

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: Looking at roots and seeds whilst gardening.

Willow: Making words during PE whilst doing spelling at the same time!

Beech: Exploring a new route on our welly walks in the woods.

Oak: Serious mature topics dealt with in a serious mature way.



Parents' Evenings have been taking place virtually this week, which have worked well, but we look forward to when we can welcome you all back into school. Working as partners in your child's education is fundamental to your child's success; we can have so much more impact when a child is ready to learn and gets regular support. For how you can support your child if listening, communication, friendships or literacy are an issue, please see the information in our **Be Well** section this week.

I really hope that you have found the meetings useful, alongside the information shared regarding the progress of our older pupils. If you were unable to meet virtually, your child's class teacher will be in touch. If you would like to contact me to discuss any of your child's needs, please get in touch to arrange a call (admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk).

It was great to see parents joining our Friday Celebration and I am sure you have found opportunities to give your child some praise for their attitude or work after this very challenging time. It is so important that we notice and name what each child does well - whether that is reading, writing, maths, music, art, sport or helping others - so they feel motivated to learn new things. I would also like to thank you again for the hard work you have put into helping your child in so many ways over the past year.

Families are where we all begin to learn and May the 15th is the 'International Day of Families', honouring the importance of families as the foundations of society. The Library Service is celebrating this with a collection of titles which explore a range of family circumstances, to aid understanding and to encourage empathy for others. More details next week.

If you love reading, you will love The Five Bells (brilliant) Little Library! Take a look, maybe borrow a book and enjoy (I have ☺). Many thanks to The Royle Family, for sharing their love of beautiful books and reading. NB: They *might* appreciate the odd, wonderful book on loan, in exchange for one you've borrowed, but space is definitely limited, so please take any unwanted books to your nearest charity shop.

Congratulations to Mrs Davey and any other runners last Saturday. The annual **62 mile** challenge, which takes place over 24 hours, must have been gruelling, but what an achievement! Mrs Davey actually covered 65 miles, she was so keen! It goes to show what can happen when you just keep putting one foot in front of the other...



Friday, 7th May 2021

Stars of the Week:

R – Harry Yr 1 – Wilfred
Yr 2 – Matilda Yr 3 – Toby
Yr 4 – Will Yr 5 – Abigail M
Yr 6 – Jessica

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 36 Raleigh: 31
Well done Drake!

Parent Governor

Last week you should have received a letter giving you information about an upcoming Parent Governor vacancy on our Governing Board. A nomination form was also attached. If you are interested, please complete the form and return it to us. If you would like further information, please get in touch with Mrs Davey in the office or Ian Wallace, our Chair of Governors, on ian.charles.wallace@gmail.com
The closing date for nominations is next Friday, 14th May at 12 noon.



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Here are some resources to help you and your child to Be Well:

Have you noticed your child having extra difficulty with behaviour; listening, attention, communication, friendships, literacy?

Help is at hand! The Communication and Interaction Team (C&I) and The Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team (SEMH) are offering a **free, informal workshop for parents and carers** to consider the links between behaviour and speech, language and communication needs. This event will be held virtually on **Tuesday 15th June 2021, 10am – 12pm**. To book your free place, please contact: Sue Vanstone (01392)287355
sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com

Learn Well:

Mathletics: As you may have seen in last week's newsletter, we have signed up for Mathletics: an online maths platform. Children have already started using the tool in class to access engaging and rewarding maths activities. A letter will be sent separately, to help you understand what it is and how it will work for your child.

Lexia: This program can have a really positive impact on reading and spelling, if it used at home, as well as in school. We are really seeing some children making gains and we can see from our online reports how well (or not) Lexia is used at home, but most tellingly, we can see from each child's growing ability in their work and their confidence. Ten minutes a day will make a difference; twenty will make an amazing difference! If you cannot access it, PLEASE tell us and we will support you – we know how annoying technology can be!

Relationships and Sex Education will take place across the school next half term, as appropriate to each age and stage. Relationships and physical development are an essential part of everyone's journey towards adulthood. We all know the changes and challenges our children will face, and it is important for them to understand the normal stages of development, in order to feel good about themselves and to grow in confidence. There will be a letter and parent meeting arranged, to provide information and give you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.



Lorna Legg

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

Live Well:

Plastic-Free Schools –



As the generation who will have to live with the consequences of climate breakdown and ecological disaster, young people have led the way in climate action and protests.

Our Ocean and Climate

Emergency Petition provides a platform for young people to call on the UK government to tackle the ocean and climate crisis. So far, almost 27,000 people have signed the petition, including over 12,500 school pupils!

<https://www.sas.org.uk/ocean-and-climate-petition/>

REMINDER: **Join the Million Mile Clean!** Plastic Free Schools are inspiring 100,000 volunteers to carry out 10 miles of cleaning. You can sign up and clean a bit of beach near you.

<https://plasticfreeschools.org.uk/>