



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

# Newsletter 273

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Coronavirus (COVID 19) update and contingency plan in the event of a full school closure**

### Update

There are currently no known diagnosed cases of coronavirus in the Gillespie community and we continue to follow local and national advice. From next week we will be cancelling/postponing any class trips which require the use of trains or London underground, we will keep our options open for buses for local trips. The school's cleaning company is prioritising daily cleaning of surfaces which include door handles and hand rails etc and we are being as rigorous as we can to ensure children wash their hands throughout the school day as well as providing hand sanitiser at lunch times and in the classroom. We are also organising to have the school bio-fogged (disinfected) over the Easter holiday.

### Contingency plan in the event of whole school closure

We are currently updating our IT infrastructure to enable teachers to provide work online to all families. From next week all teachers will be setting homework online to enable us to practise with families and to iron out any potential difficulties before any closure is organised. This will involve all pupils having passwords to enable them to access work set up on learning platforms. We will provide more detailed information on how we will do this next week. If any parents have limited online access or do not have access to a PC, laptop or tablet please contact the

school office so that we can make preparations to support any families in this situation.

There will be slightly different solutions to this challenge for the foundation stage and I am talking to Katy and Laura about how they can provide materials and sign post online activities or suggest activities that families can carry out at home.

Yours sincerely,  
Mark Owen  
Headteacher