



# Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

*"Stand firm and be deeply rooted in love" Ephesians 3:17*

[www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk)



**Friday 18th October**

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many children sharing their work with parents at the Book Look yesterday, these are great opportunities, that are built in to our school calendar, to help parents understand more about what day to day work is like for children in school. Parents of our Nursery and Reception children have attended workshops recently run by Mrs Druce, and we had positive feedback about how useful these sessions are as children transition in to full time schooling. Thank you Mrs Druce and the team!

This week our Health and Safety Governor, Mr Robinson, visited school. He worked with Mrs Watmore to review our site safety, fire safety and premises. This is part of our ongoing monitoring cycle in school to support our whole school development. Next week we look forward to welcoming Governors to work with Mrs Murrey to look at reading across the school.

As the term draws to a close, we have been delighted with how quickly the children have settled in to the school year. This week is our first assessment point and children have focussed well. We look forward to sharing their outcomes with you at parents evenings early next term.

Have a great weekend.

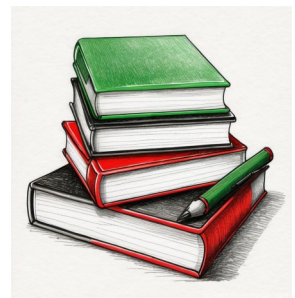
Lauren Murrey and the Christopher Rawlins team

## **Year 3 & 4 Curriculum Update**

Hummingbirds and Parrots have been really enjoying their work on the Polar Regions in Geography. We have been learning about what it is like in the Arctic Circle and in Antarctica, what different animals live there and how they are able to adapt to the freezing temperatures where they live. In Science, we have learnt about sounds. We have identified and explained; how sound is made and how it travels.

We have used instruments to explore high and low pitch, and we have even created our own string telephones (inspired by Alexander Graham Bell's invention). In English, we have finished our learning based on Shackleton's Journey, that included children writing diary entries and letters as members of the crew. We are now learning about a new text called The Wild Robot. We are continuing reading Charlotte's Web, having lots of discussions about the characters and making predictions and justifying them. In Maths, Year 3 children have been learning about place value and recognising and identifying what each number represents in 3-digit numbers, we have just moved onto addition and subtraction, and we are adding and subtracting numbers crossing tens boundaries.

In Maths, Year 4 children have finished their place value unit; recognising values of 4-digit numbers, effectively partitioning and rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. They have now started addition and subtraction, and we are currently using column method addition to add 4-digit numbers – with more than one exchange. We are also continuing to develop our times table recall.



**Our Collective Worship focus is *Courage***

**"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow — Mary Anne Radmacher**



# Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

*"Stand firm and be deeply rooted in love" Ephesians 3:17*

[www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk)



## Netball Festival

Mrs Ostler had the pleasure of taking 18 pupils from Year 5 and 6 to The Warriner netball festival on Thursday. The value for the event was teamwork and our two teams really demonstrated this value well: taking turns in rotations, cheering on their team and celebrating good play. As always the children were a credit to the school and really tried their best, many not having played netball before and having to quickly learn the rules and their positions. It was a great afternoon and all the children thoroughly enjoyed the event and the opportunity to play against other schools in our cluster. Well done all.

## Yenworthy

The Year 6 students thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Yenworthy last week. We have posted lots of updates and pictures on Facebook and below are just a few comments from our students.

"I had an amazing time! I enjoyed surfing. The best bit was the food and the instructors were really nice. I learnt that I can actually surf and I got on with a lot more people than I usually do."

"Surfing was my favourite activity but I also really liked the outdoor business activities because we had fake money and I liked working in teams. I really liked doing the jobs at the centre and having room inspections!!"

"The instructors were nice and caring and they challenged us to do things we didn't think we could do"

## Polar Scientist Talk

We would like to give a big thank you to Miss Arthur's sister, Dr Jenny Arthur, for giving her time to speak to KS2 this week about her life living in the Arctic and her trip to Antarctica. Dr Arthur is a polar scientist who works for the Norwegian Polar Institute in Tromso, Norway and who researches lakes in Antarctica. She told the children about her trip to Antarctica last year and her life in the Arctic circle. The children loved seeing all of the photos and videos and hearing about some of the differences between there and the UK. We are very fortunate to be able to have these opportunities to enrich our curriculum offer and we look forward to hearing from a whale researcher in a few week's time.



**Our Collective Worship focus is *Courage***

**"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow — Mary Anne Radmacher**



# Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

*"Stand firm and be deeply rooted in love" Ephesians 3:17*

[www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk)



## Communication with staff

Just a reminder that if parents need to contact staff with a question, or concern regarding their child they can do so when dropping off in the morning or by emailing Mrs Henderson at [reception@christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:reception@christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk). This includes any day to day queries regarding your child's Special Educational Needs, your child's class teacher is always the first point of contact. If further advice is needed Mrs Druce is available to support class teachers.

## Unlocking of gates

Just a reminder to all parents that the gates are unlocked at 8:30am in the morning. In the afternoon the gates are unlocked at 3:00pm for the Oxford Road gate to enable Nursery parents to pick up, all other gates are unlocked at 3:05pm. We know that sometimes staff are late unlocking gates due to unavoidable delays in school. When this does happen please be patient, and let the office staff know so that they can unlock the gates for parents. Parents climbing over the gates would be unacceptable, unsafe and present a health and safety risk for those involved.

## Staffing

We welcome Mr Sims a student from Oxford Brookes who is currently working in Flamingos class alongside Miss Rea. We look forward to welcoming Miss Wright from Oxford Brookes, who is with us on a short term placement working alongside Mrs Druce in Reception starting from next week.

Miss Still will be leaving the Teaching Assistant team at the end of this half term. Miss Still is ready for a new challenge and has been successfully appointed to a role working in alternative provision in Oxfordshire. We wish Miss Still every success with her new role, and I know will be missed by the children and staff.

## Diary dates

Monday 21st - 24th	Bikeability Yr 5/6 (those who signed up)
Tuesday 22nd October	Reading and Phonics Meeting KS1 Parents 2:30PM and 7:00PM
Friday 25th October	PTFA Wear What You Love Day (bring a bottle donation)
28th Oct - 1st Nov	Half Term
Monday 4th November	INSET day - <b>Children not in school</b>

**Our Collective Worship focus is *Courage***

**"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow — Mary Anne Radmacher**



# Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

*"Love one another. As I have loved you" John 13:34-35*

[www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk)



## Learning Certificates

### Owls

Nervaya for being so helpful following instructions and her motivation to communicate with others.

### Penguins

Gabriel D for his super listening skills in Forest School and P.E. this week.

Tyler for showing courage and motivation when taking part in our soup and fruit kebab making.

### Flamingos

Eden for a fantastic piece of writing based on our 'how to be a butterfly' story. Well done you!

Buddy for trying his best with his writing recently, keep it up!

Isla for a fantastic piece of homework this week which really inspired the class.

### Woodpeckers

Thomas for being super quick at coming in in the mornings and developing his independence during learning time.

Alex for using his voice more in class to ask for help and to share his wonderful ideas.

### Hummingbirds

Olena for amazing perseverance with your writing, you tried really hard to listen to the sounds in words when you wrote them.

Oliver for excellent contributions in Geography and being able to quickly recall the seven continents of the world.

### Parrots

James for contributing lots of ideas in lessons, and impressing Ms Martin, Miss Perkins and I, with your excellent ideas.

Jade for always demonstrating our school values, showing respect to everyone and trying your best in all of your lessons, this week.

### Egrets

Matthew P for some lovely artwork designing his Christmas card.

Oscar H for taking such care over his homework project. His model is super.

### Hérons

Elena for her fantastic knowledge and understanding shown in Geography this week.

Nate for showing great teamwork in the netball festival at Warriner.

### Kingfishers

Huw for his enthusiasm, leadership skills and independence at Yenworthy

Ethan for perseverance in his Art work and having a positive attitude

***Our Collective Worship focus is **Courage*****

**"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow — Mary Anne Radmacher**