

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: Helping to fill our brand new bug hotel. Thank you to Lewis' Dad for making it for us!



Willow: We started a science investigation to see what sunflowers need to grow. We also started a discovery on rainforests and had a snap shot look at ferns and in music we enjoyed trying to say supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Beech: Writing our newspaper reports about an earthquake with Mr Musgrave!

Oak: Learning about 6 figure grid references during our orienteering session!

So, as mentioned last week, Year 6 have researched five possible alternatives role models for new School House names. Last term, when we first discussed this, David Attenborough was suggested and was immediately very popular, due to his life-long work to protect the natural diversity of our planet. Attenborough is a great role model for one of our new House names and I hope he agrees, when we write to him!



The children learned loads about each of the inspirational female role models presented, including: Maggie Aderin-Pocock, who not only presents The Sky at Night (with all the enthusiasm of Patrick Moore!) but also overcame dyslexia to become a top scientist; Greta Thunberg, who has been a powerful voice for our environment and for the future of our young people and Malala Yousafzai,



who braved gunfire for the right to go to school, and now studies safely in Birmingham. However, it was clear that both Rosa Parks and Mary Anning won the popular vote, giving the chance of a simpler choice, so I handed over our Friday celebration to Year 6, so they could have another chance to make the case for their

particular heroine. While any one of these women would make us proud, we are happy to adopt Mary Anning as our second House name! Thanks again to our Year 6 researchers and presenters.

This week was **National Walk to School Week**, so Hattie decided she would walk from her home in Shute to school! The majority of the walk was on bridleways and footpaths and Abi joined on the way. It took them 35 minutes and they even arrived early! They might try it as a regular event after half term, when they hope the weather might be even kinder.



Friday, 21st May 2021

Stars of the Week:

R – Joseph Yr 1 – Tilly
Yr 2 – Taylor Yr 3 – Genevieve
Yr 4 – Beth Yr 5 – Lucas
Yr 6 – Jamie

Weekly House Points:

Drake: 48 Raleigh: 67
Well done Raleigh!



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Covid Update

We have checked through the latest risk-assessment. Aside from a few minor changes, the guidance is clear that much of what we do needs to remain in place. Therefore, I cannot currently conform Sports Days until guidance on group events for schools is clear. Things should be clearer after half term. We hope you will understand and thank you for taking a patient and sensible approach.

Devon has asked that pupils and families continue to do regular home testing. Reporting your test result is as important as taking the test itself. This helps the local Public Health Team to know about infection rates and local variations. Please, therefore report all results onto the [national website](#) and pass on all positive results to schools as well.

Music Lessons

We are very lucky to have two talented music teachers who visit us on Mondays. Both are open to teaching new pupils. They offer lessons in a range of musical disciplines, including voice, recorder, strings, guitar, brass and keyboards.

The cost of the lessons is very reasonable and can vary, as you can have 1:1 tuition for any instrument, or group tuition for recorder or guitar if we have enough interest. If you would like your child to learn an instrument, please see the letters attached from each teacher and get in touch.

Financial support - If the only issue stopping your child from learning an instrument is finding the funds, please contact us, as we may be able to help, either via your child's Pupil premium funding, or using the generous funds we have from a local donor to support children to access education regardless of their family income. Please call in case we can help.

Lorna Legg

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

Do you ever feel you are about to explode? That your child might too?

We can help turn tantrums into calm connections

A free, informal online workshop for parents and carers from the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team. 30 June 2021, 10am – 11.30am

There are times when we all feel overwhelmed with our emotions. Children feel like this too. In this workshop, we will explore why your child behaves in the way that they do; how you can respond to help them calm and how to re-connect to strengthen your relationship with them. We will also offer some specific de-stressing techniques that both you and your child can start using straight away. Join us to find out how you can help build a healthier relationship with your child and develop a sense of inner calm.

To book your free place, email Sue

at: sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com

All parents can come under pressure or stress from time to time. The NSPCC offers Positive Parenting support online, covering topics such as: babies, tantrums, working from home, racism, separation and divorce, mental health, alcohol and drugs, Pants – the underwear rule and talking about difficult subjects. There is also a downloadable guide, which shares practical advice and tips for parenting techniques that work well for children of all ages – from babies to teenagers.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>