



Friday 22nd January 2021

Newsletter 307

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

Update on remote learning

Teachers have been really pleased with the effort children have made both in school and with their remote learning this week. A big thank you to parents and staff for working so hard together during this very difficult time. We are working as closely as we can with all families to ensure that your children are able to access as much learning as possible. Class teachers have been liaising very closely with families and with Mark and the Leadership Team to support any families finding it difficult to access remote learning because of lack of devices. We have identified families who qualify for additional devices and are pleased to say we have recently received devices from the Department for Education (DfE) which will be made available from next week. Families will be contacted by the office. In a few weeks time we will be setting up a new online survey for parents to feedback to us on how remote learning is going.

Friday assemblies

We are pleased that families across the school are engaging with our three Friday assemblies through google classroom which seem to be working really well. A big thank you to parent Fiona who leads the singing with our Nursery and Reception classes. And a big thank you to Orlando who leads singing with our infant and junior assemblies. It is so lovely for me to see the faces of many children who are currently at home.

Families online magazine for North London

https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_north_london_januaryfebruary_2021?fr=sZmYOND13NTKONDY

Action Friendly Calendar

See the calendar below with a friendly act for each day in February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Send someone a message to say how much they mean to you	2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently	3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone else	4 Organise a virtual 'tea break' with colleagues or friends	5 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others	6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while	7 Make an effort to have a friendly chat with a neighbour
8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust	9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you	10 Look for the good in people, even when they frustrate you	11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost	12 Focus on being kind rather than being right	13 Send a friendly message of support to a local business	14 Tell your loved ones why they are special to you
15 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day	16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help	17 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself	18 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life	19 Share a video or message you find inspiring or helpful	20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun	21 Actively listen to what people say, without judging them
22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today	23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise	24 Tell a loved one about their strengths that you value most	25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why	26 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today	27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them	28 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer somebody else up" - Mark Twain

"The only way to have a friend is to be one" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

www.actionforhappiness.org

Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/friendly-february

Happier · Kinder · Together

Nursery learning

Ice Experiment with Meg

This half term Nursery are learning about changes in the seasons, focusing on Winter. This week, small groups of children went up to Lab 13 to take part in fun a science experiment with Meg and I. The children were exploring using thermometers to measure the temperature of ice blocks. They then had a try at making a hole in the ice block, using different recourses. They used a range of pipettes, squeezing the tip and then filling them up with cold and warm water, to eventually make holes in the ice! The children worked well collaboratively and really enjoyed the experiment! Well done!



Reception learning

Reception have had lots of fun with our book of the week- 'Owl Babies.' We used puppets to retell the story in small groups, drew and painted our own owls and made delicious owl biscuits. We loved pretending to be owls digging for worms in the mud!

