

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,



A very warm welcome back to you all! I hope you have had a good Summer, wherever you went and whatever you managed to do. The children have had lots of memories to share, despite the weather, and sometimes it is just as important to spend time together as to fill every moment with activity.

Starting back this week, every child has the opportunity for a fresh start in a new year group or class. We are so delighted to see our newest pupils begin their school journey. Some have just started school, or are wearing school uniform for the very first time - I think you have all grown about an inch! Those who have just started with us – we have new children in each class - we are really pleased to welcome you to our extended school family. Please just ask any of us if you are unsure about anything (that's children AND parents) and I am sure that our existing families will be happy to meet you and answer any questions too.

**Each class team will send out their termly newsletter**, so that pupils, parents and carers can find out more about the learning available to every child. The over-arching topics, which help to link most subjects, are:

**Ash – How am I feeling? Helping each child to identify and express their feelings.**

**Willow – Movers and Shakers / Significant people in history.**

**Beech – Through the Ages (Stone Age to Iron Age)**

**Oak – Britain at War (Different perspectives on conflicts involving Britain)**

**This gives you the chance to support your child's education, through:**

**Talking** - Instead of always asking 'What did you do today?' (which often gets the inevitable 'Nothing!') sometimes you might try: 'I know you've been learning about...So, what did you find out about that this week?...What did you find most surprising?...How does that work?'

**Researching** – With their topic in mind, help them to remember more by helping them to research their subject, so that they come across the same information more than once and in different ways. You can also look up some related facts and amaze your child with your knowledge (always fun).

**Exploring** – We all learn better when we can make links to existing knowledge, so making trips and visits relevant to the topics or themes, using any opportunity to say, read or write new words, or count, add, subtract, multiply or divide (e.g: on a shopping trip, reading a story, or watching TV together) will help to build new knowledge in your child's growing brain.

**Reading** – Even when your child is too young to read for themselves (or when they think they are too old to need it), reading a story to your child is a proven route to good relationships, happier bedtimes and better learning. Sharing a book together allows you to enjoy new ideas, travel to distant places and even live in another time, all safely at home. If you ever want any recommendations for books that might inspire your child, please just ask and we will be happy to help.



**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Stars of the week:**

Start next week

**Next week:**

**Monday;** WASP

**Tuesday;** WASP

**Wednesday;** Whole school  
Paignton Zoo trip, WASP

**Thursday;** WASP

**Friday;** Celebration Collective  
Worship

**House Points**

Start again next week!

**Hoodies**

The new PE hoodies ordered before the summer break have now arrived. If you have ordered one for your child/children, please visit Parentpay and make payment. The hoodies will be given out on Monday to those who have paid!

**Parentpay**

The children in Reception should have taken home a Parentpay letter so parents/carers can add them to the platform. Please do try and make payment using this method for various items if at all possible. If you have trouble accessing the account or believe your child has not yet been set up, please ask.

# Offwell C of E Primary School

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



## Paignton Zoo

You should have all received a letter and email regarding our whole school trip to Paignton Zoo next Wednesday. This promises to be a really exciting trip but if you do have any queries or concerns, please ask.

## After School Provision (WASP)

WASP will run from Monday through to Thursday every week and 3 sessions are on offer. If your child is collected before 4.15pm the charge is £4, if collected before 5pm the charge is £7 and if collected before 5.30pm then it's £9. Mr Clapp will be in attendance at every session and Mrs Jordan will also attend on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. WASP will take place in Willow Class on Mrs Jordan's days.

## Sports Session WASP

On Tuesdays, for WASP, Mr Bardot will be joining Mr Clapp and he will run different sports activities until 4.15pm. For this half term, he will run football sessions. If your child does not want to take part in the football, Mr Clapp will offer an alternative indoor activity eg colour, play board games or read.

**On Tuesdays, WASP children will be walked up to the Village Hall and if collected before 5pm, they will need to be collected from there. At 5pm they will be walked back to school and should be collected from school (Beech Class) after that time.**

If you would like your child to stay for just the football session that is fine. The charge will be the same as WASP ie. £4 if collected at or before 4.15pm.

## Cricket

We are very fortunate to have Damian Price from Devon Cricket coming to school for 6 weeks to coach the whole school on Tuesdays (including nursery). This will start next week and all of the children should therefore wear their PE kit on Tuesdays.

## Term dates – 2023/2024 Academic Year

- Autumn Term 2023 – 6th September 2023 – 15th December 2023
- Half Term – 23rd October 2023 – 27th October 2023
- Spring Term 2024 – 4th January 2024 – 28th March 2024
- Half Term – 12th February 2024 – 16th February 2024
- Summer Term 2024 – 16th April 2024 – 24th July 2024
- Half Term – 27th May 2024 – 31st May 2024
- May Day – 6th May 2024

Non-pupil days – 4th & 5th September 2023, 3rd January 2024, 15th April 2024 and 25th July 2024

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

## Request from Willow Class

The Willow teaching team would like to extend the range of resources that enable children to learn through play. We would be grateful for any good quality second hand donations of the following items;

- Playmobil – particularly people
- Small animals (farm, zoo, sea, etc)
- Lego or other construction equipment
- Dolls

Thank you in anticipation!

## Parent Governor

Please see attached a letter inviting nominations for a Parent Governor. We have had this vacancy for some time and offered this position before. Mrs Knight has attended meetings as an Associate Member as she was not eligible to stand as a Parent Governor as her child was in nursery. Her child has now joined Reception and Mrs Knight will be putting her name forward again. However, we need to open this vacancy to everyone so please do not let this put you off applying! Nominations should be received by 22<sup>nd</sup> September.

## Contact details

This is an annual reminder to please check and update your mobile, home phone and email addresses with us. We need to have up to date contacts for all the possible emergency contacts (1,2 and 3), otherwise we may only become aware when there is an emergency – when it could be too late! If you have moved and not advised us of your new address, we need to know this too. If in any doubt about the details we hold for you and your child please ask the office.