

OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring a love of learning"

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Coniston Gardens
Kingsbury
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Wednesday, 20 July 2022

Chair of Governors End of Year Letter to Parents

Dear Parent and Carers,

I take great pride in writing my first letter to parents as Chair of the Board of Governors. It has been another year filled with the challenges of navigating Covid and, if that was not enough, we now have the war in Ukraine and its broader impact on all our lives. Thankfully school life has begun to feel more 'normal' with breakfast clubs, after school clubs and school trips resuming. Also, a personal favourite is being able to come into school and see our children express themselves in class assemblies and other activities like learning adventures.

The Governors themselves have enjoyed being able to physically visit the school again and enjoyed a day in school last month where we joined a whole school assembly, had a tour of the school and time with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) discussing key items such as safeguarding, curriculum development and support for our children who have special educational needs and disability. The governors were very impressed with how the SLT were leading on all these areas and we were also able to interact with some classes and children to see how the school truly inspires a love of learning.

As mentioned in the letter last year, the Board are immensely proud and extremely grateful to the staff for the way the school have dealt with Covid. Striking the right balance between helping our children catch up and allowing our children to play and socialise together safely. Based on recent national assessment data, outcomes at Oliver Goldsmith remain either in line with or above national averages. We are proud of our outcomes given the context of recent years.

One challenge we faced earlier in the year was parents blocking the driveways of local residents at drop off and collection times. There were also some near misses involving our children as parents parked very close to the vicinity of the school gates. We have seen an improvement based on feedback from the local residents and SLT observations – thank you for being more considerate of our neighbours and children. Please could we continue to be considerate when we return post the summer break. If we observe or receive any negative feedback from our neighbours, we will need to consider taking action such as closing access to Coniston Gardens during drop off and collections times as part of Brent Safer Streets campaign.

Next year is an exciting year for our school as we will open our new dining hall which is expected to complete in the second half of the autumn term. We expect to be able to provide all children with an improved dining experience! The school will provide more details closer to the time of the opening.

Finally, all parents are part of **Friends & Family of Goldsmith (FFG)** and are encouraged to join a group that puts on a number of special events each year such as a summer fair. We have an active



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group that works hard to raise money for the school but we always need more help to run more events! The funds and sense of community spirit these events generate are vital for the school and our children. Please let the school office know if you want more information or want to be more involved with the Friends & Family of Goldsmith.

I wish you all a fun filled summer break (hopefully it's not so hot!)

Yours sincerely

Himesh Patel

Chair, Board of Governors, Oliver Goldsmith Primary School



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