

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: Performing our nativity in front of all our special people.

Willow/Beech/Oak: Performing our production 'Rock Around the Flock' to everyone and playing lots of festive games.

Our hearts were warmed, in this cold weather, by each of the children's performances this week - **The Nursery Nativity and Rock Around the Flock** - and by your response to them. Thank you for helping your children to learn their lines, for organising and even creating some of their costumes, and for getting those who were needed to the village hall last night, despite the traffic. The children's voices rang out with sheer joy. We wish you all that joy (and some peace, too) over the Christmas period.

It was also an opportunity to say thank you to Mr Ian Wallace, whose term in office ended at the start of this term after many years on the Governing Body. Thanks also go to: our current Chair of Governors, Mrs Janet Dimond, for her help this term and with the Christmas lunch; to Mrs Emily Jordan, Chair of our PTFA, for providing the crackers and table covers and a huge thank you to everyone on the PTFA for their wonderful Christmas fun on Friday at the Fair. Also, a huge thanks to them for their support throughout the year and to all of Offwell's wonderful staff, who have worked SO hard to help children to learn this term, and still produced three fantastic Christmas shows.

Welcome to our newest member of staff: Mrs Helen Sutton, who has been volunteering and working in school this term. She now joins us as teacher in Ash each Friday, as well as providing both PPA and Special Needs support on a Tuesday. We were delighted with the quality of applicants we had, and feel very lucky to have Mrs Sutton join our staff team fully.

OFSTED Report – just a little longer... As you may have noticed, we had our school inspection on the 15th and 16th of November, and I was hoping to be able to share the report with you by now. Having checked with Ofsted today, I have been told, categorically, that no inspection reports are shared this close to the end of a term, however, I have been reassured that I should be able to share our grade and report in our first newsletter of the New Year. Until then it remains confidential – sorry!

Childhood illnesses. Coughs, colds and sore throats are usual at this time of year, but you will be aware from our newsletters and the news in general, that there have been more infections recently. In case your child is unwell over the Christmas holiday, please consult the following:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/health/colds-coughs-and-ear-infections-in-children/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-a/>



Friday, 16th December 2022

Week beginning 2nd January:

Monday; Holiday

Tuesday; Holiday

Wednesday; Holiday

Thursday; WASP, Children back in

Friday;

House Points

Attenborough: 64 Anning: 50

Well done Attenborough! This also means Attenborough are the house point winners for the half term. They will be rewarded with a non-uniform day on Friday, 13th January.

Rhythm of Life Advent Journey

Please see attached, the last sheet finishing off the Advent Journey. The sheet contains challenges for the seven habits and for Christmas Day there is the final part of the Advent story to read in celebration of this special time of the year for Christians all over the world.

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Termly Award Winners:

Housepoints:

Oak – Polly
Beech – Tilly P
Willow – Freddie
Ash – Skylar J

Caring Cup

Nominations for each class:

Oak – Nazar
Beech – Tilly J
Willow – Poppy
Ash – Ophelia

The overall winner was chosen as Nazar. Well done to him for being so caring!

Congratulations to all our housepoint winners and the other nominees for the Caring Cup.

Interim Reports

Parents/carers of the children in Oak and Beech classes should have received interim reports earlier in the week. We hope you find these useful and informative.

WASP & Early Morning Club

All attendance at WASP and Early Morning Club has been entered on Parentpay if you pay in this way. Please could you visit the site and make payment as soon as you can.

WASP and Early Morning Club will begin again on the first day of term, Thursday, 5th January.

Willow Appeal

Willow will be learning a story about a bus in January and, to help engage children with the story, Mr Thomas would like all the children to use a toy bus to role-play it. If you have a toy bus (preferably red) that you'd be able to donate (or lend) to the class, it would really help. Any buses will be gratefully received by Mr Thomas.

We break today for Christmas and the children return on Thursday, 5th January.

We wish you a wonderful relaxing and healthy Christmas and happy New Year!

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

Christmas Holiday Activities

Please see the attached sheet for ideas for Christmas Activities, either free or for reasonable prices.

Scomis Online Safety Poster

At a time when your child may be receiving a new device with online capabilities, we are sending an Online Safety Newsletter to help you help your children stay safe online.

Christmas Carol Service Sunday, 18th December at 6pm in St Mary's Church.

If any families attend from school, they are welcome to do a reading. Just see Reverend Jeremy

Village Carols

We intend to sing carols round the village again this year. We had a very good attendance from the children last year. Providing the weather is ok we will meet outside the school 6.30pm Friday 23rd. Carol sheets provided. John Tristram