



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring a love of learning"



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Tel: 0208 205 6038

admin@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk



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

School Newsletter: The Goldsmith Gazette
Edition Number: 160 Date: Friday 20th Oct 2023



Dear Families,

OGPS CELEBRATES: GREAT NEWS!

Our commitment to excellent provision in the arts has been recognised and we have been awarded **Arts Mark GOLD!** We say a big thank you to our Arts Leader, Mrs. Palinda, for all she has done and continues to do!



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OGPS CARES: Thank you for your very kind and generous gifts for our Harvest Appeal on behalf of Brent Foodbank, despite the challenging times we find ourselves in.



OGPS CARES: Also, after the half term break, Year 6 children will lead the 2023 Poppy Appeal. Each year we support the Royal Legion's Poppy Appeal as part of our learning about remembrance. Y6 House & Vice Captains will visit each class from Weds 2nd Nov until Fri 10h Nov to collect any donations. There is no set amount and nor do we want families to feel they must contribute; we know and respect that families support many charities outside of school that are close to their hearts. Thank you in advance for any donations you may make.



Dining Hall Update: As you are already aware, our dining hall project has been delayed further; it should now be completed by the end of December 2023. Thank you to all those who came to speak with the Director of our Construction Contractor, Cosmur, earlier this morning to share your thoughts and feelings. He will come back again in the next half term to meet with families and provide a further update.



Being Ready for Winter: With the arrival of cooler weather, please make sure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear to and from school - do make sure their name is on the coat so we can re-unite lost coats with their owners!

Wishing you a happy and safe half term break.

With best wishes,
Mr. James Simmons
Headteacher



Family & Friends of Goldsmith (FFG): It was great to see so many parents at our FFG meeting last week. Thank you for coming and sharing your ideas for how we might move forwards. There were other parents who couldn't attend but have also offered their help.

A summary of areas discussed in the meeting;

- A fancy dress disco to be arranged for Friday 1st Dec 2023 - this will be dependent on parents volunteering to help and also finding a DJ! **Do you know a DJ with their own sound system and lighting who is free on Friday 1st Dec?** If you do, please email the school admin account with the details so we can follow up after the half term.
- Holding used uniform sales once a half term from next half term - we do need a small team of around 3 or 4 people who can take the lead on arranging them each half term.
- Having coffee mornings each half term so that parents can talk to each other and make stronger links with each other.
- Finding people from our range of communities and languages who would be able to talk to groups of people they know to try to get them more involved.
- Ideas were discussed for future movie nights and a cultural day but would be dependent on volunteers coming forwards.
- Raising money by using school newsletter for local businesses to advertise in.
- Choosing a goal or focus for fundraising each year with the school so that all events lead to raising money for those projects.
- Finding a leader who will take on the key role of communicating with families and arranging events for the FFG.
- A separate letter with more details of the meeting and a google form will be sent out to families immediately after the half term to get parents to sign up for helping with specific events/jobs.

School Lunches: The final food vouchers have been emailed to families TODAY using the email addresses you provided us - see page three for more information. The vouchers we have sent have covered the first half term of the year as we were not able to provide any hot meals at all.

As you know, from after the half term, we have found a catering provider who will be making hot meals off site for us and delivering them to us. Please see the separate letters regarding how to order your children's meals for after the half term. This arrangement will be in place until the dining hall project has been completed.

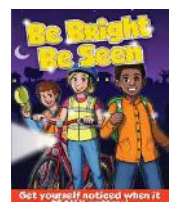
A Reminder - Celebrating Birthdays at OGPS: We know that children like to celebrate their birthdays with others but at OGPS the long held tradition is that children **do not bring in cakes, sweets or other food items** but instead parents either give out an alternative small gift such as stationery (pen/pencil) or donate a book to the school on behalf of their child. Thank you for supporting our healthy school approach!

Reminders...

Y6 Children High School Applications for September 2024 MUST be made online by TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER 2023

Don't forget... Clocks Go Back ONE HOUR on Sunday 29th October at 2am.

The change of time does mean darker days ahead, please think about road safety & ensure your child wears something to help them to **BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN!**



Eden Red Vouchers: If you are having issues with the Eden Red vouchers, here are some ideas to try! Firstly, please check your junk mail or email bin folders - the communication from them could be mistaken for spam email or a fraudulent email.

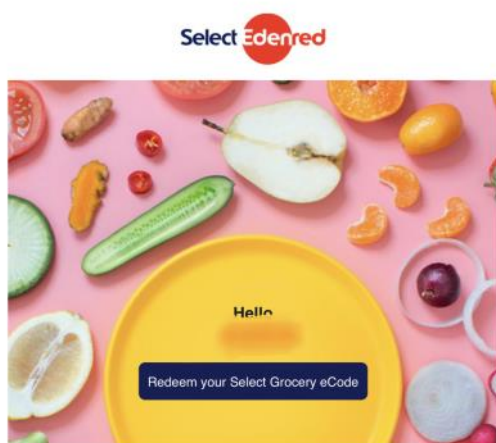
noreply@edenred.co.uk

15/09/2023 >

Congratulations, we have exciting news for you
Hello [redacted] Redeem your Select Grocery eCode Hello
Ana Your Select Grocery eCode is here. You can...

The email will look something like this in your inbox. It will contain your child's name.

Congratulations, we have exciting news for you



Hello [redacted]

Your Select Grocery eCode is here. You can redeem your eCode against a range of food retailers to the value of £50. Your eCode will expire on 13/12/2023.

Redemption eCode

Redeem your eCode

Follow these steps:

- 1 Click on 'Redeem your eCode'
- 2 Enter the unique 16-digit eCode above
- 3 Select your chosen retailer and check out
- 4 Your eGift cards will arrive by email within 24 hours

[Click here for a full user guide](#)

When you open the email it will look like this.

You will need to click on redeem your code and enter the unique number you have been sent.

You can then select your chosen retailer and your e-card will then arrive by email within 24 hours.

If you are having any issues or are unsure, please contact or visit the school office.

Parking: 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 do 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 020 8937 4972**.

PE Days

Children have TWO PE lessons each week. On the days that children have PE they should wear their PE kit TO SCHOOL rather than their school uniform.

Our School PE kits is as follows;

- Grey or black shorts or grey or black track suit bottoms
- Plain white t-shirt (no logos or designs)
- School jumper or cardigan
- Trainers suitable for being active (these can be any colour)

Here are PE days for Autumn Term 2023 - We do our very best to keep to these days, if it needs to change for any reason, we will text families to let you know.

| Year Group | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1M | PE Day | | | | PE Day |
| 1N | PE Day | | PE Day | | |
| 2B | PE Day | | | | PE Day |
| 2P | | | PE Day | | PE Day |
| 3AV | PE Day | | | | PE Day |
| 3C | | | | PE Day | PE Day |
| 4H | PE Day | | | | PE Day |
| 4L | PE Day | | | | PE Day |
| 5B | PE Day | | | PE Day | |
| 5R | PE Day | | | PE Day | |
| 6D | | PE Day | | PE Day | |
| 6S | | PE Day | | PE Day | |



Key Dates for the Autumn Term Ahead...

Please Note - Some dates may change, we will update families with any changes.

Autumn Term Part 2

- Mon 30th Oct: Back to school - gates open at 8.35am as usual
- Fri 10th Nov: Y6 Assembly - Diwali & learning reflections (letter to come)
- Mon 13th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week at OGPS
- Weds 13th Dec: Y3 Assembly - Hannukah & learning reflections (letter to come)
- Weds 13th Dec: Donations in for our Christmas Fair (letter to come)
- Fri 15th Dec: Christmas Fair Day run by Y6 pupils & FFG volunteers
- Mon 18th Dec: Y2 Assembly - Nativity (letter to come)
- Tues 19th Dec: Non-uniform day - Party Afternoon
- Weds 20th Dec: End of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1.30pm

Where new events are added, we will update newsletters, send letters and send texts to keep families up to date.



Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024...

Please Note - Some dates may change, we will update families with any changes.

Spring Term Part 1

- Tues 9th Jan: Back to school - gates open at 8.35am as usual
- Mon 15th Jan: OGPS Maths Week Begins!
- Mon 15th Jan: Extra Curricular Clubs begin today
- Fri 26th Jan: Be Bright, Be Seen Day!
- Mon 5th Feb: Spring Learning Adventure Week - "OG Sustainability Champions"
- Tues 6th Feb: Safer Internet Day
- Fri 9th Feb: Break up for half term at 3.15pm

Spring Term Part 2

- Mon 19th Feb: Back to school - gates open at 8.35am as usual
- Weds 6th March: Parents' Evening 1
- Thurs 7th March: Parents' Evening 2
- Fri 15th March: French Learning Adventure Day
- Tues 19th March: Spring Musical Performances
- Mon 25th March: Y4 Assembly - Easter & learning reflections (letter to come)
- Thurs 28th March: End of Spring Term - Children finish at 1.30pm

Where new events are added, we will update newsletters, send letters and send texts to keep families up to date.



Key Dates for the Summer Term 2024...

Please Note - Some dates may change, we will update families with any changes.

Summer Term Part 1

- Mon 15th April: Back to school - gates open at 8.35am as usual
- Tues 16th April: Y5 Activity Week - Residential to Gordon Brown Centre
- Thurs 2nd May: Local Elections & London Mayor Election Day
- Mon 6th May: Bank Holiday
- Mon 20th May: Walk to School Week
- Weds 22nd May: Y1 Assembly - Vesak & learning reflections (letter to come)
- Fri 24th May: Break up for half term at 3.15pm

Summer Term Part 2

- Mon 3rd June: Back to school - gates open at 8.35am as usual
- Mon 10th June: OGPS Proms Week
- Fri 14th June: Y5 Assembly - Eid & learning reflections (letter to come)
- Fri 21st June: Reception Assembly - (letter to come)
- Fri 28th June: Summer Learning Adventure Day
"OG Neuro-Diversity & Disability Champions"
- Mon 1st July: EYFS Sports Day (to be confirmed)
- Fri 5th July: KS1/KS2 Sports Day (to be confirmed)
- Weds 10th July: Performing Arts Concert
- Tues 16th July: Transitions Day - meet new teachers/class
- Thurs 18h July: Y6 Leavers Assembly - (letter to come)
- Fri 19th July: End of Summer Term - Children finish at 1.30pm

Where new events are added, we will update newsletters, send letters and send texts to keep families up to date.



Key Dates for the future...



Please Note:

- Requests for leave of absence are only granted in exceptional circumstances.
- Holidays or visiting sick relatives are not considered an exceptional circumstances.

A Reminder of school timings:

- 7.45-8.35am Breakfast club (only if booked in advance)
- 8.35-8.45am Soft start time - drop off time – gates close 8.45am
- 8.45am Registration (when children **must be in their classroom**)
- Lunchtime Will last for 60mins (11.50am-12.50pm)
- 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 2023-24

Autumn Term: Friday 1st Sept 2023 to Thursday 21st Dec 2023
Friday 1st September 2023 is a CPD – no children in school
Children (Y1-6) start on Monday 4th Sept 2023
Half term week Monday 23rd Oct to Friday 27th Oct 2023
Children break up for Christmas Holidays on Weds 20th Dec 2023
Thursday 21st December 2023 is a CPD day – no children in school

Spring Term: Monday 8th Jan 2024 to Thursday 28th March 2024
Monday 8th January 2024 is a CPD – no children in school
Children return to school on Tuesday 9th Jan 2024
Half term week: Monday 12th Feb - Friday 16th Feb 2024
Children break up for Easter Holidays on Thurs 28th March 2024

Summer Term: Mon 15th April 2024 to Tuesday 23rd July 2024
Children return to school on Monday 15th April 2024
Half term week Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024
Children break up for Summer Holidays on Friday 19th July 2024
Monday 22nd July 2024 is a CPD day – no children in school
Tuesday 23rd July 2024 is a CPD day – no children in school

To confirm Staff Training days (CPD days) as follows for 2023-24

- Friday 1st September 2023
- Thursday 21st December 2023
- Monday 8th January 2024
- Monday 22nd July 2024
- Tuesday 23rd July 2024



Key Dates for the future...



Please Note:

- Requests for leave of absence are only granted in exceptional circumstances.
- Holidays or visiting sick relatives are not considered an exceptional circumstances.

Term Dates for 2024-25

Autumn Term: Monday 2nd Sept 2024 to Friday 20th Dec 2024

Monday 2nd September 2024 is a CPD day – no children in school
Tuesday 3rd September 2024 is a CPD day – no children in school
Children (Y1-6) start on Wednesday 4th Sept 2024

Half term week Monday 21st Oct to Friday 25th Oct 2024

Children break up for Christmas Holidays on Friday 20th Dec 2024

Spring Term: Monday 6th Jan 2025 to Friday 4th April 2025

Monday 6th January 2025 is a CPD day – no children in school
Children return to school on Tuesday 7th Jan 2025

Half term week: Monday 17th Feb - Friday 21st Feb 2025

Children break up for Easter Holidays on Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term: Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Children return to school on Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Half term week Monday 26th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025

Children break up for Summer Holidays on Friday 18th July 20245
Monday 21st July 2025 is a CPD day – no children in school
Tuesday 22nd July 2025 is a CPD day – no children in school

To confirm Staff Training days (CPD days) as follows for 2024-25

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Monday 6th January 2025
- Monday 21st July 2025
- Tuesday 22nd July 2025

In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2025-26 academic year will be published to parents early in the autumn term of 2024 when they have been ratified by the Board of Governors.



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