

Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Parents and Friends,

5th March 2021

Firstly, a huge welcome to Joseph and his family. Joseph has joined Reception in Ash Class.

Before everyone comes back and we return to some sort of normal routine, I'd like to say a massive **thank you** to all of you who have been so kind to us, over this further period of change. We know that you will also have been going through your own upheaval, so for you to consider our challenges is really kind. So, thank you for the emails, flowers, chocolates, biscuits, comments and cards. Your support has helped enormously ☺

In addition, well done to our parents, carers and children, who have invested so much time over the past months, keeping safe, happy and on track with learning, as far as possible. We know how challenging this must have been, especially for parents and carers with your own working lives, whether online or at the front-line. We are glad to have supported you. To our Critical Worker families, we all send you our special thanks, for keeping going through the last year (and counting).

While most children (families and staff) will be glad to return to a more normal routine, we are aware that next week will be another change for everyone, so none of us should be surprised if those who usually cope might be a bit more tired than usual, and even those who have been in school throughout could find many more children a challenge at first. We are thinking ahead and will check on **wellbeing** during the day, to gradually ease back into the structure of the school week. Parents' Evenings will be held after Easter this year, to give time to evaluate our next steps and see some impact, but let's keep in touch over the next few weeks, so we can swap notes on how your child is adjusting. **It is important though, to remind everyone that we are not yet able to go back to Pre-Covid normal**, until all groups (including school staff!) are vaccinated. Please minimise any crossing over between families, to prevent the spread seen when schools opened in September. Thank you all for respecting this. So, until further notice, please:

- **One parent / Carer only**, on drop off and collection at school gate.
- **Maintain 2 m distance between your family group and any other families at the school gate and beyond.** Please do not allow children from different family groups to play together at the field. You should not share lifts with anyone outside your bubble for this reason.
- **Wear a mask** if coming onto school premises, or whenever it is impossible to maintain 2m distance, for your protection, and for the protection of others.
- **Staggered drop off and collection times** will continue, to promote safe distancing. Parking is at the village hall only and please avoid driving past school when children may be at risk.

There is a reminder of **Drop Off and Pick Up times for next week** in a separate document you can stick on your fridge. There are a few changes: because most families have siblings in different classes, we have reduced the wait to **10 minutes** to avoid the complication of separate arrangements. We thank you for your patience and ask that social distancing of adults and children is maintained for this short time.



Children: when you come in, from Monday, every morning we will help you to recall and develop your core skills in reading, writing and mathematics. You will have learnt many things over the past two months, whether you were in school or not, so please share your new knowledge and skills with your teacher, who will want to know what you can do now that you couldn't before, but also will want to help you with what you know you need to learn next. We will leave any assessment until week two, to give everyone a chance to settle back in to their routine.



We will also take every opportunity to get out in our school grounds and you will notice that we have already started to tidy and beautify the areas around each class. You can join in to tidy your area, by joining in the **Great British Spring Clean**:

<https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean>

