



# OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



“Inspiring a love of learning”



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Dear Parents & Carers,

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Ali who starts her maternity leave. It is an exciting time for her and her family as they await their new arrival. We thank Mrs Ali for giving 4A a fantastic start to the school year and look forward to hearing good news from her in the coming weeks. We welcome Ms Hammond to the OGPS team; she will be taking 4A for the remainder of the year. Ms Hammond has already spent time with Mrs Ali and the class this week to get to know them. She also had the chance to meet some parents after school yesterday and I thank you for the warm welcome you gave her.

## **Reminder for Year 6 Parents - TIME IS RUNNING OUT FAST!!!!!!**

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

## **Parent Forum**

On Monday 15th October, myself and Mrs Dean met with parents to share information about the school but also gain feedback from parents. A big thank you to all those who came along. The results of last years' parent survey which were shared at the meeting can be found later in the newsletter.

We start a new school lunch menu from after the half term. It has been emailed out to all families and can also be found on the school website.

As we finish for the half term break today, we wish you a happy and safe holiday. With the nights getting darker, do make sure you talk to children about road safety - our JTA's will be reinforcing this message in school next half term.

Also, as British Summer time comes to an end, don't forget that the clocks go back an hour on **Sunday 28th October at 2.00am** giving you that extra hour just before we come back to school!

***A reminder that we return to school on Monday 29th October with the soft start from 8.40am.***

Best wishes,

**Mr. James Simmons,  
Headteacher**

**BRITISH  
SUMMERTIME  
ENDS**

CLOCKS GO  
BACK BY 1  
HOUR



## Parent Survey 2017-18: What you told us about the school...



The results of our annual parents survey from last year (July 2018) were shared with parents at the autumn parent forum and will be shared with governors this half term. The results are overwhelmingly positive and we thank parents for their continued support. There are always areas to improve on and we will be listening and responding to parents comments.

### Parent Survey July 2018

	Agree %	Don't Know %	Disagree %
1. My child is happy at this school	100	0	0
2. My child feels safe at this school	100	0	0
3. My child makes good progress at this school	100	1	0
4. My child is well looked after at this school	100	4	0
5. My child is taught well at this school	99	1	0
6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age	88	1	5
7. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	97	4	1
8. The school deals effectively with bullying	87	11	1
9. This school is well led and managed	97	1	0
10. This school responds well to any concerns I raise	96	4	0
11. I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	99	0	0
	YES		NO
12. Would you recommend this school to another parent?	100		
	Very Well	Satisfactorily	Needs to Improve
13. How well does the school communicate with parents?	95	5	0

### A Sample of the Positive Comments from Parents: What do we do well you think we should keep doing...

- *Thank you for looking after my child's wellbeing and helping support learning in a positive way.*
- *I came to the concert and it was wonderful. I am pleased that the school teaches so much to the pupils. I look forward to my son starting in 2020!*
- *The communication between the leadership and parent body is one of the school's greatest strengths.*
- *Continue to promote the arts and identify children's interests and talents*
- *Making pupils feel confident and have a "can do" attitude*
- *Creating a family atmosphere with the kids and a warm and friendly reception and staff*
- *Positive approach towards religious and cultural differences – teaching about different religions*
- *Involving and informing parents in decisions and changes*
- *Keep Mr Simmons as Headteacher and Mrs Dean as Deputy Headteacher for the rest of their lives!*

Whilst we know there are always areas we can improve further, it is great to be able to celebrate such positive responses from parents about the school and the staff team. We hope that parents feel that their voice, their concerns and their suggestions are listened and responded to.

## Friends & Family of Goldsmith - FFG



The first KS1/KS2 Movie Disco will take place on Friday 2nd November from 5.30-7.30pm. Children and carers are welcome to come dressed as film stars or movie characters of their choice! Tickets for the disco will go on sale from Monday 29th October in the KS1 playground after school each day. For children who make their own way to school and go home independently, please send money for tickets for your child/ren and for the supervising adult in an envelope labelled with your child's name and class. The cost of the tickets is: Child £2, Adult £3, Family of 4 £8.

All children **MUST** be accompanied and supervised at all times by an adult. For health and safety reasons, there are limited tickets. Entrance is by **TICKET ONLY** which must be purchased in advance. Tickers will **NOT** be sold at the door on the night; we fully expect to be sold out as in previous years!

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.



## Poppy Appeal 2018

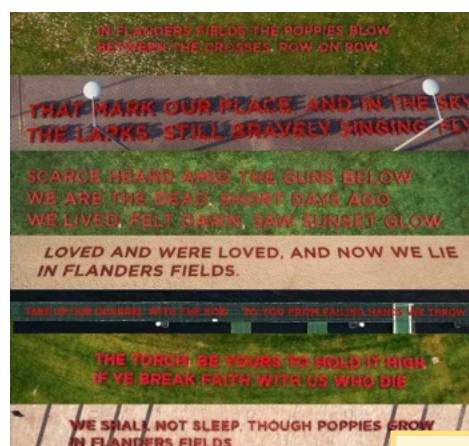
Each year, the school supports the Royal Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Our Year 6 House & Vice Captains will be visiting each class each morning starting from ***MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER*** until ***FRIDAY 9th NOVEMBER*** to collect any donations that children wish to make. In return for their donations, children will receive a poppy until we run out!

There is no set amount that needs to be donated to receive a poppy and it is up to children and families to decide if they wish to make a donation.

Each year, in our assemblies, we think about why remembrance is important. We specifically think about how children are affected by wars, both past and present.

Thank you in advance for your support. We will let you know in a future newsletter how much we raised and passed onto the British Legion.





## *Christmas Card Contest*

Dear all,

As you know, every year, as the Member of Parliament for Brent North, I send thousands of Christmas cards to constituents, colleagues and other Members of Parliament. This year, I would, again, like to invite pupils at Oliver Goldsmith Primary School to participate by submitting original drawings inspired by the **Christmas story**.

The competition is open to a number of schools within my constituency and I will choose the winning design. The winning design will be printed on the front of my card, with the winner's name and school printed on the inside and on my official website. I will invite the author of the winning design and their parents to Parliament for afternoon tea.

**The deadline for submission is 5:00pm on Wednesday, 31 October 2018.**

Please note that all cards must be capable of being scanned and reproduced unadorned. I do hope you will participate in the contest and I look forward to receiving your works.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

**Barry Gardiner**  
***Member of Parliament for Brent North***

***Please hand in your design to Mrs Palinda on  
Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> October.***





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...

<b>Half term break:</b>	<b>Mon 22nd October to Fri 26th October 2018</b>
Mon 29th Oct:	Back to school...
Tues 30th Oct:	Parent Time KS2 Parents, "English" 9.00-10.00am
Fri 2nd Nov:	Y6 Diwali Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am
<b>Fri 2nd Nov:</b>	<b>FFG Fundraising Event - Movie Themed Disco Event 5.30-7.30pm</b>
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
Mon 3rd Dec:	Last week of clubs for the autumn term
Thurs 13th Dec:	Christmas Fair Donations Day
Fri 14th Dec:	OGPS Christmas Fair in the afternoon led by Y6 Pupils & our FFG Team
Mon 17th Dec:	Y3 Pupils visit the Millfield Theatre
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

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

### **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
<b>Half term break:</b>	<b>Mon 27th May to Friday 21st May 2019</b>



## **Summer Term 2019**



**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 may 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**

Bullying is a frightening experience. It can isolate and damage a young person's self-confidence. Some ongoing bullying can have negative long-term effects on children, leading to depression and, in some cases, self harm and / or suicidal thoughts and actions.

Sadly, we still live in a society where to be different in any way – such as ethnicity, sexual orientation or a disability – can mean ridicule and bullying.

This behaviour is often copied by young people from their parents, which means that prejudice could continue into the next generation.

It is crucial to be alert to the possibility of bullying and to make sure you know the signs. You may think your child is unlikely to be bullied but the reality is that bullying can happen at any time to any child. Bullies who continuously harm others may need support and help as well.

They may have experienced difficulties of their own at home, which may have led to their actions. Reporting concerns may help bullies get help as well.

- Bullying can happen anywhere, but most commonly it happens in school.
- Bullying can take many forms, from verbal abuse to physical attack.
- Bullying is the repeat abuse of a child by one or several people.
- Bullies are not always older than the child they harm.

Most bullying is done by children who are the same age as the victim.

If your child tells you about a friend or any other child who is being bullied, listen carefully and take it seriously. That child may not be able to say for themselves what is happening.

It is important that parents and schools work together in partnership to secure support and protection for the child, both in the present and the future. It is essential that parents make contact with their child's school as soon as they become aware of any problem, before those problems escalate.

For further information, please refer to our Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy on the website.

## 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 our school website which has lots of information about school life.*

**[www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk](http://www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk)**



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