



Friday 11th January 2019

Newsletter 250

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the New Year! We have lots of exciting plans to continue to improve the school community for all of our children. Please have a look at our diary dates for some of our events coming up this term. Our Bring a Parent to School Week will be between February 11th to 15th and the focus will be on online safety. You will be able to participate in a lesson with your child. Details of when each class is inviting parents will be sent out in a letter shortly.

Fundraising at Gillespie

As parents know, both school staff and wonderful Gillespie parents over many years have helped us raise money through FoG and its many fundraising activities. We have also had individual parents who have supported the school with fundraising applications for specific projects. To this end we are going to set up a new fundraising page on our website which will provide information about current and planned projects and will provide links for you to donate if you would like to.



Gillespie Computing Projects

Shelley our new Computing Lead has ambitious plans with Mark to improve the range and quality of ICT resources available to enable us to deliver a vibrant new computing education scheme to Gillespie children. We are launching our own Rocket Fund which is a free crowdfunding platform for Gillespie School.

We would like you to help us to raise some funds for new ICT equipment. Our current project is to purchase 5 new iPads to advance our pupils love of technology. The children will be using these for coding, science, PE, history and geography.

To find out more, check out our project @ www.rocketfund.co.uk which will be going live on Monday 14th Jan.

Behaviour Basics with Tracey Campbell

Thursday 17th January 9:00am – 2:00pm

We are delighted that 26 parents have signed up to this highly recommended parenting course. It is not too late to sign up if you want to, please call the office to book a place. We will be providing a light lunch and so it will be important to be certain of numbers so that we can order the correct number of sandwiches etc. If you are unable to attend and you have signed up please contact the school immediately to inform us but we do hope to see everybody who has signed up on the course!

Diary Dates

Friday 1 st February	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 4 th February	Safer Internet Day NSPCC Assembly & workshops: Speak Out, Stay Safe
Friday 8 th February	Chinese New Year
11 th – 15 th February	Bring a Parent to School: Online safety
18 th – 22 nd February	Half term
Wednesday 27 th February	Class photos
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
11 th – 15 th March	Assessment week
Friday 15 th March	FoG Quiz
18 th – 22 nd March	SEN week
Wednesday 3 rd April	FoG Movie Night
Thursday 4 th April	Parent Consultation Evening
Friday 5 th April	Easter egg competition – Traditional stories Last day of term

Spring Term Attendance

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.

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.

Yours sincerely
Mark Owen, Headteacher