

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Families and Friends,

It has been a busy and active week. The Honiton Gymnastics event at Honiton Community College was enjoyed by all of year 3 and 4, plus three new pupils who joined their class on the same day! Welcome to Finley, Finley and Starr! The excellent behaviour of all our children was commented upon once more. We are, therefore, very proud of both their gymnastic abilities and their good character.

This week, Willow class also interviewed me about my experience of rescuing an abandoned Teddy Bear from the top of Fern Lane, on my way in to school on the first day back. Stopping to pick it up off the road, I noticed that we needed both a lower speed limit and school sign, so that children, as well as teddies, are safe from drivers. Willow class have all agreed to help in our efforts to persuade The Highways Agency, by writing convincing letters.

Oak class have been immersed in creating beautiful illuminated letters, linked to their literacy topic: Beowulf, and have impressed both me and their teaching team with their dedication and ability in our Booster classes. They will all feel more confident and be better prepared as a result of the extra tuition they are receiving and I am pleased that, for the second year, the whole group has attended (I'm sure the delicious snacks have nothing to do with it!)



In wider curriculum terms, each teacher is a subject leader and they have been busy planning the next steps for our curriculum, to make sure that we both provide our children with the core skills they need to achieve well academically, and gain valuable experience in each subject. Progression Maps for each subject are being developed and will be shared on our website, over the next term, so that everyone can see the development of skills, knowledge & understanding in each subject.

The increasing knowledge and application of Oak class, as they learn more about the world and themselves; experiences such as the gymnastics event, learning about mountains and how to achieve goals in Beech; the commitment of Willow writers who interviewed me about Fern Lane and their work on weighing in maths; as well as the evident enjoyment of Ash as they explore their world; all demonstrate how important it is to give children relevant and challenging experiences, from which they can grow in knowledge, wisdom and character.

Regarding the move towards a circular economy (see this week's One Big Problem) two parents have approached me, independently of each other, to share their ideas for reducing our waste and helping others:

Mel Sancey has suggested a Christmas jumper swap, where we bring our jumpers in to school and pass them on, to swap them for a different size or pattern. Chloe Fox has suggested that outgrown but still serviceable shoes could be sent on to children needing them, based on a scheme she knows of.

Both ideas basically need us to agree on a week when we bring in our items. The swap can happen straight after school, so parents can have some influence! If you are interested in helping with one of these schemes, please let either parent or Mrs Davey know, so we can get going, preferably before half term (by which time we will all have been very organised and will have recycled all our old shoes and jumpers).



Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Stars of the Week:

Yr 1 – Thomas Yr 2 – Charlotte  
Yr 3 – Finley Yr 4 – Chloe  
Yr 5 – Sophie Yr 6 – Ella

## Next Week:

Monday: Sports Club KS2, Quick Sticks Hockey – Yr 5/6  
Tuesday: WASP, ½ Marathon Club,  
Wednesday: WASP, Sports Club KS1, Number Crunchers, Reading Club, Booster  
Thursday: WASP,  
Friday: Celebration Collective Worship, WASP, Choir

## Weekly House Points:

Drake: 54 Raleigh: 60  
Well done Raleigh

## Collective Worship:

Theme for next week: Valuing others as we would like to be valued.

Something to think about from this week:

What makes you special and unique to everyone else and how can you respect each other's differences?



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## One Big Problem:

The world population is growing and this is affecting the environment. To ensure there's enough food, water and prosperity in 2050, we need to switch from a linear to a circular economy. For a long time, our economy has been 'linear'. This means that raw materials are used to make a product, and after its use any waste (e.g. packaging) is thrown away. In a circular economy, materials are never wasted – they are recycled and reused. For example, waste glass is used to make new glass and waste paper is used to make new paper.

## Lots of small solutions:

Be a recycling champion! Learn what can and cannot be recycled, so we buy fewer non-recyclables, and re-use those we already have <https://online.unity.edu/ways-to-solve-environmental-problems/>:

- Not all plastic and cardboard is acceptable (like pizza boxes for example, due to the grease), but most card can be composted.
- Always cut up plastic rings from packs of tins or bottles, to prevent wildlife from getting caught, before putting into the bin, but look for cardboard packs instead.
- Remember to make sure your bin bags are recycled or biodegradable.

## Highlight of the Week:

**Ash:** Going on a bus ride around the class.

**Willow:** Making flapjack as part of our maths lesson on weighing and measuring.

**Beech:** Taking part in the gym festival in Honiton Community College gym.

**Oak:** Musical rounds playing by ear using glockenspiels.

## Scarlet Fever

We have been informed that a child in Ash Class is off school having contracted Scarlet Fever. This is a bacterial illness that causes a distinctive pink-red rash. The illness often starts off with a sore throat, headache, high temperature and/or vomiting and is highly contagious both before and once the symptoms are present. If you suspect your child may have the illness, please take them to your GP as they will need antibiotics if Scarlet Fever is confirmed.

## Aubrey's Swim!

As part of Aubrey's work for his Civic Award, he swam 5km in the pool at Axminster last Saturday. He is raising money for the RNLI. Visit:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/aubrey-green>

After the swim Aubrey said, 'I completed my 5k swim at the Flamingo Pool! I am very pleased with my time of 2 hours 23 minutes. Thank you all for your kind donations. I'm not sure what my final total is for donations because I have some cash ones still to collect. I'm looking forward to taking them to Exmouth Lifeboat Station to hand them over and see the lifeboat again!'

A massive well done from everyone at Offwell School!



## Mental Health Support

See below for some free events supporting mental health.



Is your child living with mental health issues?

Are you concerned about child mental health?

Would you like to find out more about local services?

Would you like to offer support to others?

Then come along on...

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 1.00pm – 2.00pm

and/or

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 6.30pm – 8.00pm

at...

The Kings Centre, Lees Building, EX14 1DH

[sarah-lou@parent-support-hub.co.uk](mailto:sarah-lou@parent-support-hub.co.uk)



## Ways to improve our mental health, including Mindfulness and other positive approaches.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020

6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre. Honiton Community College

5.45pm arrival with tea, coffee and biscuits for a 6pm start. (Finish 7pm)

Find out more about mindfulness and other strategies and learn how to make it part of your everyday life for greater harmony and happiness for you and the children in your life



A free event suitable for parents, grandparents, guardians, carers – in fact, for everyone over 18 years!

Speaker: Kevin M Hickson. Registered mental health and learning disability nurse. The Beacon Medical Centre, Sidmouth

Further information from Nikki Thomas.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead. 01404 42283 ext 235

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## Beth & Maisie – Hair Cut!

Beth and Maisie, in Beech Class, have decided that they would like to donate their hair to The Little Princess Trust. They have thought hard about doing this and are really keen to help children who experience hair loss. The hairdresser is booked for 21st February! The girls are also trying to fundraise to help the trust with the cost of manufacturing a wig. Visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Julie-Payne18> for more information and to make a donation.



## PE Kit

Please ensure your child has their PE Kit in school and check that it is complete. Several children have been unable to fully take part in activities recently, as they did not have suitable trainers or clothing.

## Parent information website:

**NEW HAPPY MAPS:** A new comprehensive NHS funded resource offers helpful advice for parents, children and young people on a huge range of issues that may be affecting them. Worried about your child's behaviour or mental health and not sure what's normal? Wondering whether to see your GP? Perhaps you've been referred to specialist services but there is a long wait...You've come to the right place! <https://www.happymaps.co.uk/>

## Chinese New Year

As it is the Chinese New Year on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, Devon Norse will be putting on a special menu on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January; Chinese style chicken and rice or vegetarian noodle wrap followed by mandarin jelly and ice-cream. If your child usually has lunch on Tuesday, please let Mrs Davey know if they do not want the chicken and rice.

Lorna Legg

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

