

# Offenham C E First School

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## Newsletter - 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025



**LOVE, TRANSFORMATION, GROWTH.** *'Growing deep roots. Producing good fruit'*

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### CLUBS NEXT WEEK

- Monday - Sign Language / Multiskills
- Tuesday - Reading Club
- Wednesday - Maypole Dancing
- Thursday - Drama Club



### Coming up...



- Last week of clubs
- Monday - Swimming
- Thursday - Parents' residential Meeting
- Sunday - Messy Church

### Parents Evening Week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> April

- Avon - Tuesday and Wednesday - 3.30 - 6.30pm
- Malvern - Wednesday and Thursday - 3.30 - 6.30pm
- Cotswold - Monday 4 - 7pm and Wednesday 3.30 - 6.30pm
- Severn - Tuesday - 4 - 7pm and Thursday 3.30 - 6.30pm  
(zoom appointments by request)

SIGN UP sheet will be put out at 3pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March and will be out for the following two days.



### Movie Night Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April



### Messy Church

**The Barn @ Bretforton**  
**March 23rd- 4pm-6pm**  
*Activities, games, worship and refreshments. Free and fun for everyone.*  
 Please contact Penny on:  
[Pennyanne68@gmail.com](mailto:Pennyanne68@gmail.com)

### Easter Raffle

Win one of 20 prizes!  
 Raffle tickets have been given out today.

Avon class would appreciate any spare wallpaper you might have lying around for their classroom creative activities.

### EARTH DAY

'The Biggest Hour for Earth ... a precious moment of unity, reminding the world that our one shared home needs our help and that we all can - and must - play a part in protecting it'.



### EARTH HOUR

It's Earth Hour this Saturday @ 8.30 pm (local time).

Join this global initiative, supported by millions of people in over 190 countries around the world - the 'BIGGEST HOUR FOR EARTH'. What will Young Climate Warriors do this Earth Hour ... check out 'This Week's Challenge' for some suggestions - candle-lit games, 'nature' poems, an 'animal' kitchen disco, carbon-busting charades, animal quizzes, star gazing .... let us know what you get up to!

- Could an HOUR change the world?
- Could it remind us that time is precious?
- Could it be the spark we need for change?
- Could it remind us of our potential if we ALL act together - ALL at the same time?

**EARTH HOUR 2025**

Join millions of families in over 190 countries celebrating the 'BIGGEST HOUR FOR EARTH'.

**EARTH HOUR**  
 Sat. 22nd March  
 8.30pm (local time)

Switch our lights off together, and spend 60 minutes learning about, or engaging with, our natural world.

What will you choose to do? Candle-lit games, animal colouring, share 'nature' poems, an 'animal' kitchen disco, carbon-busting charades, animal quizzes, star gazing ...

**YOUNG CLIMATE WARRIORS**

When you've completed this challenge ... Remember to hit the red button!

# Viking Adventure at Bishops Wood

As part of our exciting Viking history unit, children from Cotswold and Severn had an unforgettable trip to Bishops Wood! The day was packed with hands-on activities that brought the Viking era to life.

Our first challenge was building wooden shelters using only sticks, leaves, and teamwork, just like the Vikings would have done. Students then sailed back in time as they explored a Viking ship, imagining what life might have been like on the high seas.

Next, the creative energy flowed as students crafted their very own amulets from copper and tried their hands at making traditional Viking pots using clay. They even spun their own yarn from wool, experiencing the skills needed for everyday Viking life.

It was a fantastic day of learning and adventure, and our students came back with memories -and Viking-inspired creations- they will cherish forever. A big thank you to all the staff for making this amazing experience possible!



# Y4 trip to Houses of Parliament



On Monday, our Year Four children embarked on an exciting trip to London, accompanied by myself and Mr. Blenkinsop and three of our governors: Mr. Webb, Rev. Le Tissier and Dr. Penny. Despite the early start at 6:50 AM, the day was filled with memorable experiences and the children had buckets of energy.

At the Houses of Parliament, we had the unique opportunity to visit both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. It was thrilling to stand where the Prime Minister addresses the MPs and to be so close to the throne that King Charles sits on during his visits to Parliament. We gained valuable insights into the workings and history of Parliament.

After our visit to the Houses of Parliament, we strolled up Whitehall to Downing Street, then continued to Horse Guards Parade to witness the changing of the guard. We made a brief stop at Buckingham Palace and enjoyed a quick playtime in the park before heading home.

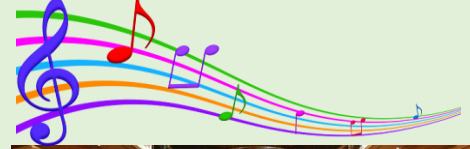
Throughout the day, the children's behaviour was amazing. They treated each other with kindness and respect, making us incredibly proud of them all.

Our huge thanks go to you to our amazing Governors who gave up their time to journey with us on our London adventure, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



## KS1 Trip to CBSO

On Tuesday, our KS1 children visited The CBSO Centre to meet the instruments of the orchestra. They all dressed in alien/space themed clothes and looked absolutely out of this world! They listened to some amazing pieces of music that we will incorporate into our weekly assemblies over the next month or so.



## ATTENDANCE

I came across this piece of data research which I found interesting. I appreciate that data can be manipulated to tell a story, but these figures are stark. Good attendance at school affects life chances and choices.

The numbers below were a test group who took their GCSE's in 2005 and were tracked until last year. Almost twenty years later here is the table of their average earnings within each attendance bracket.



Attendance band	Number of pupils	Average earnings at 28 (2024 prices)
99-100%	33,530	£32,200
90-99%	366,139	£29,800
Below 90%	145,088	£19,500
Below 80%	5,389	£10,100

## Jude and Isla's weekly top three well-being tips:

Here are the tips for this week for Mindful March:

- Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' - (in-person or virtual)
- Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost
- Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself



**★ WAKE UP WEDNESDAY ★**

Please take a look at the Wake Up Wednesday article for this week which is about streamers and streaming .

**School Lunches - Price increase**

There will be new menus after Easter. The price will increase to £2.60 per day.



We are so blessed to have so many theatres so close to us. The Henrician Theatre would like us to draw your attention to a children’s puppet show they are hosting in June.

Flotsam and Jetsam by Lempen Puppet Theatre –  
**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 2pm**

Tickets - £6 for children and £8 for adults



**Y4 and Y5 Parents**

**Residential Meeting**


**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 3.30pm**

**Music Showcase**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April 2pm**




**REQUEST :** our prayer and reflection group would like a little suitcase on wheels so that they can transport some resources to our reflection garden at playtimes. If anyone has a spare one or an older one they are wanting to replace as holiday season approaches - we'd be happy to take it off your hands!



**Music of the Week**

This week, we’ve been listening to some traditional Irish music in our assembly sessions because, as many of you know, Monday was St Patrick’s Day.

[traditional Irish music - Google Search](#)



**Thought of the Week**

Yesterday, the 20<sup>th</sup> March, was International Day of happiness.

We tend to forget that happiness doesn’t come as a result of getting something we don’t have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have.

ANTHONY J. D'ANGELO



**SCHOOL DIARY DATES**

Messy Church .....	Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Parents’ Residential Meeting.....	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Music Showcase 2pm.....	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
Easter Holidays.....	14 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day.....	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May
Y4 Y5 Residential.....	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May
Spring Fayre.... 1-5pm.....	Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
Last Swim.....	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May
Brass Concert...2pm.....	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Sports Day .....	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Reserve Sports Day.....	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Photographs class leavers.....	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Y5 Leavers Trip.....	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June
Last Day of Term.....	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July

**PTA DIARY DATES**

Movie Night.....	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April
Non-uniform (fill a jar).....	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April
Non-Uniform (‘pamperbola’ item) .....	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May
Spring Fayre.....	Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
Disco.....	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Brass on the Grass – Prom night ....	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June



# Awards This Week:

## Golden Apples

**Avon** – Poppy I & Freddie

**Malvern** – Thea & Kara

**Cotswold** – Imogen & Ariella

**Severn** – Jack M & Phoebe



## Stars of the Week

**Avon** – Martha

**Cotswold** – Steliyan

**Severn** – Simon



**Viv** – Oliver V

**Cheer Bear** – Esme B



## Attendance

**Avon** –96.7%

**Malvern** –98.9%

**Cotswold** –98.6%

**Severn** –98.9%

**Overall**–98.1%



## Birthdays

This week we celebrate the birthdays of  
Robyn and Arthur E

Father God, today we celebrate the birthdays of Robyn and Arthur and we say thank you that they are part of our school family.

We pray that they may grow in wisdom and grace; give dignity and respect to others and that they may know your hope and joy every day. Strengthen and bless them on their birthday and every day throughout the next year. Amen.

## Housepoints

1st - **Sapphires** –281 housepoints

2nd - **Emeralds** –266 housepoints

3rd - **Rubies** –241 housepoints

# REMINDERS



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



**RECYCLING** - We have a recycling drop-off point in our entrance area for pens, batteries and empty crisp packets.



**REMINDER – SCHOOL MEALS**  
School meals must be ordered on ParentPay by Thursday of the week before.  
**ANY ORDERS LATER THAN THAT CANNOT BE PROCESSED.**

**Safeguarding** - Please could we ask that if your child has hurt themselves at home and has a scratch, bruise or bump that you email the office alerting us to this.



**Water bottles** - Children should bring a water bottle with them each day.



**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.



## 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.



Offenham Baby and Toddler Group (NGT) takes place every Friday @ Offenham Village Hall 10 – 11.30am.