



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



“Inspiring a love of learning”

Celebrating 80 years 1938 to 2018

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@OGPSInspired



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Dear Parents and Carers,

At Oliver Goldsmith, we don't just aim to teach children about music; we want to help them develop into musicians. We know the power music can have on pupil concentration and focus which in turn supports strong behaviour for learning and promotes success across all subjects.

Playing a musical instrument opens doors and creates many opportunities for children, both now and for the rest of their lives. We have a specialist teacher, Miss McNeil, who work with children across the school. We also work closely with the Brent Music Service to provide small group instrumental tuition.

The standard of music lessons at the school is very high, as are children's musical achievements. Have you asked your child about what they do in music lessons recently? I'm sure you'll be amazed at what they tell you!

In this newsletter you can read about how music reaches across all year groups and engages a huge number of children.

With best wishes,

Mr. Simmons
Headteacher

Year 4 Trumpet BMS Wider Opportunities Program

All children in year 4 had the opportunity to learn the trumpet in the Autumn term. Lessons were taught by Brent Music Service tutor Mrs. Gardner. Many children in Year 5 and 6 now take lessons on trumpet or French horn and play in the Brent Junior Orchestra—all started by their introduction to brass instruments at Oliver Goldsmiths in year 4. Oliver Goldsmith has a close relationship with the Brent Music Service, making sure our pupils have first access to all musical opportunities provided by the borough.



Year 5 Handel Project



The 2016-2017 school year was our second year participating in the Handel Project arranged by the Handel House Museum in London. Children in Year 5 participated in a museum visit, dance and music workshops and performances of Handel's music and opera. In the final concert, Year 5 children from schools throughout Brent gathered to perform originally composed works inspired by Handel as well as some of Handel's famous music.



Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment

All children in EYFS and Year 1 were visited by musicians from the Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment in the spring and summer terms. The Orchestra specialises in Baroque music and period instruments. Children took part in workshops to learn about music and instruments. The finale to the year long project was a special concert held at our school. The orchestra even brought their own harpsichord! Children in EYFS and Year 1 enjoyed seeing and hearing the instruments up close, singing familiar songs and joining in with lots of movement and actions.



Whole School Musical—Mystery at Magpie Manor



The 2016-2017 school year saw another musical production involving children from years 1 to 6. Mystery at Magpie Manor was a huge success! Children worked very hard to put on a dramatic performance full of suspense and of course lots of swinging 1920s music, singing and dancing!



Extracurricular Music Clubs

A number of music clubs run at lunch time and after school in addition to weekly music lessons and community projects our school is involved in. The Oliver Goldsmith Junior Choir for children in years 4-6 gave enthusiastic performances throughout the school year. Notably, our choir was awarded a Platinum certificate in the Brent Primary Choir of the Year Competition in the spring term, the highest award available. The Junior choir also performed at a Christmas event at Morrisons Colindale and in many school events. We will be preparing for competitions and Brent Makes Music at Wembley Arena this year! The infant choir led by Mrs. Palinda gave energetic performances throughout the year including providing the very important chorus section for our musical.

The Junior Orchestra performed at a Christmas Celebration and in the Performing Arts Concert. Lots of hard work and practise goes into preparing for a performance. Our version of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' was a huge success!



Learning from Professional Musicians



Each term, a professional musician visits a year group to promote the playing of their instrument, answering questions from children and sharing some amazing music –making thanks to the Worshipful Company of Musicians. Last year we were visited by the following three musicians amidst their busy performance schedule.



Timothee Botbol, Cellist



Andrey Lebedev, Guitarist



Amarins Weirdsma, Violinist

OGPS Proms

Nearly 50% of all children in KS2 take lessons on an instrument in addition to their weekly music lesson with Miss McNeil. OGPS Proms gives these children the chance to show off what they have been working so hard at all year! Many children are working towards exams in the summer term and it is lovely to see how much progress they make on their instruments from year to year.



Events to look forward to in Music during the 2017-2018 school year:

Reception & Year 1— Look forward to workshops and a big finale concert from the Orchestra for the Age of Enlightenment .

Year 2—A trip to Wigmore Hall in September to hear Polly Ives and Ensemble 360° perform a musical story of 'The Chimpanzees of Happy Town'.

Year 4—Wider Opportunities Trumpet: All Year 4 will have trumpet lessons in the Autumn Term.

Year 5—Discover London's classical music heritage by taking part in the Handel Project.