“Spring won’t let me stay in this house any longer! I must get out and breathe the air deeply again”.  

Gustav Mahler

Dear Parents,

It has been a whirlwind term that has flown by and I wish you all a very special and enjoyable Easter break. I wish all our examination students a very productive Easter revision and study period. It is important that this time is spent constructively as the May examinations come ever closer. As I write this term closes with Red Nose Day, Senior Sports Day and some Easter Egg hunts in the primary school and I trust all activities go well.

After the holiday we will be launching a new website for the school. We trust this will be a more informative and user-friendly experience and that it will enhance communication, engagement and interaction with the school. I wish to thank Mrs. Lucy Packett for all her work in this major task and to all those who have contributed to its design and content. I look forward to receiving your feedback when it goes live. Certain sections of the new website will also be in Portuguese but this function is still in preparation and will not be launched until a later date.

Please note the school website address stays the same as www.obs.edu.pt

We are now also looking forward to Speech Day at the end of the summer term and the planning has already started with our new PTA committee. We wish to appoint class volunteers for each class in the school to help in assisting in this event and to ensure that this important day is a fitting end to a successful year. I ask for your contribution here. Everyone can play a role here, great or small, in developing a supportive, school community.

Tom McGrath, Headmaster

WHOLE SCHOOL NOTICES

CONGRATULATIONS TO FILIPA AND FILIPE

On behalf of the school Mr McGrath extends his sincere congratulations to Filipa Pipiras (4F) and Filipe Encarnação (6W) for the following achievements at the recent National Chess Championships in Seixal:

Fílipe Encarnação - came in 5th place in the Male under 12’s Championships

Fílipe Pipiras - became the under 10’s Female National Champion;
EASTER ACTIVE8 PROGRAMME

During this Easter break, Active8 will be partnering with the school to offer a 4 day programme of fun and educational practical activities based at the school. This ‘Easter Camp’ will take place from 09.00 to 15.00 from Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April and will cost €200. For more information and to book a place, please see the guide attached and/or contact Luis Mota via active8@outlook.pt. Places are limited and are based on a first come first served basis so please get in touch quickly to reserve your place. Please click here for more information:

ART EXHIBITION

Ex-pupils Carolina Pimenta and David Goncalves would like to invite OBS pupils between the ages of 5 and 18, as well as any alumni pupils to an exhibition in Palácio das Artes, Porto. There is a special opening this Saturday.

UNIFORM

Summer uniform begins after the Easter Break! Could parents please check the winter uniform of their children and return any clothing that may have been taken by mistake. Thank you.

EASTER EGG HUNT AT ST JAMES’ - SATURDAY, 28TH MARCH

Please be informed that on Saturday, 28th March, between 2:30 and 5:30pm there will be an Easter Egg hunt with refreshments afterwards. This will be held at St James Anglican Church. This is for children up to the age of 8 years old. For more information please ring: 933287325.
PRIMARY NOTICES

Today is the end of the Spring term though it is also School Spirit Day, and we are 'oozing' with school spirit everywhere. Our 'Bring Sunshine to School' theme is very obvious with yellow everywhere - pity the yellow sun is still deciding to hide though! We began the day with an assembly to showcase two extra-curricular clubs. The Dance club performed an amazing dance followed by the Drama club performing their comedy sketches; both groups were a big hit with the children.

During the assembly the pupils also learned that, though it was a very close contest this year, Bragança were the housepoint winners for the term with a grand total of 6100 points.

After the assembly the pupils discovered that the Easter bunny had left a few eggs for them to find - and find they did!

Please do ensure that you read the letter from Mr Harrison regarding the 2015 OBS Photography competition. This year, our competition entries will all be posted on a web site for all parents to view. All relevant information is in the letter sent to parents today.

This has been another very busy term though we have managed to squeeze in many activities beyond regular academic lessons. Some of the highlights have been:

- Talent Show
- Carnaval Parade
- Flash mob dancing
- Douro river cruise
- Concerts at Casa da Musica
- CLIP Sports tournament
- Poetry recitals
- Creative writing competition
- Conimbriga trip

Thank you for all of your support with your child's education over this past term. We are all looking forward to a wonderful summer term packed with many more wonderful opportunities for the children. On behalf of all of the Primary staff, we hope you and your family all have a blessed Easter holiday.

Mark Evans, Head of Primary
READING CLUB

Reading box club with Mrs Torcato is continuing from the first week back of term. You do not need to re-book if your child already attends, but if you would like to enquire about this club please contact: Emma.Torcato@obs.edu.pt

Emma Torcato, Head of Learning Support and EAL

HEAD OF PRIMARY COMMENDATION AWARDS

- Commendation awarded to Rodrigo for reading 100 high frequency words in English with confidence and understanding
  Rec Bears

- Commendation awarded to Rita for her effort and progress in independent writing
  1L

- Commendation awarded to Gonçalo for his excellent work in Mathematics this term
  1L

- Commendation awarded to David for his effort in writing practice and for excellent Art work this year
  1L

RODRIGO MOTA
RITA CAVACO PINTO
GONÇALO BASTOS
DAVID MACHADO

PRIMARY PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE COMMENDATIONS

Commendation awarded to:
Patrick Butcher 5B

Excelente trabalho e sua apresentação na disciplina de História de Portugal

Luísa Barbosa, Head of Modern Languages in Primary
SECONDARY OBSERVER
Please follow the below link to see the Secondary OBServer:
This is a MUST read! Inside you will find:
- Secondary Notices (these are critical)
- IMUN at CLIP
- Duke of Edinburgh
- CAS updates
- Culture through Languages
- OBS Rocks!
- Art Exhibition
- Group 4 Project
- Form 7 Science
- Solar eclipse
- Varsity Games Reports
- Stars and House Points
- Roll of Honour and commendations
- Key Dates: Reports, exams, trips and events

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS FOR THE SUMMER TERM
Please visit the school website to see the Secondary Extra-Curricular clubs for the Summer Term:

DATES FOR THE DIARY

27th March  End of Spring Term
12th-19th April  CAS Morocco Trip
13th April  Summer Term begins
16th April  F4 Visionarium Trip
16th-18th April  F5-F9 Sports Tournament Lisbon
17th April  Chess Tournament at Efanor
20th April  Extra-Curricular Summer Term Clubs start back
21st -24th April  Form 5 Checkpoint examinations
24th April  F5 outing - Mini Golf
24th April  World Book Day