

Offenham C E First School

Newsletter – 10th November 2023



LOVE TRANSFORMATION GROWTH

'Growing deep roots. Producing good fruit'

www.offenham.worcs.sch.uk

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Welcome - We welcomed two new children into our school family this week- we are so happy to have you with us.

Operation Encompass



In every force. In every school. For every child.

Our school is an Operation Encompass registered school working with West Mercia Police. Operation Encompass is “the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced, any domestic abuse. Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, (the Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information

that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been experienced a domestic abuse incident.”

Staff at Offenham CE First School are able to support any family suffering from domestic abuse and through signposting to specialist sources of advice. If you are worried about yourself, or anyone else, please get in touch with the school and ask to speak to a Mrs Nicol or Mrs Daniels who have both undertaken the Operation Encompass Key adult training.

Alternatively, visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

Remembrance

This morning we went down to the war memorial in the churchyard to have a short service of remembrance. Each class lay their hand made wreaths at the base of the memorial and the names of the fallen were read out.



We also sang the song that we always sing at this time of year:

“Turn your thoughts on this occasion to those who fought and died in the wars.

Time has passed and years have forgotten but we will remember the soldiers once more.”

We also prayed for peace in our world – thinking especially of the people of Ukraine and people who are living in Israel and Palestine.



HEALTH & SAFETY -Parking

There have been concerns voiced by a neighbour of ours in Cherry Close. They are concerned about the speed at which cars are approaching the Close but also about inconsiderate parking which is making exiting and entering the Close for residents really difficult.

For the sake of neighbourliness may we ask that all parents refrain from parking in Cherry Close and that where possible, you avoid driving down to school and park further away from school and walk.

Let's work together to make drop-off and pick-up times safer for everyone.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Messy Church

Sunday 26th November

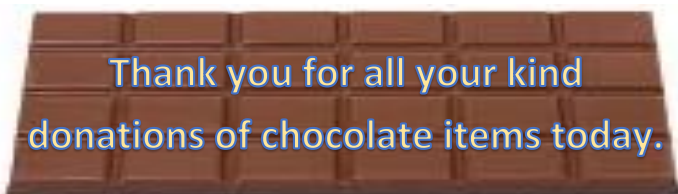
4 - 6pm Offenham School Hall

Tea is provided. Fun for families and friends.

To book please contact pennyanne68@gmail.com



Thank you for all your kind donations of chocolate items today.





Gifts for Ukraine is a non-profit organisation that seeks to share love in a box with some of the most vulnerable children affected by the war in Ukraine. Fill a box with lovely 'stuff' and joy and bring it to school by the 9th of December and we will make sure that your love in a box brings joy to a child in Ukraine this year.

What can you put in the box:

- Sweets – no chocolate
- Socks, t-shirts, scarves, hats, gloves...
- Hygiene items – toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, flannel - no aerosols or sharp items
- Towel, blanket, bed linen
- Toys
- Colouring books, pencils and pens, sticker books
- Hair accessories
- Sports equipment or board games
- No liquids

Charity and Giving



There are a number of charity items on our newsletter this week. Please do not feel that you need to give. Only do so if you are able to.

Health and Safety

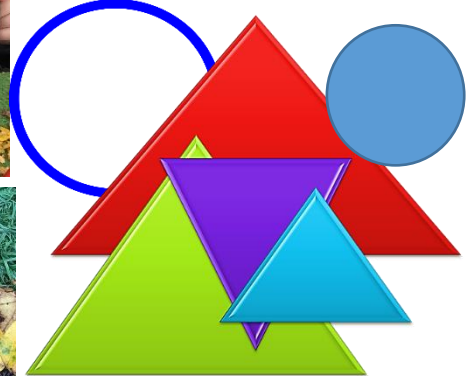
Just a reminder that bikes and scooters should not be ridden across the playground. Please make sure to dismount and push them across the playground so that everyone remains safe.



This Week in Avon Class...

The reception children were learning all about circles and triangles. Not only can all children name a circle and triangle, they can even discuss their sides and corners e.g. a triangle has 3 pointy corners.

We played lots of shape games and ended our week with a shape hunt around school. The children loved spotting circles and triangles outside.



Friends of Offenham Church

The Friends of Offenham Church are organising a Winter Wonderland weekend the 1st and 2nd of December. To support them we are organising a non-uniform day for the 24th November and would ask that you bring a bottle of something or some chocolate. This group works hard to raise money to maintain our beautiful village Church. Thank you.



Darcey's Health and Well-being Box



Here are Darcey's tips for the week from 'Action for Happiness' - 'New Ways November'

- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| 6
Try out a new way of being physically active | 7
Be creative. Cook, draw, write, paint, make or inspire | 8
Plan a new activity or idea you want to try out this week | 9
When you feel you can't do something, add the word "yet" | 10
Be curious. Learn about a new topic or an inspiring idea | 11
Choose a different route and see what you notice on the way | 12
Find out something new about someone you care about |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|

Artist of the Week:

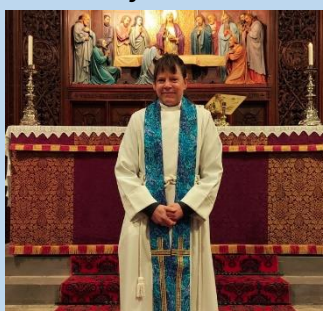
This is a piece of work entitled 'Poppy Remembrance' and is a painting by Dave H. It is an image of a silhouetted soldier at a battlefield cross marker with a 3D poppy in the foreground.



A New Vicar

Offenham and surrounding parishes now have a new vicar in post. Her name is Reverend Joanna Baxter Fielding and we are very much looking forward to working with her.

It was so good to welcome her to our assembly on Tuesday this week.



A Message From Your
ECO Ministry Team
Remember – wherever you can:



Thought of the Week:

A quote from the Bible for Remembrance Sunday.



Music of the Week:

This week we've been listening to some music by Karl Jenkins called Benedictus from the Armed man.

You can follow the link to this piece of music on Youtube – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_RjllPuqyc

Please only use YouTube with your parents' supervision and permission.



SCHOOL DIARY DATES

- 23.11.23 – Flu nasal spray.
- 26.11.23 – Messy Church – 4-6pm. School Hall
- 01.12.23 – PTA Christmas Fayre – 5.30 – 7.30pm
- 02.12.23 – Hedge Planting with the Parish Council
- 04.12.23 - Last swimming session.
- 06.12.23 – Music Concert.
- 13.12.23 and 14.12.23 – KS1 nativity play – 5.30pm
- 21.12.23 – Christmas Service and Christmas party at school (parents are very welcome at Church).
- 21.12.23 -TERM ENDS FOR CHILDREN
- 22.12.23 Staff Training Day
- 08.01.24 - TERM STARTS
- 09.02.23 - Staff Training Day
- HALF TERM - Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February
- 22.03.24 - TERM ENDS



House Captains

Our new house captains are:

Emeralds - Darcey and Ollie

Rubies - Nancy and Charlie

Sapphires - Esta and Amber



PTA DIARY DATES

- 27.11.23 – Wreath Making Evening
- 01.12..23 – Non-Uniform day (cake)
- 01.12.23 – PTA Christmas Market



Follow Offenham CE First School PTA on Facebook for information and updates.

REMINDERS



RECYCLING - We have a recycling drop-off point in our entrance area – you can bring your pens, batteries and empty crisp packets.



Water bottles - Children should bring a water bottle with them each day. If your child would like juice at lunch time, please send another bottle. **ONLY WATER IN CLASS.**



HATS & COATS in SCHOOL. Please make sure that your child has a hat and coat in school every day regardless of the weather in the morning.



REMINDER – SCHOOL MEALS

School meals must be ordered on ParentPay by Thursday of the week before. **ANY ORDERS LATER THAN THAT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**

Ollie's collection for the Dogs Trust and the Cats protection league in Wickhamford.

Ollie, our charities minister, is organising a collection of items for the Dogs Trust and the Cats Protection League in Wickhamford. He will leave a box in the entrance to school if you would like to donate any items. The box will be available for the next three weeks.

He has been in contact with them and they would be grateful for any of the following items: *Cat food (tins or pouches) ; Cat treats; Dog food; Dog treats; Blankets; Dog or cat toys; Old towels or bedding*



Awards This Week:

Stars of the Week

They will be celebrated in our assembly next week

- ★ **Avon – Liliya** ★
- ★ **Malvern - Jonah** ★
- ★ **Cotswold – Cole** ★
- ★ **Severn – Esta** ★

Birthdays

This week and during half term, Esme B, Henry, Egons and Emmy had a birthday. We will celebrate with them in Celebration Assembly next week.

Baby and Toddler Group

Offenham Baby and Toddler Group (NCT) takes place every Friday @ Offenham Village Hall - 9:45-11-15am.

Come and join us for a relaxed group inviting parents, relatives and carers with 0-5 year olds. Lots of toys and a baby corner for the little ones.

Optional £2 per child, £1 per additional child - all proceeds go directly to the NCT charity.

We are looking for more volunteers to help keep this group up and running.

If you would be interested in helping out, then please message 'Evesham NCT' on Facebook.



Childnet – Information for parents about online issues :

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

Reader Helpers

If you can spare an hour or so to come and listen to children read , please speak to a member of staff. You will then be provided with all the required safeguarding forms to complete.

