



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



"Inspiring a love of learning"



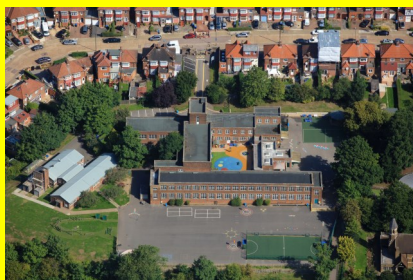
Tel: 0208 205 6038

020 8205 6800 (Nursery)

Fax: 0208 205 4987

admin@olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk



@OGPSinspired



School Newsletter: The Goldsmith Gazette
Edition Number: 86 **Date: Fri 4th October 2019**

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to a busy October newsletter; you can find lots to read about things that have happened as well as things to come! I was heartened to read from so many parent surveys that you feel that communication is something we do really well. I also noted that sometimes you feel letters are too long! I will endeavour to be brief this year!

We look forward to seeing parents next week at our parents' evenings which take place on Weds 9th and Thursday 10th October. Do remember that we do have a book fair open on both evenings for you to visit with children. Miss Patel, our maths leader, will be in the downstairs hall to help with your maths questions and queries! Don't forget that you can also meet Miss Dardenne (French) and Mrs McNeil (Music); you don't need an appointment to talk to them!

Later in the newsletter you can read about the results of our most recent parent survey which was completed at the end of last academic year. Thank you for your positive comments and helpful suggestions.

On Monday 14th October, 9.00-10.00am there will be a tea, coffee and cake time to help get "Friends & Family of Goldsmith" up and running for the year. We need parents to help take the lead! Come along and find out how you can help!

New features for the newsletter.... inspired by parents are two new additions. **"Buzzy Books"** will introduce you to some lovely stories & authors and **"You've Got to Google...."** will share some interesting facts, people, places and websites etc. that we hope will get you talking at home!



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

Don't forget to get complete your applications for High School for September 2020. Applications **MUST** be completed online by 31st October 2019!

I was very proud to collect an award for Oliver Goldsmith from the London Assembly last week. You can read the official press release on the next page

Best wishes,
Mr. James Simmons,
Headteacher

Outstanding achievements of Oliver Goldsmith Primary School recognised by the Mayor of London

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has celebrated the outstanding performance of Oliver Goldsmith Primary School in Brent with an awards ceremony.

The school was honoured for its work to reduce educational inequality and achieve exceptional results for children who were previously behind in their studies, at a Schools for Success awards ceremony.

The Schools for Success programme was created by the Mayor in 2017 to improve the support given to children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The programme recognises primary and secondary schools that ensure strong progress for their lowest attaining pupils, has a strong overall performance and shares their work with other schools.

The ceremony was hosted on Friday 27th Sept by Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare Joanne McCartney.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "I'd like to congratulate the staff of Oliver Goldsmith Primary School for their excellent work. Schools for Success was created to celebrate the difference that teachers, teaching assistants, support staff and governors are making every day to support children and reduce inequalities, and this school's inclusive and supportive learning environment is a great example of this. London has the best schools and teachers in the country, and by working together we can make sure that no young Londoner is left behind."



"I was very proud to represent Oliver Goldsmith at the Mayor for London's Schools for Success event". I think it is really important that Oliver Goldsmith's achievements are recognised. I think we are a great school which supports children to make excellent progress and inspires them to love learning"

Mrs Hannah Panayiotou, Chair of Governors



School Council Election Results 2019

Friday 27th September was election day at Oliver Goldsmith Primary School following a hard week of campaigning by our pupils.

One of the members of our Board of Governors, Cllr Ellie Southwood, visited the school to hear children's speeches and see voting in action. Here's what she had to say...

"It was such a privilege to hear the candidates set out their reasons for wanting to represent their friends on the school council. The children had clearly put a lot of thought into their speeches, which included promises on sports and clubs. I was really impressed by how many of the children promised to listen to and respect one another's views, even if they didn't agree. There was a real buzz around the voting tables, too - I'm looking forward to hearing the results." Cllr Ellie Southwood

Firstly, a big congratulations and thank you to all the children who took the time to stand for election, created speeches and showed the courage and determination to stand and speak in front of their peers.

A very special well done to the children who have been elected as school councillors for 2019-20. They will have their first official meeting next week where they will share their speeches with each other before electing year six pupils into the roles of Chair, Vice Chair, Business Manager and Accountant. It really is a school council for children run by children.

Their next task will be to decide which charities they want the school to support this coming year. They will be speaking to their classes to find out which charities have a special place in our hearts, so do share the names of those charities you would like to see us support.

Well done to...

Year 1: Gabriel C, Kirat, Sahar & Elijah

Year 2: Joel, Oshara, Layla & Damon

Year 3: Adam , Hawa, Emaan & Welat

Year 4: Zahra K, Minuka, Khushal & Sophie

Year 5: Faraz, Sabrina, Dennis & Akira

Year 6: Vishali, Elmar, Justin & Andreea

We look forward to seeing how our school council will work to improve the school as well as our local community this year!



Black History Month & Beyond...

You will have already received a letter from Miss Brown (Humanities Leader) about Black History Month 2019 which started on Tuesday 1st October.

We launched Black History Month in an assembly where we highlighted the theme for this year which is "Celebrating Great Black British Achievers".

We talked to the children about Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock who is an inspirational figure in the world of science, particularly in the field of space! Her personal story started with a love for the cartoon "The Clangers" and a book on space she found in her school library.

Whilst we celebrate Black History Month in our assemblies, it is important to us that our children meet a diverse range of people from a range of places and backgrounds across our whole curriculum over the course of the year.



BLACK HISTORY

Celebrating Great Black British Achievers

365



Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE: British Space Scientist

Here are some examples of how our children learn about black history/culture over the year...

<p>In English...</p> <p>Y2: Benjamin Zephaniah</p> <p>Y3: Floella Benjamin</p> <p>Y4: Anansi the Spider</p> <p>Y5: Windrush letters/diary</p> <p>Y6: Malorie Blackman</p>	<p>In History...</p> <p>Y2: Ruby Bridges & Mary Seacole</p> <p>Y3: Cheddar Man (Stone Age)</p> <p>Y3: The Romans—Hadrian's Wall</p> <p>Y5: Windrush</p> <p>Y6: Nubian Kingdom</p>	<p>In Geography...</p> <p>Y1: Where We Live London</p> <p>Y2: St Lucia</p> <p>Y6: The Caribbean</p>
<p>In Art...</p> <p>Y1: Lubaina Hamid</p> <p>Y3: Kente Patterns</p> <p>Y4: Tinga Tinga African Art</p> <p>Y5: Textiles/African Kingdoms</p> <p>Y6: African Prints</p>	<p>In Music...</p> <p>Y1/2: Caribbean Singing</p> <p>Y3: Nigerian Singing</p> <p>Y4: Florence Price (Composer)</p> <p>Y5: Tamboo Bamboo</p> <p>Y6: African Drumming</p>	



Black History Month Competition...

As part of Black History Month, Miss Brown has organised a special competition for children to get involved in.

BLACKHISTORY
Celebrating Great Black British Achievers
365

Spoken Word Competition

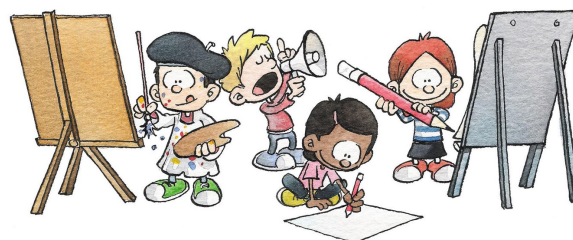
Children who are interested are asked to choose or write their own poem to perform. They will need to rehearse ready to perform on Weds 16th Oct.

The theme of the poetry performance is...

The Same but Different

You need to.....

- Sign up (Outside my classroom)1B
- Write your poem
- On your own or with a friend
- Practise performing it
- 2 minutes or less
- Rhyme or not rhyme
- To music /beat



You should be able to say what you think in lots of different ways

U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 13

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S
Commissioner
Scotland



Follow this link to see some really good examples of performance poetry to inspire you!

<https://cpe.org.uk/poetryline/poet-videos/children-performing-poetry>

Spoken Word Competition Date

Wednesday 16th October
Upstairs Hall
12-12.30

Winner and runner up KS1 and KS2



Parent Survey Results 2019



Here are the results of our annual parents survey from last year (July 2019). 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 2019

	All Agree	Don't Know	All 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%	0%	0%
4. My child is well looked after at this school	100%	0%	0%
5. My child is taught well at this school	100%	0%	0%
6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age	93%	1%	5%
7. This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	100%	0%	0%
8. The school deals effectively with bullying	96%	4%	0%
9. This school is well led and managed	100%	0%	0%
10. This school responds well to any concerns I raise	97%	3%	0%
11. I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	99%	0%	1%
	YES		NO
12. Would you recommend this school to another parent?	100%		0%

Positive Comments from Parents: What we do well that you think we should keep doing...

- *Communication with parents (but sometimes letters are too long).*
- *Creative curriculum.*
- *Releasing term dates a long way in advance.*
- *School trips.*
- *Encouraging students in music and performing arts.*
- *Club activities.*
- *The school and teachers are really helpful and supportive.*
- *Communication with parents, emails and texts. As a parent, we are well informed of everything.*
- *Good discipline.*
- *Weekly spelling test and homework.*
- *Homework, work with other children often, sport, dancing, learning outdoors and the school garden.*
- *Everything!!!*
- *Continue to promote the performing arts, creativity and independence.*
- *School rules and behaviour are very good.*
- *Making learning fun for children.*
- *Instil good values of respect, care and learning.*
- *Good maintenance of the school premises.*
- *Headteacher greeting all the parents and students, he treats everyone equally. Thank you.*
- *Encouraging children to be the best version of themselves and value their learning.*
- *Keep setting appropriate homework each week.*
- *Visibility of staff and inviting parents to assemblies.*
- *Headteacher's greeting everyday – I really like it.*
- *Learning adventures, achievement awards and certificates.*
- *Engagement with parents & carers*

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. The parents survey will be discussed at the next Board of Governors meeting. We hope that parents feel that their voice, their concerns and their suggestions are listened and responded to. Watch out for more in future newsletter...

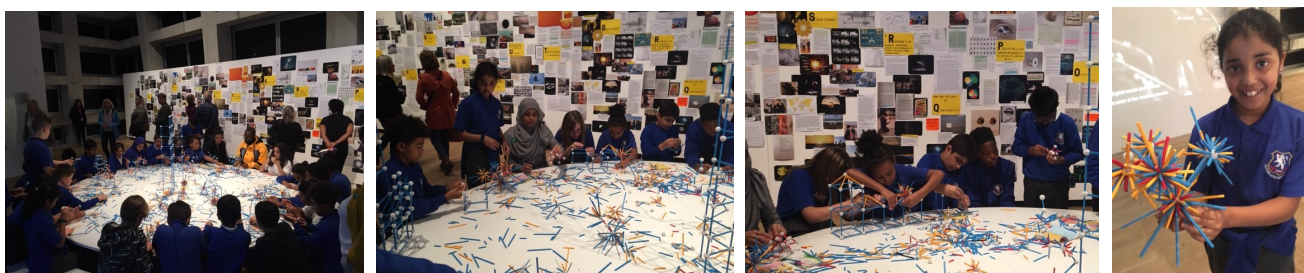
Y6 at the Tate Modern

On Wednesday 25th September, year six pupils took a trip to the Tate Modern on the South Bank to see the exhibition "In Real Life" by Olafur Eliasson. The day started with a brisk walk to Hendon station and then a more relaxed train ride into Blackfriars Station. The children were immediately struck by the London views as they got off the train and could see down the river Thames!



The exhibition was a wonderful experience which showed the children that art is far more than paintings or drawings hung on a wall! The children got to explore the artists installations that included pieces using light, shadows and reflections. The "blind passage" was a very exciting part of the trip! The children were really inspired by what they saw!

We had members of the public congratulate for having such polite and well-behaved children.



What did our children have to say about the visit...

"We got off the train and at once, I gazed at the beautiful, breath-taking view of the river Thames. I could see the Tate on the other side. I was thrilled. As we went into the building I saw one piece of art, it was a sculpture of the word 'LOVE'.

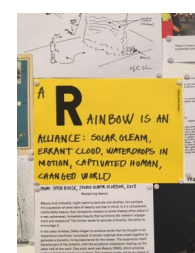
The thing I loved about the Tate was that they featured art that wasn't just paintings but things like visual illusions, sculptures and things that moved like oil and water going forwards and backwards. My favourite pieces were the smoke room where you saw people disappear and reappear and the big bang fountain where I wondered how the water froze in mid air!" (Alleida 6S)

"When I heard about the trip, I assumed it would be an ordinary day in an art gallery but when we started the exhibition I was void of those thoughts as it was one of the best parts of the Tate Modern. There were a variety of activities you could do with the most unique experience being the fog room! I cautiously tiptoed into the blinding light of the mysterious fog room, even though I filled with nervousness!.

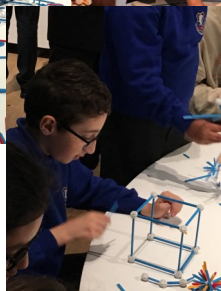
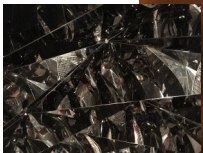
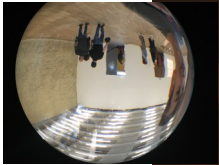
Another activity which was unique was the big bang room because it was odd to see the water freeze into a position like a statue even though it was supposed to move. Every shocking flash of light led to a beautiful frozen water statue; it was magical!" (Pedram 6S)

"When we started to explore the gallery we came across a wall which looked to me like popcorn which made me want to eat it. It was a gigantic wall of living moss created by the artist we had been learning about." (Krish 6D)

"The viewing platform was one of my favourite things; the view was so nice you could see all over London! I absolutely loved the fog room. The room changed colour as we moved through it!" (Rosie 6D)



Y6 at the Tate Modern continued...



Walk to School Month

Wednesday 2nd October was walk to school day which started walk to school month.



Each classroom has a tally chart to record the number of children who walk to school each day as a way of encouraging and celebrating the fact that the vast majority of our pupils do walk, bike or scoot to school. Our JTAs keep an eye on the totals!



How can parents & carers help?

- ***Walk to school with children rather than driving - the vast majority of families live within 1 mile of the school***
- ***If you must drive, park away from school and walk the last part of the journey - even a 5minute walk is***
- ***Encourage children to bike or scoot safely to school***

Harvest Appeal for Harvest Assembly on Friday 11th October

This year, our Harvest Festival Assembly will take place on Friday 11th October 2019. The purpose of the assembly is to remind everyone of how fortunate we are. This makes them want to share with others who are not so fortunate. The items donated for the Harvest Festival will be put on display and then given to people in need.

For our Harvest Festival, we ask every child in the school to donate at least one item of food to those in need. The food will be distributed to the **Brent Food Bank**.

Tins, packets and food in jars can be brought in by Thursday 10th October.

Brent food bank are in urgent need of the following items:

Tinned meat/fish	Rice pudding/custard
Sugar (500g)	Tinned tomatoes
Tinned fruit	Tinned soup
Milk (UHT or powdered)	Long life fruit juice
Pasta sauces	Toilet rolls
Jams/spreads	Instant mash



Please donate items **from Wednesday 9th October to Thursday 10th October**. We hope that children will be able to make a contribution to help people in more need than themselves.

Every donation, however big or small, will be greatly appreciated.

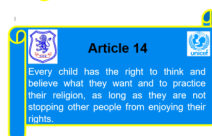
Thank you.



OGPS is a "Rights Respecting School"

This half term we are focussing on the following themes and articles...

- Rule of Law - School rules and school values
- Mutual respect - Rosh Hashanah & Black History Month
- Humility - World Space Week
- Mutual respect - Yom Kippur & Sukkot
- Compassion - Harvest 28
- Mutual respect - Diwali, festival of lights



Safeguarding Zone : E-Safety

In an ever changing technological world, helping parents and children to understand e-safety to keep them safe online is a vital part of our curriculum. Children learn about e-safety through their computing lessons over the year. We also want to help our parents and children improve their own understanding of e-safety issues so they can learn to use the internet and all digital media in a safe and secure way.

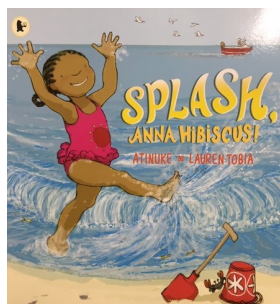
You can find support for safeguarding and E-Safety using the following links...

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk/pages/key-information/safeguarding-at-ogps

www.olivergoldsmith.brent.sch.uk/pages/key-information/safeguarding-at-ogps/e-safety-for-parents-children

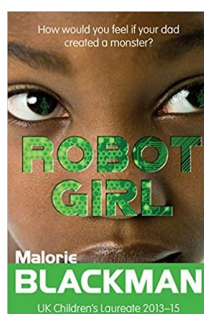
Buzzy Books to Read

For young readers....



Try the Anna Hibiscus range of books. Great for pre-readers or early readers.

For older readers...



Malorie Blackman was Children's Laureate 2013-15. She has written lots of great books for older primary children.



You've got to Google...

Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE: British Space Scientist

Take a look and find out about her story!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lo5hVlhSL4o>



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

Tues 1st Oct:	Black History Month begins, at OGPS we have a commitment to BMH 365
Weds 2nd Oct:	Walk, Scoot or Bike to School Day! Start of walk to school month!
Weds 9th Oct:	Parents Evening 1: 3.45-7.30pm (letter was sent out)
Thurs 10th Oct:	Parents Evening 2: 3.45-5.30pm (letter was sent out)
Thurs 10th Oct:	Harvest Festival Donations brought into school (letter was sent out)
Fri 11th Oct:	Harvest Festival Assembly for staff and children
Mon 14th Oct:	FFG Tea, Coffee & Cake Morning 9-10am
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 <i>(if you need support with child care, please contact the school office)</i>

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**



Key Dates for the Remainder of the School Year



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 (if you need support with child care, please contact the school office)

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
Weds 6th 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

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

Summer Term 2020 Part 2

Weds 3rd June:	Y6 JCA Residential Trip (2 nights, 3 days Weds—Fri)
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)
Weds 8th 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 (if you need support with child care, please contact the school 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.

On the last page you will find...

- **Term Dates for the current academic year 2019-2020**
- **Term Dates for the next academic year 2020-2021**



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

Term Dates for 2020-21

Autumn Term: Weds 2nd Sept to Fri 18th Dec 2020 (with 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sept as CPD days)
Children (Y1-6) start on Monday 7th Sept
Half term week Monday 26th Oct to Friday 30th Oct 2020

Spring Term: Monday 4th Jan 2021 to Weds 31st March 2021 (with 4th Jan as CPD Day)
Children return to school on Tuesday 5th Jan 2021
Half term week: Monday 15th Feb - Friday 19th Feb 2021

Summer Term: Monday 19th April 2021 to Fri 23rd July 2021
Children return to school on Tues 20th April 2021
Half term week Monday 31st May 2021 to Friday 4th June 2021
Children break up for the summer holiday on Friday 23rd July

To confirm the Staff Training days (CPD days) are as follows for 2020-21

- Wednesday 2nd September 2020
- Thursday 3rd September 2020
- Friday 4th September 2020
- Monday 4th January 2021
- Monday 19th April 2021

In order to help families plan their holidays, we publish dates well in advance. The dates for the 2021-22 academic year will be published to parents early in the autumn term of 2020 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



OLIVER GOLDSMITH PRIMARY SCHOOL
"Inspiring a love of learning"

