

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: Collecting signs of autumn on our welly walk to Offwell woods.

Willow: We enjoyed our very muddy walk to Offwell Woods and we also enjoyed the talk from Ferne Animal Sanctuary.

Beech: Writing a story about a Stone Age girl called Om who visits Offwell.

Oak: Throwing and catching in cricket and playing a new game.

Looking ahead, we are half way through our first half-term, meaning only three weeks until the end of this half term. As well as our Zoo trip, Willow class experienced a visit from Ferne Animal Sanctuary this week, and we all look forward to a visit from The Dogs' Trust next week!

We clearly love animals (including most people) and relish every opportunity to find out more about them, even welcoming the tiny toad that turned up in the toilets and the enormous spider captured in the staff room (both carefully relocated)!

Keep informed

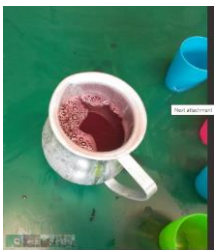
Hopefully, all **parents and carers of children in Years 4 to 6** saw last week's newsletter. If not, please look back, as **the information is important and will require action from you at some stage:** in some cases, as soon as October.

You may be aware that Honiton Community College held an Open Evening this Thursday evening, but there were apparently some issues with Pop-ups being disabled on home computers, so some parents may have been unable to book a session. Parents can also email bec.dupre@honiton.college (Ms. Dupre, Head of Transition) for further information, and see the school's website: <https://honitoncommunitycollege.co.uk/>

Please respond

Please see the link for a simple survey about our school website. **Please respond** – whether you are enthusiastic, indifferent or disappointed, we really need to know! It really helps us to know what we are getting right and to have your suggestions about things which we can improve.

<https://forms.office.com/e/RHzhdsX94M>



Photos of juice making from Willow's grape harvest and Ferne Animal Sanctuary visit.



Friday, 29th September 2023

Stars of the week:

Reception – Seren

Willow – Ophelia

Beech – Jessica

Oak – Charlotte

Next week:

Monday; WASP

Tuesday; Sports WASP, Cricket

Wednesday; WASP,

Thursday; WASP, Dogs' Trust visit to all classes, Story & Rhyme (Ash)

Friday; Celebration Collective, Gym Festival – Beech Class, PTFA Coffee Morning

House Points

Attenborough: 65 Anning: 92
Well done Anning!

School Councillors

An election took place earlier in the week and we are pleased to announce that our new School Councillors are: Ophelia, Ellie, Hetty, Esme, Theo, Lacey, Lily, Vesper, Jessica, Ayla, Elizabeth, Nazar
They will meet with Miss Kirkland on a regular basis and will talk about matters that have been brought forward by other children, to improve school for all.

House Captains

Our house captains this year are:

Anning: Genevieve & Fiona

Attenborough: Toby & Charlotte

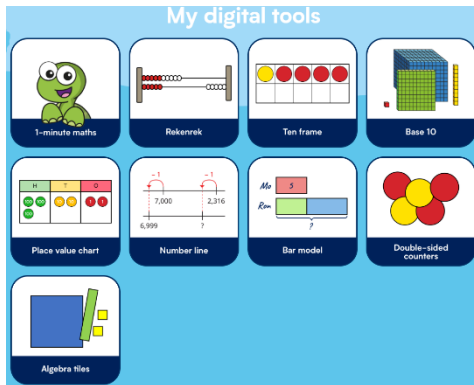
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Maths resources to use at home

To support children with their maths and parents with the resources that are used in school, you can have access to some 'digital tools'. In most cases, these are digital versions of similar physical resources used in maths lessons. They can be accessed by going to <https://whiteroseeducation.com/digital-tools> and typing in the three words 'meg', 'pug' and 'bib'. Most can be used across the primary age range (though the algebra one is definitely aimed at year 6!). Mr Thomas



Last week's cross country team!



Story & Rhyme

The next Story and Rhyme session in Ash Class is next Thursday, 5th October at 2.40pm. Anyone with young children is welcome to come along so do please tell anyone who may be interested.

School Lunches – Census Day

Next Thursday, 5th October is School Census Day and our funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals is dependent on how many children in Ash and Willow Classes have a school meal on that day. If your child, in either of those classes, (not nursery) usually brings a packed lunch, please could you encourage them to try the school dinners on that day.

If you are receiving certain benefits and think you may be eligible for your child to receive free school meals for economic reasons please could you visit: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/>

Being eligible will mean your child will receive certain benefits from the school eg. meal vouchers for holiday periods as well as free school meals at school. Please apply even if your child receives a free meal because they are in Ash or Willow Class as this will not only benefit your child but will bring additional funds into school.



Tesco Community Grant Programme

Please see the attached poster. Tesco will be supporting our PTFA with the blue tokens from 1st October until January 2024. Please support us by asking for a token and popping it in our box!

PTFA Coffee Morning

Please see attached a flyer telling you about the PTFA Coffee Morning on Friday, 6th October at 9am in Offwell Village Hall.

Sidmouth Science Festival

This runs from 6th to 15th October. All our children will have work on display so do pop along. Visit

www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org for further information.

Ferne Animal Sanctuary

Representatives from the Sanctuary visited Willow Class earlier in the week to share information on the work they do and how they help and care for the animals. A leaflet and free entry ticket for one child will be sent home to every child today. Rather than ask us to take part in a fundraising event, they have left a box for us to collect loose change over the next couple of weeks. If you would like to donate please send in any coins you can spare. Thank you.

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Offwell Bookworms

We are excited to announce the formation of a new reading group to be known as Offwell Bookworms – the definition of a bookworm is a person who loves reading and it is an aim of our school that all our children will love reading. Children will be invited by Miss Kirkland to accompany her, and some of the Reading Ambassadors, to the church where there will be an opportunity to listen, read and discuss many different types of books in an informal setting. We hope this will prove relaxing and enlightening. We are fortunate that we will be joined by Carol Hayes who is a strong supporter of our school and understands how vital the skill of reading is in opening a child's mind to many different worlds and experiences.

Reading Ambassadors

Tilly, Thomas, Jessie, Ezekiel, Zak, Izabelle

Urafiki

As part of our vision to 'Be well, Learn well and live well' we aim to be advocates for those less fortunate than ourselves. As a school we have been sponsoring two children through the charity, Urafiki, for the last couple of years. One of the children has moved on and is supported by extended family in a different way so we wish Oscar well. We are continuing to support Ashley (see photo). Urafiki means 'friendship' in Kiswahili and we aim to help these friends in the community of Yala, Kenya. At a cost of £12 a month, the charity provides food, clothing and school materials for the children. Without this support they would go to bed hungry most days. Next week we will be having a non-uniform day on Thursday, 5th October and a bake sale on Friday straight after school. For the non-uniform day, we would like to ask for a minimum donation of £1 but feel free to give more. For the cake sale, we are asking for people to give what they feel the item is worth (give generously!) and we appreciate any items for sale that you can provide (whether home cooked or not).

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



The Book-nic – a wonderful reward for our Summer Reading Bingo Readers! Well done!

