

# 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:** Celebrating Diwali and creating our Rangoli patterns. We also enjoyed making our finger print poppy fields for Remembrance.



**Willow:** The drama of Ted stealing all the books and the police reports that the children wrote.

**Beech:** Being part of the village community at the Remembrance Service.

**Oak:** Sam Hidalgo-Clyne taking a tag rugby lesson. Mr Hidalgo-Clyne is a parent of Hugo in nursery as well as an Exeter Chiefs' player and rugby international! We are very grateful to him for this amazing lesson.



Yesterday, alongside many in the village and beyond, we held a **Minute's Silence**, to think back and remember those who died in previous wars. We remember, in order to show our gratefulness, and to reinforce the message that war always wounds more than it heals.



**Today is Devon's Environment Day**, and we look forward with hope to a world where we have learned the lessons of the past and we have shown that we can cooperate to protect ourselves and our planet. Classes have used resources from [www.schoolenvironmentday.com](http://www.schoolenvironmentday.com)

## Gardening Club

Thank you to the parents of our Gardening Club for enabling the children to spend the voucher that Combe Garden Centre so generously donated to them and thank you to Combe Garden Centre!



Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## Stars of the Week:

Ash – Esme & Hetty

Willow – All year 2

Beech – Thomas & Fiona

Oak - Jacob, Robin and Ben

## Weekly House Points:

Attenborough: 59 Anning: 55

Well done Attenborough!

**When you don't have all the answers:** For Parents and Carers with questions around day to day challenges, such as school issues, talking about feelings, or difficult behaviour, this site has links to many other sources of support.

<https://happymaps.co.uk/age-group/primaryschool>



## PTFA

It was lovely to see so many parents/carers attend the PTFA AGM this week. Mrs Emily

Jordan has been appointed Chairperson taking over from Marina Hodder. Marina has been a very active member of the committee throughout her boys' time at school including several different stints as Chair! Marina will continue serving on the committee whilst Ben is still at school (he is in Year 6) and will be an invaluable help to Emily in her first year as Chair. I am sure you will share me in thanking Marina for her hard work and dedication to the PTFA over the past few years, especially during her time as Chair.

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This week, two children from Oak class have written for the newsletter, about their current topic:

*In Oak Class, our topic is The Solar System and this week we have made some size proportional planets out of Plasticine. Last week, Key Stage 2 had the privilege of having a Space Dome in the Village Hall, I am certain everyone enjoyed it. We learned about star constellations: the orbit of the planets in our Solar System; and much much more.*

By Chloe

*Because I am The Moon...*

*I am the colour of clouds, frost and pearl, making cold-coloured beauty.*

*My Mountains try to clasp the stars with icy, long fingers.*

*My secrets can be found at the foundation of my deepest, dark fractures.*

*I wish I was not so desolate, I wish I had a companion.*

*I'm sad because I have no life, no destiny.*

*I dream of a time when life teems on my brittle surface.*

*My seas of dust hide mysteries of the long gone past.*

*Because I am The Moon.*

By Isla

## Governors

Ms Laurelie Gifford has recently stepped down from her role as our Local Authority Governor due to other commitments. We wish her well and thank her for the hard work and invaluable expertise she offered to the Governing Board during her time with us. We are delighted to be able to tell you that we have already managed to appoint her successor and this has been accepted by Devon County Councillors. We have welcomed Mrs Janet Dimond onto the Board and she will be invited to the next meeting. Mrs Dimond is the grandparent of a child in nursery and has a wealth of experience within the education sector including being a retired teacher!

We have also appointed Mrs Jordan (mum of Skylar in nursery) as an Associate Member. Mrs Jordan put her name forward as a potential Parent Governor but as she is not eligible at this present time (nursery parents are not able to become Parent Governors), the Governing Board have welcomed her as an Associate Member with a view to her transferring to a Parent Governor position in September if there is still a vacancy. That means, we still have 2 Parent Governor vacancies at this present time, so please get in touch with Mrs Davey or Mr Wallace, Chair of Governors, if you are interested.

## Party Boxes

A reminder that the PTFA still holds a party box which can be hired out at a cost of £5. The box contains: 30 cups and plates, 3 jugs, 4 platters and bowls. Contact Tracy via PTFA Facebook page on messenger or via Judy at school.

## Hoodies

Several parents have asked when the latest order for hoodies will arrive and Mr Royle has advised us that they will hopefully be arriving next week.

## Children in Need

The School Council met this week and agreed that Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> November will be a non-uniform day in exchange for a donation. Money raised will go to CiN.

Lorna Legg

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

## Parents' Evenings

Thank you to everyone who was able to either come in person or attend via Zoom for a parents' evening this week. There were a few technical difficulties both from school and also with yourselves and if a meeting has not yet taken place, your child's teacher will be in touch. As mentioned previously, Ash parents will be contacted in due course upon Mrs Hunt's return.

## Flu Immunisation

The new date of Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> December has been confirmed for flu immunisations to take place at this school. The consent link has been reactivated and at the present time, this is now working!

If you have already given consent for the original date, your consent will still stand. All children from Reception to Year 6 are eligible to receive the nasal spray.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2021/devon>

## Admissions- September 2022

You will be aware that children born between the dates above are entitled to start full time Primary Education in September 2022. The application facility opens on 15th November 2021 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2022. It is important that parents apply before the closing date, even if they are intending to defer their child's admission until later in the academic year, they must secure a place before that decision need be made. The Step by Step Guide is now available for download from the School Admission webpages,

<http://devon.cc/prospectus> If you have a child of this age you should receive a letter from the Admissions Team shortly, providing a Unique Identifying Number which will facilitate that application. It is not essential to have this number to apply and any parent who does not receive a letter may proceed through the screens by first selecting 'NO UID'.