

Parent Bulletin

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Sunday 28th February 2021

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Issue: 125

Full Re-Opening of School

Our school will be re-opening to all pupils on **Monday 8th March 2021**. We wish to provide you with key information and resources to prepare you and your child(ren) for the transition back to school. Please read this bulletin carefully and follow all of the links for further information. We have also attached a number of posters to this bulletin which we hope will help you with preparation for returning to school.

Back to School Preparation Day

We are dedicating **Friday 5th March 2021** for back to school preparations.

- There will be no LIVE lessons on this day nor will the school be opening for any keyworker / vulnerable pupils.
 - All pupils will remain at home on this day.
 - We will post off-screen activities on our website on Wednesday. The activities will be sent via text to parents and will be uploaded to a dedicated page on our website: <https://www.olivehackney.com/back-to-school/>
- These activities will focus on mental health, well being and preparing all pupils to return back to school.
- All staff will be in school all day making preparations to the classrooms and school buildings (all three sites) so that we can welcome all pupils back on 8th March 2021.

First day back to school

- Please remember to drop off your child at the correct site:
Reception & Year 1 – Lower Clapton Road (LCR) Site
Year 2, 3, 4 & 5 – New City College (NCC) site
Year 6 – Cazenove Road site
- We will continue to operate a staggered drop off and pick up system in the mornings and afternoons.
Click on link for the timings: <https://bit.ly/3uztpVn>
- All pupils will have their temperature checked and use hand sanitiser once they walk through the school gates.
- All pupils will remain in class bubbles throughout the day. These bubbles will not mix at all during the school day.
- Children can bring a snack as usual. We are hoping the fruit scheme for EYFS and KS1 will be back soon but until you are advised otherwise, please send your child in with a healthy snack such as fruit. Crisps, chocolate or biscuits are not permitted as snacks.
- Hot lunches will be available as usual. Reception, Year 1 and 2 continue to be entitled to a free lunch. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.
- Please send your child to school with a clearly labelled water bottle. These **must** contain plain water and not cordial or fruit juice.
- Children will be given their own equipment e.g. pens, pencils and rulers, there is no need for you to send them in with anything.
- PE lessons will start back from the first day (as normal)

Message from Principal (Mr. Mirza)

Assalamu alaikum (peace be with you)

I am delighted to be able to invite all the children to return back to school from **Monday 8th March**. This last year has been a huge challenge for everyone and I am sure you will be feeling a sense relief that the children will be returning back to school. We are looking forward to welcoming all the children and will work hard to get them on track with their learning. We know that returning to school following lockdown is a big change for the children, and for some, this will bring mixed emotions. Change can bring excitement, but also anxiety and worry too. Rest assured, we will do everything we can to ensure that all pupils have a smooth transition back to school.

I hope you will find the information contained within this week's parent bulletin useful. I will be dressing up in my book character costume as well on Thursday! 😊

I hope you enjoy the rest of the weekend. Wa'assalam.

Transition Back to School

We fully appreciate that many pupils may have experienced great difficulty during lockdown including sickness, anxiety, or bereavement in the family. Please use this online form to provide us with any information that you feel we should be aware of to help your child have a smooth transition back to school: <http://bit.ly/2ZXVuYb>

Registration for Breakfast Clubs

We will be re-opening our breakfast clubs from **Monday 8th March 2021**. If you would like your child to attend one of the breakfast clubs, you must register using the links below. You must re-register your child even if they attended a breakfast in the Autumn term:

- Breakfast club for **Year 2, 3, 4 or 5**: <http://bit.ly/3uAvRLn>
- Breakfast club for **Rec & Year 1**: <http://bit.ly/3szGLyT>
- Breakfast club for **Year 6**: <http://bit.ly/3aZEqY6>

First week back to school

- We are very conscious that some children will be feeling anxious about their return. We will be supporting mental health and well-being by delivering plenty of PHSE lessons and fun activities in the first week giving them time to talk and explore their feelings.
- Staff are looking at the layout of the classroom ensuring all children are facing the front with plenty of ventilation. Guidance says this is the best way to minimise transmissions of germs.
- Whilst national tests will not take place this year, it is important we assess the children in the coming weeks, so we are able to personalise teaching and learning to meet the individual pupils needs. This will be done in a supportive way to avoid the children feeling anxious.

World Book Day

It is World Book day on **Thursday 4th March 2021** and we will be using this opportunity to help pupils to develop a love of reading. We have lined up many activities throughout the week including:

- Designing a bookmark
- Re-creating a scene from their favourite story
- Creating a storyboard of their favourite story
- Creating a book review on their favourite story or newspaper
- Reading for purpose and then producing a recipe or set of instructions etc.
- Writing book recommendations
- Taking part in LIVE online World Book Day events with popular children's authors including Zaniab Mian.

We are also running a number of competitions this week (with prizes!):

- Get caught reading
- Dress up in style
- Light, camera, action
- Epic readers
- Family reading challenge

Click on the following link for full details:
<https://bit.ly/3q49N8n>

Spirited Art Competition

The Spirited Art competition deadline is **Monday 1st March 2021**. Pupils must submit work to the school in digital format via their class email address. Late entries will not be accepted.



The poster is for the 'Spirited Art Competition'. It has a dark blue background with yellow stars and a crescent moon. At the top left is the 'Star' logo. The title 'Spirited Art Competition' is in large, bold, yellow font. Below it, in smaller white text, is the instruction: 'Research and find a short verse from the Qur'an that: inspires you, gives you hope or speaks to you spiritually'. Then, 'Then produce a piece of art such as:' is written. Below that, it lists 'A poem, picture or sculpture (that represents the verse)', 'This will be an individual response.', and 'Art of any medium will be accepted.' Further down, it says 'We know that people find comfort, reaffirmation, solace and hope in the expression of spirituality.' and 'The school will identify the 30 best responses and tweet one per day during the month of Ramadhan.' Below that, 'This gallery will be topical and uplifting!' is written. The 'Closing date: Monday March 1st.' is in bold yellow text. At the bottom, it says 'The 10 best responses from each school will be submitted to the Trust and prizes will be awarded!' and features an illustration of an open book on a wooden stand.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
4 MARCH 2021

Is your child shielding?

If you have received a letter from the Department of Health and Social Care or your child's GP, asking your child to shield, please can you send this letter to the school office as soon as possible.

Lunch payments

Parents wishing to pay for lunches for this half term can do so from **Tues 2nd March 2021** via Parent Pay. The deadline for making lunch payments is **Weds 3rd March 2021**.

School Office

Our main admin office is now based at the Lower Clapton Road site (new building). If you need to contact the school for any reason, please only use the following contact details.

Tel: 020 7112 2459

Email: info@olivehackney.staracademies.org

Address: 2 Lower Clapton Road, Hackney, London E5 0PA

All forms and letters should be sent to the main office only using the above details. Office hours are **8:00am – 3:30pm**.

If your child is late to either of the Cazenove Road and NCC/UTC sites, please press on the intercom system and an admin staff member or member of the senior leadership team will assist.

Important Email Addresses

Please continue to use class email addresses to communicate with your child's class teacher. Please remember that you should wait 1-2 days for a reply. Please avoid sending multiple emails. Here is a link to a full list of class email addresses:

<https://bit.ly/3bL5rjI>

Here is a list of other important email addresses:

- General enquiries (or to contact the school leadership team): info@olivehackney.staracademies.org
- Reporting pupil absences: attendance@olivehackney.staracademies.org
- Queries related to Free School Meals: fsm@olivehackney.staracademies.org
- Queries related to Special Educational Needs: send@olivehackney.staracademies.org

Returning School Laptops

If you received a laptop from the school, please can you start to return the laptops and chargers from **Wednesday 10th March 2021**. All laptops and chargers should be returned no later than **Friday 12th March 2021**. Please do not return the laptops on the first two days of school.

STAR Parent Surveys

Last week, we sent out the link for the STAR Academies' parent surveys.

Here is a link to the survey: <https://bit.ly/3uhLpUa>

This survey will capture feedback on your experiences of your child's education during the recent period of school closures. The survey will also capture feedback on the views of those who have continued to attend school during the national lockdown and those who have been learning remotely during this period.

Please ensure that you complete the survey as soon as possible and no later than **Monday 8th March 2021**.

WORLD BOOK DAY 2021



The Olive School Hackney has some real exciting activities and competitions lined up...

GET CAUGHT READING!

Snap a picture of your child(ren) reading in a **crazy** (but safe) spot! They can be reading for pleasure or for a purpose! The idea is for them to express how crazy they are over reading. Send your photos into your class email for us to share on our Twitter page! Check out the photos below for some inspiration:



**WIN
PRIZES!!**



We will be choosing the craziest/creative reading spot and awarding that individual with a grand, exciting **prize!**

DRESS UP IN STYLE!

Who said we could not dress up into our favourite character whilst in a lockdown?

Get creative this WBD and help your child(ren) step into the shoes of their favourite character! Try to use different resources around your house to make parts of your costume. Send in your photos, we cannot wait to see you in your characters! Check the images for some inspiration:

We will be choosing the most creative costume to win a **prize!**



WORLD BOOK DAY 2021



Just when you thought, we did not have more excitement coming your way!



LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!



Let your child(ren) get their listening and speaking, acting and drama skills into practise this WBD! Encourage your child/children to send in a short video clip (2/3mins) of them acting part of a story or their favourite character! For those with siblings, get them working on a scene together to make it even more exciting! You could encourage your child to read out a poem or even dress up like a news reporter and read out some breaking news!

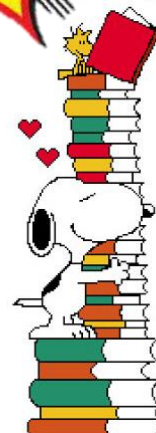


EPIC READERS!



CLASS COMPETITION ALERT!

Encourage your child to read the books assigned to them by their Class Teacher during WBD. We will be monitoring each class's interaction and the class with the most reading minutes has a real, fantastic treat in store for them once we are back in school! Log on to Epic and get reading with your child to help them win!



WORLD BOOK DAY 2021



FAMILY READING CHALLENGE!

We all have a VERY busy daily schedule. Sometimes, you just need to stop and factor in some quality family time! So, Olive is setting YOUR family a challenge.

Can you complete the whole swirl of reading genres as a family?

Work your way around the swirl of different genres and tick off each one as you go along. Aim to be reading champions as a family, take turns reading, exploring your love for different genres and go that extra mile questioning each other on the text read! We are giving you the month of March to work your way round until your family reaches the top of the world!

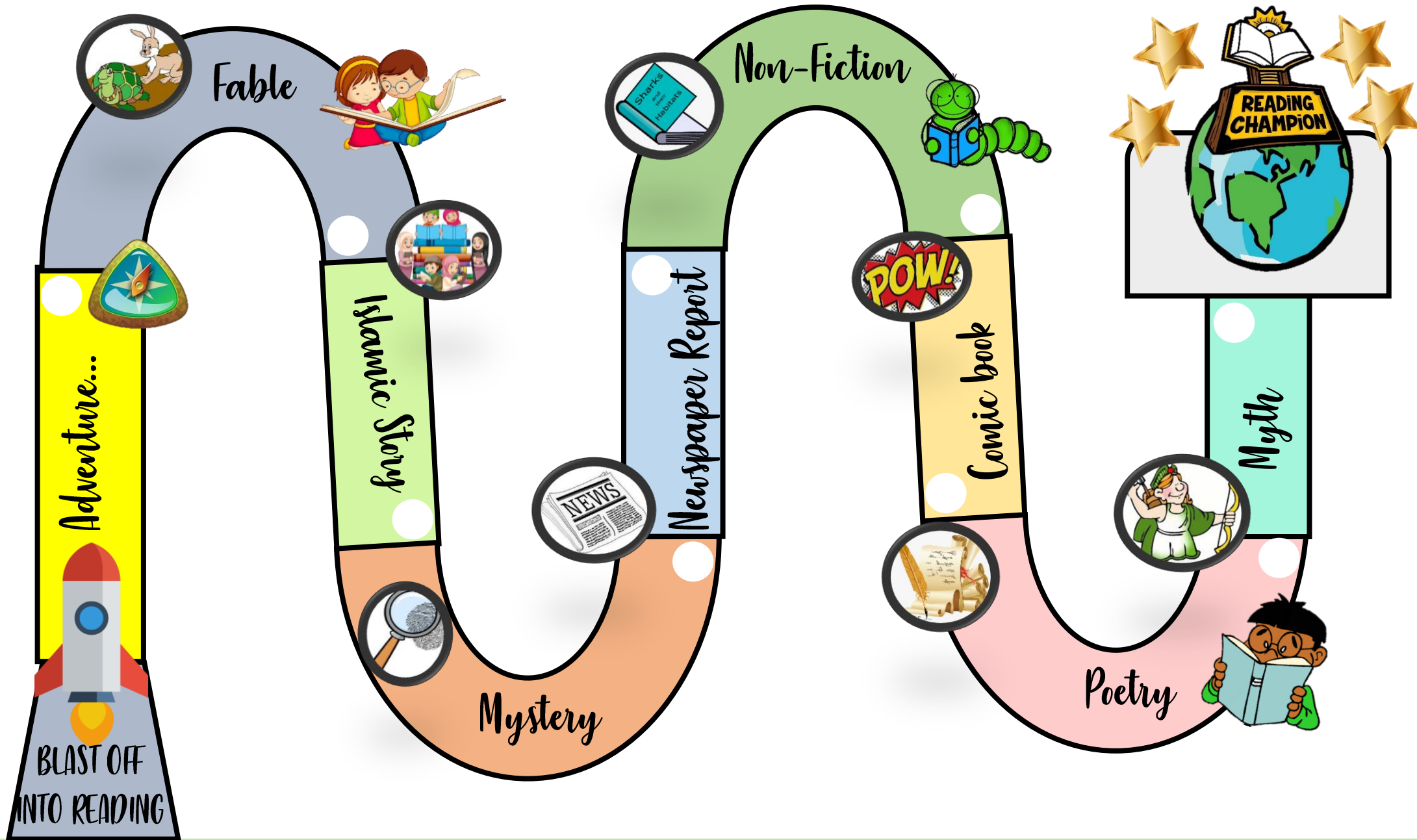
You are free to use the books available to you, if you do not have any books, do not worry! Class teachers will be assigning your child's Epic account with a range of books for you to use as a family. Send us in your photos of you reading as a family or your reading board so we can see how you are getting on!



HOW MANY GENRES WILL YOU TRY?



FAMILY READING CHALLENGE!



ARE YOU READY TO GO WILD READING?



CULTURE CORNER!



At Olive Hackney, we are passionate about ensuring that our pupils develop into well-rounded individuals, through engaging in a broad and enriched curriculum. This includes gaining a range of knowledge and skills to help them become well-informed citizens. Ofsted uses the term 'Cultural capital' to define a person's knowledge and skills of the wider world. It is widely accepted that a person's level of cultural capital is a huge indicator of how well they are able to succeed academically and engage in wider society. We believe that engaging in culturally rich activities and conversations extends beyond school and into a child's home. To support you with enabling these discussions with your child, our Subject Leaders will provide you with a prompt each week. These will be a fun, subject-related challenge to engage with as a family perhaps around the dinner table or during a family activity time. We hope you enjoy these!



SUBJECT FOCUS: LITERACY



MS BAUHADOOR'S CHALLENGE TO YOU!

Have you heard or ever come across a Concertina book?

Stories are a wonderful way to get your readers on a journey of your imagination. Let them step into your shoes and enter a different world. They are told by anyone and come from all over the universe.

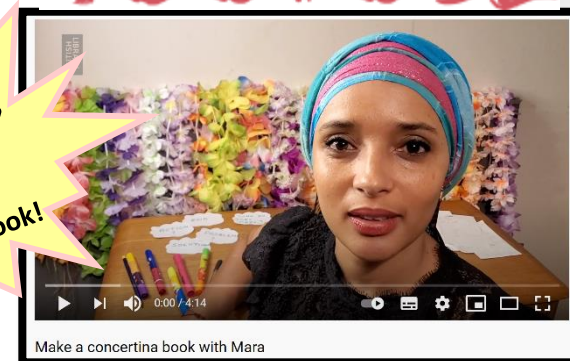
A concertina book is a simple yet powerful way of telling a story. It uses illustrations, words and of course a story plot! It helps children to improve on their speaking and listening skills as they tell their story aloud using their concertina book alongside!

Why not give it a go as a family, send us in your photos or even a video of you telling your story with your concertina book!



YOUTUBE

Check out Mara,
a storyteller
make a
concertina book!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zrTjnEQgFI0>

Check out these finished products!

Looking forward to seeing you send in yours!

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- A4 piece of paper
- Scissors
- Cello tape
- Pencil
- Colouring pencil / felt tips
- Decorations (if available)
- A plan for your story!

Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.

Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – “it’s completely fine to feel like that at the moment” or ‘I can really understand why you would feel like that’



Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become tearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your ‘goodbye’ routine and create a ‘hello’ greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.

