

# 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:** Celebrating birthdays!

**Willow:** Using money in maths!

**Beech:** Doing our 'one' animal with 'four' views in art!

**Oak:** Making some more 20 is Plenty posters.

This week I have had the absolute delight of spending time in Ash Class. Children at this age have so much energy and enthusiasm, that you cannot help but be both exhilarated *and* exhausted by them! I have played with small-world figures, helped children to decide when and why they should say sorry, watched as they made towers and rebuilt them when they fell, we have read stories, to each other and I have pretended to eat several slices of birthday cake (all delicious!) as part of their current theme: celebrating birthdays. I have also been genuinely impressed by the ability of our Reception children to absorb the skills and knowledge of phonics, which they are applying so quickly to their reading, as well as their knowledge of counting and adding numbers up to 5 (and back again). Spending time with our youngest children, seeing how well they are learning, has been inspirational.

One of our older pupils has also inspired others. Polly, in Year 6, has been part of an epic adventure:



Polly and her Dad went to Kendal, in The Lake District, last weekend, for the premier of a film about a student, Jessie, who cycled to COP26 (The Climate Change Summit) to raise awareness of young people's voices in the climate debate.

Polly wrote to Jessie before she set off. In her letter, Polly explained her view on this world-wide issue. It was such a good letter, that Polly was asked to narrate her letter in the film. So, as well as being a

courageous advocate for our environment, Polly is also a film-star!

The premier was a great evening, with Polly sitting in the front row and taking part in a Q and A session afterwards.

The film is going to be made available on YouTube for free soon, so we will share a safe link that will enable you to watch it.



**Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

## Stars of the week:

Willow – Anuhas

Beech – Harrison & Aria

Oak – Polly & Charlotte

## Next week:

**Monday;** WASP

**Tuesday;** WASP, Individual photos

**Wednesday;** WASP

**Thursday;** WASP

**Friday;**

## House Points

**Attenborough: 93 Anning: 68**

Well done Attenborough!

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We have also begun to rehearse for our **Christmas production** in earnest. The children's singing is already shaping up to be a real feature of our Christmas celebrations. We are really looking forward to sharing 'Rock Around the Flock' with you on **15<sup>th</sup> December, at 2pm and 6 pm.**

Oak Class have created further 20 is Plenty posters, which will soon add to those you have hopefully noticed throughout the village. We also need to remind parents about parking at busy times. We have been asked by the village to respect the fact that parking is NOT allowed in the gateway of the cemetery, nor the driveway opposite, plus that any parking along the lane beside the church can only be possible if there is space for traffic to pass: two cars cannot park opposite each other on this narrow lane and we must not impede ambulances or Fire engines, as this could cause a life threatening situation.

**Equality and Special Needs** training is part of our annual offer of continuing professional development and is going to be shared with staff and governors in January. Parents and carers are also invited to come to additional sessions on these areas in the new year. If you have any questions about these matters, please get in touch.



PTFA Christmas wreath workshop is on Sunday 11th December and that the PTFA Christmas Fayre is on Friday 9th December. Please also see the wreath workshop poster for 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Please help Offwell C of E Primary PTFA raise free donations when you're doing your Black Friday and Christmas shopping by signing up to #easyfundraising! It's an easy way to help during these difficult times that will make a BIG difference to us! Plus, for a limited time, once you've raised your first £10, easyfundraising will double it! Please sign up today, it only takes 2 minutes: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=91QI4B&char=249844&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_campaign=qp-nov-22&utm\\_source=email](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=91QI4B&char=249844&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=qp-nov-22&utm_source=email)

## Individual Photos

These will take place at the village hall during the morning of Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November. Younger siblings and nursery children who don't usually attend on Tuesdays are invited to attend. Please bring them to the hall for 8.45am and they will be taken first together with their older siblings. Please let us know if you are doing this so we know the siblings will be late into school!

## Christmas Cards

Every child in school will be bringing home a Christmas card from our new incumbent, Reverend Jeremy Putnam. You will find details of all the Christmas Services inside, so please do make a note of them.



Thank you to everyone who donated money for Children in Need last week. We raised a total of £115.60. Well done!

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

## Advent

As we approach the Christian season of advent in school, we will begin learning and reflecting upon the story of Jesus' birth in collective worship. We will be following a resource called 'Rhythm of Life' which will be based around 7 positive habits **celebration, sharing, rest, encouragement, prayer, reflection & creativity.** These all have a spiritual element to them, but they are positive things for all members of our school community to consider, whatever their faith position. The aim of our collective worship, an integral part to the school day, is that it is inspiring, invitational and inclusive and this series will be no different. With this in mind, please use the 'Rhythm of Life - challenge sheet' alongside our reflections in school - if you wish. There will also be a sheet that we will send out at the end of term. This includes seven extra challenges, one for each habit, plus the final part of the Christmas story to be read on Christmas Day.

Can I also add a plea? I am keen for a parent (or more) to join our Ethos Group in school. We meet at least once a term during school hours. The group includes children from years 4-6 who work together to plan collective worship, organise events (such as the Easter trail that we did earlier in the year) and support the spiritual development of the school. If this is something that might interest you and you'd like to know more, please speak to me. (Chris Thomas).