

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: Using our gross motor skills to create scenery for the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

Willow: Making paper dolls inspired by the story 'The Paper Dolls'.

Beech: Designing our ultimate predators by combining them with a family member!



Oak: Going over to St Mary's Church and trying our hand at bell ringing!



Phonics Workshop

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey regarding the times for the Phonics' Workshop. The vast majority went for 3.30pm so this has been set for Thursday, 20th October at that time. A few of you have requested a Maths Workshop so we will arrange this in due course.

Art and Music are vital to living well, whether we enjoy creating, or enjoy them simply as observers or listeners. As part of keeping ourselves mentally healthy, art in all its forms is a creative tool to develop resilience and connect with others.

In Oak Class, their theme has helped them explore different movements, methods and media for creating art, while Beech have been drawing and dancing (not at the same time!), Willow class have been creating puppet crocodiles from envelopes and Ash have been painting a wide, blue river in their outdoor area.

If you have the chance to draw, dance or be creative together over half term, **Place2Be** is a website that supports good mental health for all and their **Art Room** team are specialists in using art to support and enhance children and young people's wellbeing.



Improving children's mental health

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/wellbeing-resources-for-families/activities-from-the-art-room/>

Their projects offer space to explore wellbeing through creative art activities, stories and conversation. Each project can help children, young people, and adults nurture their relationships together whilst having fun. The art and crafts activities provided can be used at home with children of different abilities and ages.



Friday, 14th October 2022

Stars of the week:

Reception – Riley

Willow – Poppy

Beech – Oliver F

Oak – Amelia

Next week:

Monday; WASP

Tuesday; WASP, Open the Book

Wednesday; WASP

Thursday; WASP, Phonics Workshop

Friday; Break for half term

House Points

Attenborough: 90 Anning: 116

Well done Anning



Lantern Parade and Competition

Join us for Offwell School Lantern Parade and Competition - Sat 29th October 2022 - meet at the school at 6.30pm and parade starts at 6.45pm

Create your own lantern, any design, any materials, any size! Entry and a tea light £1. Prizes awarded and a treat for every child who enters.

We will walk from the school to the firework display on the

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playing field where the judging will take place.

Singing in Exeter Cathedral:

Devon and Torbay Music Education Hubs have worked with Exeter Cathedral in support of their Chorister Outreach Programme. This is designed to encourage Cathedrals to use their musical resources to promote singing among Key Stage 2 children in primary schools.

Next term, **Spring 2023, we are delighted to be one of six** maintained primary schools and academies in the Honiton area who can take part on a fully subsidised basis. Our whole class of upper KS2 children (Years 5, 6 in our case) plus supporting staff can participate.

There will be CPD sessions for staff; three vocal outreach workshops delivered to the class by the cathedral's Chorister Outreach practitioner and Choristers from Exeter Cathedral will join one of these sessions to inspire the children and talk about life as a chorister. They will also perform alongside the children, providing descant/harmony parts.

At the end of the series of workshops, on the afternoon of **Saturday 17th March** – please put this date in your diaries - children from all participating schools will be brought together at Exeter Cathedral for a performance of their musical achievements, in front of a live audience of parents and families. We look forward to sharing more about this wonderful opportunity, nearer the time.

Bell Ringing

John Tristram, one of our Governors for many years, is also a bell-ringer in St. Mary's church. Oak Class have been on a visit this week, to find out more about this long tradition. John started learning how when he was in Primary School, so is keen to pass on the skill to some of our oldest pupils. Therefore, we are considering a club, where a small group of pupils, accompanied by a member of staff and an experienced bell-ringer, can learn bell-ringing, after half term. If we have more children than there is space (numbers will need to be limited for safety), then we will consider running a second set of sessions which repeat, so more children could have the experience. A letter will come home next week, to give more information, with a permission slip.



History for all

Tradition and history are important to us – they tell us about those who came before, who we are now and can help us know who we want to be. Our children (who are the future) need help to learn from past mistakes, as well as past successes, so they can go on to make the world a better place. This is why it is important that our children receive an

honest and balanced picture of our past – not just the highlights - and learn critical thinking skills, so they can use evidence to make decisions. So, in October we use Black History month resources, which help us to learn about the contributions of those of us with black and brown skin, who have, like women in history, often been overlooked.

Take a look at this inspirational calendar to learn more about our shared history:

<https://ourhistoryissharedhistory.com/#>

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Over the last week or two, we have had 2 or 3 cases in several of our classes. Hygiene is always important but especially during an outbreak of D & V. Children should be kept away from school until the D and V has stopped and they have been passing normal stools for at least 48 hours.

Please be aware, we have also had a couple of suspected cases of Scarlet Fever in Ash Class as well as head lice. If you suspect your child may have Scarlet Fever, please phone 111 for further advice.

Please check your child's hair for evidence of head lice and treat them if necessary before they return to school.

School Meals

Due to the kitchen, where our school meals are usually cooked, having a two week half term, our meals will be a little different next week. You shouldn't see a difference on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday as our meals will be cooked at another school and collected by us as usual.

Unfortunately, on Thursday and Friday, we have just found out that Fresha is unable to provide us with a hot school dinner. They will provide a packed lunch for all children wishing to take up this option. The packed lunch will consist of either a ham/tuna or cheese baguette. If your child usually has a school dinner on either a Thursday or Friday, you will receive a form giving options which we need returning by Monday at the latest! Thank you.

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