



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Inspiring a love of learning"

Celebrating 80 years 1938 to 2018



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School Newsletter: The Goldsmith Gazette
Edition Number: 60 **Date: Fri 9th Feb 2018**

Dear Parents & Carers,

Yesterday the school celebrated its 80th Birthday and it really was a day to remember!

The day started with a special assembly for children, staff, governors and a special guest! We welcomed Joyce who was a pupil at OGPS when the school opened in 1938. She shared some memories with us from her time at the school. You can read more about our special assembly on the next few pages!

Before the end of the day, children had a small class party where they were each presented with a special cake. Thank you to the parents who helped to decorate the cakes.



At 3.35pm the whole school community met in the playground where we all sang happy birthday to the school and took some photos. We streamed this special rendition of happy birthday on Facebook live for all to see and share!

On Friday, we planted two new trees to decorate the front entrance of the school with three children, Monae, Safa and Dhruv being selected to help with the ceremony as their birthdays were the closest to the schools' birthday!

It was a truly special occasion which we hope the children will remember for many years to come. Hopefully they will all come back to share in the school's 100th birthday in 2038 with happy memories of the part they played in the school's proud history.

My thanks to all those who took part & helped to make the celebrations so special.

Have a happy and safe half term break.
We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 19th Feb at 8.40am.

Best wishes,

Mr. James Simmons,
Headteacher





Our Special 80th Assembly....

We made sure that our assembly linked back to the opening ceremony of the school in 1938. As they did in 1938, we had some musical items from children as well as our choir. Here are some of the highlights of our assembly...

- Piano Recital by Ghanage, Y6
- Trumpet Duet by Meetra and Isobella, Y6
- Violin Solo by Dannio, Y6
- French Horn Trio by Jenevieve, Zadie & Neha, Y6
- The school choir led us in singing "I've Got Rhythm"; a song from the 1930's to celebrate our love for music at OGPS.
- Miss White, Mrs Driscoll, Ms Berry, Mrs McGrath and Mr Crawford spoke on behalf of the staff team about their experiences over the years. We found out that the current staff team have been at OGPS for a total of 670 years between them! It was lovely to hear from each of them, their unique memories and why they feel the school is so special.
- The Leader of the School Council, Max Y6, spoke brilliantly on behalf of all the children.
- We sang "Happy Birthday" to the school and Saad in Year 1 blew out the candle on our very special birthday cake as he shares the schools' birthday!
- We revealed the results of our recent design-a-mug competition and we say well done to the following children for their winning designs; Pedram, Elmar & Maryam.



Our special guest, Joyce, was a pupil at the school when it opened in 1938 and she had some really interesting things to tell us...

"Oliver Goldsmith School was built in 1937 and in Sept 1938 was ready to receive pupils and I was one of them. We were delighted with our new school and the first event was to be the grand opening ceremony attended by many local dignitaries. Those of us chosen to form a choir by Mr Manders, our music teacher, were put through many rehearsals of the two songs. We sang 'Music Makers' and 'Ducks adabbling'. These went down very well on the occasion I recall."

"Our proposed return to school in 1939 did not happen for on 9th September 1939, war was declared and our school was closed. Looking back it was a time when many children were being evacuated and teachers called up to serve in the forces. A great deal of re-organisation needed to be made with local education."

"After a few months, Oliver Goldsmith pupils attended lessons at Fryent School every weekday morning plus Saturday and were also given homework. Life was very different now with food rationing, gas masks to be carried and what to do when the sirens sounded! We were very glad to return to our school and a normal routine!"

"During 1940 and early 1941 lessons continued with a few interruptions. Mainly from the outbreak of German Measles which decimated classes to a handful of pupils. We used our pocket money to buy stamps for the war effort and made our sweet ration last as long as possible!"

"During the time to July 1941 when I left Oliver Goldsmith School the teachers did a wonderful job in giving us an excellent grounding to our education despite the problems and difficulties that arose! This was significant as our future education at other schools from Sept 1941 to 1945 was interrupted by the Blitz, doodlebugs and V Rockets! But school days still remain memories of happy times with friends. Well done Oliver Goldsmith and thank you."

We finished our assembly with this final thought...

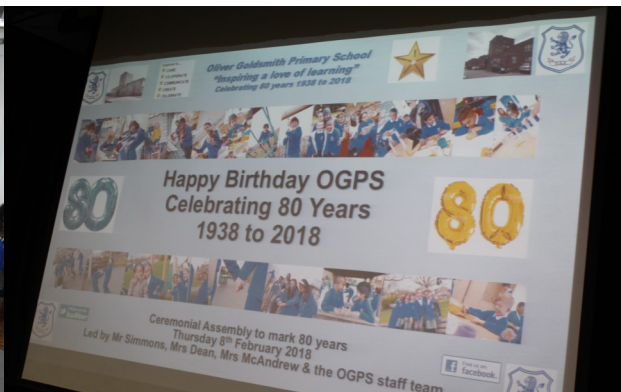
"We sit here together, hearing stories of the past, living the present and planning for our futures! We think about all those who have come before us; children, staff, governors, who have built the name and reputation of OGPS. We think about how we can follow this proud tradition to ensure the school goes from strength to strength."

"We think back to the words of Mr. Smith, the Headteacher who spoke in 1938 when the school first opened. He told parents who expected the school to be a place without laughter that they were in for a surprise! Since 1938, there has been much fun, laughter and many happy memories created by all those at the school. Today we re-dedicate ourselves to those words, to ensure the school inspires a love of learning, with a sense of fun, enjoyment and laughter for many, many years to come."





Some photographs of our special day...



In the last parent survey, parents requested a calendar of dates for the academic year. Over this and the next page you will find all the key dates. The following dates are in the school website calendar. Some dates may be subject to change!



Key Dates for the Remainder of the School Year

Spring Term 2018

Fri 9th Feb: Break up for **half term** at 3.30pm

Mon 19th Feb: Back to school at 8.40am

Mon 5th March: Parents Evenings will be held this week, more details to follow...

Fri 16th March: French Day for all pupils

Mon 12th March: E-Safety Workshop led by Childnet at OGPS, more details to follow...

Mon 26th March: School Musical Performances this week, more details to follow...

Weds 28th March: Y4 Easter Assembly, parents with children in Y4 invited to from 9.00am

Thurs 29th March: End of term at 1.30pm
(If you have problems with childcare, please speak to the office)

Summer Term 2018

Mon 16th April: Children return to school from 8.40am soft start. Clubs start this week

Mon 16th April: Maths Times Table & Competition Week!

Mon 23rd April: Y5 Gordon Brown Residential Week (4 nights Mon-Fri)

Thurs 3rd May: **Local Government Elections - OGPS will be a Polling Station, school closed**

Mon 7th May: **Bank Holiday - School Closed**

Mon 14th May: Walk, Scoot or Bike to School Week!

Fri 18th May: Reception Assembly, parents with children in Reception invited to from 9.00am

Fri 25th May: Y1 Vesak Assembly, parents with children in Y1 invited to from 9.00am

Fri 25th May: Break up for **half term** at 3.30pm

Mon 4th June: Back to school at 8.40am

Fri 8th June: Y5 Islam Assembly, parents with children in Y5 invited to from 9.00am

Mon 11th June: OGPS Proms Week!

Weds 20th June: Whole School Learning Adventure begins

Thurs 28th June: Children visit Learning Adventure Zones

Fri 29th June: Parents Visit Learning Adventure Zones

Sat 30th June: **OGPS 80th Birthday Celebration Day! (PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY NOW!!!)**

Mon 2nd July: EYFS Sports Day

Weds 4th July: Performing Arts Concert Evening Concert

Fri 6th July: KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (to be confirmed! - this date may change!)

Mon 9th July: Optional Parents Evening

Weds 11th July: Transition Day

Sat 14th July: FFG Summer Fair (date to be confirmed by PSA, this may change)

Thurs 19th July: Y6 Leavers Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am

Fri 20th July: End of term at 1.30pm
(If you have problems with childcare, please speak to the office)

Please Note: Where changes to events need to be made, we will update parents via the newsletter and calendar on the school website. We try our very best to stick to the dates we set but sometimes changes are unavoidable.



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Term Dates for 2017-18

Spring Term: Weds 3rd Jan 2018 to 29th March 2018
(with 3rd Jan as CPD Day - children start back Thurs 4th Jan)
Half term week Monday 12th Feb 2018-Friday 16th Feb 2018

Summer Term: Mon 16th April 2018 to Tues 24th July 2018
(with 23rd & 24th July as CPD days - **children finish Friday 20th July**)
Half term week Monday 28th May 2018 to Friday 1st June 2018

Term Dates for 2018-19

Autumn Term: Mon 3rd Sept to Fri 21st Dec 2018
(with 3rd & 4th Sept as CPD days - children start back Weds 5th Sept)
Half term week Monday 22nd Oct to Friday 26th Oct 2018

Spring Term: Weds 7th Jan 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019
(with 7th Jan as CPD Day - children start back Tues 8th Jan 2019)
Half term week Monday 18th Feb 2019 -Friday 22nd Feb 2019

Summer Term: Tues 23rd April 2019 to Tues 23rd July 2019
(with 22nd & 23rd July as CPD days - **children finish Friday 19th July**)
Half term week Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019

In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for 2018-19 can be found above. The dates for the 2019-20 academic year will be set and published to parents in the autumn term of 2018.

Don't forget to visit our school website which has lots of information about school life.

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