

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Families and Friends,

Happy New Year! I do hope that you have all had a wonderful Christmas, full of family, friends and fun. After the darkness of the past few weeks it was such a pleasure, this morning, to wake up to a brighter new day, when you can almost see the days lengthening.

For a few weeks now, we have been able to be a bit more flexible; only leaving the comfort of our beds when we want to. For some of us, it may seem impossible that we should have to listen to the alarm clock again. However, life is about change and balance. To **Be Well**; **Learn Well** and **Live Well**, we need a balanced diet of work, rest and play. I don't know about you, but I will be perfectly happy not to see another mince pie for 11 months!

Many of us will have decided that this year we will resolve to learn a new skill, or improve an old one. Making a New Year's Resolution each year is a good exercise in making changes for the better. Like many, taking more exercise is mine. Even if we don't manage to keep it up, if we make a start, we will have achieved more than if we had never tried.

The three steps below provide an outline that can support us in making changes:

Step 1 **Know** what you want to change and why you need these changes to happen.

Step 2 Think about what will **help** you to make those changes

Step 3 **Plan** your first steps towards ACTION and CHANGE.

So, whatever your New Year's resolution: '*A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step*'. Lao-Tzu.

## One Big Problem:

The measure of human demands on Earth's natural resources is known as our ecological footprint. Currently, we need the equivalent of 1.5 Earths to produce all the renewable resources we choose to use. For how this is calculated, see: <https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/the-human-footprint>

## Lots of Small Solutions:

This can seem insurmountable, but individual actions have created this; we can act to change things for the better. For example, **replace disposable items with reusable/renewable/recycled versions**. This Christmas my Mum discovered bamboo toothbrushes (we all got one!), I was given a sundial made from recycled plastic cups and I bought a jumper (in the sales) made from recycled clothes. If we try to buy with care, responsibly produced goods will become profitable. See: <https://online.unity.edu/ways-to-solve-environmental-problems/> for more details.

Parent information website:

**PINPOINT DEVON:** A one-stop website that signposts parents to a range of sources of help and support. <https://www.pinpointdevon.co.uk/>

This week we welcomed Lexie and her family into Ash Class (nursery) and Hannah, from Germany, who is gaining work experience in Oak Class for a few weeks and teaching our older pupils some German phrases: Danke schön Hannah! Our PGCE students, Mrs Meredith and Miss Fawcett have re-joined us in Beech and Willow classes and will be with us for most of the term.



Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Stars of the Week:

R – Jessica            Yr 1 – Ethan  
Yr 2 – Genevieve  
Yr 3 – Daisie        Yr 4 – Crystal  
Yr 5 – Lilly-May  
Yr 6 – Layla & Henry

## Next Week:

Monday: Sports Club KS2, WASP, ½ Marathon Club  
Tuesday: WASP  
Wednesday: WASP, Reading Club, Booster, Sports Club KS1  
Thursday: WASP,  
Friday: Celebration Collective  
Worship, Choir

## Weekly House Points:

Drake: 49    Raleigh: 41  
Well done Drake

## Collective Worship:

Theme for next week:  
Going for goals

Something to think about from this week:

What are your small goals for this term and what are your longer term goals?

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## Highlight of the Week:

**Ash:** Helping to set up our train station.

**Willow:** Painting our dragons and writing expanded noun phrases about them.

**Beech:** Making sets of false teeth in science!

**Oak:** Exploring the effects of different media in art using Kandinski.

## Wrap Around Care

I am delighted to advise you that we are now able to offer wrap around care from 8am until 6pm from Monday to Friday. We welcome Amber and Oliver's mum, Chloe, who has joined us on a regular basis on Monday and Friday WASP sessions. Thank you to everyone who has returned forms and paid for sessions. A reminder that we ask for at least a week's notice (for staffing purposes) if your child will be attending (especially if staying beyond 5pm). Last minute places cannot be guaranteed.

## Nursery

This week we have opened our doors to nursery children for 5 full days per week and Miss Hansford will be joining Mrs Hunt on the extra days. Please pass our opening times on to anyone in the wider community who may be interested; we still have vacancies on certain days.

## Clubs

| Day       | Lunchtime  | After School  |
|-----------|--|---|
| Monday    | <b>School Council</b> – every 3 weeks<br><b>Half Marathon Club</b> – KS2<br>£15 – see separate information<br>12 noon to 12.30pm | <b>Sports Club</b> – KS2 –<br>3.15pm to 4.15pm<br>£3 per session charge<br>Tag Rugby  |
| Tuesday   | <b>School Council</b> – Every 3 weeks  |   |
| Wednesday | <b>Reading Club</b> – 12.30pm to 1pm - Ash & Willow<br><b>Number Crunchers</b> –<br>12.30pm to 1pm – KS2                         | <b>Sports Club</b> – KS1 & Reception –<br>3.15pm to 4.15pm<br>£3 per session charge<br>Tag Rugby<br><b>Booster</b> – Yr 6<br>3.15pm to 4.30pm |
| Thursday  | <b>E-Team</b> – Every 3 weeks  |   |
| Friday    | <b>Choir</b> – 12 noon to 12.30pm – KS2  |   |

Please let us know if your child would like to take part.

Lorna Legg

'Be healthy in body and strong in spirit and may all go well with you...'

## PE Lessons

Oak, Beech and Willow Classes will predominantly focus on Tag Rugby this ½ term so will need to bring in clothes that can get muddy! They will need track suit bottoms and a warm top. Please note, PE kit needs to be in school every day.

## Burns Night

Offwell will be holding a Burns Supper and Ceilidh on Saturday 25th January 2020 from 6.30 p.m. Come along to see the haggis being piped in, enjoy a traditional three course supper to include haggis, tatties and neeps (vegetarian option available) and join in the fun of a Ceilidh to finish off the night. There will be a bar, raffle and more. Tickets are £20 each and can be ordered from Lynn on 01404 831924 or Dawn on 01404 831719. Proceeds to the Offwell Woodland Centre and the Honiton Admiral Nurse.

## Residential Trip

We have booked this year's residential trip for Oak Class to Wildside Experience; please see separate letter. There will be a parent meeting this half term, to share details and answer questions on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February at 4.30pm (directly after Booster Club).

## Reception Admissions

The window for applying for a reception place for September 2020 is open until 15<sup>th</sup> January. If you have not already applied, please visit

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place> or call 0345 155 1019