



### *A Cause for Celebration!*

*This week the provisional results have been published by the government and I am so proud to say that the progress the children make at Old Oak is among the best in England.*

*The progress made by children, from when they began to when they leave in Year 6, is **well above the national average in reading, writing and mathematics.***

*It means that wherever the children began their learning journey at Old Oak they all made fantastic progress. This is an amazing achievement **and one we should celebrate as a school community.** We are not an academy, but we are certainly not a bog standard primary school either.*

*What makes me even prouder is the comment made this week by a visitor to the school. He spoke about the respect of the staff, the way the children are treated, speak and behave. How it is so much more respectful and equal than in other schools he visits. We are a happy, stable school with staff that are fantastic at all aspects of the job and children who thrive in all areas.*

*Let's continue this as we move forward into changing political and educational times!*

*Mr. Brown*

### **LIFE BUS VISITS THE SCHOOL**

Next week we have the Life Bus in school again. The bus visits every year and a specialist teacher works with all the classes on staying safe, making friends and coping with change. Once again the teacher also comments every year on the children and staff. She wrote these lovely things about the school last year:

Dear Mr Brown,

I have been visiting Old Oak Primary School with the Lifebus for many years now. I always look forward to visiting your school. The children are a pleasure to teach. They are bright, full of enthusiasm and keen to share their knowledge and ideas. They show higher order thinking skills and are very emotionally intelligent. I know that some

of your children have come to this country from very traumatic situations and in your school, they are made to feel welcome, they settle and thrive. This is largely due to the nurturing and caring atmosphere you and your staff ensure in school. All the children know how to care for each other. Their behaviour is exemplary, they are polite and respectful. They learn well and I am always amazed by how much they remember from year to year.

I always enjoy teaching at Old Oak – it is more fun than hard work.

Many thanks to you, your hard working staff and all the children who make the visit so worthwhile and memorable.

I hope you all have a very good academic year.

Kind regards

Sarah Greenwood

Senior Educator/Manager, London

Coram Life Education

### **POWER OF PICTURES**

Willow class are taking part in a national research project with the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) in which they use key stage 2 picture books as a stimulus for creative writing. An author, Vivienne Schwarz, is working with the class and they have a visit the week after next. At the end of the year, CLPE will measure the impact of her work with a class which is not receiving this support. The use of pictures can be a fantastic way to encourage children to write and we are excited about the results.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

The school photographs are going home today. Please put your order in by the 13<sup>th</sup> November if you would like to buy them.


### **REMINDER – TWITTER! SIGN UP TODAY!**

The school now has a **Twitter account**. Twitter is a free app for your phone or tablet which can send you updates from the school quickly and keep you up to date with what has happened in school. **You can download the app free today, and search Old Oak Primary School**. There are already some examples of events in school this week.

**WE DO NOT ALLOW ANYTHING WITH NUTS IN THE SCHOOL AT ANY TIME. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CHILDREN WITH ANY FOOD THAT CONTAINS NUTS.**

### **LEARNING THIS WEEK IN CLASSES**

Each week we will let you know about some of the learning in class so you can talk about this with your child. All children have begun a new class reading book this week. Ask them about this and what has happened so far.

Class	Learning
Nursery	We have carved pumpkins and built castles! 
Peach and Rowan	We have been to the Scrubs with our parents again and practised our different sounds. Ask me which ones I have learnt this week!
Olive	We have been estimating numbers on a number line and explaining why we have made this estimation.
Maple	We are subtracting using number bonds up to 20.
Hazel	We have been adding adjectives to sentences to make them even better and adding two 2-digit numbers
Laurel	We have been counting in repeated steps of 3 and 4, and begun reading <i>The Tales of Wisdom and Wonder</i>
Magnolia	We have been looking at the story <i>The White Rat</i> and finding 10/100/1000 more and less than a given number
Sycamore	We have been counting in 6, 7 and 9s and retelling the story <i>The White Rat</i>
Willow and Elm	We have been writing a chapter of the story <i>Odysseus</i> and practised problems with addition and subtraction
Hawthorn and Plum	We have been practising dividing larger numbers and prepared an introduction to a balanced argument.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Life Bus in school

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Whole school assembly at 10.15am in the lower hall- Remembrance Day

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Visit from the Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher of St Thomas Primary School in East Sussex

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November** – Maple class parents evening

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November** – Parents evening

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – deadline for orders for the school photograph

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November** – Parents evening: Olive, Elm and Nursery classes

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November** – Willow class visiting author Vivienne Schwarz

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 6 children leave for Wick Court on their school journey for a week