



Friday 21st December 2018

Newsletter 249

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas Show – A Christmas Carol

A big thank you to everybody who contributed to our Christmas show this year. We did not realise that on the day of the performance it was exactly 175 years since the first publication of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. We had more parents attend than ever before and I am sorry that the morning show was incredibly packed. We will be putting in measures next year which will include a third performance and tickets to make sure that there is space.

Farewell to Sana our Year 2 teacher

Sana who has been our year 2 teacher for just over a year is leaving to seek out new challenges in her life. I want to thank Sana for her effervescent contribution to our school. She has been popular with pupils and staff and will be missed by all.

Children in Need

£192.52 was raised by all our spotty and stripey clothed children this year, well done!

FoG Winter Fair

We are pleased to let you all know that £820 was raised from the Winter Fair! This is a great amount and we know next year we can build on this.

With special thanks to Mary, Bini, Louisa and all the hardworking helpers and elves on the day!

We celebrated the bake off, football and art winners in this morning's Carol Assembly, well done to all children who took part.

Attendance matters

Our overall attendance thus far is 98.14% meaning we have made a fantastic start to the school year this Autumn term. We thank parents for their continued support in helping us keep up our attendance and punctuality figures.

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2018/19

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7 th January	INSET day
Tuesday 8 th January	First day of for pupils
18 th – 22 nd February	Half Term
Friday 5 th April	Last day of term

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23 rd April	INSET day
Wednesday 24 th April	First day for pupils
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term
Monday 22 nd July	Last day for pupils
Tuesday 23 rd July	INSET day

Make your Christmas 'green'

Most residents in Islington recycle regularly and Christmas need not be any different. There are loads of ways that you can make your festive season environmentally-friendly with these easy tips.

Food waste

You can find out lots of ways to make the most of your Christmas leftovers by searching recipe ideas online. But if you have a food waste recycling bin (all street properties and many flats do), you can recycle all your food left overs into lovely new compost.

Christmas cards and wrapping paper

You could keep your Christmas cards and use them for gift tags next year! Otherwise, you can recycle all your Christmas cards and wrapping paper, unless it is glittery or metalised wrapping paper (if you scrunch it and it stays scrunched, it can be recycled!)

Cardboard

Fold and flatten cardboard before putting it out for recycling. If you're using a communal recycling bin, please help keep them tidy by putting the cardboard inside the bins. Please remove plastic wrap and masking tape if you can.

Cans and bottles

These can all be recycled in your green box, your clear recycling sack, or your nearest communal recycling site.

Take care of your tree, don't dump it!

After you've enjoyed your lovely tree over Christmas, do the right thing and dispose of it responsibly. It is really easy.

Decorations

All decorations need to be removed and only real Christmas trees will be collected.

Street properties

Please put your tree on the edge of your property. We will collect your tree on your normal recycling collection day between 1 January and 16 January.

Islington Council estates

We will collect trees on 12 and 19 January. Please check with your caretaker where your collection point is on your estate.

Flats above shops

Place your tree at your normal rubbish collection point on 7 January.

Park drop-off points between 1-20 January 2019

King Square, Barnard Park (Charlotte Terrace), Rosemary Gardens, Elthorne Park, Wray Crescent (park end), Tufnell Park (Campdale Road)

A big thank you to all of our wonderful and hard-working Gillespie staff; and to all of our parent volunteers, PTA stalwarts and Governors who together with our sparkling children help make such a vibrant school community. Have a wonderful holiday and Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen
Headteacher

Behaviour Basics

Does your approach to parenting set your children up for success in school?

What happens when expectations at home and at school do not match?



A one-day workshop for parents

Led by Tracey Campbell, a behaviour management consultant

WHEN: Thursday 17th January 2019

WHERE: Gillespie Primary School in Lab_13

TIME: 9.00a.m. - 2.00p.m (Refreshments available)

Course outline:

BEHAVIOUR: What's it all about? Exploring the motives of behaviour

ABC IS THE AGREED ORDER – How rules and routines can modify behaviour

SAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT – Using the voice to the greatest effect

IF YOU SEE IT, SAY IT – How to use praise to encourage positive behaviour

CONSISTENCY: KEEP ON, KEEP TOGETHER – Helping parents work as a team

START THE DAY THE RIGHT WAY – The effects of the morning dash on behaviour

This workshop is for all parents interested in:

- finding out about good behaviour management practice in order to create better cohesion between home and school
 - exploring strategies for dealing with challenging behaviour
 - understanding the approaches needed to encourage children towards positive behaviour
 - understanding the term 'behaviour' – what it is and why it is
 - establishing the kind of environment that is conducive to positive behaviour
 - developing strategies and principles that can be used both to help prevent and respond to challenging behaviour
-