

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: Starting to learn the Christmas story and practising for our nativity.

Willow: Making posters about washing hands as part of our PSHE lesson.

Beech: Making Stone Age tools in the woods on our welly walk.

Oak: Taking part in tag rugby tournaments with Beech Class.

Like a lot of us recently, I was unwell this week (I've been tested and it's not that), so as I was wondering what to write about, I suddenly thought, 'What did I write about before Covid?' Now, of course, I can't time travel (yet) but I can go back to our newsletter for the 30th November 2019:

This week, we have something new happening at lunchtimes. Our Year 6 children are learning new games to share with the rest of the children. The aim is for all children to feel included and to increase activity levels. However, it does not mean that either our Y6 children, or any others, will miss out on free play, which is so important; the Play Leaders will be on a rota and the games will only last for half their play-time, leaving them with plenty of time to themselves, when they can either continue, or play as they please.

This was what we had started to do with the (then) Year 6 children. Amazingly, this Monday, Miss Phillips had organised a training session with East Devon's PE Lead and our current Year 6 group, who have been doing a fantastic job; providing games for the younger year groups at lunchtime. I want to thank Kevin Moran, Miss Phillips and our Year 6 for their hard work in renewing this valuable activity.

Before COP 26, again on November 30th, I also wrote a regular section to help us tackle one environmental issue at a time, perhaps worth another look?

Our Environment: Surely the most important issue we all face. As we consider buying or making Christmas gifts and wrapping them up, perhaps we can spare a thought for where it all ends up?

One Problem: As the last leaves drop, you will notice more and more plastic caught in hedges along the road. You will also be unable to avoid the plastic bags and plastic netting littering the shore, when you next walk along the beach after a storm. This not only entangles wildlife; it will, over time, break into tiny scraps of plastic (micro-plastics), which is just as dangerous. It is easily ingested by marine life and ultimately, eaten by us!

One Solution: (Aside from picking up what you safely can) Let's aim for a plastic-free Christmas. While it's hard to avoid, some toys last a lifetime (wooden trains, Jenga, a xylophone, rocking horse...), and to get them home, ask for cardboard boxes, paper carriers or biodegradable alternatives to plastic – that's if you forget your reusable bag.

I'd suggest making or baking a gift – we could all use something to cheer us up and my baking often makes my family laugh!



Friday, 26th November 2021

Stars of the Week:

Ash – Nathan

Willow – Zak

Beech – Eric

Oak - William and Toby

Weekly House Points:

Attenborough: 306 Anning: 273



On Friday 10th December, after school we will be selling teas, coffee, mince pies, hot dogs

and cakes from the village hall. With thanks to Honiton Round Table, Father Christmas will be visiting on his Sleigh and we will provide a chocolate gift for each child. Please let Marina know ASAP (07866421337) of any allergies / intolerances and we will provide a suitable alternative. There will be a second hand Christmas stall..... selling jumpers, hats, etc. Please let us know if you have anything to donate. We will also be selling some magical reindeer food for Christmas Eve! We've decided on the environmentally friendly version.

Due to Covid still being in our lives, this will be an outdoor event so please wrap up warm. If the weather isn't on our side we will put up some gazebos for shelter.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Offwell PTEA

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Parking – all parents

Please remember to **park at the village hall** when bringing or taking children to or from school at the usual times. **The school gates must be free of parked cars between 8.30am and 3.30pm.** Pedestrians need to be able to come and go safely, without having to go into the road, and passing traffic needs to be able to see clearly, to avoid any danger to pedestrians. Do let me know of any ongoing issues and thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children safe.

COVID-19 remains a serious health risk. You should stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.

- Let fresh air in if you meet indoors. Meeting outdoors is safer
- Wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces where you come into contact with people you do not normally meet
- [Get tested](#) and self-isolate if required
- If you haven't already, [get vaccinated](#)

Department for Education guidance to support parents during the COVID-19 pandemic can be accessed using the live link: [Guidance for parents and carers](#) or type: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> into your search engine.

Wellington Maths Challenge by Chloe (Oak Class)

On Friday, 26th November, Jacob, Noah, Clem, Faber, Abi M, Chloe, Hattie and Isla all took part in the Wellington Maths Challenge. This year we entered two teams – one made up of the girls and the other the boys. We took the test in the log cabin like last year as we could not go to Wellington due to Covid-19.

Display Board by Daisy (Oak Class)

Mr Dunning has made every day fun for the children. In Oak they made phases of the moon and some children made planets for the display board but it's still not finished. The exciting news is that all planets have a bright side to them. They are; Neptune, Mars, Uranus, Earth, Mercury and Venus. We still have Saturn and Jupiter to make.



Lorna Legg

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

Individual and Sibling Photos

These are due to take place on Tuesday, 30th November during the morning. Please could ALL children come in school uniform (except nursery) and could Oak Class children please bring in their PE kit to change into for PE in the afternoon? Beech Class can wear trainers to school with their uniform.

You are invited to bring children who attend our nursery even if not usually in on Tuesday mornings at 9am but siblings who do not attend Offwell School are not able to come due to Covid restrictions. This is a requirement from Tempest and not from us! Children will be taken within their sibling groups as well as individually unless you tell us differently.

Poppy Appeal

We received a card on behalf of the British Legion Poppy Appeal thanking us for our contribution for the sale of poppies which amounted to £160. Well done to all who contributed so generously.

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Children in Need collection for our non-uniform day. We raised exactly £100.

