

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:

Ash: Joining in with the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

Willow: Trying to catch autumn leaves on our welly walk on a beautiful sunny autumnal day!

Beech: The Gym Festival when we took part in a variety of activities led by young sports leaders at Honiton Community College.

Oak: Creating our '20 is plenty' posters.

Internet safety

There are incredible benefits to digital devices: online learning was a large part of what we developed to provide for our learners during the pandemic, and we are finding new uses for it every day. For example, STAR is a data analysis and intervention program that allows us to tailor our interventions closely to gaps that arise in each child's results from our termly tests. We are also investing, each year, in the technology that allows our children to access interactive ways to learn languages, maths, science, geography, history, music...in fact, digital technology and online access enhances every area of our curriculum.

However, we all need to be aware of the dangers and pitfalls of the online world, so that we can protect and educate our children. In a report published in February 2020, half of ten year olds in the UK had a mobile phone and more children used online streaming for entertainment than watched broadcast television. I believe most people are kind, with good intentions at least, but the internet allows anyone, anywhere, who choose to act in ways harmful to children, to gain direct access to them, if children are unprotected or unprepared.

E-safety education, which is part of our Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, is the same as teaching children how to cross the road, or not to go with strangers. We would never allow a child to wander alone through city streets, so we should never allow our child to wander alone through social media sites* or watch unfiltered YouTube videos. Making sure that our children can use the internet safely is a growing responsibility that schools and parents share, so we need to help each other.

* Did you know the age of legal access to some social media sites is now 16?

During Parents' Evenings next week, you will be asked to complete a slip asking if you are interested in attending parent workshops on various subjects, so please say if you would appreciate one on E-safety, or any other subject. For further information, please follow the link, or copy it to access these websites:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



Friday, 7th October 2022

Stars of the week:

Reception – Skylar J

Willow – Freddie

Beech – Wilfred

Oak – Eric

Next week:

Monday; WASP, Construction Club, Parents' Evening

Tuesday; WASP, Art Club, Oak netball, Parents' Evening

Wednesday; WASP, Parents' Evening

Thursday; WASP, Story & Rhyme

Friday; Games Club

House Points

Attenborough: 79 Anning: 79

A draw! Well done to both houses!



11th October 7:30 PTFA AGM.

White Hart Inn, Wilmington.

All welcome.

This is an ideal opportunity to Come and meet us for a friendly drink and chat about any future events you would like us to take part in.

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Operation Encompass

Our school works alongside other agencies to protect children in many ways. Operation Encompass is a national early intervention partnership between police and schools to protect children who have experienced domestic abuse and we are proud to be a part of it.

In 2020/21, contacts to the NSPCC helpline from parents and carers concerned about children and young people experiencing domestic abuse increased by a third compared to the previous year.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/2021/helplines-insight-briefing-domestic-abuse>

The impact of domestic abuse (emotional, verbal or physical) on children is often hidden, but can be severe and last into later life, if not addressed. We must all do what we can to protect children from seeing, hearing or feeling violence or aggression, especially in the home, which should be the key place of security and care.

If you want to find out more, please follow these links: <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

<https://www.netmums.com/support/protecting-children-from-domestic-abuse>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

World Teachers' Day - 5th October

Please remember a teacher who helped and inspired you, or your child. Your recognition and appreciation of the work that our teachers do, every day, to help children achieve their best, is greatly appreciated! Thank you.

Parent/Carers' Evenings

You should have received parents' evening appointments in your child's book bag today unless your child's teacher has already contacted you. Please let us know if you do not receive the appointment or cannot make the day/times given.

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

Story & Rhyme

The next Story & Rhyme session in Ash Class is next Thursday, 13th October at 2.40pm. Everyone with a child in Ash Class or with younger siblings is welcome to attend. Please do pass this on to other families who may be interested.