



# OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Inspiring a love of learning”



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Inspired to...  
★ CARE  
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**School Newsletter: The Goldsmith Gazette**  
**Edition Number: 137 Date: Fri 11th March 2022**



Dear Families,

With the start of spring we can now see the blossoms on the trees beginning to emerge as well as spring bulbs and flowers sprouting to brighten our world. It is great to see some blue skies and sunshine - they make a great difference to break and lunchtimes!

This newsletter contains three very important messages for families...

**FIRSTLY**, we have entered a transitional period where we move towards a more normal way of organising school life, less dominated by Covid 19 restrictions. We will of course keep a close eye on cases at the school and should we see a significant rise in cases we may need to bring back previous arrangements. This week, children across KS2 have begun to play all together outdoors on the playground as we return to a more normal timetable. Next week, we will be starting face to face assemblies with children in their phase groups to settle them into a new routine.

Covid 19 remains an issue for us all and we do need the support of families to ensure that any child who shows symptoms accesses a PCR test and self-isolates if they test positive. *Please see the details on page 2 for more information.*

**SECONDLY**, good news for our long awaited dining hall! The site has been set up by the contractor and works start on Monday 14th March starting with grounds work. I was told in a meeting earlier this week that the completion date for the project will be October. *Please see page 3 for more details.*

**THIRDLY**, on personal note, my wife is expecting a bay with the due date just after the Easter holiday. I will be taking my paternity leave immediately after the holiday followed by a short period of further leave so that I can be there to support my family. To ensure the school has consistency of senior leadership in the next half term, I am pleased to say that, in my absence, Mrs Dean will become the Acting Headteacher with Mrs McAndrew the Acting Deputy Headteacher; they will both be supported by Mrs Amui in her role as Assistant Headteacher. I will be returning to the school on Friday 27th May. I know the school will be safe in their very capable hands.

**Finally, a reminder that we have been advised by Brent that our building will be used as a Polling Station for the local elections in May. The school will be closed to children on Thurs 5th May.**

With very best wishes  
Mr. James Simmons  
Headteacher

## Covid 19 Reminders...

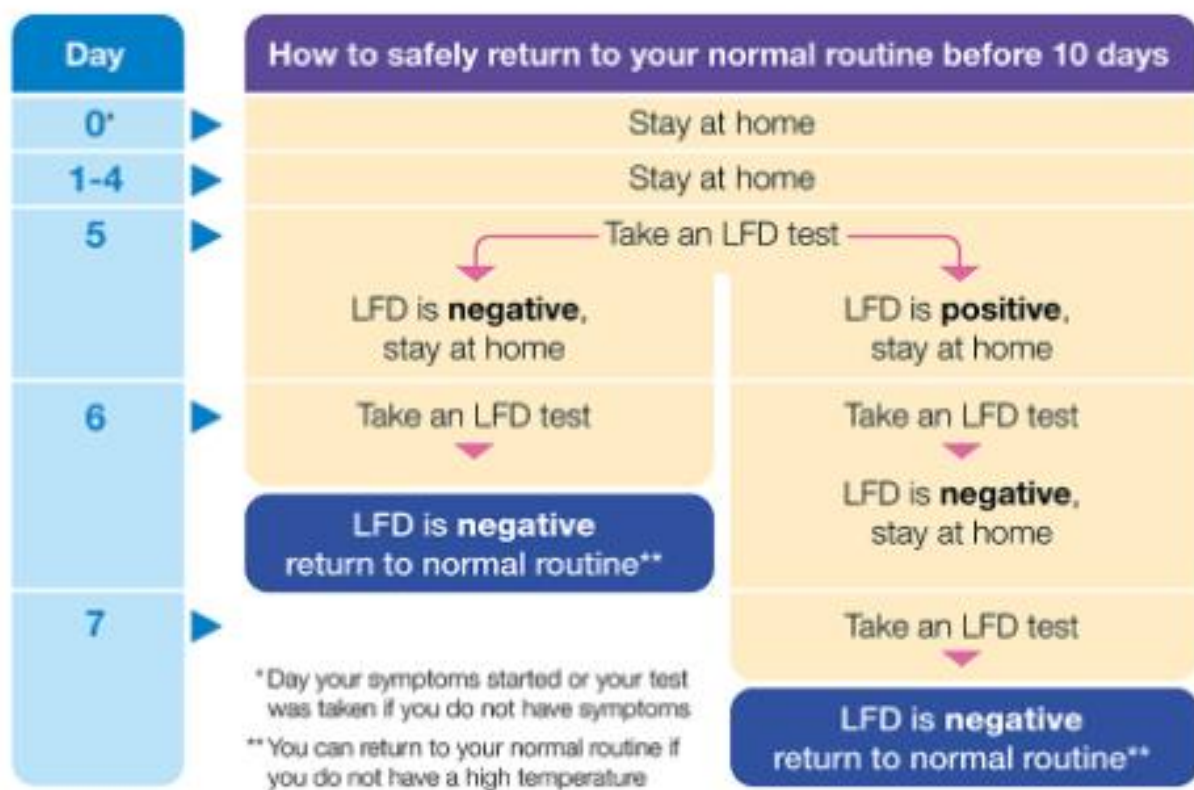
### Isolation for Positive Cases

Although the legal obligation to isolate following a positive test result has been removed, it is still strongly recommended that individuals who test positive isolate for at least five days. The Government advises those who have tested positive to remain at home. **Therefore, if your child tests positive for Covid-19, please keep them at home for at least five days and inform the school office of the reason for absence.**

We will continue to keep a log of absences related to positive Covid-19 cases so that we can identify whether there are any potential outbreaks.

**If your child shows any Covid-19 symptoms, however mild, please keep them at home and inform the school office of the reason for absence. You should book a test to check whether your child has Covid-19.**

**If your child displays symptoms whilst they are in school, we will continue to follow our procedure of using an isolation room and asking you to collect your child.**



If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results.

You can find further information using this link...

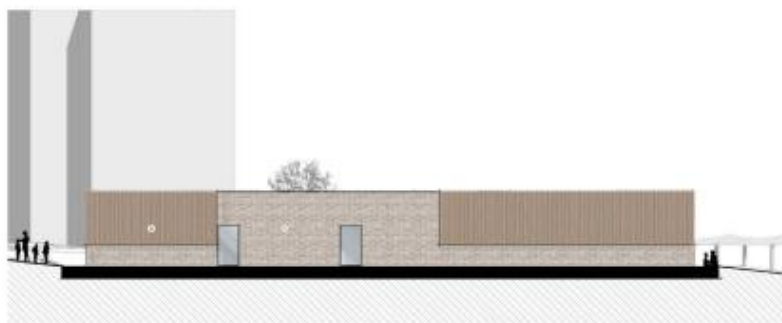
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/information-for-parents-and-carers-coronavirus-covid-19>

## Dining Hall Development...

Our new dining hall will be built in the same space as the old dining room but it will be very different! The school has contributed money towards the building project to ensure it meets our needs. We have paid additional money to add extra capacity to the dining hall space where the children will eat as well as adding a room specifically for our Breakfast Club and After School Club provision. This means we will also have additional space to run more after school clubs once the building has been completed.



Here are some of the designs for you...



Elevation 01



Elevation 02



In the coming months we will also be working on appointing a new catering provider to work onsite to produce fresh and healthy hot meals for our children each day.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the project as time passes....

### **Dates for Your Diary:**

Mon 14th March	Y5 Activity Week - children at Gordon Brown Outdoor Activity Centre or other arranged activities if they are onsite at OGPS
Thurs 24th March	School Council Fundraising for 'World Wildlife Fund' see separate letter
Weds 30th March	Y4 Easter Assembly - we will write to Y4 families with the details of how you can come and watch the assembly by the end of next week.
Fri 1st April	<b>End of term, school finishes at 1.30pm for all pupils</b>

***Performances of our second school musical of the year, this time led by children from Year 3 & Year 4 will now be taking place after the Easter break, a separate letter will be sent out to families with children involved after the holiday.***

### **School Day Timings**

- 7.45-8.35am Breakfast club
- 8.35-8.45am Soft start time - drop off time – **gates close 8.45am**
- 8.45am Registration (when children must be in their classroom for the daily register)
- Lunchtime Will last for 60mins and be staggered for different phases
- 3.15pm End of the school day - pick up time - children collected by 3.20pm
- From 3.15pm Afterschool Club wrap around care provision and other clubs

### **Term Dates for 2021-22**

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

***Children return to school on Thursday 6th Jan 2022***

*Half term week: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022*

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

***Children return to school on Wednesday 20th April 2022***

**Thurs 5th May: School Closed as we are a Polling Station for Local Elections**

*Half term week Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022*

***Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July is our school's additional Bank Holiday (Queen's Jubilee)***

***Thursday 21st July is a staff CPD Day***

**Children break up for the summer holiday on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

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

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021
- Tuesday 4th January 2022
- Wednesday 5th January 2022
- Tuesday 19th April 2022
- Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### **Please Note:**

- **Requests for leave of absence are only granted in exceptional circumstances.**
- **Holidays are not considered as an exceptional circumstance.**

## Term Dates for 2022-23



Autumn Term: Thurs 1st Sept 2022 to Fri 16th Dec 2022 (with 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept as CPD days)  
**Children (Y1-6) start on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022**  
*Half term week Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022*

Spring Term: Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023 to Fri 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 (with 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Jan as CPD Days)  
**Children return to school on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023**  
*Half term week: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023*

Summer Term: Mon 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to Fri 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 (with 21<sup>st</sup> July as a CPD day)  
**Children return to school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
*Half term week Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023*  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July is a CPD Day**  
*Children break up for the summer holiday on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023*

### **To confirm the Staff Training days (CPD days) are as follows for 2022-23**

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

### **Please Note:**

- **Requests for leave of absence are only granted in exceptional circumstances.**
- **Holidays are not considered an exceptional circumstance.**

*In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2023-24 academic year will be published to parents in the autumn term of 2022 as soon as they have been ratified by the Board of Governors.*