

Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,

Welcome to Isabella who joined us in Beech class and Toby who we welcomed in Oak Class. We also welcomed Lola, Esme and Hetty into nursery.

Highlight of the Week:

All classes: Returning to school, seeing all our friends and teachers, and welcoming the new children.

By now, hopefully, your children will have shared their highlights from their first week back in school. We have all been so impressed with their enthusiasm and positivity and it is genuinely wonderful to have them all back. With the current safeguards, protections and plans in place, we have been able to return to school with confidence, allowing us all to play our part in securing the safety and education of all our children, for a better future.

Alongside other local Headteachers, I have found that our children are enthusiastic about school, and while many will need focused support to reach Age Related Expectations, they have usually found their time at home a positive experience. It has also been helpful for us, as school leaders, to share each school's adaptations to the latest guidance, as the situation develops.

With this in mind, due to the rise, this week, in Covid cases, I ask you to remember the main message of **'Hands, Face, Space': Wash your hands; wear a mask; try to stay 2m apart.** We provide hand sanitiser for all adults to use on entry and ask visitors over 11 to wear a mask when entering school premises, to protect against proximity on certain parts of our site. Staff will wear face-shields and masks when required, as set out in our risk assessment.

Regarding our central purpose: our children's education, we have set out a Recovery and Renewal Curriculum, based both on our vision and on the work of researchers and professionals, which gives us the opportunity to focus on each child's needs, while offering opportunities for expression through creativity and physical activity. I am sending, separately, the outline which will be developed with staff and governors. In brief, it relates to our vision and ensures we meet children's needs at different levels. Each teacher will share more on your child's needs as we build a clearer picture.

NEWS: As you will know, from Monday 14th, any gatherings must be limited to a maximum of six people (this includes children), inside or outside, aside from school premises, work or organised gatherings, such as weddings. Therefore, please avoid gathering in the Village Hall car Park or on the field.

Phonics: All teachers love learning, so we will be undertaking training to develop this area even further in Key Stage 1. You can play a vital role in supporting your child, using the same approach. Please take a look at this FREE resource. Online training in how to help your child with phonics:

<https://www.udemy.com/course/help-your-child-to-read-and-write/>



Friday, 11th September 2020

Stars of the Week:

R – All reception Yr 1 – Poppy
Yr 2 – Cohen Yr 3 – Eric
Yr 4 – Isabella Yr 5 & Yr 6 – All Oak

Next Week:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons
Tuesday: WASP
Wednesday: WASP
Thursday: WASP
Friday: Celebration Collective
Worship – 9.10 Google Classroom

Collective Worship:

Theme for next week:
Giving sacrificially

This week the theme was:
Loving others as we love ourselves

Breakfast club is held in Beech and After School Club in Willow
– please book two weeks in advance. We need to organise these groups carefully, to reduce contact between children in different bubbles.

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Please take a look at the **Every Mind Matters** campaign which contains some useful [advice for both parents and young people](#) on looking after their mental health.

Last term, a parent kindly shared a collaboration between Exeter Cathedral, The University of Exeter and a print workshop, Double Elephant, which called for contributions for an online animation. It sheds light on a thousand year-old riddle. The language and images are wonderful. The interactive riddle is now live on Double Elephant's website!

<https://www.doubleelephant.org.uk/riddle-57>

The Diocese of Exeter, which leads the family of church schools in Devon, has shared the following wise and supportive words: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

They have also shared a 'Back to School' Collective Worship:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFF81ukjPxU&feature=youtu.be>

You can see our own Celebration Assembly and Collective Worship on **Google Classroom** (The Offwell School page). We will continue to develop our online learning platform and have found it increasingly useful for communication between home and school. Teachers (starting in Key Stage 2) will start to share homework via their class page, so **please let us know if you cannot access this useful learning tool**.

ParentPay

You should have received a paper copy of a letter containing log on details for Parentpay. You can use this to pay for dinner money and WASP and other items will get added in due course. If you have any problems paying in this way, please do let Mrs Davey aware.

School Meals

Our school meals are now produced at Littletown School by Fresha Foods and brought up to Offwell on a daily basis. Presently these are packed lunches as the children need to eat the meals in their classrooms within their class bubbles. So far the packed lunches have proved popular. These are free for children in reception, year 1 and year 2 and for those eligible to receive benefit related free school meals. For others, there is a cost of £2.50 per day. A 2 week rolling menu is attached electronically and you can choose either the main meal or vegetarian option and there is a choice of deserts. It will be week 1 next week. Please email admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk if you would like your child to try the packed lunches. They need to be ordered at least one day in advance.

Lorna Legg

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

Travelling to and from school –

Thank you to all our parents who have driven considerately, using the Recycling Centre end access to the car park to enter the village. If you are able to wait until 9am, then please feel free to drive back through the village carefully, as children should then be in school. This should help reduce any congestion. However, I will ask parents to let me know of any inconsiderate drivers, as children's safety has to be our first concern.

Flu Immunisations

If your child is due to be in Reception to Year 6 from September 2020 they are therefore eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

Our vaccines are planned for December and this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net