



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring a love of learning"



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@OGPSinspired



Inspired to...
★ CARE
★ CO-OPERATE
★ COMMUNICATE
★ CREATE
★ CELEBRATE

School Newsletter: The Goldsmith Gazette
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Dear Families,

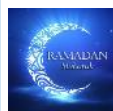
We have reached the end of the spring term and are now two thirds of the way through another school year; time really is flying by! There have been many high points this term; World Book Day, pyjama fundraising day for WWF, Y5 Activity Week, Reception music trip to see and hear orchestra instruments being played, sporting trips to Kingsbury High School to take part in activities with other local schools as well as some football fixtures for Y5 & Y6 teams. Yesterday, we enjoyed the Y4 Easter assembly; it was lovely having so many family members able to join us. The Y4 children put on a great show with their confidence shining for all to see; well done Year 4!



In recent weeks it has been lovely to see the children playing together in larger groups as well as meeting together for assemblies in our school halls. Our steady journey back to normality will continue after the Easter break. Covid-19 guidance will change again on 1st April and we will write to families after the holiday to update you on the effect these will have.

We have welcomed Miss Jeshani to the OGPS staff team as our new Welfare & Admin Assistant.

Along with this newsletter I have included a copy of our uniform policy. As we move to the summer term, summer dresses and shorts may be worn. On PE days, children should be wearing black or grey tracksuit bottoms/shorts with a plain white t-shirt, for warmth they should wear their school jumper or cardigan on top.



Ramadan Mubarak! With the holy month of Ramadan about to start we wish all those fasting a blessed, peaceful month.

As you are aware, I will be taking paternity leave in the next half term. From Tuesday, 19th April, Mrs Dean will be Acting Headteacher supported by Mrs McAndrew as Acting Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Amui as Assistant Headteacher. I look forward to returning on Friday 27th May.

A reminder that children return after Easter on WEDS 20th APRIL and our school will be a Polling Station for the local elections meaning the school will be closed to children on Thurs 5th May.

Finally, to those celebrating, I wish you a very Happy Easter and to everyone, have a great holiday - may the sun shine on us all!

With very best wishes
Mr. James Simmons
Headteacher



Y5 Activity Week - Residential Trip to Gordon Brown Activity Centre...



Children from Y5 went to Gordon Brown Outdoor Activity Centre and took part in a range of adventurous activities! Here are some comments from their diaries...



Diary by Inayah, 5S

On Monday... "The first thing we did when we got here is make our beds and unpack. We then ate lunch which was appetizing. After that, we had a tour around Gordon Brown and got to see some of the animals. The animals we saw were rabbits, chickens, goats, donkeys and pigs. I felt scared when we first approached the animals but it wasn't all bad. After that we had to find wood for the campfire."

On Tuesday... "Today I had a marvellous day. I did a lot of things that I cant wait to tell you about. First we designed shields and then relived a Roman Battle - the girls won, of course! Before lunch we had archery and made friendship bracelets. After lunch was the long ropes and trust me, after that I was exhausted! To finish the day we had a chariot race!"

On Wednesday... "For breakfast we had toast and cereal which was scrumptious! We then cleaned the dining hall, went to feed the animals and then went to our first activity which was called the Crystal Maze. We had to do all these challenges which were fun and then moved to the maze! Later, it started pouring outside and the mud was so squelchy, but that didn't stop us from doing our fun activities! We did the death drop and the climbing wall which was amazing!"

On Thursday... "Our first activity was orienteering where we had a map showing the whole of Gordon Brown and the map had numbers with places we had to go and find. It was really fun and exciting; we managed to go to all of the places as well. We finished our packing and waited for the coach ready for our journey home."



Y5 Activity Week - Residential Trip to Gordon Brown Activity Centre Continued...



Diary by Michael, 5L

On Monday... "...We unpacked everything and made our beds, the beds were bunk beds and had three levels. After that we had lunch. I ate a beef burger and wedges and a brownie! It was super-delicious and we even had leftovers! After that we went to see the rabbits and they were SOFT. There were seven bunnies and these are all the names I can remember; Bubbles, Marshmallow, Peter, Po and Grand Master Flash."

On Tuesday... "Today was really fun! I woke up a bit tired but full of energy! We made a Roman shield and then bracelets. Then we had Archery and then the obstacles!"

On Wednesday... "The Maze of Crystals where we had six challenges and had to work as part of a team to be successful. After lunch was climbing... I had a mix of emotions, while I was climbing I was scared but determined, but overall it was really fun.!"

On Thursday... "In orienteering we used a map to find marked locations. Sadly we didn't win! After that we said goodbye to the animals, ate lunch and went home."



Y5 Activity Week - School Based Activities...



Diary by Hawa, 5L

On Monday... "Today was the best day ever, it was an Art & DT day! We each had a piece of a puzzle which we shaded - we joined all the pieces up to make a picture of Professor Snape from Harry Potter."

On Tuesday... "Today was awesome. First was skateboarding! We were learning how to ride downhill and balance. Later we went rock climbing in Watford at Rock Up. The hardest part was the steps to heaven. We had so much fun together!"

On Wednesday... "For half the day we were in the cooking room, we found out we were making puff pastry! We made custard from scratch, we then cut the pastry into a pretty design, put the custard and jam in the middle and baked it. We took it home, it was delicious!"

On Thursday... "Today was fantastic, it was sports day! We had a bunch of sporty challenges and we were split into four groups. We had to work as a team to complete the challenges as quick as possible."

Diary by Adam, 5S

On Tuesday... "Today was the BEST DAY EVER! We started with a double skateboarding lesson. I got more comfortable on my board and I can ride on it now! In the afternoon we went to Rock Up - I did the hex climbing wall in 41seconds."

On Wednesday... "This morning, we started with team building skills. Our group built a 224cm tower. We played a survivor game where we had to find items and make a shelter."

On Thursday... "We spent the day doing challenges with sports coaches such as running, skipping, dodgeball and tag rugby. I was good at the problem solving game!"



Car Parking Reminders...

Whilst the no stopping or parking cones have made a difference, we are still receiving complaints from local residents who report to me that;

1. Cars are **continuing** to blocking access to their drives and homes.
2. Adults are being **abusive and disrespectful** to local residents, and often this happens in front of children.

It shocks and saddens me greatly that adults are behaving this way towards our neighbours AND are setting such a poor example of behaviour in front of children.

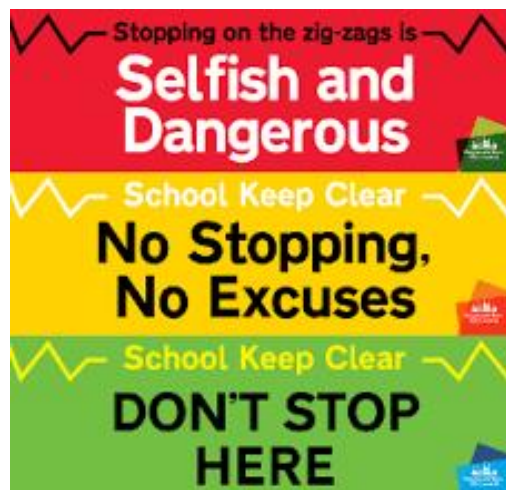
With so many families living so close to the school, please WALK or SCOOT to school. If you must drive PARK away from the school and WALK the last few minutes.

On Coniston Gardens & Kingsbury Road....

Remember that **cars should not be stopping or parking on the zig-zag lines** for the safety of our children; nor should they be blocking residents driveways to help us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours.

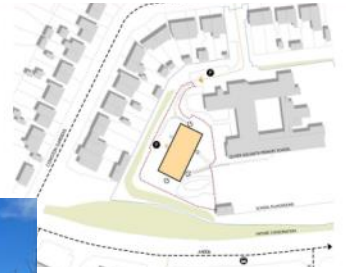
- Cars should **NOT STOP** or **PARK** on the yellow zig-zag lines **BETWEEN THE TIMES SHOWN**
- Cars should **NOT** be blocking residents' driveways to help us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours.
- Cars should **NOT** be performing dangerous manoeuvres such as three point turns outside the main gate of the school or end up driving onto the pavement.
- Cars should **NOT** be parked in Holy Innocents Church car park on Kingsbury Road; it is their **PRIVATE PROPERTY AND NOT A PUBLIC CAR PARK.**
- Finally, please switch off your car engine if you are waiting around the school area to help reduce emissions in our local area.

If you see a vehicle obstructing the pavement, stopped or parked on the yellow lines or blocking a neighbour's driveway, contact **Brent's Parking Enforcement Team on 020 8937 4972.**



Dining Hall Development...

Our new dining hall project has started, here are some photos of the ground works being completed....



Playground Development...

This half term we have invested in five new outdoor table tennis tables which means we now have six tables in the playground to promote active playtimes. The children are loving using the new tables and their skills are growing day by day!



Dates for Your Diary:

Fri 1st April

End of term, school finishes at 1.30pm for all pupils

Performances of our second school musical of the year, this time led by children from Year 3 & Year 4 will 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
- 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 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

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

Half term week Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022

Friday 22nd 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 20th 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
- Thurs 21st 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 1st & 2nd Sept as CPD days)
Children (Y1-6) start on Monday 5th Sept 2022
Half term week Monday 24th Oct to Friday 28th Oct 2022

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

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

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

- Thursday 1st September 2022
- Friday 2nd September 2022
- Tuesday 3rd January 2023
- Wednesday 4th January 2023
- Friday 21st 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.