

NEWSLETTER

Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery
Newsletter : 22nd September 2023

Message from the Head

Dear parents and carers,

So much for my calming words last week. We have had some serious disruption this week with 6 staff members off with Covid. It is hard to know what to do for the best these days as the guidance has become diluted this past year.

With most of Early years staff off school, others have stepped up, stepped in and basically been absolute super stars. We do have vulnerable staff members and some very vulnerable children amongst us. It is very difficult to know how covid can impact on their health should they get covid. A few of my staff have said that it has really knocked them for six this time. I'm just glad that we have avoided closing down year groups because if we had lost just a few more members of staff, we would have really struggled to cover all areas of the school. Once again I just want to thank you for your understanding. I know it can be difficult if you have a child with covid showing no signs of ill health, but we must remember the bigger picture of keeping the school open for everyone's benefit. To the kind mum who sent in the chocolates, they were most welcome and didn't last long when I put them in the staff room.

We only have two members of staff to return, so hopefully all will be back to normal again next week! In the meanwhile; stay safe, stay healthy and enjoy your weekend.

Mr Edwards and Sir B!

Reading Meeting for Parents



REWARDS

Nursery– Knox & Zachary

Reception– Amaya and Sebastian P

Year 1– Clem and Theo

Year 2– Alex S and Ben S

Year 3 - Lucas and Jimmy

Year 4/5 - Ellie G and Abbi

Yr 5/6 - Jacob P and Clodagh

Birthdays.

Two birthdays next week. Asa tomorrow and Kaitlyn R on Monday. We'll celebrate Asa's next week. Happy birthday both of you.

Hot Chocolate with the Head.

I'll be catching up with Scarlett soon. She also won **Bandit's Special Award** this week. Scarlett goes above and beyond helping out and she is taking her responsibilities as a grown up year 6 child really seriously. Well done Scarlett.

The portal for getting your Young Voices T-shirts and audience tickets, closes on Wednesday next week. Neither are compulsory, but if you haven't seen your child at Wembley—it really is worth the time, money and effort. The show is on a Friday for the 1st time; 2nd February 2024.

Africa is our KS2 topic this term. Amanda and Aggie came to share their recent visit to Aggie's homeland, Kenya. The pair talked about pictures, dances, Swahili language, songs and showed artefacts. Aggie runs a charity to fund a school and Amanda and her family went to teach there for a day. Tyler and Joshua have written about the experience on page 2.



In the African workshop we learnt words in an African language from Kenya. Thank you is Asante, friend is Rafiki, Hi is Jambo and please is Tafadhali. In Kenya barely anybody is grumpy or sad. Also they don't rely on electronics as much as we do. In Kenya there is lots of wildlife such as : lions, elephants, zebras, monkeys, ostriches and gazelles. The landscape is very hot and dry, almost like a desert. The dances they do in Kenya rely on footwork and the hands. **By Tyler D and Joshua O-H**

Offley is happy to support 'Herts 4 Hearts', so please bring in your old clothes and have a clear out. Please bring in on collection day—Wed 27th September.



The whole school will be visiting the Church on Monday for our annual Harvest Festival celebration. Please bring in some dried food or a tin of something for our friends at feed up warm up. They were overwhelmed by our generosity last year and it would be fantastic if we could do something similar this year. The Church will be quite full but there should be a little room at the back of the church if you would like to join in with our collective worship. Please see the feed up warm up web site for details of other items of food that they prefer.

Herts4Hearts
Clothing Collections

Clothing donations wanted

Donations will be collected on
Wednesday
27th
September

**Fundraising
at Offley
Primary
School**

Please drop
your donations
to school
playground

Donations we accept:

- Items must be in good condition
- Adults and childrens clothing
- Paired shoes
- Accessories (hats, scarves, bags)
- Dress up sets

We cannot accept:

- Damaged clothing (stained, ripped or wet)
- Logo items (schools/workplace)
- Underwear or socks
- Bedding

herts4heartsclothingcollection@gmail.com
Facebook @herts4hearts

Our purpose is to make it easy for you to recycle your unwanted clothing whilst helping your local school too. Help us save as many clothes as possible from landfill.

Day	Date	Mth	Offley Endowed: Future Dates for your diary
Mon	25th	Sept	Harvest Festival at Offley Church—please bring in a donation for Feed up, Warm up
Wed	27th	Sept	Herts for Hearts clothing collection—keep your old clothes until then please
Fri	29th	Sept	Reception class reading meeting—09:00-details from Miss O'Connor next week
Thur	5th	Oct	Year 2 trip to Windsor castle