



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



"Inspiring a love of learning"



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@OGPSinspired



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Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday and found time as a family to have fun! We particularly welcome new families who have joined or are about to join the school community. We are always pleased to welcome not only our new Nursery & Reception pupils but also a number of children transferring to our school into other year groups. We will do our very best to ensure that your time with us is happy and successful.



Please remember that class teachers are in the playground with classes at the end of each day, so do introduce yourself and take the opportunity to let us know if you have any questions, queries or concerns. There is always a senior member of staff in the playground each morning if you need to see us.

Staff News!

We have welcomed Mr Leventhall (class teacher in 5L) and Mrs Modha (class teacher in 4M) to the staff team at OGPS. Miss Patel will spend this year out of class supporting with the teaching of maths across the school.

Newsletters!

As this is our first newsletter of the year, we have sent it home as a paper copy as well as sending it by email to parents. In previous parent surveys parents requested a paper calendar of dates and term dates (this can be found on the last pages). To reduce paper and printing, all future copies of newsletters will be emailed to parents as well as being put onto the website; we will always text parents so they know to check their inbox or visit the website. If you have trouble accessing the newsletter, please contact the school office.

FFG: Family & Friends of Goldsmith!

I wanted to express my thanks to Nicky Lawton, Fouzia Khan & Nitin Lakhu for all they have done to lead FFG events in recent years. We are desperately looking for new helpers to continue to ensure that fun and exciting events take place for the children as well as raising invaluable funds to support the school.

Thank you for your continued support; we look forward to a successful and exciting year ahead.

Best wishes,

Mr. James Simmons,
Headteacher

PS - This is only day three of the school year and I already have two parking complaints from our neighbours *PLEASE DON'T BLOCK DRIVE WAYS!!!!!!*

Improving the School Environment

Over the summer break, we have continued to invest in upgrading the school to give children the very best learning environment. Over in our nursery we replaced the aging decking with bright colourful play surface and our Y6 classrooms have new interactive screens!



Our thanks to Carlton, our site supervisor and to Mrs Babhania, our School Business Manager, for overseeing the works and ensuring our money was well spent.



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.

Our **“Junior Traffic Ambassador Team”** will start regular patrols later this term before and after school with staff members and governors. If they find cars parked where they should not be parked, a polite note is passed to the car owner to remind them of how to help keep children safe and residents happy in the future!

Do Remember...

- 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 I would urge you to contact Brent's **Parking Enforcement Team** on 020 8937 4972.

By working in partnership we can all help to keep our children safe & neighbours happy!



Lost Property

We do not have space to store lost property for long periods of time. This year, any items in lost property will be donated to charity on a three week rotation. We always reunite lost items with owners where we find items labelled and named! Please check every piece of clothing to make sure it has your child's name clearly marked. Thank you for your help.

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 parents to 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!!!!!!

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We do have children with NUT allergies at OGPS so we ask that children do not bring in nuts or snacks or foods that contain nuts. Thank you for your support.



Medical Information or Food Allergies

If your child has a medical condition or food allergy that we should know about and you have not already told us, please let the school know the details as soon as possible. It is very important that we have knowledge of your child's medical condition and any medications they may require. If your child does have a condition that requires us to keep medication in school please make sure that you have signed a consent form and passed it to Mrs Halai.

Data Collection Sheet & Permission for Picking Children up at 3.30pm

We have already sent home a copy of the information we hold so you are able to update us with any changes. Please check it through, make any amendments and send it back to us ASAP. It is vital we have your most up to date contact information.

Also, please tell us who you give permission to pick up your child at the end of the day so we can make sure they are kept safe. If someone who is not named tries to collect your child, we will not let them do so unless we have confirmed this with you. If you do have any changes of circumstances, just call the office and let us know.

Free School Meals

If you think your child is entitled to free school meals, please come and speak to the school office. If your child is in Reception, Y1 or Y2, please don't forget to register for free school meals as the school will receive further money to help support them with their learning.

Celebrating Birthdays

We know that children like to celebrate their birthdays with others but at OGPS the tradition is that children do not bring in cakes or sweets but instead parents either give out an alternative small gift such as stationery or donate a book to the school library on behalf of their child. Thank you for supporting our healthy school approach!

School to Home Communication - Great ways to stay connected

- **Parent communication through texts & emails** - so long as we have your details we will be able to email you and text you with important school information. Have you given us your most up to date contact details? (mobile, email)
- **School Website** – a great source of information about the school
- **Twitter** – you can also follow us on twitter [@OGPSInspired](#)
- **Facebook** - find us by searching for **Oliver Goldsmith Primary**
- **Notice Boards** - there are two parent notice boards with details of what's going on at OGPS!



[@OGPSInspired](#)



School Council Elections

Every year, each class elects one girl and one boy to be class representatives on the School Council. To be elected, children need to run their own campaign to persuade the members of their class to vote for them. Children might like to create posters for the classroom, make leaflets to give out or make badges to spread their message! They must give a short speech to the class to say why they think they would make a great "School Councillor". The campaign trail starts on Monday 23rd Sept with Election Day on Friday 27th Sept.



Achievement Assemblies

Each Friday we hold our "Achievement Assembly" where all the children in the school squeeze into the hall to celebrate each others' successes! House Point totals are shared each week; your child will be in one of our House Teams; **Derwent**, **Mardale**, **Rydal** or **Coniston**. You can find House Point totals on our school website. Children who receive a star of the week award are invited to a special tea party with the Headteacher.

Maths Week

Our first Maths Week of the year starts on Monday 16th September. All children will be challenged to learn multiplication tables and division facts over the course of the year as knowing these facts off by heart makes such a difference to children's attainment and progress in maths. We will have a maths week each term to help with this process with a special maths competition in the summer term. You will be sent a separate letter that tells you how you can help prepare your child.



Getting ahead for September 2020...It's never too early!!!!

Year 6 Pupils transferring to Secondary School in September 2020

For parents with children in year six, the process of selecting and applying for a High School starts now! You will need to visit Brent's website (www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/education-and-schools/apply-for-a-school-place/secondary-school/) . Do watch out for local High Schools Open evenings in the local press and on their websites and go along to visit the schools you are interested in. A special Parent Time is being held on Thurs 19th Sept, 6.00-7.00pm to help parents with the application process. We always invite parents with children in year five and year six to this meeting to help you all be prepared! The deadline for Secondary School applications is 31st October 2019! We will also be sharing information about residential trips in Y5 and Y6 scheduled for 2020.

OGPS Reception School Places for September 2020

Likewise, all applications for Reception places must be received by 15th January 2020. Please remember to indicate if your child has a sibling attending the school. Those children who have brothers and sisters in Year 6 at the moment cannot use the sibling option as the older child will no longer be at the school come next September. Don't forget, just because you have a place in our Nursery does not mean you will be automatically given a place in our reception. If you need help with your application just speak to the office, we are always happy to help.



In the past, parents have requested a paper calendar of dates for the academic year. Over the next few pages you will find all the key dates for this year coming academic year. The following dates are in the school website calendar. Some dates may be subject to change!



Dates for your Diary...

Autumn Term 2019 Part 1

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Mon 9th Sept: | Music lessons start with Brent Music Services for children taking lessons |
| Mon 16th Sept: | Extra curricular clubs after school start this week |
| Mon 16th Sept: | Maths Week 1: Practice Makes Permanent!!! |
| Mon 16th Sept: | Swimming starts for pupils in 4B |
| Thurs 19th Sept: | Parent Time Y5/6 "Applying for High School & Residential Trips in Y5/6 6-7pm |
| Fri 20th Sept: | Year 6 House Captains Election Day! |
| Mon 23rd Sept: | School Council Campaigning Week! |
| Mon 23rd Sept: | Y5/6 Bikeability Week |
| Weds 25th Sept: | Parent Time KS1 Parents, "Maths" 8.50-9.20am |
| Fri 27th Sept: | School Council Election Day |
| Tues 1st Oct: | Black History Month begins, at OGPS we have a commitment to BMH 365 |
| Tues 1st Oct: | Parent Time KS2 Parents, "Maths" 8.50-9.20am |
| Weds 2nd Oct: | Walk, Scoot or Bike to School Day! |
| Weds 9th Oct: | Parents Evening 1: 3.45-7.30pm (separate letter to follow) |
| Thurs 10th Oct: | Parents Evening 2: 3.45-5.30pm (separate letter to follow) |
| Thurs 10th Oct: | Harvest Festival Donations brought into school - details to come later |
| Fri 11th Oct: | Harvest Festival Assembly for staff and children |
| Weds 16th Oct: | Parent Time KS1 Parents "English" 8.50-9.20am |
| Fri 18th Oct: | Y6 Diwali Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am |
| Fri 18th Oct: | Break up for half term at 3.30pm |

Half term break: Mon 21st October to Fri 25th October 2019

Autumn Term 2019 Part 2

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Mon 28th Oct: | Back to school...soft start from 8.40am |
| Tues 29th Oct: | School Photographer taking individual photos of all children |
| Weds 30th Oct: | Parent Time KS2 Parents, "English" 8.50-9.20am |
| Weds 30th Oct: | Autumn Term Learning Journey begins... details to follow... |
| Mon 11th Nov: | Anti-Bullying Week 2019 begins "CHANGE STARTS WITH US" |
| Weds 20th Nov: | Parent Time for Nursery & Reception Parents 9.00-10.00am |
| Weds 27th Nov: | Parent Time open for all parents "Anti-Bullying" 8.50-9.20am |
| Thurs 28th Nov: | Meeting for Prospective Parents for Reception September 2019 |
| Fri 6th Dec: | Y3 Hanukah Assembly - Y3 Parents invited from 9.00am |
| Mon 9th Dec: | Last week of clubs for the autumn term |
| Thurs 12th Dec: | Christmas Fair Donations Day |
| Thurs 12th Dec: | Y3 pupils visit Millfield Theatre for Pantomime |
| Thurs 12th Dec: | Theatre presentation in school for R, Y1, Y2, Y4 & Y5 |
| Fri 13th Dec: | OGPS Christmas Fair in the afternoon led by Y6 Pupils & our FFG Team |
| Tues 17th Dec: | Y2 Nativity - Y2 Parents invited from 9.00am |
| Weds 18th Dec: | Christmas Jumper Day & End of term party afternoon |
| Thurs 19th Dec: | End of Autumn term at 1.30pm |



Key Dates for the Remainder of the School Year



Spring Term 2020 Part 1

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Mon 6th Jan: | Staff CPD - No children in school |
| Tues 7th Jan: | Children back from holiday - soft start from 8.40am |
| Mon 13th Jan: | Clubs start this week |
| Mon 13th Jan: | Maths Week 2 |
| Fri 24th Jan: | Be bright, Be Seen Day! |
| Fri 7th Feb: | French Learning Adventure Day |
| Mon 10th Feb: | E-Safety Week |
| Tues 11th Feb: | Safer Internet Day 2019 |

Half term break: *Mon 17th February to Fri 21st February 2020*

Spring Term 2020 Part 2

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Mon 24th Feb: | Swimming starts for 4M |
| Thurs 5th March: | World Book Day 2020 (YOU DON'T NEED TO BUY A COSTUME!) |
| Weds 11th March: | Parents Evening 1: 3.45-7.30pm (separate letter to follow) |
| Thurs 12th March: | Parents Evening 2: 3.45-5.30pm (separate letter to follow) |
| Fri 13th March: | Outdoor Learning Day One |
| Fri 20th March: | Outdoor Learning Day Two |
| Mon 30th March: | School Musical 2020 to be performed this week - details to follow... |
| Thurs 2nd April: | Y4 Easter Assembly, parents with children in Y4 invited to attend, time TBC |
| Fri 3rd April: | End of term at 1.30pm |

Summer Term 2020 Part 1

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Mon 20th April: | Children back from holiday - soft start from 8.40am |
| Mon 20th April: | Maths Week 3 - Competition Week! |
| Mon 27th April: | Clubs start |
| Mon 27th April: | Y5 Gordon Brown Residential Week (4 nights, 5 days Mon-Fri) |
| Fri 1st May: | Y1 Vesak Assembly, parents with children in Y1 invited to from 9.00am |
| Thurs 7th May: | Humanities Learning Adventure Day: What is VE Day? |
| Fri 8th May: | Bank Holiday - School Closed (National VE Day Celebrations) |
| Mon 11th May: | Y6 National Curriculum Assessment Week (SATs) |
| Mon 18th May: | Walk, Scoot to Bike to School Week! |
| Tues 19th May: | School Photographer - Class Photos being taken |
| Weds 20th May: | Y5 Ramadan & Eid Assembly, parents with children in Y5 invited to from 9.00am |
| Weds 20th May: | Y6 JCA Residential Trip (2 nights, 3 days Weds—Fri) |

Half term break: *Mon 25th May 2020 to Fri 29th May 2020*

Summer Term 2020 Part 2

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Mon 8th June: | OGPS Proms Week! |
| Fri 19th June: | Reception Assembly, parents with children in Reception invited from 9.00am |
| Mon 22nd June: | Whole School Learning Adventure begins |
| Fri 26th June: | Parents Visit Learning Adventure Zones |
| Mon 29th June: | EYFS Sports Day |
| Fri 3rd July: | KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (morning at Hendon FC with picnic lunch at OGPS) |
| Thurs 9th July: | Performing Arts Concert Evening Concert (TBC— this may change) |
| Sat 11th July: | FFG Summer Fair (date to be confirmed by FFG, this may change) |
| Mon 13th July: | Optional Parents Evening |
| Thurs 16th July: | Y6 Leavers Assembly, parents with children in Y6 invited to from 9.00am |
| Fri 17th 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.





Term Dates for 2019-20

Autumn Term: Monday 2nd Sept to Thursday 19th Dec 2019
(with 2nd & 3rd Sept as CPD days - children start back 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 start back Tues 7th Jan 2020)

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

Summer Term: Monday 20th April 2020 to Tuesday 21st July 2020
(with 20th & 21st July as CPD days)

NOTE: The early May Day Bank Holiday has been moved by the Government to Friday 8th May 2020 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe.

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

NOTE: Children finish school year on Friday 17th July

In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2020-21 academic year will be published to parents early in the autumn term of 2019 as soon as they have been ratified by the Board of Governors.

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

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk

