

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 of the Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle and making firefly models.

Willow: Year 2 has enjoyed working with money and Year 1 has enjoyed learning to use base 10 equipment.

Beech: Searching the school for magnetic objects.

Oak: Writing journal entries as assistants to Darwin on his journey through a very dramatic storm. Also, we really enjoyed balloon badminton.

I hope you have been able to join us on Google Meet, to share in our weekly Celebration Assembly and Collective Worship, when your child's achievements have been celebrated. If not, and you would like to know more, you can access each week's whole school Celebrations via the resources on our Offwell whole school page, via Google Classroom.

It has been wonderful, each week, to be able to see everyone at once, and I hope that those who have joined us have enjoyed it too. I have been so impressed and often delighted, with the children's attitudes to school and learning, overall this term. Almost all our children have been positive and actively engaged and we hope that they will feel proud of the progress they have made when they look back over the term's work.

Looking back to earlier this year, we had been planning to plant our own Offwell School plantation, in an area of Offwell Woods, which was cleared last year. This would have been a shared project with the Offwell Woods Trust, The Forestry Commission, and we hoped, as many of you who could come to help. It is a reminder of things we have lost, but also a metaphor for hope, because one day we *will* plant our trees together, which will grow into a new woodland for future pupils of Offwell to enjoy.



Today and Sunday's crisp, clear, winter sun is the perfect weather to get out and get grubby in the garden, as part of National Tree Week, because this is the ideal time to plant a new tree, ready to get growing in the Spring. For the past 45 years, The Tree Council has used National Tree Week to get us planting millions of trees. While we cannot get together, they have

posted some free online tree-related activities:

<https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/seasonal-campaigns/national-tree-week/join-our-free-national-tree-week-arts-culture-events/>

There are also activities for families on The Woodland trust site:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>



Friday, 27th November 2020

Stars of the Week:

R – Ella Yr 1 – Poppy
Yr 2 – Thomas Yr 3 – Amelia
Yr 4 – Amber Yr 5 – Lucas
Yr 6 – Jamie

Next Week:

Monday: WASP, Music lessons

Tuesday: WASP

Wednesday: WASP

Thursday: WASP, Flu immunisation

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 271120. The Powerpoint for

the assembly is always put on the

main Google Classroom with links

to videos, etc

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 64 Raleigh: 81

Well done Raleigh

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Updated guidance for parents and carers

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/>

Until 2nd December:

- Only leave home for food, medical reasons, exercise, education or work
- You must work from home if you can
- Avoid travel unless essential
- Schools and essential shops will remain open
- Remember: wash hands, cover face, make space

From Wednesday 2nd December, Devon will be in tier 2 (high alert) subject to parliamentary approval. This will be reviewed on 16th December.

In line with my advice last week and the week before, **I ask that you inform yourselves of your child's online activity.** The internet can be a wonderful thing and National guidance acknowledges that most people, including children, have been spending more time online, for obvious reasons. There is [support for parents and carers to keep children and young people safe from online harm](#). With resources to help keep children and young people safe from different risks plus support and advice. [Support to stay safe online](#) includes information on security and privacy settings. **It is as important to ensure your child's safety online, as it is to ensure their safety anywhere else.**

The guidance, as shared last week, 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, please do not allow your child to play with others beyond your household bubble.** This has caused additional issues in school and undermines our efforts to protect the whole community.

Advent – Collective Worship

We are starting week 1 of Advent next week in Collective Worship and we are using resources on the Archbishop of York Youth Trust Sacred Spaces at Advent website - www.archbishopofyorkyouthtrust.co.uk You may wish to look at the three printable cards for week 1 (copied below and accessed from the link below).

https://uploads-ssl.webflow.com/5cd1652057508fe3247d0dc8/5fa168d405783ef0980b8f31_Printable%20Cards.pdf

You may also wish to view Archbishop Stephen's reflections video for Week 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9N7C9BEDw8A>



Christmas Tree Thanks

Christmas is a time to reflect on the past year. Sit in front of your Christmas tree and think back over the last year. Choose 3 things that you are thankful for. Write them down and hide them in the branches of the tree. You might want to say a prayer to say 'thanks' to God.



Cardboard home

Think for a moment about your home. What do you like about it? Put some large cardboard boxes on their side and crawl inside. Imagine you were homeless and this was your home. Write or draw your hopes or prayers onto the box for people who have no homes.



Be the light

Put a candle or battery tea light on a windowsill (with an adult's help). When times are difficult, we often need someone to help us. Who do you know that needs encouragement today? Ask an adult to light the candle and then you could say a prayer for that person.

Hot School Meals

The children who have had hot school dinners this week really seem to have enjoyed them. Please note that it is very important that you let us know in advance when and what your child would like for lunch. The meals are prepared and cooked at Littleton Primary School and they need to order supplies the week before and begin to cook for the numbers we have ordered right at the start of the school day. Ideally, it would be good to have a list for the 3 weeks of the menu but notification during the previous week is fine. It is difficult to add to our numbers on the actual day. Please don't rely on Mrs Davey picking up that you have paid on Parentpay for a particular day – you need to tell her as well!

Doodlemaths Trial

As you know we have been trialling Doodlemaths throughout school for the last few weeks. This trial ends on Monday and we have decided that we will not be continuing with it as it does not provide us with the level of support we require. We will now be looking at other online maths resources to find something more suitable and we look forward to sharing them with you and your children in due course.

And in other news...

Ever heard of The Dalmation PELICAN, or re-birding? One of the planet's largest birds could be poised for a UK comeback...Click here!

<https://www.positive.news/>

Lorna Legg

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