



Christopher Rawlins CE Primary School

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

www.christopher-rawlins.oxon.sch.uk



Friday 4th October

Dear Parents,

It has been a delight to see children having so many opportunities over the last few weeks to deepen their learning through visitors to the school and additional curriculum learning time. Key Stage 2 experienced a VR workshop where they got to virtually experience the Arctic and Antarctic, and then heard from Dr Jenna Plank who was part of the British Antarctic Survey team. Children also experienced the Planetarium from Science Oxford in the hall this week and had an opportunity to stargaze and find out more about our solar system. These extra learning opportunities really bring the curriculum to life for our children, and we are hugely grateful for parents supporting us with this.

We are very proud we have received the Platinum Award for School Games in recognition of the work we do with school sport and PE. A huge thank you to Ms Sambrook whose passion and hard work has enabled us to achieve this award.

Our Harvest Tea was well attended and the Year 6s made us very proud with their contribution and hard work making cakes and sandwiches, serving tea and talking to our guests. We wish them every success next week as they leave for residential - you'll have great fun!

Have a restful weekend, and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Lauren Murrey and the Christopher Rawlins team

PTFA Outdoor Work

A huge thanks to a group of parents who worked tirelessly last weekend to complete the work of flattening off and filling the pond area, building the new PE shed and other jobs. A special shout out to Matt Smith, Tom Osbourne, Jon Miller and Lewis and Cara Witwicki-Mitchell who gave up all of their Sunday. Thank you!



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



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Platinum Award - School Games

We are very pleased to learn that we have been awarded Platinum for our School Games offer this year. Schools who consistently achieve the Gold standard for their Sport and PE offer are invited to apply for this award. This award is in recognition of how we use pupil voice to develop and co-create our offer for all our young people. We have an enthusiastic sports council and play leaders who all contribute to this process. We have surveyed groups of children whose ideas have also been used to make improvements to sport, PE, and physical activity at our school. The feedback we received was very complimentary of the hard work of all:

Congratulations Christopher Rawlins on your Platinum School Games Mark, a truly well-deserved recognition of the hard work and commitment you continue to show to your young people. I'm delighted that you have earned your Platinum Award and continue to take your PE & School Sport provision from strength to strength. You have always understood the underlying intent of the School Games and the importance of ensuring that all children are active throughout the school day and beyond, and it's wonderful to read about how much you have engaged young people with decision making and delivery. It certainly appears as though the School Games mission & vision is fully embedded within your school community, and I look forward to continuing working with you on physical activity and school sport opportunities for your students.



VR Workshop & Polar Talk

KS2 were very fortunate last Friday to have an online talk with Dr Jenna Plank, who was the doctor onboard the RSS David Attenborough on the British Antarctic Survey. The children loved hearing about her role and experiences of Antarctica, including the many types of seals and penguins she got to see and some of the challenges faced by working in such an extreme environment. A big thank you to Mr Clark for facilitating this talk.

Last Monday, KS2 also took part in the Prime VR workshops where children shared virtual reality headsets to explore the Arctic and Antarctica- the children (and adults) thoroughly enjoyed it and were able to learn lots of new facts. Here's what they had to say:

"It was very realistic- I enjoyed seeing a variety of animals and it was really impressive how they managed to film the videos! It was good that it wasn't just animals, we got to see the lovely Arctic sky at the end. I definitely learned loads of things about the Arctic that I didn't already know!"

"I think the talk with Dr Jenna was awesome and she was really good with children and explaining about what she does. My favourite bit was seeing all of the photos and videos of what the landscape was like and what her views were like from work."

KS1 Curriculum Update

Key Stage 1 have been busy learning about different modes of transport in Geography this week. They came up with a list of all the different types of transport they could think of and Flamingos found 24 different types! Examples included hot air balloons, freight trains, double-decker buses and we even discussed how our legs could be a type of transport. We then moved our focus to looking at trains; the children researched George Stephenson and his innovations in the locomotive industry, which led to exploring the Bullet Train (Shinkansen) and the London Underground. It was great to see how enthusiastic the children were about their learning, with many hopeful to go for a trip on the London Underground!

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KS2 Cross Country

Yesterday we took 37 KS2 children to the Warriner School for the Partnership Cross Country Competition. The sun shone and we had a super morning. The value we focused on was determination. Every child crossed the line looking like they had absolutely tried their best. We also noticed children being so supportive of each other which was lovely to see.

Sikhism Talk

On Monday we were delighted to welcome Mr. Chandan into school to talk to Key Stage Two about Sikhism. We have been learning all about Sikhism in RE this term and it was such a great experience for the children to be able to listen to Mr. Chandan speak. The children also had the opportunity to ask lots of thoughtful questions. We are very grateful to Mr. Chandan for giving up his time. Of course, he was ably assisted by Gus and Roopinder!

Y5/6 Harvest Tea

Local community members were welcomed into the school on Thursday for our annual Harvest Tea. The children in Year 5 and 6 made cakes and sandwiches, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the guests. Year 6 served teas and coffees and were a credit to the school. Each phase provided entertainment throughout the afternoon. We had very positive feedback from all who attended. Thanks to all our volunteers who gave up time to help with floral decorations, baking and serving teas and coffees on the day. Mrs Ostler



Diary dates

Saturday 5th October	Open morning for prospective Nursery and Reception parents 9:30AM-11:00AM
Monday 7th October	Harvest Service at St Mary's Church Y3/4 11:00AM
7th - 11th October	Y6 Residential
Wednesday 9th October	Nursery Parent Workshop
Thursday 17th October	Parent drop in and Book Look 3:15PM
Monday 21st	Bikeability Yr 5/6
Tuesday 22nd October	Reading and Phonics Meeting KS1 Parents 2:30PM and 7:00PM

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

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Learning Certificates

Owls

Zach for his increased confidence and happily joining in with new activities.

Penguins

Gabriel P for his fantastic effort in phonics this week with 'robot talk' - well done!

Hunter for always being ready to listen at group times and being a helpful member of Penguins class.

Flamingos

Lillian for modelling the school's values consistently and trying her best at all times.

Jacob for fantastic work in English, using adjectives to describe his favourite animal.

Woodpeckers

Solly for showing responsibility and compassion to his peers in their learning. Making sure everyone understood the task and supporting those who struggled.

Austin for showing a growth mindset in his learning this week. Working on fact families in maths and finger spaces in his writing.

Hummingbirds

Lexie for always displaying such a positive, enthusiastic attitude towards your learning, and always being so focused. Well done.

Harvey for an excellent understanding of place value and working really hard in Maths, well done.

Parrots

Rhys for showing great enthusiasm towards singing in the Harvest Tea and learning your words so well for the Harvest Festival.

Willow for always showing an eagerness to learn and for always being willing to help all of your class friends and the adults in class, with jobs around the classroom.

Egrets

Iris F for putting so much effort into her writing, she had super ideas when writing a postcard linked to our work on Shackleton

Norah C for using drama to generate super ideas for her writing this week linked to our work on Shackleton.

Hérons

Bella for excellent focus in her literacy this week. Really trying hard with her description when writing.

Jacob for really trying with his advanced punctuation when writing. Well done.

Kingfishers

Albie for great creativity with his Shackleton descriptive writing

Daniel for super ideas and creativity with your descriptive writing in English

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