



Friday 3rd July 2020

Newsletter 286

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Last week of term reminder:

| Mon 13 th Jul | Tue 14 th Jul | Wed 15 th Jul | Thu 16 th Jul |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Y1 class not in school | Y6 class not in school | Rec class not in school | Lauren contacting Y3 families |
| Genevieve contacting Y2 families | Hassan contacting Y5 families | Laura contacting Nursery families | |

School reports

Children currently attending school will bring home their school reports week beginning Monday 13th July. Families reports will be collated in a bundle so please ensure you have reports for all of your children.

Families whose children are not attending are invited to collect their children's school reports between Monday 13th and Wednesday 15th July. The office will be open from 9:30am – 12:00pm for families to collect. You will also have the opportunity to collect class photo orders at this time.

Laura will be available on Monday 13th 10am - 12pm and Wednesday 15th 10am - 12pm if Nursery families who are not joining Reception class would like an opportunity to say a socially distanced goodbye. Nursery families will also be able to collect their child's learning journey.

Genevieve will be available on Monday 13th July from 11:30 - 1:00pm if Y2 parents would like the opportunity to say a socially distanced goodbye!

Any reports not collected in this time will be posted.

Eligible attendees

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who are eligible to attend school as set out by the DfE guidance are expected to attend school as usual every day and punctually.

Summer provision

We are consulting with the local authority to gather as much information as we can about summer provision and plan to get this to families as soon as this is available.

Plans for September

I am very much looking forward to opening the school up to ALL the children from September. We are working on plans and risk assessments following the government guidance issued yesterday and will share this with families shortly – please look out for this!

Welcome back Orlando!

I am delighted to welcome back Orlando our music teacher who has been shielding his father for the last few months. We have missed him and are delighted that he wants to be back teaching our children both at school and at home. Here is a message from him:

Dear parents/carers,

I have not been as involved as I would like to have been with the school community during lockdown (specifically during the months of May and early June). I have unfortunately been dealing with a family emergency as my father suddenly became fatally ill due to complications following cancer treatment. I have taken some time to recover from this but I am now getting back to my teaching. I have been leading zoom teaching sessions for the past couple of weeks and this week I came back into school to work with Reception, year 1 and year 6. I am also planning to lead a zoom session with years 2, 3, 4 and 5 on Wednesday 8th July (your child's class teacher will inform your child of the time). I am fully dedicated to making good use of these last two weeks and I want to make sure that all children get a chance to join in with some fun musical activities at home or at school. Please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office if you have any questions about what I will be doing during the final two weeks. Please receive my very best wishes,

Orlando Clarkson,
Music Teacher

Gillespie Green Spaces: Growing Goes Ahead

In March the School's green plans (and FoG's investment in soil, compost, gardening equipment and seeds) was put on hold. Now that Sue is back in school she has taking command of the situation!

As we enter July, it is good to report that with the support of children and staff we have made clear headway in rescuing our precious green spaces by clearing away months of weeds, overgrown shrubs and dead leaves. The soil in the vegetable plots is being turned over and replenished. Already, Reception children's potatoes are growing well and they have sewn sunflower seeds into individual pots which will be ready to transpose (or take home) by the end of the term. Year 6 are sowing carrots directly in to their patch and Year 1 are planting spring onions. Working with Lyn, our school provision pod children will be responsible for growing tomatoes from seed.

This work only makes sense if we are able to tend to the crops during the summer break. As Green Team Co-ordinator Sue has agreed to water and keep an eye on them during this time. If any parent has a flowering plant or cutting they would like to see growing here in school please contact Sue by email on segan@gillespie.islington.sch.uk.

Imagine how lovely it will be if, when returning to school in September, our green spaces are thriving full of promise!

Yours sincerely
Mark Owen
Headteacher

To protect our whole school community and keep everyone safe...



please **STAY AT HOME** if your child or anyone in your household has symptoms of coronavirus

Look out for any of these symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste



If your child or anyone in your household has symptoms:

- Stay at home
- Self-isolate and get tested
- Tell your school that someone in your family may have coronavirus

Find out how to get a test, and how long to isolate, at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)
If a test has been taken, the result is negative and your child no longer has symptoms, we look forward to seeing them back at school!