# **OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL**







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@OGPSinspired



# Dear Parents & Carers,

The recent sunshine has been a lovely extension to the summer; we have been enjoying every extra ray of sunshine that has come our way!

On Wednesday and Thursday this week we welcomed parents for our autumn term parents evenings. It was great to see so many of you attend and start the year in such a positive way.

I am delighted to announce that we have a new Parent Governor. As we didn't have more than two nominees for the two vacancies, an election was not necessary. We welcome Dr Farkhanda Rehman to the OGPS Board of Governors. I will be writing to parents again regarding the remaining vacancy.

### **Office Opening Hours**

If you need to see or speak to a member of the office admin team, the hours you can do this are as follows;

- School Office opens to parents from 8.15am (calls & visitors)
- School Office closes to parents at 5pm Monday to Thursday (4pm on Friday)

#### Can you come on Monday?

On Monday 15th October, we will be holding our Autumn Term Parent Forum. It will be held 9.00-10.00am and repeated 6.00-7.00pm. Come along and hear more about the most recent parent survey as well as helping us with shaping our new Healthy School Policy we want to introduce at OGPS.

### **Reminder for Y6 Parents!**

**Don't forget to get complete your applications** for High School for September 2019. Applications <u>MUST</u> be completed online by 31st October 2018!

Back in the summer term , children loved our temporary tennis table. The feedback was so good that we have purchased a new outdoor table for all weathers!

Best wishes.

Mr. James Simmons, Headteacher





### **Inclusive Quality Mark Award Ceremony (IQM)**

Back in March 2018, an assessor from IQM visited Oliver Goldsmith Primary School to assess our application for IQM status.

The outcome was very positive and all parents were sent highlights of the report. Whilst we achieved the award in March, the National IQM Presentation Ceremony place in September each year for all schools who achieved the award in the previous year.

I was delighted to accept the award alongside key members of staff who lead on Inclusion at OGPS, Mrs Dean (Deputy Headteacher) & Mrs Mesgian (SEND-Co). Mrs Palmer, our Vice Chair of the Board of Governors was also able to join us.

It is an award for the whole school to celebrate as it is only by working together as a team that we can truly meet the needs of our children; and that includes working in close partnership with parents.

I am very proud that OGPS is a truly inclusive school. We have a number of children with very specific educational or medical needs, some of which may be visible to children and parents, but many needs are invisible.

It makes me incredibly happy when I see all the children playing and learning together, supporting each other, celebrating their similarities and differences and helping each other through the barriers that some of them face.

As a school family, <u>we must continue to</u> <u>support the most vulnerable children in our school;</u> whether that is because of a learning need, a medical reason or behaviour need. All our children deserve the very best and that is what we aim to achieve.

The next time you see a child who looks different in some way, or maybe has an emotional outburst in the playground, please remember that these children and families have feelings and need all our support. It may be child with autism or Asperger's, it might be a child with a genetic disorder.

The IQM award shows we <u>all</u> care and support one another so that <u>all</u> children can feel safe and achieve at OGPS.







(Competition Time: Can you find us in crowd?)



#### **Harvest Assembly**

We gathered as a school into the hall today for our assembly called "Let's Harvest - Let's Share". It was lovely to welcome Rev Natasha Woodward from Holy Innocents and Mrs Varsani-Patel representing our friends at Swaminarayan Mandir.

The stage area was filled with your very generous gifts as you can see in the photograph below. We will be making sure that the gifts are passed to Brent Foodbank. Thank you again for the gifts you sent in to support our local community.







BREAKING NEWS... BREAKING NEWS... BREAKING NEWS... BREAKING NEWS...

### Friends & Family of Goldsmith - FFG

Thank you to the parents who attended the FFG coffee afternoon yesterday. We were happy to welcome new parents and also see familiar faces from our school community. The FFG explained their role and the events they organise during the school year to fundraise for the school.



The organisation of the upcoming school disco was discussed and parents voted on its theme. The majority vote was in favour of a <u>movie-themed disco</u>. The Movie Disco will take place on <u>Friday 2nd November from 5.30-7.30pm</u>. All children <u>MUST</u> be accompanied by an adult and children and carers are welcome to come dressed as film stars of their choice!

Tickets for the disco will go on sale on <u>Monday 29th October</u> in the KS1 playground after school. If you would like to get involved with the FFG please leave your email address and mobile number with the office, you will be added to the FFG WhatsApp group.



#### **Roald Dahl Day at OGPS**

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018 we celebrated Roald Dahl Day. The aims of the day were to learn about a famous author, to provide exciting, engaging and creative learning experiences and to learn about a new Roald Dahl text. The children were surprised to see all of the staff dressed up as a character from one of Dahl's stories!



Staff shared extracts from their favourite stories and poems to different classes and the children listened with curiosity, whilst wanting to hear more. Lessons were based around a Roald Dahl text and a whole school display was created, sharing some samples of their work. The day inspired many of the children to find out more about Roald Dahl and to read his imaginative stories.

- 'I liked seeing all the teachers dressed up and reading the poem Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf.' **Tala (2D)**
- 'We learned about The Witches and I enjoyed this because Miss Patel read the story with enthusiasm. I would like to read more Roald Dahl books.' Zymul (4B)
- 'I enjoyed learning about how different books were and how they've changed. I liked listening
  to the teacher's favourite Roald Dahl stories. I'm going to start reading Charlie and the
  Chocolate Factory.' Zyra (6D)







#### **Maths Week**

The first maths week of the year kicked off to a great start this academic year. Classes began the week with a baseline multiplication test and the week focused on improving speed and recall of multiplication and division facts in class in fun and exciting ways. Classes used their knowledge of number facts, multiplication and division facts to go on number trails around school and solve math investigations. They learned how to apply their knowledge and use reasoning to work through problems!

- 'I liked maths week because it was challenging and we learnt new words like radius and diameter and could try different things.' Hasindu (6S)
- 'I didn't know that times tables could be worked out by putting things in groups, but now I do.'
   Adam (2D)
- 'I am good at my times tables but I need to learn to be faster. I liked learning them in a fun way.' Vanya (3P)



### **School Council Elections**

On Friday 28th September, we held our annual school council election so that each class could select a girl and boy to represent their voice on the school council. The election was run by our Y6 House & Vice Captains; they did a brilliant job at organisign the voting!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

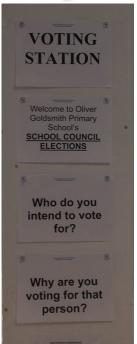
At their first meting on Friday 5th October, the school council had to vote for their chair and vice chair for the year from the year six pupils. I am very happy to announce that the school council voted *Akira* as their Chair and *Danya* as their Vice Chair.

Here are some extracts from their speeches...

"I want to be Chair because I think can help the school be a better place and make all the children happy by listening their views." Akira

"I will be honest with you about the challenges our school faces and will do my best to keep you informed. I believe in our ability to work together for something great. Together we must be strong and cooperate to achieve our goals." Danya

Some powerful words from future MPs and Prime Minister I hope!



Here are the results of the school council election for 2018-19.

A huge thank you to <u>ALL</u> the children who put themselves forward for the role and gave speeches to their classes.

1B: Afsana & Asher	10: Nitya & Loran
2D: Jacob & Tala	2AJ: Saarah & Essa
3L: Partricia & Ayaan	3P: Niska & Adam
4A: Ariadne & Ianis	4B: Hannah & Matthew
5C: Andreea & Harrykalan	5A: Klea & Krish
6D: Maryam & Musa	6S: Danya & Akira



#### **Healthy Eating at Break times & Lunchtimes**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive fruit each morning break time as part of the national scheme to improve children eating their 5-a-day! Fruit is taken out to the playground and all children are offered a piece. If there are any extras, children can ask for another piece; we hate to see good fruit go to waste!

Children in KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6) can bring in their own mid morning snack if they wish. This should be fruit or a healthy alternative; crisps are not an appropriate healthy snack for break time! If your child does bring a packed lunch, we ask that parents ensure it is a healthy balanced lunch. We see some lunch boxes filled with packed of crisps, chocolate, muffins, cold chips and fried food; these items do not provide children with a healthy lunch!!!!!!



Also, we were visited by on 4th October and received a 5 STAR RATING!

### Anyone for a Swim, Bike Ride and A Run????

Some of our year five and year six pupils had the taster of the Triathlon. They swam, they rode and then then ran! They also ha the chance to meet the Brownlee brothers who are UK Olympic Heroes. A signed shirt made all that effort worth it!





- 'I learnt that you should never give up.' Tahani 6D
- 'It was an exhilarating experience and the extra visit from the Brownlee brothers was fun.' Abdul-Kareem 6D
- 'the best trip, everybody was cheering on for me, I lost but had fun.' Musab 5C
- 'We did not have to compete against anyone and we just had to have fun. I got my tshirt signed by the best athlete (Jonny Brownlee).' Meerab 6S
- 'Not everything you see is as easy as it looks.' Kevin 6S
- 'We should do it again!' Justin 5C







# Some Stunning Art Work by our Year 2 Pupils



Children in year two have been learning about Kandinsky. They then created their own pieces of artwork using his ideas...





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!



#### Dates for your Diary...

Mon 15th Oct: Autumn Parent Forum Meeting & PSA AGM, 9.00-10.00am & 6.00-7.00pm

Tues 16th Oct: School Photographer taking individual photos of all children

Parent Time KS1 Parents "English" 9.00-10.00am Weds 17th Oct:

Fri 19th Oct: Break up for half term at 3.30pm

Half term break: Mon 22nd October to Fri 26th October 2018

Back to school... Mon 29th Oct:

Parent Time KS2 Parents, "English" 9.00-10.00am Weds 31st Oct:

Y6 Diwali Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am Fri 2nd Nov:

Fri 2nd Nov: FFG Fundraising Event - TO BE ANNOUNCED!

Mon 5th Nov: Autumn Term Learning Journey begins... "Lights, Camera, Action!"

Mon 12th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week begins

Tues 13th Nov: Parent Time open for all parents "Anti-Bullying" 9.00-10.00am Weds 21st Nov: Parent Time for Nursery & Reception Parents 9.00-10.00am Thurs 29th Nov: Meeting for Prospective Parents for Reception September 2019

Fri 30th Nov: Y3 Hanukah Assembly - Y3 Parents invited from 9.00am

Last week of clubs for the autumn term Mon 3rd Dec:

Thurs 13th Dec: Christmas Fair Donations Day

OGPS Christmas Fair in the afternoon led by Y6 Pupils & our FFG Team Fri 14th Dec:

Y3 Pupils visit the Millfield Theatre Mon 17th Dec:

Tues 18th Dec: Theatre Presentation in school for R, Y1, Y2, Y4 & Y5

Weds 19th Dec: Y2 Nativity - Y2 Parents invited from 9.00am

Thurs 20th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day & End of term party afternoon

Fri 21st Dec: End of Autumn term at 1.30pm

#### Key Dates for the Remainder of the School Year

Spring Term 2019

Mon 7th Jan: Staff CPD - No children in school

Tues 8th Jan: Children back from holiday - soft start from 8.40am

Mon 14th Jan: Clubs start this week

Mon 14th Jan: Maths Week 2

Fri 25th Jan: Be bright, Be Seen Day!

Mon 11th Feb: E-Safety Week

Tues 12th Feb: Safer Internet Day 2019

Break up for half term at 3.30pm Friday 15th Feb:

Half term break: Mon 18th Feb to Friday 22nd February 2019

Mon 25th Feb: Back to school... Thurs 7th March:

World Book Day 2019

Mon 11th March: Parents Evenings will be held this week (Weds & Thurs) more details to follow...

Mon 18th March: Spring Term Learning Adventure "Let it Grow!

Fri 29th March: French Day

Mon 1st April: School Musical 2019 to be performed this week - more details to follow... Thurs 4th April: Y4 Easter Assembly, parents with children in Y4 invited to from 9.00am

Fri 5th April: End of term at 1.30pm



Summer Term 2019

Tues 23rd April: Children back from holiday - soft start from 8.40am

Tues 23rd April: Clubs start

Tues 23rd April: Maths Week 3 - Competition Week!

Mon 29th April: Y5 Gordon Brown Residential Week (4 nights Mon-Fri)

Mon 6th May: Bank Holiday - School Closed!

Mon 13th May: Y6 National Curriculum Assessment Week (SATs)

Fri 17th May: Y1 Vesak Assembly, parents with children in Y1 invited to from 9.00am

Mon 20th May Walk, Scoot to Bike to School Week!

Thurs 23rd May: School Photographer - Class Photos being taken

Fri 24th May Y5 Ramadan & Eid Assembly, parents with children in Y5 invited to from 9.00am

Fri 24th May Break up for half term at 3.30pm

Half term break: Mon 27th May to Friday 21st May 2019

Mon 3rd June: Back to school...

Mon 10th June: OGPS Proms Week!

Fri 14th June: Reception Assembly, parents with children in Reception invited from 9.00am

Weds 19th June: Whole School Learning Adventure begins Fri 28th June: Parents Visit Learning Adventure Zones

Mon 1st July: EYFS Sports Day

Fri 5th July: KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (to be confirmed! - this date may change!)

Thurs 11th July: Performing Arts Concert Evening Concert

Sat 13th July: FFG Summer Fair (date to be confirmed by FFG, this my change)

Mon 15th July: Optional Parents Evening

Thurs 18th July: Y6 Leavers Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am

Fri 19th July: End of term at 1.30pm

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.

#### Safeguarding Zone - Keeping our Children Safe

### Child Protection and Safeguarding

Our school feels it is of the utmost importance to have good systems for protecting children and safeguarding their welfare, throughout all the activities which the school undertakes.

This means that staff and volunteers must be alert to possible concerns about every pupil and to report these concerns on to the right person/organisation.

The school has a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which can be found on the website.

It is important for parents to be aware that:

- Staff and volunteers in the school have a duty to report concerns about a child, whether this means the child may be in need of additional support or help of some kind, or whether it is thought that a child may have been abused or be at risk of abuse.
- There are four categories of abuse: physical, sexual, emotional, neglect.

In some cases the school is obliged to refer children to children's social care staff, for children to be assessed for their needs, or if an investigation into possible child abuse is required. In many cases there will already have been discussions between school staff and the parents of the child, and the situation and concerns will not be a surprise to the parents. However, parents may not be told that the school has referred their child to children's social care if it is thought that this might put the child at risk.

Children's social care tries to carry out its enquiries in a sensitive fashion. It has to gather information and generally it can be open with parents about the steps being taken.

If you think your child may have been abused you should contact Brent Social Services (Brent Family Front Door).

If you think the abuse may have happened in school, contact the Head Teacher or Deputy Headteacher who is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection.



#### DATES TO HELP PARENTS PLAN AHEAD....



#### 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: Monday 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

## Term Dates for 2019-20

Autumn Term: Mon 2nd Sept to Thurs 19th Dec 2019 (with 2nd & 3rd Sept as CPD days)

Children (Y1-6) start on Weds 4th Sept

Half term week Monday 21st Oct to Friday 25th Oct 2019

Spring Term: Monday 6th Jan 2020 to Friday 3rd April 2020 (with 6th Jan as CPD Day)

Children return to school on Tuesday 7th Jan 2020

Half term week: Monday 17th Feb - Friday 21st Feb 2020

Summer Term: Monday 20th April 2020 to Tues 21st July 2020\*

Children return to school on Monday 20th April 2020

Half term week Monday 25th May 2019 to Friday 29th May 2020

(\*Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st July as CPD days)

**NOTE:** children finish Fri 17th July 2020)

### To confirm the Staff Training days are as follows for 2019-20

- Monday 2nd September 2019
- Tuesday 3rd September 2019
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020
- Monday 20th July 2020
- Tuesday 21st July 2020

The dates for the 2020-21 academic year will be set and published to parents early in the autumn term of 2019.

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

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk







"Inspiring a love of learning"

