

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,

## Highlight of the Week:

**Ash:** Listening to the hail on the roof of the shelter which fitted in with our theme of senses really well!

**Willow:** Painting purple aliens and having a purple picnic!

**Beech:** Going on a welly walk and making a fire! Also posing for Boudicca portraits and sketching.

**Oak:** Going on our welly walk and making shelters, listening to air raid sirens and getting soaking wet in the hail storm!

I continue to be impressed by the resilience and enthusiasm of the children and staff at Offwell, who have been working hard, but also having so much fun!

Ash Class, our youngest children, have amazed us with their infectious (in the other sense!) enthusiasm for life. It is wonderful to share their excitement as they learn each moment and through every activity. The support you give from home makes such a difference.

Thank you to Willow parents for supporting your children to get to class independently. We have been so impressed by their maturity and organisation skills! Please be reassured: they have come in very sensibly and they are supervised at all stages. If there are any issues, we will let you know and give additional help if needed.

Beech Class continue to discover the many things that the Romans did for us, writing their soliloquys as Roman soldier, as well as learning about the struggles of the Celts. They, like Oak, are off to the woods today and they have also shown a big Offwell welcome to a new pupil member! Welcome to Amelia and her family!

Oak Class – your writing has touched us enormously and shows how well children can respond to challenging issues shared in a sensitive and engaging way. Cornerstones (our new curriculum resource) has immersed Year 5 and 6 in 'A Child's War', which introduces children to the sometimes harrowing subject of World War 2. While the issues are challenging, they remind us that people have always faced conflict and that there are important lessons to learn for facing challenges now and in the future: hatred, prejudice and division should never be allowed to trump love, acceptance and unity.

**Village Hall Car Park** Following an incident on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, where an adult was hurt by a car reversing, please may I ask everyone to be extra careful, both as a driver and as a parent. Thankfully the adult sustained bruising only, but a child in the same position could have been badly hurt.

**Congestion** – I am so sorry for the delays and frustrations you have experienced on getting to and from school. The objective in asking you to use the 'Tip-end' road, is, as you know, to avoid the pedestrians – especially children - who have to wait outside school. I appreciate you taking this route and for taking care and ask for your patience. The other exits should be clear from 9am, so if you can wait, you could then use your normal route home, which could help reduce the congestion.



Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Stars of the Week:

R – Harry                      Yr 1 – Zak  
Yr 2 – Tilly                    Yr 3 – Amelia  
Yr 4 – Finley                 Yr 5 – Hattie  
Yr 6 – Tom

## Next Week:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons  
Tuesday: WASP  
Wednesday: WASP  
Thursday: WASP  
Friday: Celebration Collective  
Worship – 9.10 Google Meet –  
Code - 021020

## Weekly House Points:

Drake: 51    Raleigh: 50  
Well done Drake! – So close again!

## Collective Worship:

Theme for next week:  
Caring for Creation

## COVID reminder:

Please see the attached 'Schools' advice to parents and carers'.

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Where you are bringing both younger and older children, please support your older children to develop their independence, and send them from their gate. **It is important that our class bubbles do not overlap** and we have carefully organised the use of both gates and routes through the school to try to manage this. Therefore, **please keep to your child's class bubble's times in the morning, or bring both at the later time.** Bringing your child too early means you are more likely to cross over with children and parents from other bubbles. We should now only have the parents of Ash class children entering the school gates, unless an arrangement has already been agreed. Here is a reminder of the times:

Class Bubble	Drop Off Time	Entrance/Exit	Pick Up Time
Ash	9.00am	Big Gate	3.15pm
Willow	8.45am	Little Gate	3.00pm
Beech	9.00am	Little Gate	3.15pm
Oak	8.45am	Big Gate	3.00pm

**Thank you** – I would like to send a belated thank you to the villagers who kindly weeded our wellies! Thanks also for the generous donation of compost and the vivid heathers which now grace some of the pots outside our school, giving us some much needed a spot of autumn colour.

**And in other news:** A slew of letters from children concerned about plastic pollution has prompted Lego to pledge to switch to cardboard packaging for its products from 2021. As well as ditching single-use plastic packaging, the brand has committed to finding an alternative material for its iconic building blocks, which are made out of plastic. **The good news** is; if enough of us care enough, we can make the change we need to see: <https://www.positive.news/>

“We have received many letters from children about the environment asking us to remove single-use plastic packaging,” Lego Group chief executive, Niels B Christiansen, [told the BBC](#). “We have been exploring alternatives for some time and the passion and ideas from children inspired us to begin to make the change.”



During lockdown, I received some fantastic photographs for many of you, sharing your learning and I have missed those snapshots of life beyond school. However, Oliver, this week, has shared this wonderful photo (he took himself) of a sparrowhawk. It's beautiful (although I know the sparrows would disagree!).

Lorna Legg

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

## Universal Infant Free School Meals & School Census Day – Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> October

It is school census day next Thursday and our funding for the following year is based largely on what happens on that day. As has been widely reported, all schools are finding it increasingly difficult to balance their budget but there is something small that you can do to help! **We get reimbursed for our infant free school meals for the year based on the number of children who actually have a meal on Thursday. Please could we ask, therefore, that if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 that you try to persuade them to have a school dinner on that day!** At the moment we can only offer packed lunches as the children need to eat in the classroom in their bubbles but they are proving very popular with the children who have been having them. The main option on Thursday is a chicken and tomato baguette and the vegetarian option is a cream cheese and tomato baguette. (I'm sure we could ask for some to be served without tomato)! These baguettes are freshly made before they arrive at Offwell. The desert is an apple and vanilla muffin. We have ordered enough packed lunches for every child in these year groups on Thursday so please let us know by emailing [admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk) if your child will need one.