

## 1st prize 8-10 years age group

Name: Amelia R

**Age:** 10

**Bio of author:** I love cats, school and writing mystery stories, so the Catworth College series is a mixture of all 3! This is the first story in the series, but there may be more to come...

Title: Catworth College-The Golden Treat

Judge's notes: "Loved this very cute story about cats!"

"I would like to read more stories set at Catworth College."

""Intelligent Whiskers" Aww. I agree, I want more Catworth College stories."

"Grabbed my interest and charmed me immediately! What a delightful series Catworth College would make."

"This story brought to life a cast of cat characters and sparkled with originality."

## Catworth College-The Golden Treat

Moonlight the cat woke up ready for another day of climbing, learning and fun. In fact, that was exactly what Catworth College was about – a university for cats who wanted to study sport. Moonlight Melbin had black fur, bright blue eyes, intelligent whiskers and a big smile. She was friendly, elegant and kind. Everyone in her climbing course simply adored her. Solving mysteries wasn't just Moonlight's hobby – she was born to be a detective and sometimes secretly wished she went to a police academy!

After her morning groom, Moonlight hurried to the Forest of Knowledge, where class was about to begin. Pawfessor Fluffy was instructing the students. "Today you will climb the Tree of Destiny. Please do not touch the Golden Treat, you all know that. Moonlight, since you were the quickest climbing the Autumn Tree yesterday, please go first." Impossibly fast and agile, Moonlight managed to race up and down the tree in seconds. Her best friend Kitty was unusually slow. The following day in the Forest, the cat students were to climb the Tree of Destiny again. As Moonlight made her way up, she couldn't find the Golden Treat! A mystery was on its way...

That night at bedtime, Moonlight noticed Kitty had a little lockbox on her bedside table. Kitty said it was a special necklace that her mum sent her. Moonlight wasn't sure Kitty was telling her the truth. Still puzzled, she fell asleep uneasily.

In the morning, Moonlight reported the missing treat to Pawfessor Fluffy. "Don't worry, I will look for it", he said. "Oh dear, that treat provided food for the Tree of Destiny. And I fear the Tree is getting weaker. I wonder what happened?" Pawfessor Fluffy furrowed his thick brows. His long whiskers twitched anxiously. "Who could possibly take the treat?", thought Moonlight. Maybe the cat burglar was Purrina Catflake, the meanest kitty in the class...

Whilst eating a delicious lunch of tuna salad, Moonlight noticed kitty wasn't eating a thing. "Why aren't you eating? Tuna salad is your favourite!", she told Kitty. Kitty sighed. She has a big confession to make...

"I stole the Golden Treat. I can't afford to pay the food fees, I was so hungry, and no one was looking.... so I grabbed it and ate it..." Kitty bowed her head in shame. "I think you should explain everything to Pawfessor Fluffy", said Moonlight. 'I'm sure he'll understand and maybe organise a tuck box for you. Do you have anything in exchange of the treat?" "I have special plant biscuits. They are perfect for sacred trees!", said Kitty, relief flooding her face. So Kitty went to Pawfessor Fluffy and he was more than happy to feed the sacred tree plant biscuits!

More mysteries at Catworth were to come....