College Road Chronicle

Value of the month: Happiness

Issue 93

Friday 6th March 2026

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College Road Primary School

Message from Mrs Francis

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a lovely couple of weeks in school with plenty of interesting and exciting events for the children to enjoy. Last week, we welcomed Rania (from the Plymouth Centre for Faith and Cultural Diversity) to assembly to talk about the importance of Ramadan and Eid to Muslims. The children were so engrossed in everything she had to say and made fantastic links with their knowledge of Christian celebrations to notice the similarities between the two religions. ☪ ✝

Last week, we sent a team of Year 5 and 6 footballers up to Stoke Damerel to take part in a football festival. They worked very hard and supported each other well during the event. Well done to all who took part! ⚽

Also last week, Year 4 had a brilliant trip to the Soapbox Theatre for an interactive Viking experience. They had so much fun learning how to be a Viking, about their gods and what it took to be a warrior. Apparently, the children were beautifully behaved, used all their values and were a real credit to the school. Having experiences like this is so important to bring learning to life. Thank you to the Year 4 team for organising the trip and to our parent helpers.

This week, we started with a bang with another wonderful visit from the musicians Kip and Elfyn on Monday morning. As ever, they were full of fun and highly entertaining, ensuring the children were actively involved in the concerts. I love how they effortlessly get the children learning musical skills such as rhythm, beat and dynamics without them realising. We are already looking forward to them joining us again during our ocean-themed arts week next term.

Babcock's STEM team have been busy working with Year 2 this week, when they talked to them about their engineering jobs and led them in a workshop to build landing craft and learn how to use cranes to move them around – just as they do in the dockyard. Making connections with the real world of work is so important as it helps children understand the possibilities they have for future careers. Thank you to Babcock for leading this engaging and educational workshop.

Today, Year 3 had a fascinating visit from Dr Plot, a time-travelling scientist who told the class stories of the Celts and then led them in a drama workshop where the class were in role as Celtic warriors, boasting about fighting off the Romans. A brilliant way to end the week!

Have a lovely weekend, everyone. Best wishes, Mrs Francis 😊

Trim Trail Update

I am excited to tell you that earlier this week, we had confirmation from Rhino Play that they plan to begin construction of the new trim trail on Monday 17th March, which is in just over a week! The new trail (which is more of a circuit) will be located at one end of the playground next to the outdoor learning area, so there will be a cordoned off section of the playground for the contractors to work securely. There will be safety fencing in place, but the children will be able to see through and observe the whole process of it being built, which I am sure they will find very interesting.

Ready for Anything Drill

Last term, we began practising different aspects of being ready for anything so that the children were not overwhelmed and got used to the concept of sheltering indoors. Last week, we held our first full ready for anything drill and the children were **absolutely brilliant**. They were quiet and sensible and listened carefully to adult instructions, which would be key if it was a real event, making us very proud. Similar to fire drills, we will practise being ready for anything a couple of times a year so that it becomes automatic.







World Book Day

I can't put my finger on why, but it was a particularly special World Book Day yesterday.

There was a lovely buzz around the school about books – children were walking around holding their favourites, or selecting books from the library to share with younger children. Some classes had extra library time and just enjoyed the time browsing and discussing the books they were looking at. In this digital world, it is easy to forget the simple joy that can be found from getting engrossed in reading a good book or reading the same story over and over, just because it is your favourite. That feeling is the essence of what we want children to experience as they learn to read and become fluent, confident readers. Perhaps that is why yesterday felt so special – the focus was almost completely on the enjoyment of reading. Thank you to everyone for devising such excellent book character outfits and being creative in numerous ways. It was definitely worth the effort! Check out this week's book recommendations below for some brand-new awesome books for 2026.

Important Dates for your Diary

16th-27th March – Big Walk and Wheel Fortnight
16th March – 'Bling your ride' event
17th March – Proposed start to the Trim Trail build
20th March – Comic Relief – 'Red Nose Day'
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)

Class Attendance

Week Ending 27.02.26

Kittiwakes – 95.86%
Guillemots – 97.14 %
Shearwaters – 96.21 %
Little Egrets – 93.43 %
Oystercatchers-92.76%
Sandpipers –86 %

Week Ending 06.03.26

Kittiwakes – 93.1 %
Guillemots – 98.21 %
Shearwaters –99.31 %
Little Egrets – 96.3%
Oystercatchers –88.62%
Sandpipers – 87.67%

Star Books

W/C 23.02.26

Puffins – Novella
Y1 – Darbey
Y2 - Reggie
Y3 – Arabella
Y4 – Rory
Y5 – Ala
Y6 – Layla



W/C 02.03.26

Puffins – David
Y1- Addison
Y2 – Violet
Y3 - Wyatt
Y4 – Oliver B
Y5- Jackson
Y6 - Selin

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 27.02.26

Puffins - Nora & Mazeeda
Kittiwakes – Maisie & Owen
Guillemots – Theo & Medlyn
Shearwaters – Leo s & Idris
Little Egrets – Bonnie H & Cohen
Oystercatchers – Florence & Iris
Sandpipers – Kabiri & Yohannes

Week Ending 06.03.26

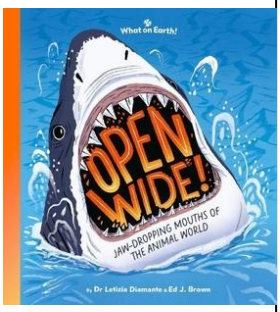
Puffins – Marnie & Azeil
Kittiwakes – Billy & Isolde
Guillemots – Morgan & Tsega
Shearwaters – Rory & Sofia
Little Egrets – Rory & Cornelia
Oystercatchers - Amelia & Maddison
Sandpipers – Amna & Ula

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

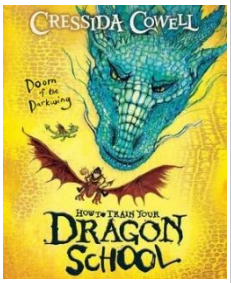
All animals have different types of mouths, and these differences are essential to their survival, allowing them to access new food. A lion's sharp teeth can tear up meat and a bird's strong beak can crunch up seed pods.
But animals use their mouths for so much more than eating. Some animals use their mouths for climbing, storing food, or scaring away enemies. For instance, the anaconda can eat its prey whole, not needing to chew at all, and yet the walrus has tusks – enlarged upper canine teeth – that can grow to be about one metre long. Presented in 14 chapters detailing everything from tusks to tongues and spit to beaks, this fascinating guide to all things toothy is an original take on the animal non-fiction book, allowing readers to get an insight into a variety of animals and their habits. Recommended by Book Trust.



Here is a link to buy the book on Amazon: https://amzn.eu/d/011eRI37

Book Club Key Stage 2

This book is the beginning of a new series, set in the world of the main *How to Train Your Dragon* series. Hiccup has Toothless as his dragon, and he's still learning how to be a hero, so it's set before most of the books in the original series.
In this story, Hiccup and Fishlegs - along with the other Vikings their age and all their dragons - have to go to a new school run by the massive Gobber the Belch. They're going to learn the Art of Battle. However, there's a mighty gale blowing and suddenly, in a pause, a desperate battle bugle sound is heard. The Bog-Burglar tribe need the help of the Hooligans!
The only trouble is that no one will listen to Hiccup. Can he, Fishlegs, and their small, unhelpful dragons save the day – again? Full of humour and Cressida Cowell's amazing illustrations, this is a joyful return to the Isle of Berk. There are new dragons to meet, and more peril to encounter – and even a day that begins with stepping in dragon poo (*Toothless!*)



You can buy it from Amazon here: https://amzn.eu/d/0c8f6A5U

Learner of the Week Certificate Winners

Week Ending 27.02.26

Puffins – Mariella
Kittiwakes – Poppy
Guillemots – Jaiden
Shearwaters – Raffy
Little Egrets – Amelia
Oystercatchers - Amelia
Sandpipers – Lexi

Week Ending 06.03.26

Puffins – Tlotso
Kittiwakes – Bella
Guillemots – Elliot
Shearwaters – Luis
Little Egrets – Cornelia
Oystercatchers – Jackson
Sandpipers – Vinnie

Year 4 enjoyed a trip to The Soapbox Theatre to watch 'The Vikings'



A group of Year 5 and 6 children took part in a Football festival at Stoke Damerel.



World book day celebrations!

















Kip and Elfyn put on a fantastic music show which the children thoroughly enjoyed!








Year 3 enjoyed an interactive visit from Dr Plot, Soapbox Theatre.










Year 2 had a visit from Babcock, they learnt a lot about engineering and also enjoyed a practical activity.





