

Offwell C of E Primary School Newsletter



Autumn 2011 Number 1

9th September 2011

Our Core Values: Honesty, Loyalty, Caring, Sharing and Forgiveness

Dear parents/carers,
Are you ready for a mammoth newsletter?! Put the kettle on, take the phone off the hook and inwardly digest!!!!

A big welcome to the new school year and I hope you had an enjoyable summer break. Special welcome to Callum who has joined us in Willow. We also have our Reception starters: Lila, Benjamin, Rosie, Olivia, Yasmin, Elizabeth, Harriet, Madeleine, Sam, Abbie, Caden-James, Megan, Dominic, Bronwyn, Georgia, Dylan and Edward. A huge welcome to you all!

Welcome also to Mrs Hurst and Mrs Williams who have joined us as teaching assistants. Mrs Hurst is a qualified teacher and many of you will know Mrs Williams as she is Dylan's mum and previously worked at Offwell Under Fives. She has also helped in school on a regular basis - see separate list of teaching assistants for your information.

After School Provision

The first three sessions of After School Provision took place this week and I am pleased to say that, as expected, they have all been extremely successful. The children have all had a great deal of fun learning football skills, doing Crazy Craft and chatting over squash and biscuits!

We have made a change to ASP on Mondays. There will still be two activities available - Cool Sports 1 and Fun Fun Fun but we are no longer splitting them by Key Stage. Whatever year group your child is in they can either do Football every Monday for the rest of this term or Fun Fun Fun every Monday for the rest of the term.



From now on children coming to ASP will be known as a WASP (Welcome to After School Provision) - friendly WASPs of course! There are a few vacancies for the sessions, so if you would like more information, or you would like your child to join, please contact the office.

Meet Your Child's New Teacher

15th September - 2.30pm

You are invited to come in to meet your child's new teacher and visit your child's new class next Thursday at 2.30pm.

Curriculum Booklets

Every child in school will be bringing home a Curriculum Booklet produced by his/her child's teacher which we hope you will find informative so keep an eye out for it!

House Captains

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected as House Captains for this year:

Drake (Red team) - Scott & Cappi

Raleigh (Blue team) - Chloe & Sam



OSCAR

Offwell School Carers And Relatives

For the benefit of our new parents, OSCAR is the name of our Parent Teacher Fundraising Association and is short for 'Offwell School Carers and

Relatives'. The group is holding its AGM on 6th October at 7.30pm in school and everyone is welcome to attend. A new committee will be formed and officers elected. If you would like to become involved or just find out about the group, do come along. Refreshments will be available! The group meets about twice a term and have organised some exciting events and raised a great deal of money for the benefit of all the children in school. It would be lovely to see some of our new families actively involved in OSCAR's fundraising efforts.

Clubs

Clubs will start during the week beginning 12th September. The following clubs will be on offer this term:

Monday	Running	Lunchtime	Yrs 3-6
Tuesday			
Wednesday	Choir	Lunchtime	Yrs 2-6
	KS1 Sports Club	3.15pm-4.15pm	Yrs Rec - 2
	KS2 Sports Club	3.15pm-4.15pm	Yrs 3-6
Thursday			
Friday	Football Art	Lunchtime Lunchtime	Yrs 3-6 Yrs 5-6

Clubs for different age groups will be offered next term.

Ethos Group

New Ethos Group pupil members are Indigo and Elliot. They will join myself and Mrs Harris (Foundation Governor) to complete this group which was set up to promote our core values in school. If any parents would like to join us, please let me know.

School Council

The following children have been successfully voted by their class to be the representatives on the School Council. They will meet regularly with Mrs Edwards - their first job is to decide which charity to support for Harvest.

Rec: Olivia G & Edward W

Yr 1: Alexis & Jacob R

Yr 2: Grace E & Jack B

Yr 3: Eloise & Hayden

Yr 4: Lewis C & Emily

Yr 5: Emily C & Thomas L

Yr 6: Indigo & Rowan

WELL DONE!





Walking Bus

We have a successful Walking Bus organised by Mrs Becky Batten which runs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. They meet at the sub station car park at 8.20am. If you would like to join this group or find out more, please contact either Mrs Davey or Mrs Batten directly on 01404 43846. Mrs Batten has also asked me to remind parents to drive carefully and slowly through the village. Remember also the safety of the parents walking back to the substation. Also a reminder that we operate an one way system whereby in the morning you should enter the village past East Devon Business Park leaving anyway you wish and in the afternoon, enter anyway you wish but turn left on leaving the car park and travel past East Devon Business Park. I'd also like to take this opportunity of giving you a timely reminder about not stopping outside school at the start and end of the day but to park at the Village Hall and walk down. Safety of the children is paramount and our start and end of day procedures have been well thought out with full co-operation with the local police.

Diary Dates

Please see attached for this year's term dates and also notable diary dates for the autumn term.

Uniform

The children are looking very smart with many of them wearing new uniform. **Please name your child's items** so that anything mislaid can be returned promptly.



Music Lessons

Music lessons will recommence next week. Piano is on Monday, violin on Tuesdays, recorder and guitar lessons will remain on Wednesdays.

Clarinet, flute and saxophone lessons will all take place on Thursdays.

Ramsden Lane - Water Works

We have been advised that the Honiton end of the road to the village may well be partially closed due to water works for the early part of next week. If you follow our one way system, this should alleviate any potential congestion.



Emergency Contact Details

Please remember to advise us if your details have changed. Mobile phone numbers are particularly important and 2nd contact details if we are unable to contact you.

BCG

In line with national policy, BCG vaccination for TB has not routinely been given to children in schools since 2005. NHS Devon are now screening young people in reception year, who are at risk of developing or have ongoing risk of exposure to TB infection. This includes any child aged 5-18 years old who has not been vaccinated against TB infection and: Have a parent or grandparent born in a country with a high incidence of TB **OR** Were born or lived for more than 3 months in any country with a high incidence of TB. Please contact The Immunisation Team on **01392 208469/208470** to arrange screening and vaccination.

Parent Helpers

We always welcome parent helpers in school and if you would like to volunteer, please let your child's class teacher know and we will make the necessary police checks if we haven't already. We are holding a meeting for parents who already help and those who are interested in helping on Friday, 16th September from 9.00am to 9.30am. Please do try and join us.

Attendance

It has been a fantastic week as far as attendance is concerned. Every child was in school for the first 4 days - congratulations and what a good start. Let's see if we can keep it up! A reminder that if your child is ill, please contact the office (phone / email) before 9.30am or send a note with a sibling.

House Point Winners

We start the term with Raleigh (blue team) as our weekly house point winners with 76 points with Drake (red team) not too far behind with 69. Well done!

Claire Cowlard
Headteacher

"Well Done" to the following children.

Headteacher's Pupil of the Week Awards: (Certificate and squash & snack with Mrs Cowlard!)

- Foundation: Hattie for her super 'Elmer the Elephant' collage
- Year 1: Becky for being so helpful towards the new reception
- Year 2: William for working so confidently and independently
- Year 3: Paddy for a brilliant first week
- Year 4: Zach for setting an excellent example to the new class members
- Year 5: Louis for excellent reasoning and explanations in numeracy
- Year 6: Charlie B for great independent writing

Term Dates 2011-2012 (all dates inclusive)

- Autumn Term 2011 – 5th September 2011 – 16th December 2011
- Half Term – 24th October 2011 – 28th October 2011
- Spring Term 2012 – 5th January 2012 – 30th March 2012
- Half Term – 13th February 2012 – 17th February 2012
- Summer Term 2012 – 17th April 2012 – 20th July 2012
- Half Term – 4th June 2012 – 8th June 2012
- May Day – 7th May 2012

Non-pupil days - 2nd September 2011, 3rd October 2011, 3rd and 4th January 2012 & 16th April 2012.

Autumn 2011 Diary Dates

15 th September	Parents invited to meet new class and teacher - 2.30pm
16 th September	9-00am-9.30am - Parent helpers meeting
19 th September	Beech Class 1 st swim
3 rd October	Non Pupil Day
6 th October	OSCAR AGM - 7.30pm
7 th October	2pm - Harvest Festival
19 th October	Parents/Carers' Evening
20 th October	Parents/Carers' Evening
21 st October	1pm Sponsored Walk
24 th October - 28 th Oct	Half term
9 th November	Individual & Family photos - 1.15pm
9 th December	10.30am - We're Going on a Bear Hunt - Ash and Willow visit to Northcote Theatre
13 th December	Christmas Concert - Afternoon (2pm) and Evening Performances (6.30pm)
16 th December	Break up for Christmas. End of term assembly (to include presentation of awards) at 1.30pm

Further information regarding all events will be sent when appropriate and other dates will be added and advised when available.

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Alphonse	ICT
Mrs Boland	Works mainly in Beech
Mrs Forbes	Works mainly in Ash & Willow
Mrs Holohan	Works mainly in Ash
Mrs Hurst	Works mainly in Oak
Mrs Jeffries	Works mainly in Ash
Mrs Phillips	Works mainly in Willow & Ash
Mrs Taviner	Works mainly in Oak
Mrs Williams	Works mainly in Ash

Offwell C E Primary School: Tel 01404 831417