

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: Learning how to draw and build houses

Willow: Making funny faces! Also, the children learnt about the NSPCC Pantosaurus and the PANTS rule.

Beech: Making helmets and watching Rotten Romans.

Oak: Impressionist paintings in the woods during our welly walk. Also, our VE Day party.

This last newsletter of our first half term is crammed full of information, so please read carefully! Before all else, I want to give thanks: for getting to half term – which has taken even more energy, creativity, care and patience than usual – and to you all, for supporting us, bearing with us, following the ever-changing rules and for trusting us to take care of your children.

Thank you to all our children, who have adjusted so well to the changes we have needed to put in place; often surprising us with their calm, good humour and positivity. Gradually, we are developing ways to adapt each activity. Our School Councillors will be holding class meetings next half term, using their own School Council Google Classroom page to share their ideas, with a focus on improving our school environment. Our House Captains will be considering how to update our House system, as well as planting our Offwell wellies with pansies, with Mrs Holohan's help. Therefore, we should have a colourful display to cheer us up on our return.

Thank you to all the staff, who have been unstinting in their focus on our children; helping them to be well; learn well and live well. They and the children deserve a good rest, so we can return and continue with our Recovery and Renewal plan in our new half term, but to maintain the gains many children have already made, we have provided your child with some support (see Our **Online Learning** offer) for the half term, which we hope you will find relatively stress free and helpful.

Thanks too, to the PTFA, who have been busy behind the scenes, coming up with new and creative ways to raise funds for our very special school. I send special thanks to Marina Hodder, who has been a part of the school in so many ways, since Ben was ten months old! I am very grateful to her for taking on the role of Secretary, and to Tracy Potter, who has agreed to become the new Chair!

Offwell PTFA is now registered as a good cause on easyfunding! From now on, if you go through this website when you shop, we will receive donations from each retailer you use **and it won't cost you any extra!** So please, follow this link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>, and set up your account to use Ebay, Amazon, Boots, John Lewis, M&S, Argos, as well as niche brands like Notonthehighstreet and Green People. In all, you can shop and search over 4000 stores providing goods such as food, fashion, cosmetics, gifts, electrical goods, household items and services such as insurance, while doing us good!



Friday, 23rd October 2020

Stars of the Week:

R – Toby Yr 1 – Oliver T
Yr 2 – Rowan Yr 3 – Tamara
Yr 4 – Robin Yr 5 – Jamie
Yr 6 – Crystal

Week beginning 2nd November:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons

Tuesday: WASP

Wednesday: WASP

Thursday: WASP

Friday: Individual Photos

2.30pm - Celebration Collective

Worship – 9.10 Google Meet

Login to Google with your child's login details and then select

'Meet' (not 'Classroom'). The code is a 6 figure date eg today's

was 161020. The Powerpoint for the assembly is always put on the main Google Classroom with links to videos, etc

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 44 Raleigh: 58

Well done Raleigh. This makes Drake the winners for this half term with 359 with Raleigh very close behind with 356!

Drake will be rewarded with a non-uniform day after half term on Friday, 13th November

Collective Worship (week beginning 2nd November):

Compassion – Noticing Need

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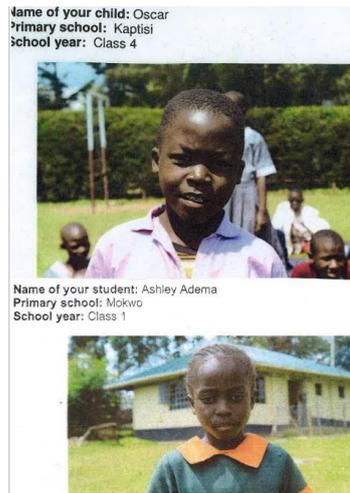
Our Online Learning Offer

You will already be familiar with **Tapestry** (EYFS and KS1) and now with **Google Classroom** (KS1 and 2). Please go into our whole school Offwell Classroom page to find our weekly **Collective Celebration and Worship**. Feel free to scroll back through the past five months of content, if you would like to.

We are also trialling **Lexia Core 5** until the week after half term. This will allow your child to continue with the daily practice they have started in school, which has already helped with phonics, spelling, reading comprehension and fluency at every level. Please, do not help your child – the program adjusts to teach any errors – but do take a look over their shoulder and let us know what you think.

URAFIKI – Harvest

Whilst learning about harvest in collective worship, we thought about the needs of the people in Yala, Kenya; Oscar and Ashley, who continue to need our support. Through the orphans and vulnerable scheme, we are committed to providing them with school costs, food and healthcare. Education is key to their future (as for us all), but if they don't pay the fees, they will be sent home. Through the scheme they are given enough food to fend off starvation. During the Pandemic this, and healthcare, has been even more important than ever.



We know times are hard for many but every penny counts. The cost to sponsor a child on the scheme is £10 a month (which we pay in one lump sum). **100% of whatever is raised will go to the team in Kenya. Nothing is deducted.** Next term, we will be sharing some ideas, linked to Harvest, for how we can continue to support them.

Mr Thomas



PTFA

Silent Auction

We are holding our silent auction between midday on Saturday 24th October until midday on Sunday 1st November. We have some amazing things available so please have a look at the lots (see attachment to the email) and email your bids to offwellptfasilentauktion@gmail.com
All money will go to the PTFA for our children.
Many thanks, Offwell PTFA

Parents' Evening

You will receive an email with this newsletter containing details of this term's parents' evenings which will be a little different to usual. The meetings will be remote mainly using the Zoom platform. Each class teacher will be available for two different slots. Please let us know which slot you would like and we will issue appointment times after half term. If you are unable to meet using Zoom, the teacher will arrange to phone you. We will not be trying to tie in with sibling meetings; although we will avoid giving you the same appointment times for them!

Willow Funny Faces

1. Self-portraits using normal pencils.



2. Funny faces created by using collage.



3. Using different materials to create collage funny faces.



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Individual and Sibling Photos

A photo session will take place on Friday, 6th November and all children will have their photo taken as an individual and with their sibling groups. Unfortunately, the photographer has advised us that they will be unable to take photos of younger (or older) siblings on this occasion. **Celebration Collective Worship** will therefore take place at **2.30pm** on that day.

Bonfire Night Safety

As public events are not allowed this year for bonfire and fireworks, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue has produced a Power Point about Bonfire Night Safety. This will be on the main Google Classroom. An advice sheet is being sent with this newsletter so please do take the time to have a look if you are planning on doing your own or attending a neighbour's or friend's.

Year 6 Admissions

A reminder that all year 6 families have until the 31st October to submit their application for secondary school and they can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

Lexia Core 5 Reading

We are taking part in a trial for Lexia at the moment and the children (not nursery) have been using the programme over the last couple of weeks. We are sending home a paper copy advising you how this can be accessed from home (we will send home a scanned copy by email for those children not in school today). The letter gives detailed instructions of how to access the site. Our experience tells us that if using an iPad, you need an IOS version of over 10 or you won't be able to access it on that device! Please encourage your child to 'have a go' during the half term break.

Scomis Online Safety Newsletter

Please see the latest Online Safety Newsletter being sent home as an attachment with this newsletter.

Covid -19

If your child, or a member of their household, shows symptoms of Covid-19 meaning they have a test, please could you advise us by email of the fact that they/you have been tested and the results of the test when received; regardless of whether positive or negative. Please email admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk

Finally, having said that, we wish you and your families a very happy and healthy half term break. We return on Monday, 2nd November

Lorna Legg

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

Honiton Swimming Pool has reopened with limited sessions available but during half term Monday 26th - Friday 30th October will be offering 'Family Swim' sessions throughout the day. Sessions need to be pre-booked and they are operating a 'Beach Ready' policy as the changing rooms are currently unavailable whilst awaiting refurbishment. There are limited numbers in each session due to covid guidance, and you will need to call 01404 42325 to make your booking.

They are also offering a new membership called the 'Family Bolt On' which would be perfect for those looking to swim more regularly. See below information.

Family Bolt On is available for existing or new members taking out either a loyalty or non-contract membership with a direct debit or any annual membership. Customers can add it to their membership on behalf of a child aged 3-15. The bolt on has been designed to help fill the gap, when children leave the 'Learn To' swim programme, but still wish to regularly participate in activities such as casual swimming, fun splash, squash, table tennis etc. It's a great time to take up this membership now that we have opened the pool and are offering family swims. Children who come every weekend at £3 per swim = £12 per month would definitely benefit, and teen gym £4.40x 4 £17.60 so at £10 a month a lot better value.

The cost of the product is as follows:

Age 3-10 (and 364 days) = £7.50 per month add-on

Age 11-15 (and 364 days) = £10.00 per month add-on

N.B. There will be no discounts to the above pricing