

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 the story "Peace at Last" by Jill Murphy and acting being all the different nocturnal animals.

Willow: Taking part in our active leap sessions enjoying the outdoors and designing our own routines.

Beech: Designing and making magnetic board games.

Oak: Creating cell phone conversations between Darwin's children writing when their father returned from a trip.

It has been anti-bullying week – all week. You know what I'm going to say though...there is never a time when bullying is acceptable! However, setting aside a week (at any time), gives us the opportunity to think about bullying - why and how it happens – so that we can make sure fewer and fewer children ever have to face the looks, whispers and cruel words or actions of a bully.

Newsround have looked at an interesting aspect: How does someone become a bully? It is important to consider this, since we all want to stamp it out for good. It can be the case that those who victimise others have been victims themselves in the past. This is not to excuse, only to understand how important our help is in stopping this cycle.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/54964969>

The theme for anti-bullying week 2020 is 'United Against Bullying':

"This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge."

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/anti-bullying-week-2020-united-against-bullying>

Again, this is another vital aspect in stopping the cycle of any abuse: do not be a bystander. Find the strength to stand up for anyone being called names, pushed around, or picked on for any reason. We are all different, but all human, which is how we know what it feels like to be ignored, or hurt in any way. Be proud of your differences and help others to take pride in theirs.

Our teaching staff have been incredibly positive, working through two Lockdowns, while continuing to create thoughtful, exciting and motivating lessons. Again, what we miss most is communication, so it was great that so many of you were able to take part in our online Parent Meetings. I know there was a lot of positive feedback and appreciation of what we are doing, so thank you. We also appreciate all you do and have done to continue learning at home. Reading to your child, or at least showing an interest in what they are reading, is the most important thing. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please do get in touch.



For young people with SEND – as suggested by the Educational Psychology team - lots of fun can be found on the Space website - www.spacepsm.org



Friday, 20th November 2020

Stars of the Week:

R – Lewis Yr 1 – Zak
Yr 2 – Tilly P Yr 3 – Fiona
Yr 4 – Finley Yr 5 – Noah
Yr 6 – Freya

Next Week:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons
Tuesday: WASP
Wednesday: WASP
Thursday: WASP
Friday: 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 201120. The Powerpoint for the assembly is always put on the main Google Classroom with links to videos, etc
Non-uniform day for Urafiki

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 67 Raleigh: 50
Well done Drake

Collective Worship:

Theme for next week:
Having the courage to care.

Offwell C of E Primary School

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



School Communities programme has launched

Here's how it works:

1. Headteacher's sign up and provide basic information about their school and pupil Bubbles
2. Parents and carers can log in or download the COVID Symptom Study app to add themselves and their child/children as profiles. The new profiles will then be linked to the secure school network and Bubble
3. We aggregate anonymous data and share the insights with school leadership teams and parents on a daily basis

Covid Tracking App

To provide reassurance to parents at this crucial time, track the spread of the virus and better understand how COVID-19 affects children, ZOE has launched [a new School Community feature through the COVID Symptom Study App](#).

This allows parents and carers to log how their child/children are feeling to a secure school community network, so schools can receive daily insights into the health of their students and make data-driven decisions to keep pupils and staff safe.

We are signed up as a school (see information sheet being emailed). You have a choice as to whether you take part or not. Anonymity is ensured.

Updated guidance for parents and carers

The Government has updated their guidance for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This update provides information on the national restrictions that came into force on 5 November, the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people and advice on the use of face coverings in education settings.

In line with my advice last week, the guidance states: **Most people, including children, have been spending more time online, whether that is in the classroom or at home. See the [support for parents and carers to keep children and young people safe from online harm](#). It suggests resources to help keep children and young people safe from different risks online and where to go for support and advice. [Support to stay safe online](#) includes information on security and privacy settings.**

The guidance also states: **It remains important that we also continue to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus due to increased mixing between different groups of children.** Therefore, I need to remind you that groups of children or adults from different households are not allowed currently, to spend time together, which includes meeting at the playing field. We take great care to ensure that groups of children do not cross between bubbles, given the range of additional contacts this enables, so I ask you to ensure that this is not undermined by activity outside school, for the protection of the whole community.

PGCE Student

Our first trainee teacher, since the first Lockdown, will be starting in Beech Class, on Monday 30th November, for a brief initial visit. Trainee teachers bring new ideas and enthusiasm for learning and can offer much needed extra support to any class. However, to reassure you, there is clear guidance about accommodating trainees safely during Covid-19. Additional information and measures have been put in place and are set out, below:

- **Trainees will be taught online for 2 weeks before their placement** - The University has taken the decision to stop face to face tuition and move all teaching online for the 2 weeks before their placement.
- **Our trainee will comply with the current lockdown rules** in exactly the same way that schools are expecting their own staff to, so that school working environments are as safe as possible.
- **In class, as for all staff, our trainee teacher will have a set space**, 2 metres from the nearest child and will use appropriate PPE if closer than that.
- **PGCE trainees are classed as Critical Workers** - and are not classed as visitors to a school.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-initial-teacher-training-itt/coronavirus-covid-19-initial-teacher-training-itt>

Offwell C of E Primary School



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

Primary Admissions

If your child is due to start reception in September 2021 you need to apply for a place on the Devon County Council website.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>

Applications are now open and close on 15th January 2021. If you are unable to apply online, you will need to phone 03451551019

Doodlemaths.com

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we have registered for a free trial of Doodlemaths which lasts until 30th November. Your child has been given login details and they have been trying it out in class. It would be good if your child could also use it at home during this period. If, after asking your child, you are unsure of logins please contact us.

Influenza Immunisations

Several of you have been asking when these are taking place and they are scheduled for Thursday, 3rd December. You need to 'opt in' if you would like your child to have one so if you haven't signed up already, you will need to do so as a matter of urgency. Use the link:

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

Urafiki Non-Uniform Day – Friday, 27th November

We have planned a non-uniform day to raise money to help our two children, Oscar and Ashley, during their time at school. A suggested donation of £1 should be sent in with your child on Friday.

Lorna Legg

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