of the Month is 'Courtesy', so we have been learning about what courtesy looks like and how we can use it in different situations. In assembly, we discussed the importance of table manners, including using a knife and fork, asking politely for someone to pass things and not talking with your mouth full; we had lots of fun with this, and will be encouraging children to put these things into practice at lunchtimes.

In their Jigsaw (PSHE) lessons this term, children will be thinking about dreams and goals. So, in assembly we have been reminding ourselves that when we set ourself a goal, it is not always a straightforward journey to reach our target and we should be prepared for set-backs along the way. The most important thing is to use our value of determination and not give up. The children were brilliant at remembering when we learnt about the helpful little word 'yet' last year, so we can say, "I can't do it…yet!".

Best wishes for a lovely weekend, Mrs Francis 😊

2026 – The National Year of Reading



It is here! The national year of reading is for everyone, not just children, which is super-exciting!

The theme to the year is 'Go All In', which sounds a bit odd, doesn't it? However, the idea has developed from the fact that fewer and fewer people are choosing to read in this digital age, so the aim is to encourage people to read about the things they are already interested in, like music, football, films, crafts, cooking etc. There is so much out there to read and enjoy that will deepen your enjoyment of your special interests.

Watch the dynamic and engaging official introduction to The Year of Reading here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XnXDmkemZhY

Here in school, we want to encourage reading for pleasure and enjoyment, but we can't do it without you. It is so powerful if children see their parents or carers choosing to read and loving it. It could be as simple as everyone talking about their favourite book while you eat a meal together, or making time in your day when your children see you reading (even if it's only for 10 minutes).

Let's get our whole school community reading and

Go All In!

With the theme of The Year of Reading being Go All In, I thought I'd choose non-fiction books this week in the Key Stage 1 and 2 Book Clubs later on in the Newsletter.

Ocean Mufti Day

Next Thursday is our first fund-raiser for this year's ocean-themed Arts Week in the summer term.

We would like all the children to come to school dressed in something linked to the ocean; this could be wearing ocean-inspired colours, or dressed as an ocean creature…or some other creative outfit for a small donation of £1.

We aim to make Arts Week a really exciting, interactive experience, but with artists, dancers and musicians charging up to £500 a day, it is essential that we ask for your support.

We really, really appreciate your help. 😊

Important Dates for your Diary

6th January – First day of Term 3
19th January – Extra-curricular clubs begin
22nd January – Ocean Mufti Day - £1 towards Arts Week
26th – 30th January – Bikeability week for Y3 and Y6
27th January – Y1 trip to the Aquarium
2nd – 6th February – Children's Mental Health Week
6th February – Year 5 and 6 Indoor Rowing
10th February – Safer Internet Day
11th February – Y3 trip to Dartmoor Zoo
13th February – Last day of Term 3
26th February – Y4 Viking Experience
5th March – World Book Day

Class Attendance

Week Ending 19.12.25
Kittiwakes – 94.83 %
Guillemots – 95.86 %
Shearwaters – 98.62 %
Little Egrets – 95.19%
Oystercatchers – 92.33 %
Sandpipers – 91.67%

Week Ending 09.01.26
Kittiwakes – 98.28%
Guillemots –96.55%
Shearwaters –98.71%
Little Egrets –98.21%
Oystercatchers –95%
Sandpipers –86.25%

Week Ending 16.01.26
Kittiwakes – 91.03%
Guillemots – 96.55 %
Shearwaters -93.45 %
Little Egrets – 92.86%
Oystercatchers – 90.33%
Sandpipers – 80.33%

Star Books

W/C 15.12.25
Puffins – Amelie
Y1 – Maisie
Y2 - Medlyn
Y3 – Violet
Y4 – Norah
Y5 – Imogen
Y6 – Peleki



W/C 12.01.26
Puffins – Ruby
Y1- Poppy
Y2 – Jaiden
Y3 - Violet
Y4 – Oliver B
Y5- Max
Y6 - Logan

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 19.12.25
Puffins - Itsoghena & Rileigh
Kittiwakes – Noah & Charlotte
Guillemots – Rosalie & Morgan
Shearwaters – Layla & Idris
Little Egrets – Norah & Bon Bon
Oystercatchers – Ala & Jasper
Sandpipers – Annabelle & Thomas

Week Ending 09.01.26
Puffins – David & Tlotso
Kittiwakes – Sidiki & Rishi
Guillemots – Reggie & Phoebe
Shearwaters - Darcie & Arabella
Little Egrets – Ruis-Lu & Oliver
Year 5 - Elizabeth & Finley
Sandpipers – Violet & Kabiri

Week Ending 16.01.26
Puffins – Tommy & Maisie
Kittiwakes – Addison & Anaiya
Guillemots – Rigby & Kass
Shearwaters – Loki & Aubrey
Little Egrets – Gracie & Uju
Oystercatchers - Sebastian & Florence
Sandpipers – Hughey & Mia

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

Did you know that the Naked Mole-Rat burrows up to a metre under the ground, hardly ages at all, and cannot feel some kinds of pain? Or that the biggest borehole in the world was in northern Russia, took 22 years to drill, and was more than 12km deep? Or that only a few 10-metre-long Colossal Squid have ever been found, but we know they exist because their beaks are found inside the bellies of sperm whales? This gorgeous large hardback explores what happens under the earth and in our oceans and seas in fantastically colourful and accessible double-page spreads. These feature engaging, readable text snippets and fascinating facts about everything from oil rigs to badgers. Sounds wonderful, doesn't it?

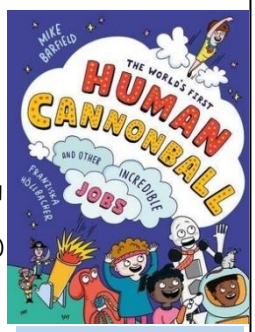


Here is a link to buy the book on Amazon: https://amzn.eu/d/3lNh6rX

Book Club Key Stage 2

Throughout history, and even today, people (and machines) have done some weird jobs. Take for instance court jesters, fullers (who washed wool togas in wee in Roman times), royal food tasters, crocodile wrestlers, and even toad eaters (don't worry: no toads were actually consumed).

In this hilarious comic-style book, Mike Barfield and Franziska Höllbacher take readers through a huge variety of zany, unusual, and often wacky jobs, organised by theme: jobs that include travel (astronaut, Incan messenger, and chariot racer), desirable jobs (plutocrat and king both seem nice) and risky jobs, such as being a pirate. Introducing children to the world of work, albeit in a light-hearted way, *The World's First Human Cannonball* is also a great insight into what work looked like in the past and what different cultures have found important at different times. The cartoon format is immensely readable, colourful and funny, and Barfield has a great talent for making history come alive.



You can buy it from Amazon here: https://amzn.eu/d/0a2qjXp

Learner of the Week Certificate Winners

Week Ending 19.12.25
Puffins – Jagger
Kittiwakes – Darbey
Guillemots – Iris
Shearwaters – Violet
Little Egrets – Bowen
Oystercatchers - Ned
Sandpipers – Hughey

Week Ending 09.01.26
Puffins – Myah
Kittiwakes – Isla
Guillemots – Indi
Shearwaters – Madina
Little Egrets – Layla
Oystercatchers – Max
Sandpipers – Jude

Week Ending 16.01.26
Puffins – Ruby
Kittiwakes – Cobie
Guillemots - Wynter
Shearwaters - Jacob
Little Egrets - Penelope
Oystercatchers – Anita
Sandpipers - Jessica

Recently at College Road

Some of our KS2 Girls took part in a Football Festival at Harpers







Before Christmas KS2 performed an amazing Christmas Carol Concert







In Art, Year 2 began to learn about printing! Over the coming weeks we will learn different methods of printing.








A group of Year 5 and 6 children took part in a Netball Festival at The Life Centre.






In DT Year 3 investigated ways of making leavers





