

Olveston CEVC Primary School

SPRING TERM

HAPPY EASTER

2nd April, 2026

This term has been filled with hard work, kindness, and plenty of moments that remind us how special our school community is. I've been reflecting on the words of Rev. Moss at our Easter service and how the Easter story speaks into the world we find ourselves in today—a world that can sometimes feel full of division, uncertainty, and worry.

The heart of the Easter story is one of hope. Even in times of challenge, it reminds us that light can break through darkness, and that love, compassion, and forgiveness have the power to transform. These are not just ideas for church or assemblies—they are values we live out every day in school. Each time we help a friend, show patience, or extend kindness when it's difficult, we echo the message of Easter.

In a world that can feel unsettled, the Easter story encourages us to stay rooted in hope. It teaches us that small acts of goodness matter, and that every person—child or adult—can be a source of peace. This is something our children show us daily. Their curiosity, honesty, and resilience are constant reminders that the future is bright.

As we begin the break, I hope each of us finds time to rest and reconnect with the things that bring us joy. Whether you're spending time with family, exploring the outdoors, or simply enjoying a quiet moment, let this be a time of renewal. Just as spring brings new life, may this holiday bring fresh energy, gratitude, and a sense of togetherness.

Most importantly, remember that the message of Easter assures us that we are never alone. We are part of a community that cares deeply for one another. Our children are cherished, valued, and loved—by their families, by our school, and by God.

Wishing you all a peaceful and hope-filled Easter break.

In this Newsletter

- ✓ Thank you
- ✓ Beyond the curriculum
- ✓ General information
- ✓ Attendance Matters
- ✓ Ignite Sport Camps and Clubs
- ✓ PANTS

20th April

**Start of
term 4**

22nd May

**End of
term 4**

Thank you for our
Teacher Appreciation
day! I cannot explain
just how much our staff
feel valued by our
parents and feel very
blessed to be part of
such a wonderful
community!

**We
appreciate
your
appreciation!**



OLVESTON GROUNDS DAY

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and wider family units that came into school on Friday 20th and Saturday 21st March. What an incredible bunch of people you are! SO much was achieved and the school is looking it's absolute best.





GROUNDSD DAY



COMPLETED WORK



BEYOND THE CURRICULUM

At Olveston School, we believe that personal development is at the heart of what we offer to our students. We strive to create an environment where our students can flourish and grow in all aspects of their lives. Through a range of activities and events, we celebrate their achievements, nurture their talents, and help them develop into well-rounded individuals ready to face the challenges of the future. Here are few examples of what we have been doing so far this year:

SPORTS COMPETITIONS

Sports play a significant role in fostering personal development, which is why we organise regular sports competitions at Olveston School. These term we have held inter-house football competitions, competed in the small schools league (which we finished in 1st place) and taken part in a girls football competition. These events provide our children with a platform to showcase their sporting abilities, compete against their peers, and learn valuable life skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and resilience. The atmosphere at these events is always electric, filled with smiles, cheers, and a sense of healthy competition.



YOUTH SPEAKS

To encourage effective communication skills, we take part in the local Rotary Club 'Youth Speaks' competition. This event provides our children with opportunities to deliver speeches, express their thoughts and ideas, and build confidence in public speaking. Whether it is a debate, a poetry recital, or a persuasive speech, the Youth Speaks events are a celebration of our children's ability to articulate themselves and engage an audience. This is part of our drive to help our children share their voice so they can go forth to make the world a better place!.



DRAMA AT OLVESTON SCHOOL

Drama is not only an artistic discipline but also a powerful tool for personal development. At Olveston School, our drama teaching celebrates the creativity, imagination, and self-expression of our children. Through drama workshops, rehearsals, and performances, our children learn to step into different roles, communicate effectively, and develop empathy for others. Drama teaching provides a safe space for our students to explore their emotions, discover their strengths, and build confidence in themselves. This is all expertly supported by the amazing Mr. Bonney - a drama specialist! The image on this page are from our year 5 Evacuee Play.



ENRICHMENT EVENTS

Enrichment days play a big part in school life. They help children connect with the curriculum in exciting ways, receive visits from experts and engage with charities or good causes.

This year alone we have had visits from Sheba Soul Ensemble, The History Man, Interfaith day and the big bad wolf! Alongside these we've had VE day celebrations, Roman invasion days, fairytale weddings, numbers day and so much more.

National events such as remembrance, world book day, children in need, red nose day are also key to the school calendar.





At Olveston School, personal development extends beyond the boundaries of the classroom, and our commitment to fostering well-rounded individuals is reflected in a vibrant range of activities. Whether it's participating in music clubs, supporting local charities, mastering new skills, or honing artistic talents, our children have ample opportunities to pursue their passions and develop their skills. Personal development is at the core of everything we do at Olveston School, and we celebrate each and every success, big and small.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Looking ahead to Term 4

Across the school we have a number of new staff. We will be welcoming a second year trainee teacher from University into school - Miss Goldsworthy - she will be in year 5. We also have djembe drumming starting in year 3 and Jsax in year 5. Please do give all the new faces working with us a warm Olveston welcome.

Communication

- The school email domain will be changing over Easter look out for emails from @olvestonschool.co.uk
- Class dojo is still be used to share updates with families - remeber it is not a tool for communicating with teachers - this must go through the office
- If your child is absent please email the school office by 9:00 am - If we do not receive notification of an absence we will make a well-being call that day.
- Each Friday you will receive a 'Friday Office Email' with helpful reminders and information for the week ahead.

Parking

The drop off zone is frequently being used as a parking space. This is causing increased pressure on school traffic. The drop off zones helps reduce traffic by providing a quick stop and go zone, meaning the flow of traffic around school is steady. Without this drop off zone traffic quickly becomes congested.

Lunch Orders

When parents do not pre-order online it is causing significant pressure on the school office.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If during this half term break you are **Concerned about a child?**

01454 866000 - Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm

01454 866000 - Friday 9am - 4.30pm

01454 615165 - Out of hours and at weekends

In an emergency please ring **999**

School Uniform

We have an open survey about school uniform. Please share your views by Sunday 19th April. <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/emidRuapiX>

Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers - if you have time and would like to listen to readers or support school in anyway please do let us know.

Ignite Sports Coaching

Monday - Years 2 and 4

Thursday - Year 1 and 3

Friday - Year 1 and 4

EYFS, Year 5 and Year 6 (see the Friday email)

Forest School Days

Monday - Year 3

Tuesday - Year 5

Wednesday - EYFS

Remember to wear suitable clothing for the weather

(Long sleeves & trousers are essential)

HEAD TEACHER AWARDS

General information

- Celebration assembly will continue to be held every Friday morning.
- You will be notified by text the week before.
- If you are unable to attend please do let us know. We can move the date of when we hand out the certificate.

On the day

- Celebration assembly will start at 9:15 and should be finished by 9:45
- Please sign in at the school office - this is really important.
No photographs are to be taken during the assembly. This is due to safeguarding protocols.
- After the awards we will send the rest of school back to their classes.
- The children who have received an award will remain in the hall and will be able to share a few moments to celebrate with their family.
- Parents/carers can also use this time to take photographs of their children.
- You might even want to take a family selfie with our new selfie frame!
- Parents must not take photos of any other child.
- Phones can only be used during this period. They must not be out at any other point on the school grounds. We may need to review this procedure if parents do not respect this request.

Other certificates

- Certificates are always going to be a topic for discussion. We use headteacher awards to celebrate and bring our community together. The awarding of certificates is based on the children demonstrating our school values.
- Not all 'Celebration' come through certificates. The most impactful celebration comes through a child internalising their achievements. Throughout our curriculum we give our children opportunities to develop this skill. A smile, a positive comment and pat on the back can often mean a lot more than a certificate. Yes, headteacher certificates are something to celebrate but so are all the other moments.

ATTENDANCE ...



Does it actually matter if we go on holiday during term time?

I know what you are thinking... He's a headteacher of course he is going to tell us that it matters! Well yes, of course I am going to say it matters! But I think the key thing is.... WHY does it matter?

The official bit (from the gov.uk website)...

'Face-to-face education is important in helping pupils to fulfil their potential. During school time we believe pupils should be in class with their teachers and peers and enjoying all the benefits that brings. Parents or carers of a child have a legal responsibility to ensure their child receives a suitable education. This is usually achieved through regular attendance at school.'

Yes, holidays are great, there is no denying this! Time as a family, experiencing other cultures and becoming global citizens. Plus term time holidays are cheaper! All of this I completely appreciate... so why do we push for attendance to be above 96%? The simple answer is because it really does make a difference.

Here are the facts:

- Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.
- In 2022, UK Primary school children in Key Stage 2 who didn't achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths missed on average four more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard.
- Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard - this is significantly above the national average.
- **Only 40% of pupils who were persistently absent** across the key stage achieved the expected standard.
- Our school data tracking shows a clear, and almost shocking, link between attendance and attainment.

It's not just attendance that matters, so does being punctual. Take this example. A pupil who arrives at 9:00 everyday compared to a pupil who arrives at 9.15 gains the equivalent of 10 academic days teaching across a year. By the end of primary school this would equate to the equivalent of: 14 weeks, or 70 days, or 420 extra hours of learning time! How do you think that impacts their academic outcomes?

YEP THERE IS MORE!

I'm glad I haven't put you off reading about attendance ...

But it's just a weeks holiday, surely they cant miss that much?

Here is what a child could miss in just one week.

- 5 hours of maths – this could be a whole concept. For example in year 1 we could cover the 'time' topic in a week. In year 6 it could be the concept of area or perimeter. The loss is greater when a child misses part of a concept, when this happens a child will struggle to develop a full understanding. There is evidence to show that if a year 5 pupil misses a week of long division teaching they are significantly less likely to master this concept by the end of primary school. This then significantly impacts them in secondary school.
- 2 hours of phonics – in phonics that could be a whole sound or two! This also then impacts the next sounds they learn.
- 5 hours of English – this is where it gets really tricky, we teach English in 3 week blocks. If you miss one of those weeks then the whole block is negatively impacted.
- Absence impacts the 'embedding phase' of new learning. This is when new learning is revisited a week later, the purpose of this is to shift learning from the child's working memory into the medium term or long term memory. This phase is key to learning cycle.

I could explain the loss of learning for every subject but the pattern is the same: missed new concepts, loss of embedding of learning and negative impact on the following weeks.

What if my child needs to miss school?

Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure their child gets a full time-education. Usually, that means going into school from the age of 5 to 16.

There are only a small number of circumstances where missing a school day is permitted.

Your child must attend every day that the school is open, unless:

- Your child is too ill to attend.
- You have asked in advance and been given permission by the school for your child to be absent on a specific day due to exceptional circumstances.
- Your child cannot go to school on a specific day because they are observing a religious event.
- Your local authority is responsible for arranging your child's transport to school and it's not available or has not been provided yet.

09:00
- 15:30



Years
R-6

EASTER

HOLIDAY SPORT CAMPS

Olveston Primary School

Elberton Rd, BS35 4DB



Wed 8th April
Gymnastics

Tues 14th April
Musical Theatre

Wed 15th April
Gymnastics

Thurs 16th April
Street Dance

BOOK NOW!



www.ignite-sport.co.uk



ignite sport

after school sports clubs term 5

Olveston C of E VC Primary School

NEW!



**Years R - 4
Summer Sports**

Monday

NEW!



**Years R - 4
Basketball**

Thursday

Best Seller!



**All Years
Gymnastics**

Friday

**BOOK
ONLINE
HERE!**

SCAN ME



why join...?

- **Inclusive for all Abilities** – activities are adapted so every child can join in and shine!
- **Safe, Supervised, and Structured** – every session is led by qualified coaches with years of experience!
- **Smiles every Session** – children leave buzzing with energy and stories to tell!
- **Fun Guaranteed** – fun, games based sessions with plenty of action!

For more information
check our website



www.ignite-sport.co.uk



NSPCC

**THE
TALK**



GUIDE

FOR PARENTS

**A simple conversation to help keep
your child safe from sexual abuse**

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

[pants-parents-guide-online.pdf](#)



WHAT ARE THE PANTS RULES?

You're ready to teach your child the five PANTS rules. We'll take you through each letter of PANTS so you know what to say about each one.

You can start off by having a simple chat with your child about keeping safe – and then go into more detail when you are both ready.

**Now it's time to
talk PANTS.**

P RIVATES
ARE PRIVATE

A LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR
BODY BELONGS TO YOU

N O MEANS NO

T ALK ABOUT SECRETS
THAT UPSET YOU

S PEAK UP, SOMEONE
CAN HELP



Privates are private

Be clear with your child that your underwear covers up your private parts and what 'private' means. It's good to use the correct names for their body parts if you're comfortable doing so.

Explain to them that no one should ask to see or touch their private parts, or ask them to look at or touch anyone else's.

Sometimes doctors, nurses or family members might have to. Explain that this is OK, but that those people should always explain why, and should ask them if it's OK first.

No means no

Make sure your child understands that they have the right to say 'No' to unwanted touch – even to a family member or someone they know or love.

They're in control of their body and no one should ever make them do things that make them feel uncomfortable.

Always remember your body belongs to you

Let your child know their body belongs to them, and doesn't belong to anybody else. No one has the right to make them do anything that makes them feel uncomfortable. If somebody does make them do something, it's never their fault, even if the person who has made them feel uncomfortable has told them it is their fault.

If someone asks to see or tries to touch them underneath their underwear they should try to say no and tell a safe adult who they trust. This might be a family member, teacher, support worker or a doctor.



Talk about secrets that upset you

Explain the differences between 'good' and 'bad' secrets. Bad secrets make you feel sad, worried or frightened, whereas good secrets can be things like surprise parties or presents for other people which make you feel excited. Any secret should always be shared in the end.

Explain to your child they should always talk about stuff that makes them worried, including secrets. And that sharing it shouldn't get them into trouble, even if somebody has told them it will. If something has happened that makes them feel uncomfortable, it's never their fault.

Explain very clearly to your child that children are never to blame for other people making them uncomfortable.

Speak up, someone can help

Tell your child it's always good to talk to a safe adult who they trust, about anything that makes them sad, anxious or frightened, so they can help. And it doesn't have to be a family member. It can be a teacher or a friend's parent, for example.

Reassure them that whatever has happened, it's not their fault and they will never get into trouble for speaking out.

They can also call Childline on 0800 1111 and a friendly person will help.

