



Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018

# Newsletter 242

[www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk](http://www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Classes for next year 2018/19

At the end of this Term Carl our Y1 teacher and Rick our Y4 teacher will be moving on to pastures new. Carl has worked beautifully with our Y1 class this year and Rick has done a great job taking over from Angela, who is on maternity leave, not only with her class but in continuing to lead the school's sporting and P.E provision this year. We wish them good luck in the future.

A new teacher Genevieve will be taking our Y4 class in September until Angela returns from maternity leave in December. We have appointed Katy Parker to be our new Reception teacher from September. Parents met Katy at our Early Years Foundation Stage Open Evening last week. We are excited to have both of our new teachers on the team next year.

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Hilarie Randall</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Katy Parker</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Stephanie Welburn</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Sana Azm</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Lauren McLoughlin</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Genevieve Dennison</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Ian Read</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Shelley Wragg</b>

## International Day a Great Success

We had a very special International Day last week. Thank you to all staff, parents and pupils who contributed in many different ways. In the morning children performed in our Music Show which had an international theme with music and dance originating from South Africa, Europe, Russia, Turkey and Japan! Thank you to all the children who participated and to Orlando and Ruth our Music teachers who worked so hard with the children to prepare them for their performances. Parents also came in to school to share stories, dances and games from India, Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal and Sweden.

In the evening parents and staff brought food to share. Our tables were laden with such a wonderful variety of dishes from around the globe which we shared on a lovely sunny evening whilst listening to music performed by our own Gillespie parents and pupils. Carole and the Lab\_13 Committee took international to the outer limits of the planet by providing 'space food'!

Our Y5 and Y6 Strings ensemble children performed a range of pieces and Erin in Y5 played a Traditional Turkish instrument whilst singing – beautiful! We also had a special musical visitor, Indian music maestro, Baluji Shrivatav OBE who played on the Dilruba (Indian violin) whilst accompanying his pupil, our very own Akira in Y2 who performed on the Tabla (Indian drums). Teaching Assistant Sian's daughter, Georgia performed her own compositions with voice and guitar. Thank you to everyone who made International Day so special this year

## Gillespie Science Week

Last Tuesday, it was the Great Science Share, when children all over the country shared their science learning with others. A group of Gillespie year 6 children and the Lab\_13 committee shared their learning with 12 other Islington schools at London Metropolitan University in a child-led interactive science share. Gillespie year 6 children played a key role in the promotion and presentation of the event. Zac Sherman and Paige Hulkes did a fantastic job of presenting!

On Thursday, year 6 children led the annual science fair with some of the most exciting science experiments yet and there were wonderful costumes for the vocabulary parade on Friday.

During the week, several classes also took part in additional science activities with their partner classes and these will continue this week for some year groups.

Thanks to Shelley our Science lead for organizing Science week

## **Science Spectacular -Now that's what I call Magic!**

Over 150 children and their families were packed into the top hall on Monday 25th June to watch the Lab Committee put on a very special show. The Science Spectacular is always a highlight of the Committee's year, but this show was a little bit different... Instead of inviting a guest scientist to take part, they invited Alom Shaha, who is a trainee magician! Alom was introduced by our hosts Anisa and Marwa (Y5) and he explained that, after years of teaching physics, he wanted a career change and had attended a course to learn magic. After Alom's slightly disappointing card tricks and a colour-changing handkerchief, Inigo (Y6) stood up in the crowd to exclaim "This isn't real magic! It's just a trick! We can show you real colour changes using science!" And so Alom and the Lab Committee took it in turns to share their magic tricks and science tricks with the audience. The committee shared three fantastic science demos:

- Inigo and Didac demonstrated the colour-changing properties of cabbage juice
- Anisa, Adnan and Maya revealed how glass appears invisible in glycerine
- Marwa and David used the electrostatic force to make objects levitate

With Isla assisting Carole in the crucial role of Science Technician, making sure that the equipment was ready in time for each demo. Several audience members were invited to the stage to take part in magic tricks or to confirm that the children were not using any trickery in their science demos. Some audience members also figured out how Alom's tricks worked and wouldn't let him get away with it! Alom was very impressed by how scientific they were and how critically they were thinking.

In the end, Alom confessed that he had changed his mind - that perhaps magic wasn't for him, and that he wanted to stick to physics teaching after all! After the show, an independent bookseller sold copies of Alom's book "Mr Shaha's Recipes for Wonder", which is aimed at parents and carers who want to carry out science investigations at home with their children. If you want more ideas for science activities you can do at home follow this link: <http://www.rigb.org/families/experimental>

Many thanks to the members of staff who helped on the night, and to all the children and their families who made the event such a success! And finally, the Lab Committee will be seeking applications from children who are currently in Y4 or Y5, to form next year's committee. Look out for more information and application forms in the next few weeks...

Thanks to Carole our Resident Scientist for organising the Spectacular

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mark Owen Headteacher**

### **FOG NEEDS YOU!**

It's under 2 weeks now until the summer fair and we are keeping fingers crossed for the weather but we need your help for the final plans:

- Can you help? We still need more volunteers to man stalls and help out on the day (please let Louisa know if you can help).
- Time to have a clear out - please bring any good quality books, toys, games, bric-a-brac (no clothes!) to the office.
- TOMBOLA prizes - please drop any new items for the tombola with Louisa in the mornings or in the office.
- Kids Craft Stall - This year there is a stall that will be selling items made by kids, if your child wants to make anything for this stall (bookmarks, candles, jewellery, jam, fudge etc.) please bring things to the office clearly marked 'kids craft stall'
- Don't forget this year we have the first ever Great Gillespie Bake Off that will be judged just before the fair - cakes will then go on sale at the fair.
- Finally, on the day we need salads and cakes (not everyone has to enter the Bake Off!!!) - remember NO NUTS!

Please remember that all money we raise for FOG goes directly to the school to help support your children's education!

Don't forget you can keep in touch with FOG via Classlist.com, Facebook (search FOGillespie) or Twitter @fogillespie