



# OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



“Inspiring a love of learning”



Tel: 0208 205 6038

020 8205 6800 (Nursery)

admin@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk



@OGPSinspired



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Dear Parents & Carers,

Firstly I would like to thank you for all the support you have given to the school during this challenging worldwide crisis.

As you know from my last newsletter, the government's ambition is for schools to begin to open in a phased manner from 1st June for children in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 6. We have been told that the government's final decision about this next step will be made on Thursday 28th May. Currently there are many views on whether it will be safe and my view is that I would need to be reassured by the government, by our local authority Brent and by unions which represent the staff at the school before I and the Board of Governors can make a final decision about wider re-opening at OGPS.

Over the last week there have been a number of guidance documents released by the government and unions that we have been working through and there are more to come! We are steadily working through the planning and risk assessment process to plan for the future. Our planning includes, for example;

- *Limiting class sizes based on the size of our classrooms.*
- *Staggering opening and closing times for different groups of children.*
- *Changing our timetable as usual activities will not take place in the normal way - lessons, breaktimes and lunchtimes for example.*
- *Ensuring we have safe and adequate staffing levels. Children may not be taught by their usual teacher in their usual classroom or with their usual Learning Support Assistants.*
- *Ensuring we have the capacity to bring back an increased number of pupils as well as maintain our provision for vulnerable children and children of keyworkers as well as maintaining online learning for the remainder of our children who would be staying at home.*
- *Limiting movement around the site as far as possible and making sure we have signage which supports social distancing for children and staff.*
- *Limiting the numbers of parents on site at pick up and drop off time and reducing the number of parents who enter the building.*
- *Reviewing if and how we will be able to provide pupils with school meals.*
- *Reviewing our wrap around care - it is looking unlikely that we will be able to provide breakfast club or after school club provision.*
- *Planning for extra cleaning taking place across the site on a regular basis.*
- *Ensuring that we have extra supplies of soap, paper towels etc. so that children are able to practice good hand hygiene at all times. This includes looking at whether we need to install additional outdoor hand washing facilities.*

This is not the full list of all we are planning for, but as you can see there is much for us to do in a very short period of time!

As I said in my newsletter, I want to reassure you that we will **not be pressuring parents to send their children to school** – you know what's best for your child's health and wellbeing.

**I will be writing to parents on Friday 22nd May** to clarify the exact details on the arrangements for the coming weeks, so you can make appropriate decisions. If your child remains at home beyond 1 June, we will continue to support you, and them, with home learning, as well as free school meals support for those who are eligible.

For the remainder of this week we continue to remain open **only** for vulnerable pupils and the children of critical workers.

Next week is half term week and the school will be closed to all pupils. We will not be setting home learning over the half term break but will provide some ideas for activities that might help families. At this moment in time, we will reopen for **children of critical workers and vulnerable children only on Monday 1st June**. My letter on Friday will confirm the details for all other children.

Please do continue to stay in touch with us about how your child is getting on using the class teacher email address on page three of this newsletter. You can also contact myself or Mrs. Dean, Deputy Headteacher, or Miss Patel, Acting Assistant Headteacher, through the main school email address.

Please remember that OGPS is here for you. If you need help or support, please call the school office between 8.30am and 4.00pm.

Thank you for your continued patience at this challenging time.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a safe half term break next week as well as saying Eid Mubarak to all those celebrating at the weekend.

Stay safe and take care.  
My very best wishes to you all.

**Mr. James Simmons**  
Headteacher



## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS FROM GOV.UK**

### **Testing now available to anyone with symptoms of coronavirus**

The government has announced that anyone with symptoms of coronavirus is now eligible to book a test, ahead of the rollout of the test and trace service.

Anyone experiencing a new, continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change, in their normal sense of smell or taste (anosmia) can book a test.

A coronavirus test can be booked here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



## Keeping in touch with you...



### Emails...

Class email addresses are up and running to receive your photos, messages and work. Please use the email to...

1. Send in pictures of you or your work that you would like us to upload to the class pages on the school website so you can see each other. If you send a photo of yourself, please don't have your name visible in the picture.
2. Send a piece of writing or topic work to your class teacher to have a look at. Teachers will then be able to email back with some feedback about your work. We will look to share what we call two stars and wish - two great things you did and then a wish about what you might do next time to improve. Teachers will do their very best to respond to emails within 2-3 days of receiving them. Please be patient as there will be many messages to get through! Each teacher is in a different situation and we ask you to respect that it may take some staff longer to reply than others. We will be doing our best given our different circumstances.

We have also added email addresses for French & Music...

[music@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:music@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)

Mrs McNeil

[french@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:french@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)

Mademoiselle Dardenne

Here are the email addresses to reach your child's class teacher...

[NU@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:NU@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[RM@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:RM@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[RP@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:RP@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[1B@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:1B@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[1O@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:1O@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[2AJ@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:2AJ@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[2D@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:2D@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
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[3P@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:3P@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
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[5C@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:5C@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[5L@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:5L@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[6D@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:6D@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)  
[6S@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](mailto:6S@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)

Miss Nanjee  
Mrs Miller-Henry  
Mrs Polewcyk  
Ms Brown  
Miss Omar  
Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Varsani  
Mrs Dhall  
Mrs Luke  
Mrs Palinda  
Miss Beck  
Mrs Modha  
Mr Crawford  
Mr Leventhall  
Mrs Shewell  
Mrs Schlichter

### School Blogs...

You can leave a comment about French and Music for Miss Dardenne and Mrs McNeil by using the school blog, which you can find using this link.

<https://www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk/blog>

We hope these ways of communicating will help you to feel closer to us and more connected to the OGPS community. If you need to contact a senior leader, Mr Simmons, Headteacher, Mrs Dean, Deputy Headteacher or Miss Patel Acting Assistant Headteacher, please call or email the main school office; we are here for you.

# Mental Health Awareness Week 2020



<https://www.elmer.co.uk/elmer-day/>

As you will have seen in our assemblies this week, it is Mental Health Awareness Week.

On Friday you can celebrate your true colours with Elmer Day! Use the link at the top to find some lovely resources including the author reading the book to you!



## CELEBRATE ELMER DAY AT HOME IN 2020!

Elmer makes the world a much brighter place. So for this year's Elmer Day we are spreading the positivity of Elmer with free resources that everyone can enjoy at home.



## OGPSInspired YOUTUBE Channel

We have created a you tube channel to post videos we are making to keep in touch with you and your family. You can find the page using this link...

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCovGykj7T2HTcG\\_ZS4RWffw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCovGykj7T2HTcG_ZS4RWffw)

I hope you have enjoyed our assemblies so far!



OGPSInspired

49 subscribers

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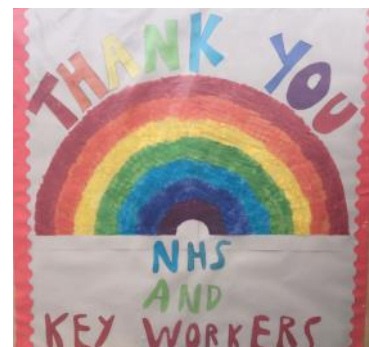
### Uploads



Wednesday  
Assembly Message  
63 views · 1 hour ago



Tuesday Assembly  
221 views · 21 hours ago





# Nature at home

Experience the magic of  
Forest School from home!

## Butterfly Feeder

Age: KS1- KS2

Butterflies are beginning to appear at this time of year, so why not build a butterfly feeder to see if you can attract some to your home or garden?



Step One

Draw a pretty flower onto the card and colour it in! Cut out the shape.

Step Two

Tape the bottle top to the middle of the flower, and then tape the finished flower to a stick or cane. Stick it into the pot!

Step Three

Mix together the sugar and water, dunk the cotton wool or tissue into it and stick it into the bottle top. Butterflies love sugary sweetness!

Step Four

Replace your cotton wool every few days. Have you seen any butterflies or any other insects? Make a diary of what you see.

### Kit List

- A pot with some soil
- Sugar and water
- A stick or cane
- Sellotape and scissors
- Colouring pencils
- Card
- Cotton wool (or tissue)
- A bottle top



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KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA





# Nature at home

**Experience the magic of  
Forest School from home!**

## ***Build A Nest***

*At this time of year most bird species are building their nests to lay their eggs and rear their young chicks. Nests can come in all different shapes and sizes. Most birds build their own from natural materials and build them in hidden corners away from predators.*

**Gather suitable natural materials from your garden or local park. Good material would be things like small twigs, dry grass or stems, moss, lichen and feathers.**

**Have a go at building a nest.**

### **Top tips**

- *Start by making a circle or square of sticks*
- *Build up the sticks like a wall*
- *Put hard things on the outside and soft things on the inside*



**City of Westminster**



**THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA**

## How school events are being affected and our planning for the future...



We will write in future newsletters about what will happen to events that we had planned to take place.

**Y6 Leavers Assembly:** Like you, we will be very sad if we do not get to say farewell to our year six leavers. As I said to them in our final assembly on Fri 20th March, if we are not back in school by the end of the school year, we will put on a special event in the autumn term and invite our current year six pupils back so we are able to say a proper goodbye!

***Thank you for your patience and understanding at this challenging time.***

### Term Dates for 2019-20

Summer Term: Monday 20th April 2020 to Tuesday 21st July 2020  
(with 20th & 21st July as CPD days)

*NOTE: The early May Day Bank Holiday has been moved by the Government to Friday 8th May 2020 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe.*

*Half term week Monday 25th May 2020 to Friday 29th May 2020*

**NOTE: Children finish school year on Friday 17th July**

### Term Dates for 2020-21

Autumn Term: Weds 2nd Sept to Fri 18th Dec 2020 (with 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sept as CPD days)  
**Children (Y1-6) start on Monday 7th Sept**  
*Half term week Monday 26th Oct to Friday 30th Oct 2020*

Spring Term: Monday 4th Jan 2021 to Weds 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (with 4th Jan as CPD Day)  
**Children return to school on Tuesday 5th Jan 2021**  
*Half term week: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021*

Summer Term: Monday 19th April 2021 to Fri 23rd July 2021  
**Children return to school on Tues 20th April 2021**  
*Half term week Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021*  
*Children break up for the summer holiday on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July*

**To confirm the Staff Training days (CPD days) are as follows for 2020-21**

- Wednesday 2nd September 2020
- Thursday 3rd September 2020
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021
- Monday 19th April 2021

*In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2021-22 academic year will be published to parents early in the autumn term of 2020 as soon as they have been ratified by the Board of Governors.*



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