

OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring a love of learning"



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Dear Parents & Carers,

We have been back in school for six weeks now and I am so proud of our school community. Proud of our brilliant children who have adapted to our new routines. Proud of our staff team with the way they have settled children back into their classes and into their learning. We are so very grateful for all the support that you, parents and families, have given us and your children. When we work together we can achieve so much!

We may be in challenging times but there is still good news to share!

I am pleased to say that as a school we have received the "Music Mark" for the second year running after being nominated by Brent Music Service for our provision and participation in all things musical! The performing arts really are part of the heart beat of our school; we are working hard to ensure that it remains that way!



Invitation to the Mayor's Schools for Success programme 2020/21

"I would like to thank you for being part of the Mayor's 2019/20 Schools for Success programme. You have helped your low-achieving students do exceptionally well alongside ensuring all your students have a bright future. As schools re-open to more children, we want to provide as many opportunities as we can for senior leaders and teachers to share good practice. We have therefore made the decision to invite all schools that joined Schools for Success in 2019/20 to take part in the programme in 2020/21."



Parent Governor Election...

At this the time of writing we have had four parents nominated for two parent governor vacancies so there will be an election. The details will be sent out next week - there may be even more candidates by the end of the day!

Parents with Children in Year 6...

Don't forget that you <u>must</u> complete your application for a place for high school for September 2021 by 31st OCTOBER. It is vital you don't miss this deadline!

Stay safe and well.

Best wishes
Mr. James Simmons
Headteacher



Black History Month Competition led by Ms. Brown, Humanities Leader

As part of Black History Month, Ms Brown has organised a special competition for children to get involved in.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH DESIGN A POSTBOX COMPETITION

Design your own post box featuring a black person who is **British**.

The Royal mail have painted four post boxes black to honour black Britons. Each box features a significant figure from the black community.



On your post box you should include: Information about their life and why you chose to write about them.

You can draw your own post-box and

design it or use the template provided. (Your teacher will have

copies).

Some people you might write about are: Benjamin Zephaniah, Mary Seacole, Lenny Henry, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, Malorie Blackman, David Olusola, Lubaina Himid, Ashley Banjo



the 2nd of November.













Covid update...

As I am sure you aware, yesterday, London was moved to TIER 2 on the Covid alert level. The information below summarises what this means. The school remains open. Many parents have asked me about the likelihood of a short lockdown or circuit breaker taking place; my honest answer is that I simply do not know. Schools and headteachers are not given any advance warning of changes in measures being taken - I will find out at the same time you will!





Wash hands keep washing your hands regularly



Cover facewear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space

stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

For more information and detailed guidance visit: **gov.uk/coronavirus**

Harvest Appeal 2020...

Now, more than ever, we need to think about how we can help to look after others in our local community who might be struggling at this time.

Each year, we support the Brent Foodbank with our Harvest appeal and I hope this year you will be able to support in your usual generous way.



COLLECTION POINT HERE

We are asking that next week, on Thursday 22nd Oct or on Friday 23rd October, children bring in their contribution to school.

To help us do this in a safe way we are...

- Only asking for smaller items so they are easy for children to carry into school
- Children will take their contribution to their classroom where they will put into storage for a few days before being handled by anyone else.
- Asking children to bring items in over two days, Thurs 22nd & Fri 23rd Oct

This year we are asking you to donate...

- Baby toiletries such as shampoo, bubble bath or baby lotion
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Tooth paste
- Tooth brushes

Thank you in advance for your support



An update from Brent...

Videos explaining NHS Test and Trace

The new Test and Trace app is an important new tool to control the spread of Coronavirus. As Brent's Public Health Director Dr Melanie Smith recently said, "the app will allow us all to know more quickly if we're at risk of the virus – so we can take action fast and protect our communities and the ones we love."

To help encourage as many people as possible to download the app, Brent have put together videos in some of the most commonly-spoken languages in the Borough

English, with Dr John Licorish – https://youtu.be/B94-OYTSnoy.

Somali – https://youtu.be/yqzPDpUPF9s

Arabic - https://youtu.be/23pOR6NwL2c

Gujarati – https://youtu.be/FnQC2v7BMql





a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste

This could be a sign of coronavirus

Book a test

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste

These are not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial 111 or see your GP

Safeguarding Alert from Brent...

You may have read or heard this in the media regarding an incident which took place in Camden. We have been asked to share this information with parents.

Drug Information Alert

DATE:

7 October 2020

(to be displayed until 7 November 2020)

Danger: NORTH LONDON CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL AFTER EATING 'CANNABIS-LACED SWEETS'

Several school-aged children from Camden have been taken to hospital having consumed Nerds sweets containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Details: 13 Highgate pupils fell ill after eating what they believed were 'sweets'. Police have said the sweets were believed to contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), an active ingredient of cannabis.



Consequences:

Please note that children often have a smaller body mass than adults, so the effects may be more profound.

Cannabis produces a fast heart rate at low doses, but larger doses can slow the heart & lower blood pressure. Sudden death has been reported in cannabis users. Cannabis can increase the risk of heart attack & the risk is 4-fold higher within the hour following cannabis use. It can induce a psychotic syndrome, and can cause apprehension, anger and depression. Cannabis is also associated with lung disease and chronic cough.

Harm reduction:

For any emergency medical situations, attend your local Accident & Emergency Unit or call 999.

Inform family members and friends.

For more information, speak to your keyworker

The alert should be displayed with the date it should be taken down.

The impact of an alert is lessened the longer it is displayed.

If the issue is still a concern after the date specified, an update can be issued.



Please don't forget key information...



If your child is unwell for other reasons than Covid-19, you must report the sickness absence of your child in the usual way (call the school office) and send your child back to school when they are well. Please be clear about your child's symptoms when speaking to our office team.

For drop off and pick up times and which gate to use...

Year Group	Which Gate?	Drop Off Time	Pick Up Time
Nursery (AM)	Kingsbury Gnds Gate	8.20-8.30	11.20-11.30
Nursery (PM)	Kingsbury Gnds Gate	12.20-12.30	3.20-3.30
Reception	Coniston Gnds Gate	8.40-8.50	3.20-3.30
Year 1	Coniston Gnds Gate	8.40-8.50	3.20-3.30
Year 2	Coniston Gnds Gate	8.30-8.40	3.30-3.40
Year 3	Kingsbury Rd Gate	8.40-8.50	3.30-3.40
Year 4	Kingsbury Rd Gate	8.40-8.50	3.30-3.40
Year 5	Kingsbury Rd Gate	8.30-8.40	3.20-3.30
Year 6	Coniston Gnds Gate	8.40-8.50	3.30-3.40

If you have more than one child, start at the gate for the earliest drop off and we will guide you what to do next. Senior staff and other staff are available each day to help you.

Please don't forget to social distance from other families as you arrive and leave school. We have set up lines and signs to help but we need your support to make it work. Please follow our guidance and keep social distance rules to help keep us all safe. Thank you.

What does my child need to bring to School?

- Children DO need to bring a packed lunch to school, unless they are having a school packed lunch.
- Children DO need a named water bottle.
- Children DO need to bring a coat to wear as needed for the autumn weather!
- Children DO NOT need to bring in pencil cases we will supply them with equipment.
- Children DO NOT need to bring in bags.
- Children DO NOT need to bring in PE kits they should wear their PE kits to school to avoid the need to change on their PE day.
- Children DO NOT need to bring in book bags, we have set up electronic books for children
 to access and homework will be completed online to reduce paper and books going
 between school and home.

What does my child need to wear to school?

- Children should wear school uniform as per our uniform policy.
- On PE days, children should wear school PE kit to school.
- Children in Y1 & Y2 can wear trainers for PE rather than plimsoles.
- See the next page for details of when each class has PE and which days they should come to school in their PE kit.



What days does my child need to wear PE kit to school?

Class/Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RN		✓			
RP					✓
10		✓		✓	
1T	✓		✓		
2B	✓		✓		
2D		✓		✓	
3AV		✓	✓		
3B	✓			✓	
4M	✓		✓		
4P		✓		✓	
5L		✓	✓		
58	✓			✓	
6C	✓		✓		
68		✓		✓	

What should my child wear on PE days?

- Grey or black shorts
- Plain white t-shirt without any logos/badges or designs
- Grey or black jogging bottoms may be worn in the winter months.
- Trainers for all children as they will spend the day wearing them plimsoles are not suitable for children to wear all day.







If your child has an old PE kit from last year which they still fit, please use it. 2020/21 is a transitionary year between our own uniform and our new uniform policy.

NOTE: On PE days, trainers DO NOT need to be all black, they just need to be safe and comfortable. Please do not rush out to buy new ones!

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



Term Dates for 2020-21

Autumn Term: Weds 2nd Sept to Fri 18th Dec 2020 (with 2nd, 3rd & 4th 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 31st March 2021 (with 4th Jan as CPD Day)

Children return to school on Tuesday 5th Jan 2021Half term week: Monday 15th Feb - Friday 19th 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 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021 Children break up for the summer holiday on Friday 23rd July

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

Wednesday 2nd September 2020Thursday 3rd September 2020

• Friday 4th September 2020

Monday 4th January 2021Monday 19th April 2021

Term Dates for 2021-22

Autumn Term: Weds 1st Sept to Fri 17th Dec 2021 (with 1st Sept as CPD day)

Children (Y1-6) start on Thursday 2nd Sept

Half term week Monday 25th Oct to Friday 29th Oct 2021

Spring Term: Tues 4th Jan 2022 to Fri 1st April 2022 (with 4th & 5th Jan as CPD Days)

Children return to school on Thursday 6th Jan 2022 Half term week: Monday 14th Feb - Friday 18th Feb 2022

Summer Term: Tues 19th April 2022 to Fri 22nd July 2022 (with 19th April as CPD day)

Children return to school on Wednesday 20th April 2022 Half term week Monday 30th May 2021 to Friday 3rd June 2022

Friday 22nd July is a CPD Day

Children break up for the summer holiday on Thursday 21st July 2022

To confirm the Staff Training days (CPD days) are as follows for 2021-22

Wednesday 1st September 2021

• Tuesday 4th January 2022

• Wednesday 5th January 2022

Tuesday 19th April 2022

• Friday 22nd July 2022

In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2022-23 academic year will be published to parents early in the autumn term of 2022 as soon as they have been ratified by the Board of Governors.





