



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

# Newsletter 317

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Welcome back to the Summer term

Children have settled back in to school this week and it is lovely to welcome five new pupils to the school who are being looked after by their lovely class peers. I'm very much looking forward optimistically to a gradual freeing up of Covid protocols so that we can engage in a full school life this Summer term. One of our priorities is for all classes to have access to outside learning for PE and some of their studies such as their geography field work.

## Catch up program

We are continuing to engage with our catch up plan funded by additional central government resources so that we can implement targeted additional interventions to support children to catch up, particularly with aspects of English and maths learning. Our catch up program will not limit work that children are doing in other subjects. We have devised it so that pupils have additional support and interventions during their usual daily English and maths lessons and in their focused daily reading sessions. Some children may have additional short one to one tutoring sessions to follow up on consolidating learning concepts. Our very talented class teachers are being supported additionally by Orlando our Music Teacher and Megan our Resident Scientist who both have an additional day per week to focus on supporting the delivery of the program.

## Parent Consultations

This term we are planning to hold parent consultations remotely during the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. More information will be sent out nearer the time. This will be an opportunity for parents to have an update on the progress children are making.

## Attendance Matters

Class	Attendance percentage	Class	Attendance percentage
Nursery	98.82%	Year 3	99.14%
Reception	99.58%	Year 4	98.39%
Year 1	96.55%	Year 5	97.60%
Year 2	98.75%	Year 6	99.16%
<b>Whole school attendance</b>		<b>98.51%</b>	

Zoom Health Promotion Sessions are scheduled to start **Monday 26/04/2021 until Thursday 27/05/2021**.

The Islington School Health Team will be running **weekly** health promotion sessions on **Mondays at 1:30pm** and **Thursdays at 9:30am** via **Zoom** for parents and carers to attend.

### Topic: Healthy Sleep Routines

**Monday sessions at 1:30pm:** There will be **no session** on Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd May 2021

<https://zoom.us/j/92323700635?pwd=UlhMSmJsa3o0NEVVVHBjZGszNDIwQT09>

Meeting ID: 923 2370 0635

Passcode: 1234

**Thursday sessions at 9:30am:**

<https://zoom.us/j/96916093378?pwd=NXFhZmNxV0o2NldMeWkyOC93UkgxQT09>

Meeting ID: 969 1609 3378

Passcode: 1234

**Islington School Nursing Team**

**Whittington Health NHS, Islington School Nursing Services**

## The Big Ask

Below is a message from the Children's Commissioner for England inviting children to engage in a national survey which she would like children in Years 1 to 6 to complete in school and parents of children in Nursery and Reception to complete the survey at home. The link is below.

The Commissioner is an independent voice who is committed to improving the lives of children in the country and this survey is intended to provide a crucial snap shot of pupils' voices on a range of issues, which she will want to use to influence Government policy in the future. The survey is open until Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021. I will be asking Gillespie teachers to complete the survey with pupils in the next two weeks. The surveys are confidential and the children do not have to enter their names. You can see the questions when you click the link below.



### **Get your child's voice heard and make a difference**

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, is launching a once-in-a-generation review of children's lives.

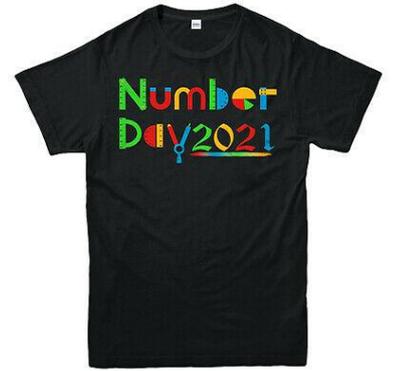
It's called 'The Childhood Commission' and it will identify the barriers preventing children reaching their full potential and propose policy solutions to address them.

At its heart is 'The Big Ask' – the largest ever consultation held with children. In this survey the Children's Commissioner is asking children and young people what they think is important for their future and what is holding young people back. The Children's Commissioner will use what children and young people tell her to show the Government what they think and what they need to live happier lives.

It's an exciting opportunity to help us think big and it's a chance for every child in England to have their voice heard.

[Find out more and take part](#)

Number Day –  
Friday 7th May 2021  
in support of the NSPCC



Good news! We will be celebrating **Number Day** this year on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021**. Number day, is about schools raising money for the NSPCC and helping to make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable children across the UK.

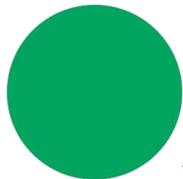
To help raise some money for the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) we are inviting children to come to school wearing an item of clothing with a number on (e.g. football shirt, cap, basketball shirt) or a onesie and to make a small donation to this important children's charity. We hope as many people as possible can help.

Children will also be taking part in a number challenge in class on that Friday. Nursery and reception will have a number treasure hunt in the setting. Year 1 children will be challenged to know simple number bonds and children in years 2-6 will be challenged on their times tables. The teachers will set the challenges for their classes (as they know the children best) and children will be given time to practise at home before the challenge.

Thank you in advance for all your support and kind donations.

Kind Regards

Katrina Moses (Maths subject leader)

**NSPCC**   
**Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.**

## Diary dates

Please put these dates in your diary. Obviously some of these events will need to be confirmed subject to updates from the DfE on Covid guidance but we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be able to engage in these events. We will continue to update families via the newsletter if we have to cancel or reschedule any events.

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May- Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term
WKBG 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Consultations
WKBG 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Healthy Schools Week
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Great Science Share
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	International Food Evening
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Cardfields Residential trip
WKBG 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Gillespie Science Week
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fayre
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day at Gillespie Park
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	School reports home to parents
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day for pupils
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET Day
TBC	Year 6 Leavers show

Wishing you all a sunny and safe weekend.

Mark Owen  
Headteacher