

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



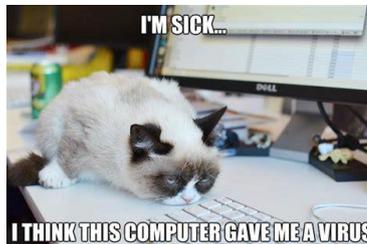
Dear Families and Friends,

Happy Friday, everyone! Congratulations on another week of learning: whether here, or at home, from books or online; from practical experience, or just by looking or listening carefully to everything around you, you will have learnt *something* new this week; I know I have (I always do, in this job!)

Thank you so much for your responses to the survey on our online learning. Your comments were genuinely positive and helpful and we really appreciate your time and all the effort you are putting in each day, alongside us. We have tried to schedule our regular class Meet ups with empathy for the fact that you all have different challenges, but we know there are bound to be some clashes with work for parents, or scheduled lessons for other siblings.

With your cooperation, we will try to strike a balance between: the need to limit any negative impact from this second, extended period out of school, by giving your child access to the best possible remote learning and checking on wellbeing; with the need to allow each family the chance to establish a sensible working routine, which allows your family to function effectively, keep calm and carry on, over the coming weeks.

Therefore, do not be surprised if we call you, if we do not hear from you, or see your child on screen, or your child isn't submitting their work regularly, because we need and want to help you iron out any technical wrinkles or barriers to your child learning and check that all is well. It also makes life just that bit harder for teachers, who are doing their very best, if they have to keep marking lots of different bits of work at different times, as well as manage those in class. However, we do understand that there will sometimes be good reasons why you cannot do all the work set on a particular day: if you have found yourself completely caught up in an amazing book and forgotten the time, or when Mum has a two-hour Zoom meeting, for example, or the cat has been sick on your keyboard (sorry, you can't use that excuse now!).



All we ask is that you tell us if there are issues; that your child shows up on at least their morning daily Meet up; and that you encourage/nag them to get their work done as soon as possible during the day. Those twice daily meetings are a golden opportunity for each child to catch up with their teachers, teaching assistants, and class mates, where we can find out about your exciting new facts and skills, answer any questions, and see each other, which we know makes returning so much easier when we do, (because we will).

Please remember our school now has a separate fund for a certain number of work stations, to encourage a more focussed approach to learning thanks to a very generous donor. We have the possibility of up to 12 desks. Ikea have a children's desk, Micke, 73 x 50cm, with a drawer for pens and paper and space for hiding away computer cables, for £40. Ikea flat-packs have very clear instructions and are very easy to construct (other home office suppliers are available!). Anyone who wants to take up this offer should contact [admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk). Hurry, as home office equipment is suddenly very popular, and this offer cannot last!



22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021



## Woodland Trail Competition

Wilfred won the PTFA woodland trail competition and will be receiving his prize next week. Thank you to everyone who entered.

## Lockdown the Third Zoom Quiz Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 6.50pm for 7pm start

Where: Zoom How: Pay £5 donation per team  
Get your thinking caps on, grab the family, get the snacks and be ready for a fun evening of quizzing helping to raise valuable funds for the Children of Offwell School. Parents -please pay via Parent Pay (plus transaction fee of 30p). Non parents -please email

[offwellptaquiznight@gmail.com](mailto:offwellptaquiznight@gmail.com) for payment details (via BACS). Once you have paid please email for joining instructions.

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Resources to help you to:

## Be Well:

**NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000** With schools closed and children spending more time at home, an adult might have spotted something that's worrying them, or a child may have worries they need to share. Whatever you're worried about, contact the NSPCC helpline - **Monday to Friday 9am – 6pm or 9am – 5pm at the weekends** - or email them at any time. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> It's free and you don't have to say who you are.

(You can also find the number on Google Classroom)

**NHS website** <https://www.dpt.nhs.uk/resources> This incredibly useful **site** gives links to leaflets on just about every aspect of health. Well worth a look, although beware if you have psychosomatic tendencies!

## Learn Well:

**Two training opportunities for parents and carers** who want to know how to support their child's needs:



New Solihull Approach course for parents with children with additional needs – register [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

AET – Autism Education Trust training opportunity – Booking enquiries: [Tina.Turner@babcockinternational.com](mailto:Tina.Turner@babcockinternational.com), Module content enquiries: [Paul.Lamanna@babcockinternational.com](mailto:Paul.Lamanna@babcockinternational.com)

**Part of the Puzzle** aims to show that we are all part of the same jigsaw. You can fill the puzzle piece with words, drawings or colours that represent you (at home or at school). This is to symbolise that we all have a part to play during this difficult time and we are all part of the big picture. When you have completed your piece take a photo of it and email to [help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk), share it on Google Classroom, or display it in your window and see who else has shared their part of the puzzle in theirs! To be part of the online gallery (available to view on Picture News Facebook and Twitter) please email photos by Friday 5th February, **but ask your parent's permission first!** The template, jigsaw piece and instructions are on Google Classroom and a video here: <https://vimeo.com/499634422>.

## Live Well:

### The Devon County



### Your voice counts

Parents Childcare Survey 2021

**Council Parents Childcare Survey** is now live for this term: Calling all parents living or working in Devon. We need your help! Whether you use childcare or not, your voice counts. The answers you give in this short survey will help the early years and childcare team in Devon County Council to plan and make sure that there is enough childcare for you to be able to work or access training:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ParentsChildcareSurvey2021/a>

Lorna Legg

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