



Thursday 22nd July 2021

Newsletter 329

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy holidays to all families and staff in our Gillespie community

A big thank you to all Gillespie staff and Governors who have worked so hard for a second school year in a row disrupted by Covid; providing the best education for all our children and continuing to support their well-being by providing exciting and creative communal experiences. Apologies to parents living close by on Gillespie Road who have probably heard us practicing music shows and experiencing all of our assemblies outside in the last few weeks. This has helped bring our school back together whilst maintaining Covid protocols and we know we have provided some entertainment to passers by! We wish the best of luck to all those children and adults who are moving on to pastures new. In particular, this years' wonderful Year 6 class a smooth transition to what we hope is a normalised secondary school experience. They are resilient group of children and we know that they will thrive! We look forward to seeing all children back at school on Monday 6th September 2021. We urge you to carefully negotiate any potential problems as it will be so important that **all** children do start on that first day of the new school year.

Attendance Matters

During this very challenging year we are very pleased to see we have maintained excellent attendance during the times when school has been open to all and have achieved a whole school attendance figure of 96.66%. Well done Gillespie!

Class	Attendance percentage	Class	Attendance percentage
Nursery	97.10	Year 3	97.50
Reception	97.33	Year 4	95.10
Year 1	95.12	Year 5	96.66
Year 2	98.90	Year 6	95.84
Whole school attendance		96.66%	

Dairy dates

Friday 23 rd July	INSET Day
Wednesday 1 st Sep – Friday 3 rd Sep	INSET Days
Monday 6 th September	First day of Autumn term for pupils

Don't forget to check out the school's Twitter page with updates and clips from today's events! @GillespieSchool



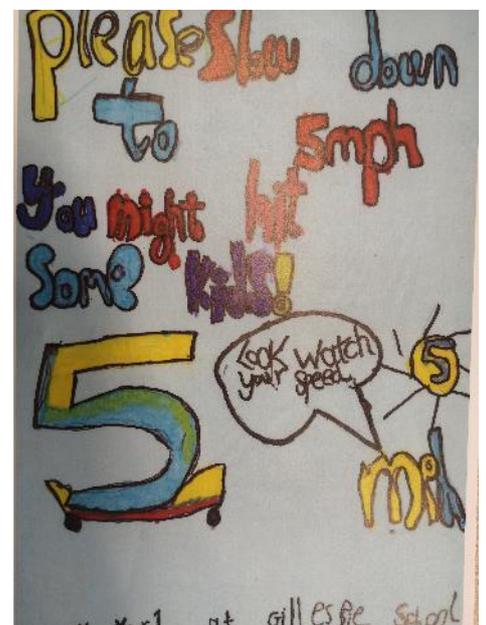
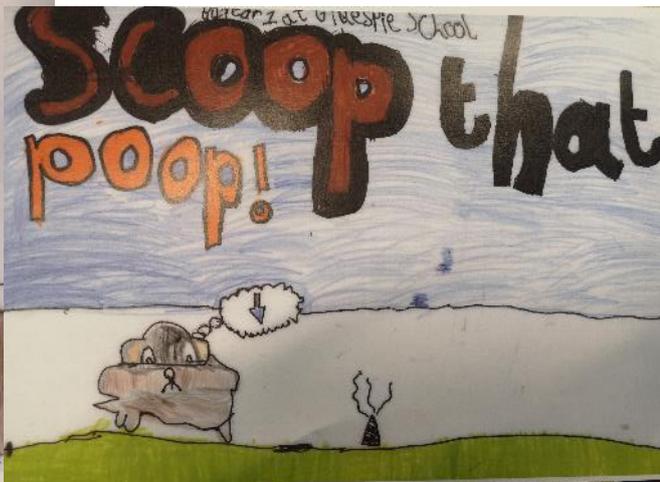
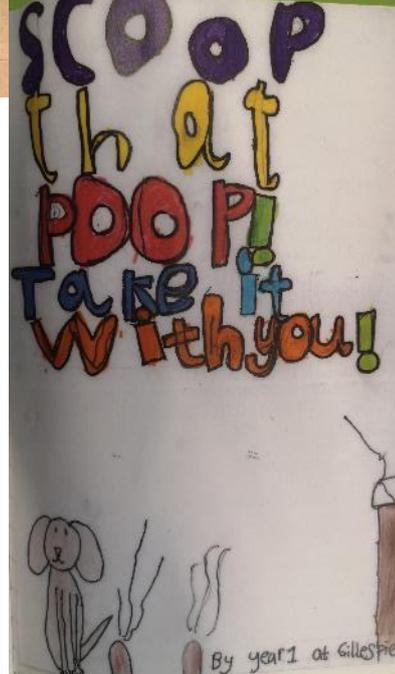
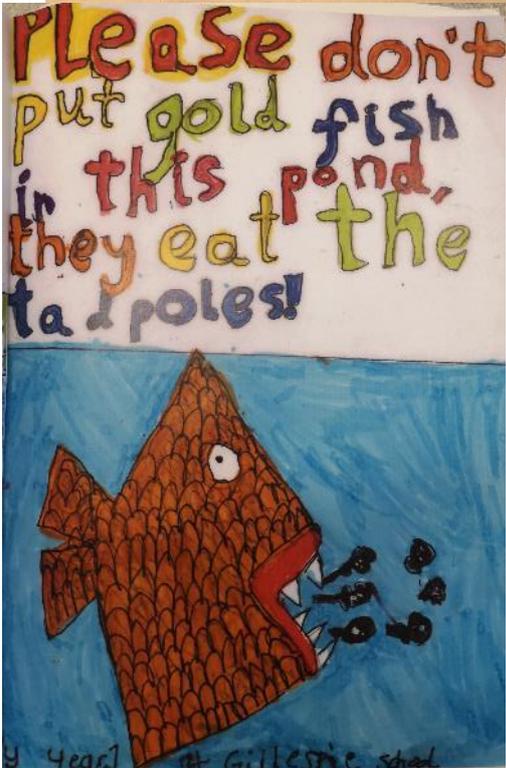
Wishing all of our Gillespie community a safe and wonderful summer!

Yours sincerely,

Mark Owen, Headteacher

Year 1 Learning

Year 1 visited Gillespie Ecology Centre and Sally who works there told us lots of problems they were having. So year 1 got to work and designed and made a sign to tell the visitors to Gillespie Park what the rules are. Jane and I are incredibly proud of how hard they have worked on this project. If you want to see the signs, they are up in Gillespie park now.



Arrangements for end of term reporting of positive COVID-19 test results

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation this school year as we continue to respond to the challenges of COVID-19. As the summer holidays approach, we are asking you to help us continue to keep children and families safe over the school holidays.

You will know that England has moved to step 4 of the Covid road map since 19th July, when many of the legal restrictions that the Government has imposed through the pandemic have been lifted. The Government has urged caution as cases are increasing rapidly and a third wave is underway.

Schools have been playing a vital role in contact-tracing. The Government no longer require this of schools and therefore if your child develops symptoms or tests positive from Friday 23rd July families will be required to co-operate with Test and Trace.

Safe return in Autumn 2021

We look forward to welcoming children back to school for the start of the new school year in September, and it remains a priority that we keep the school community safe. From 16th August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so. We will be in touch with more details of these arrangements at the beginning of the autumn term.

Please do not send your children back to school if they have symptoms of Covid or are having to self-isolate. If your child is meant to be isolating at the start of the Autumn Term, please keep them at home and inform the school office via Covid@gillespie.islington.sch.uk.

Once again, let us take this opportunity to thank you for all you are doing to help us get through this difficult time. We wish you all happy and safe holidays.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen
Headteacher