



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

# Newsletter 279

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope all families had some kind of break during the Easter holidays. I know some families have been affected and suffered loss because of the pandemic, our thoughts, best wishes and hopes are with you all.

### Thank you!

My teaching and support staff are working hard to support children at home and those coming into school. My Premises Manager Pete opens up every day and is looking after the school for our children, our cook Fatima and her team; Mavis, Jacky and Ganimete come into school every day to provide hot meals for our pupils and our school cleaners, Doelete and Mavis come into school to keep it clean and pristine. My thanks to you all –essential workers!

thank  
you!

### Paper learning packs

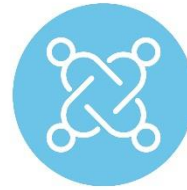
We know this is a challenging time for all parents, particularly those of you who are having to work from home whilst simultaneously supporting the education of your children and those of you who have limited access to on-line technology. We are keeping in touch with families who may have the greatest challenges at home and will be sending home paper copy learning packs produced in conjunction with the LEA very soon. We will be contacting relevant families on Monday to organise collection.

### Reading resources

The Islington Library Service have provided additional reading books to be targeted at families who do not have many reading books at home. We will be setting up a library book borrowing scheme to be rolled out from next Friday 1st May. If you fall into that category, please e-mail the office. We will set up a system whereby books can be borrowed for a week in packs of up to five books, returned and exchanged the following week. Parents can collect and return on Friday mornings 9:30-10:30 am.

### Ramadan

Yesterday was the start of Ramadan. We send all of our Muslim families our best wishes as you mark this important holy month in these challenging circumstances.



## ELIZABETH HOUSE

Your local community centre

## Covid-19 crisis Food and care parcels for isolated and vulnerable residents

If you need extra support and would benefit from receiving a weekly food & care parcel, contact Elizabeth House Community Centre on **info@elizabeth-house.org.uk** or **020 7690 1300** to be added to our distribution list.

Parcels are currently delivered by local volunteers on **Wednesday** afternoon.

Elizabeth House relies on food donations from Islington Council, local supermarkets, residents and local restaurants. The content of parcels will vary depending on donations received, but generally include freshly cooked meals, dry and fresh food, toiletries and cleaning products.

Yours sincerely,  
Mark Owen  
Headteacher