

# 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:** Getting to know our new children and enjoying using our bright and clean outdoor classroom, in the sunshine.

**Willow:** Our outside PE session this week when we did lots of running! We enjoyed our minibeast hunt in the meadow for our new topic on Minibeasts. We also enjoyed our outside maths lesson on fractions and weeding and watering in the vegetable garden.

**Beech:** Starting athletics in preparation for sports day.

**Oak:** Using our newly learned orienteering skills in Offwell woods.

I hope you all had a lovely half term. I wanted to start this, our last half term of the school year, with a big thank you to you all, for your resilience, kindness and common sense over the past 14 months. While we await the data which should guide us in the next phase of our response to the pandemic, I wanted to let you know how much I have appreciated your



support over this challenging time.

Because schools are a place where so many families come together, there is clearly a need to act quite differently in schools compared to homes, to protect each other. We really value this close partnership between home and school. So, while we may need to accept some continuation of the way of life we have established for now, or make some new adaptations, either way I will try to keep you updated and you know you can keep in touch and tell us if/how/when we can help. We are all looking forward to a fresh start in September, when we can, hopefully, focus once again on education.



**Our fantastic PTFA** have been rushed off their feet with orders for our **Offwell** hoodies, so don't miss out! The final date for receipt of payment via Parentpay and to receive the order form is 18<sup>th</sup> June. Apologies for having to send a second order form but the sizing was slightly incorrect on the first. We need all parents wishing to order a hoody to return the second form which will replace the first order.

The PTFA will also be holding a **Grand Summer Raffle**, to be drawn at the start of September. Tickets coming soon! Don't forget to download the Easy Fundraising app for all your online shopping – it's quick, easy and raises funds for our school. Any questions, or useful suggestions, please contact Marina Hodder, PTFA Chair, via the PTFA email: [ptfa-offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa-offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk)



Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## Stars of the Week:

R – Poppy      Yr 1 – Poppy  
Yr 2 – Ethan      Yr 3 – Marley  
Yr 4 – Drew      Yr 5 – Tally  
Yr 6 – Lilly-May

## Weekly House Points:

Attenborough: 50    Anning: 76  
Well done Anning!

## All Parents

Our staggered drop off and collection times might need to continue until the end of term. Please talk to your child's class teacher, or myself at the gate, if this will cause you a significant problem.

*Please can all parents remember to wear a mask on site and remember that only one parent or specified carer is to collect or drop off, to prevent larger groups forming at our gates.*

## Ash Class Parents

We are inviting parents of Nursery and Reception children to come onto the playground, just inside the large gates, at the end of the school day, when they are opened. Some already do, but some may not have been sure if this is possible at the moment. If you are distanced and wear masks, we feel we are keeping you safe, while ensuring our youngest children don't get used to running out of the gates at the end of the day. We are lucky to have very little traffic here, but road sense is vital, and the occasional car does come down the lane... not to mention the odd flock of sheep!

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**Here is a Heads Up on the next six weeks:** we will, as always, be busy!

NB: *Arrangements may change according to Government advice.*

## Week beginning:

**14<sup>th</sup> June** - Next week is our Whole School **Assessment Week**.

The results of any assessments or tests are for our information only (home and school) and will not be published (the same as last year, for obvious reasons).

*These assessments are important though*, as they inform us: children about their strengths and next steps; parents and carers so you can praise and help them; and teachers so we can support strengths and address any gaps. This assessment week is a full month later than our usual SATs week, so we have more time to teach and learn, given the time out of school during both Lockdowns. *Please support your child by making sure they are well rested and feel prepared.* This will help them to take part in their tests with a positive attitude. Having the resilience to learn from any mistakes and the opportunity to feel proud of their achievements are an essential part of preparing for life. There will be the chance to practise other skills and interests in the afternoons and across the following weeks.

## 21 June - Project Week

We plan to brighten and decorate our classrooms and part of the school, with art work and a mosaic linked to our new House Leaders: **Anning** and **Attenborough**.

**Devon Tiles Ltd** (a family-run business based in Ottery St. Mary) have generously come forward to offer us some of their beautiful tiles and advice for our mosaic and we are extremely grateful to them.

Miss Phillips and I will also hold a **Parent Meeting** online during this week, to share the new **RSE** (Relationships and Sex Education) information with you – details to follow week beginning 14th.

## 28<sup>th</sup> June – Film Week

We expect this to be a relatively normal week, as far as the children are concerned, while our videographer, Varrie Nielsen, collects sounds and images for our film. The film is intended to provide a positive picture of our school for posterity, as well as for new families. Please ensure you have responded regarding whether or not you give permission for your child to be included and let us know if you have ideas about what we should include.

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>** will be allocated as a potential **Sports Day**, but given the English weather, we will set aside Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July as a spare! Depending on the latest advice regarding Covid, it may be that we hold Ash and Willow in the morning of 30<sup>th</sup> June with Beech and Oak in the afternoon. If we need to go to the reserve date, it will be Beech and Oak in the morning and Ash and Willow in the afternoon.

## 5<sup>th</sup> July – Activities Week.

**Transition days: As 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** will be an opportunity for our **Year 6 pupils to visit HCC** (children attending other secondary schools will have alternative transition plans, arranged by their school), we have arranged for our remaining children to experience their **new classmates or teacher** too, on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July**.

Oak Class, our oldest children, will also be visiting **Wildside** for a day of adventure, animals and problem-solving tasks on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July**. Details to follow.

## 12<sup>th</sup> July – Some in Oak Class have **Bikeability this week, Monday - Thursday**.

**Reports** will be sent home at the end of the week, summarising what we have been able to achieve together this year, with steps to success for the future.

Parents of Year 5 children need to respond to the link in the email to register your child. Please ask if you would like another email sent!

**19<sup>th</sup> July** – The last week of Term, when we all look back with gratitude and forwards with relief (hopefully one or the other!). We will be in touch regarding a suitable send off for our **Year 6 Pupils**, dependent, of course, on the weather and requirements at that time.

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

## School Meals

Following the unpopularity of coleslaw which has been accompanying pizza on Wednesdays, the kitchen has substituted this with wedges! Hopefully the children will enjoy the change!

## Parenting of the non-compliant child

*The University of Exeter and the CYP-IAPT programme are pleased to offer an exciting, free of charge, parenting programme. This is one-to-one, so is a great opportunity for those parents who feel stuck in patterns of negative learnt behaviour, parents who want more support than they would get in a group parenting programme or those parents that have tried lots of strategies but have not seen an improvement in their child's behaviour. They currently have four trainee parenting therapists who are completing a Post Graduate qualification at the University of Exeter, and therefore have limited places on this exciting evidence-based parenting programme. Please contact Mrs Legg for further details, if interested.*

