College Road Chronicle

Value of the month: Happiness

Issue 94

Friday 20th March 2026

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College Road Primary School

Message from Mrs Francis

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last two weeks we have had such a variety of trips and visitors for the children to enjoy; it has been fantastic!

In terms of sport, the Year 3 and 4 girls' football team did a wonderful job of representing the school at a football competition at Marjons. Their team work was excellent and they showed determination throughout the tournament. Well done, girls! We also sent a group of Key Stage 1 children to Marjons for a full day of physical activities that were designed to introduce them to a new range of sports and fun. I know that they had a brilliant time. At time of writing, the Y5/6 girls football team are at Marjons playing in a competition, which I am sure they will be giving 100% to. Thank you to Mr King and Mrs Winchester for taking the children to these events.

Art has been front and centre too, with our Arts' Ambassadors perusing all the designs submitted by the children, and agreeing the final design to paint and decorate our lighthouse. I am looking forward to sharing the completed artwork with you very soon. We have also hosted a second workshop for our most gifted artists with Mikayla Shuker continuing with the illustrations for their book – this is such a great opportunity for these pupils. Finally, Year 5 visited Stoke Damerel Community College art department to take part in a painting workshop. They created beautiful tigers hiding in long grasses, inspired by Henri Rousseau's famous painting, Tiger in a Tropical Storm. Many thanks to our art leader, Miss Northcott, for organising all three of these enriching experiences for the children.

Year 2 have also been out and about this week with a fascinating visit to The Box to learn more about Polar explorers to build on their learning from Term 2. They got to hold and look at lots of artefacts and replicas of equipment, which was super exciting. I hear that the class behaved beautifully and represented College Road superbly, using their values of respect and consideration. Well done, Year 2!

As you will know from Class Dojo, we have had a bit of a juggle with our new caretakers. Hopefully, Mr Lidstone will settle quickly into life at College Road. Please join me in welcoming him to our friendly school community.

As you can see, it has been an incredibly busy fortnight, so I wish you all a very lovely, relaxing weekend in the much-needed sunshine!!

Best wishes, Mrs Francis 😊

Learning Detectives

For the second time this academic year, our School Council children became 'Learning Detectives', visiting classes on Tuesday afternoon with the help of Miss Northcott and our Chair of Governors, Mrs Lees. This time, they were on the quest to learn more about writing across the school, shining a special light on handwriting. They observed in lessons and interviewed groups of children from each class, and discovered that most children really enjoy handwriting lessons and like getting advice from their teacher about how to improve it. They also found that children enjoy doing writing in other subjects like history and science, so overall a very positive outlook from our children's perspective about writing.

Comic Relief

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising day. The school was very jolly with all the red clothes! I have to say that they funny vegetable creations were absolutely brilliant! So creative and very funny. So much effort went onto them. I will share a film I took of them on Class Dojo for you to see. Congratulations to our winners: Cobie (KS1) and Maddison (KS2). Total raised was £200.40!

Special Visitors

Last week we were joined by Tim Purches, who told the children all about Humanism. I was struck by the way that our values approach really chimes with the humanist approach to life of kindness, unity, respect and happiness, and I think the children noticed too, which I was delighted with. This week we were joined by two members of the Baha'i religion – Arezoo and William. They taught the children about the Baha'i new year which is on the spring equinox this weekend, and about the Baha'i belief that the world is better when everyone, from all cultures, countries and faiths work together in unity. They demonstrated this using different coloured roses interspersed amongst white roses which was really visual and meaningful for the children. Having visitors from different faiths and cultures is integral to our values approach and reinforces that everyone is welcome.

Trim Trail Update

The main structures are all complete and looking fantastic. We are just waiting for the next team to arrive and make good all the holes and pour the special safety surface. Hopefully this will be early next week.

Important Dates for your Diary

23rd-27th March – Big Walk and Wheel continues
27th March – Pupils' Mid-Year Progress reports sent home
30th March – 2nd April – Parents Evenings
1st April – Year 3 & 4 performances of Jack and the Beanstalk
2nd April – Last day of Term 4
21st April – First day of Term 5
29th April – Year 5 trip to The Box
4th May – Bank Holiday
11th May – Year 6 SATs Week (National tests for Y6)
18th – 22nd May – Ocean Arts Week
22nd May – Last day of Term 5
2nd June – First day of Term 6
2nd-19th June – Year 5 swimming every day at the Life Centre
8th-12th June – Sports Week (Sports Day on Wednesday)

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

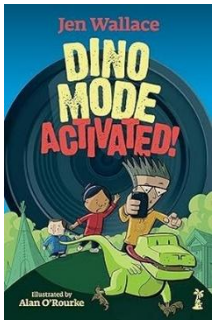
Lilly is holidaying at Grandma's seaside house in Wales. She always enjoys her gran's tall stories about sea monsters living in a cave nearby. When it finally stops raining, Lilly can't wait to get outside and explore - especially as she's found an old torch to play with. She discovers all sorts of things in its trusty spotlight. There are ladybirds with tiny spots to count, little frogs to watch in the mirky pondwater – and even that famous cave to investigate!
Lilly is on the autistic spectrum and the book beautifully depicts the specific ways in which she experiences various textures, sights, sounds and events. That said, this is a book about having adventures, as much as having autism. But along the way, it definitely offers plenty to discuss and to learn from, including a useful reminder of why we should not distract an assistance dog from its job, plus some useful end notes about autism.



Here is a link to buy the book on Amazon: https://amzn.eu/d/0bghI3dE

Book Club Key Stage 2

Oleg's ambition is to become an awesome internet sensation, so he's thrilled when Mum buys him a deluxe, intuitive camera. There are no user instructions in the box or buttons on the device, but the camera seems to know exactly what Oleg needs it to do. He decides to test the camera on a camping trip with his best friends, Rory and Daria. However, the trio are alarmed when Dino Mode automatically activates, transforming everything the camera snaps into an actual dinosaur. When Oleg takes a picture of some moths, they immediately morph into little pterosaurs and flit off to explore.
The situation becomes even more chaotic when Oleg accidentally turns the camera on Rory and Daria! With short chapters, cartoon-like black-and-white illustrations and some fabulous neurodivergent characters, this funny dino-adventure has broad appeal.



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

Class Attendance

Week Ending 13.03.26

Kittiwakes – 93.71 %
Guillemots – 97.51 %
Shearwaters – 97.08 %
Little Egrets – 95.63%
Oystercatchers- 93.48%
Sandpipers – 89.01%

Week Ending 20.03.26

Kittiwakes – 93.54 %
Guillemots – 97.54 %
Shearwaters –97.07 %
Little Egrets – 95.71%
Oystercatchers-93.49 %
Sandpipers –88.71 %

Star Books

W/C 09.03.26

Puffins – Azeil
Y1 – Johan
Y2 – Phoebe S
Y3 – Violet
Y4 – Norah
Y5 – Niamh
Y6 – Ula



W/C 16.03.26

Puffins – Lennon
Y1- Anaiya
Y2 – Isabella W
Y3 - Raffy
Y4 – Cohen
Y5- Ala
Y6 - Adam

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 13.03.26

Puffins - Margot & Elijah
Kittiwakes – Noah & Poppy
Guillemots – Tommy N & Indi
Shearwaters – Khaleesi & Dottie
Little Egrets – Uju & Ruis
Oystercatchers – Jackson & Elizabeth
Sandpipers – Selin & Evelyn T

Week Ending 20.03.26

Puffins – Itsoghena & Luna
Kittiwakes – Lyla & Florence
Guillemots – Tommy M & Tilly
Shearwaters – Olive & Lily
Little Egrets – Mimi & Cohen
Oystercatchers - Travis & Max
Sandpipers – Annabelle & Hughey

Learner of the Week Certificate Winners

Week Ending 13.03.26

Puffins – Itsoghena
Kittiwakes – Lyla
Guillemots – Isabella C
Shearwaters – Leo A
Little Egrets – Grayson
Oystercatchers - Ala
Sandpipers – Jacob

Week Ending 20.03.26

Puffins – Elijah
Kittiwakes – Noah
Guillemots – Joshua
Shearwaters – Evan
Little Egrets – Oliver B
Oystercatchers – Reef
Sandpipers – Evelyn T

A group of year 3 and 4 girls took part in a football festival at Marjons.





Year 5 went on an art trip to Stoke Damerel

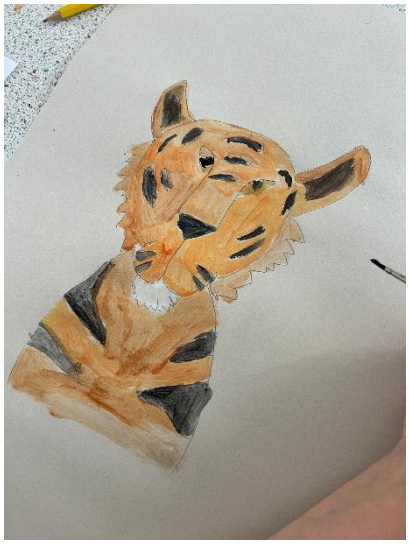


















Bling your ride!









Some of our KS1 children took part in a sports event at Marjons.












Year 2 trip to The Box







