



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

# Newsletter 323

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



@Gillespie School

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Parent Consultations

Thank you to teachers and parents for engaging with our virtual parent consultation appointments over the last week. Hopefully you have had a very clear update on the progress that your children have been making at school during this difficult year, both with their learning and their well-being. Though schools have been given far less additional money than we had hoped, I can confirm that we will have additional resources to continue to provide our catch up programme across next year as we are currently doing and I am pleased to inform parents that we have highly skilled staff available to continue to maximise the impact of these limited resources. I am confident that over the coming years we can ensure that all of our children make good progress to catch up with their learning.

## Planned summer events and Government Covid announcements

Along with the nation, schools are waiting with baited breath to hear any Covid related announcements that may impact on our current school protocols in the remaining weeks of the summer term. We are expecting further information next week. As soon as we have this we will be able to clarify on how we might be able to run school events such as our summer fair and sports day and whether we can change any of the current restrictions in place. We are keeping our fingers crossed!

## Reminders

- Children should not be bringing bikes and scooters to school unless travelling from far and have agreed this with school beforehand. This is to ensure we have faster entry and exit at the start and end of the day.
- Children should not be bringing in belongings from home including toys/fidget toys unless this has been specifically agreed with the class teacher.

## Health Promotion Sessions

### Topic: Oral Health

#### Monday sessions at 1:30pm:

<https://zoom.us/j/5665618520?pwd=NWNneGNrVWcwK3UzVkQ5SGFCWWpkZz09>

Meeting ID: 566 561 8520

Passcode: 4321

#### Thursday sessions at 9:30am:

<https://zoom.us/j/5665618520?pwd=NWNneGNrVWcwK3UzVkQ5SGFCWWpkZz09>

Meeting ID: 566 561 8520

Passcode: 4321

We hope that these sessions will provide a safe space for parents to have any questions answered and reassurance provided for any concerns/anxieties they may have, considering the times and season we are in.

For more information or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the Team.

**Whittington Health NHS**  
**Islington School Nursing Services**  
**Highbury Grange Health Centre**  
**Telephone: 020 3316 8021**

### Can you help at the Summer Fair?

Thank you to the parents who have responded to our survey. It is not too late to offer your support, please contact Candice our FoG chair on [candice\\_bingham@hotmail.com](mailto:candice_bingham@hotmail.com).

We are still looking for volunteers on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to give us no more than 1 ½ hours to set-up, tidy-up or man-a-stall. Volunteers can also be grandparents or ex Gillespie pupils and parents!

The following stalls need manning;

Food: *BBQ, Savoury, Pizza/Hot Dog, Cakes, Pop-Corn/Ice-Cream*

Craft: *Face Painting, Glitter Tattoos, Nails, Henna, Keychain/Bracelet Making*

Games: *Hook-a-Duck, Spin the wheel, Coconut Shy, Stocks, Football Shoot Out, Netball Trail, Connect-4-Challenge, Kids Darts, Drop-a-Disc, Tin Can Alley, Lolly Pop Game, Kids Darts*

General: *Token & Raffle, Tidy-up & Set-up*

### Can you work in a team to garner Raffle Prizes?

As our Finsbury Park community moves from strength to strength in its ability to pull together, we hope this is a perfect opportunity to reach out to local businesses who might like to work with us. Raffle prizes are an ideal way to raise profiles amongst businesses as well as provide fabulous prizes at our event. We need people to knock door-to-door, or call/email to help us make this happen. Raffles historically have been a huge contributor each year so please volunteer if you can!

### Can you cook something sweet or savoury to sell?

We need sweet items like cakes and fruit sticks. Also savoury items like salads, quiche, samosas to sell on the day alongside our BBQ. International cuisines are very welcome. Please bring on the day before 12 noon and remember no nuts.

### Can you donate items for the kids and adult tombola, bric-a-brac and old book stall?

Please bring items for the kids and adult tombola, old quality toys for the Bric-a-Brac and second-hand books for the old bookstall to the school office.

#### Attendance Matters

Class	Attendance percentage	Class	Attendance percentage
Nursery	98.93%	Year 3	100%
Reception	99.26%	Year 4	99.64%
Year 1	98.47%	Year 5	92.24%
Year 2	96.67%	Year 6	98.13%
<b>Whole school attendance WB 07/06/2021</b>		<b>97.94%</b>	

#### Dairy dates

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	12-3pm Summer Fayre
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	4-6pm Year 6 Leavers show Buggy Malone
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day at Clissold Park
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	School reports home to parents
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery graduation
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day for pupils
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET Day

Yours sincerely,  
Mark Owen  
Headteacher

## Year 1 Learning

On Thursday Year 1 made pin hole cameras so we could see the partial eclipse of the sun. After much excitement we went to the playground at 11.00 am, the prime time to witness it. But guess what! The clouds hid the sun, so we couldn't see anything.

We learnt that in Science, not everything goes the way you expect it to.



## Bright Start / Solihull training opportunity

Bright Start are offering brilliant online courses for parents, FREE (with access code: **BRIGHT START** at: [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)) for residents in the area!

The Solihull Approach (NHS) have launched a **NEW** online course!



**How do I access?**

[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

### What is the code?

- If you haven't used it already here is the access code for all the online courses (funded for residents of Islington): **BRIGHT START**
- If, like many parents, you have already used this code, log into your account [here](#) and this course will be ready in your dashboard to start whenever you are ready.

### Can I tell my family and friends?

Absolutely! Share the news with other families in the area so that they too can take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

### How long is it?

There are seven modules, which each take about 5 minutes to complete and will benefit from time to digest in between.

### If you like this...

...you might like the bigger '[Understanding your child](#)' or '[Understanding your child with additional needs](#)', or other courses in the series. [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)