



Friday 14th September 2018

Newsletter 244

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year

It is lovely to see familiar and new faces back at school ready for new learning and challenges this year. We are delighted to welcome new children across the school who have been well looked after so far by their peers and by our adults and are beginning to settle and build confidence. It is exciting for me to be working with new colleagues and meeting parents new to Gillespie. Every new school year gives us an opportunity to reflect on our successes and challenges from the previous year. We are now working to put in place plans to ensure our school is a continuously improving institution which provides a vibrant education and stimulating experiences for all of our pupils. We will share our priorities for this year with you in the next few weeks.

Attendance matters

Minor Illness & Appointments

The most common reason given for children missing days at school is illness and medical appointments. We appreciate that all children are ill at some time and need to stay home, however, most of the time when children are only mildly unwell they can continue to attend school.

Early morning aches and pains often pass, so we encourage you to bring your child to school. Also a child can attend school with a slight cold and cough or where they complain of a slight headache. Tell the office how your child is feeling and they will let the class teacher know. School will phone you if your child continues to feel unwell during the day.

Where possible, please arrange medical appointments outside of school hours. If this is difficult, later in the afternoon (after 2:00pm) would be preferable so that time missed in school is limited.

For further guidance on whether your child is well enough to attend school at any time, Islington school Nursing have produced a leaflet for parents as a general guide, called '**Minor Illness and School Attendance – A Guide for Parents/Carers**' and can be found on the school website on the attendance page.

If your child cannot attend school you must call and inform the office by 9:30am. If we are unable to take your call please leave a message on the answer machine detailing reason for absence so we can ensure we use the appropriate code.

Registration starts at 8:55am. Registers close at 9:05am; children arriving after this time MUST sign in on the electronic system at the office.

Improving communication and saving paper

This term we are looking to set up a school App linked to our text service where you can access information from and about the school including the newsletter. Once we have it set up we will still print some copies of the newsletter available from the office if some parents still prefer to get a hard copy – watch this space!

Diary dates

Date	Event
Thursday 20 th Sep	9-10:30 Meet our bi-lingual parent advisors
Friday 21 st Sep	Peace assembly
Sunday 23 rd Sep	12-3pm Family lunch
Mon 24- Fri 28 th Sep	Harvest (Water Aid)
Thursday 27 th Sep	9-10:30 Bi-lingual parent advisor employment workshop & ESOL sign up 3:45pm Secondary transfer meeting * date change
Monday 1 st Oct	Black History assembly
Thursday 18 th Oct	Halloween Disco
Friday 19 th Oct	Bug busting assembly
Mon 22 nd - Fri 26 th Oct	Half term
Wednesday 31 st Oct	Individual & sibling photos
Thursday 1 st Nov	Internet safety – Parent Voice Event
Tuesday 6 th Nov	Flu immunisations Y1-5
Wednesday 7 th Nov	Diwali
Friday 9 th Nov	Remembrance assembly
Mon 12 th – Fri 16 th Nov	Anti-bullying week
Mon 18 th – Fri 23 rd Nov	Road safety week
Thursday 29 th Nov	Parent consultation evening
Mon 3 rd – Fri 7 th Dec	Hour of code week
Monday 3 rd Dec	Hanukah
Friday 14 th Dec	FoG Winter Fair
Tuesday 18 th Dec	Christmas lunch
Wednesday 19 th Dec	Christmas shows 10am Nur, Rec, Y1, 2 2pm Y3, 4, 5, 6
Thursday 20 th Dec	Class parties
Friday 21 st Dec	Carol assembly & last day of term

*The secondary transfer meeting has been moved to Thursday 27th September due to a clash with local secondary open evenings.

Class assemblies Thursdays at 10:15am

11 th October	Year 6
18 th October	Year 5
1 st November	Year 3
8 th November	Year 4
15 th November	Year 2
22 nd November	Year 1

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
Mark Owen, Headteacher



**Come along to our Coffee Morning
To meet our Bilingual parents advisor Reba
and Hinda**

**Thursday 20th September
From 9:00 to 10.30 am
in Gillespie Primary School**

Our Bilingual Advisors Hinda and Reba will translate in Somali and Bengali



**Come along to our Coffee Morning
For employment workshop and
register for ESOL Class.**

**Thursday 27th September
From 9:00 to 10.30 am
in Gillespie Primary School**

Our Bilingual Advisors Hinda and Reba will be translating in Somali and Bengali



Bring a dish to share

Join us for lunch in the school playground
Plates, cups and cutlery provided
Tea, coffee and cakes stall

Welcome new families and make new friends