

# Offwell C of E Primary School

Our Core Values: Honesty, Loyalty, Caring, Sharing and Forgiveness.



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,

## Highlights of the Week:

**Oak** - Playing rounders after finishing SATs

**Beech** - Exploring everyday life in Ancient Greece and starting to create our Greek vases

**Willow** - Writing stories about pirates

**Ash** - Acting out the story of Handa's Surprise and making fruit skewers for snack time

**Well done Year Six!** Our Year Six students have done us all (and themselves) proud. Whatever their results, they came in, they listened, they read, they calculated and they wrote and wrote and they did not let SATS conquer them! They showed true perseverance, courage and resilience.

Ben did too! As part of The Torbay & Devon Award, he climbed Snowdon at the weekend! Look at the pride on his face... He also managed to raise over £500 for his good cause: Llanberis Mountain Rescue – I'm so glad he didn't need them! Ben claims he had no blisters (how?) and would like to thank his socks (I suspect Dad and Mum also played a very important role).



## Preparing for Secondary

Our Year Six students now face a new, exciting challenge – moving on to Secondary School in September. For many, this will be somewhere they are familiar with, where siblings or friends may already attend. For some, it may be completely new. In all cases, the opportunity to visit in advance helps remove any of those imaginary barriers. This is why we have transition days, where all our children have the chance to experience their next new setting. Below are the transition arrangements for all our local feeder secondary schools.

**Honiton Community College:** Transition Days are: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July and staff will visit. <https://honitoncommunitycollege.co.uk/>

**Kings School** – Transition Week is 11 – 15<sup>th</sup> July.  
<https://www.thekings.devon.sch.uk/>

**Woodroffe** - Staff will be coming in on 20<sup>th</sup> June, so parents will be informed of any dates separately. <https://www.woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk/>

**Colyton Grammar**- Staff visited 13<sup>th</sup> May so parents will be informed of any dates separately. <https://www.colytongrammar.com/>

**For those in Year 4 and 5**, thinking ahead, you will find lots of useful information on each school's website, about how to prepare your child for secondary school. Take this into account, so your child is well prepared and feels confident, but avoid making it all consuming.

Talk to your child about their concerns, but set aside much more time to share in their hopes and dreams. Never rule anything out! Your own experiences can help, but for some, their route may be different from others and they may be no less successful for taking a more colourful route.

Dreams can come true...  
if we have the courage to pursue them.  
~ Walt Disney ~



Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## Stars of the Week

**Ash**- Hetty

**Willow** – The whole class!

**Beech** – Elizabeth B

**Oak** – All of year 6!

## House Points

**Attenborough: 91 Anning: 54**

Well done Attenborough!

## Story and Rhyme Time

All parents, carers and children under 5 are warmly invited to come and join Ash class for an informal

'Story and Rhyme time,' at Offwell Primary School.

Come along to our Foundation Stage Unit on THURSDAY 19th May between 2.40 and 3.10pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please tell your friends and neighbours if you think they may be interested.

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## Whole School transition Day: 5<sup>th</sup> July

**For all year groups**, Year Six spending time in their new schools allows us to arrange a day when each class can shift on a year, so they get to spend a day with their new class for September. This is not so large a step as Secondary, but half our children will hopefully enjoy their day in their new classroom, getting to know the new year group they will be working with.

## Mental Health Week 9 – 15<sup>th</sup> May Theme: Loneliness

Devon has shared a wealth of ideas and resources to help and support people who may feel lonely. This is different from being alone, which can be a preferred state. Being lonely tends not to be a choice. Making friends can be a challenge if you feel lonely as it can affect your confidence, but taking up a new hobby or learning something new are great ways to overcome any initial shyness in a supportive environment, connect with people, find common ground and improve your self-esteem.

There are all kinds of [activities you can take part in locally](#) to make new friends and [adult learning facilities](#) are available for parents, adults and senior citizens as well as charities providing activities for those with disabilities. Try the links below to discover just some of the huge range of community and social groups in Devon:

- [Social clubs](#)
- [Befriending](#)
- [Friendship groups](#)
- [Community groups](#)
- [Lunch clubs](#)
- [Parent and toddler groups](#)
- [Men in sheds](#) - support for older men who want to share and learn new skills
- There are also local branches of organisations such as [University of the Third Age \(U3A\)](#), [Women's Institute](#) and [Rotary](#).

Volunteering is also good way of meeting people, and helping others can also really help improve your mental health. [The Pinpoint website](#) has lots of information about opportunities for you to make a difference to people's lives or improve your local community.

## A message from Dawn Stabb, Head of Education and Learning and Deputy Chief Officer of Children's Services to parents of children who have special educational needs:

All Schools in Devon have been asked to share this survey link with, parents whose children have SEND, as part of a county wide inspection of Special Needs provision. Please complete it if you can. The survey will open at 12 noon on Monday 16 May 2022 and close at 12 noon on Friday 20 May 2022. (click or copy this link).

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/DevonCountyCouncilRe-visitLASEND/>

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