



Friday 22nd October 2021

Newsletter 337

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Gillespie School Halloween Disco

A big thank you to Vicky Hatchett for leading one of our best Halloween discos yet! A huge thank you to the 18 parent volunteers who helped set up, run stalls and clear up, as well as Lollipop Lady Siobhan for running the bar. Also a big thank you to Gillespie staff who helped out and in particular Sally and Lyn.

In order to stay Covid safe we had our disco and Halloween activities outside in the playground areas and this worked really well. Children were dancing and enjoying themselves all night and their parents looked equally happy. Many thanks to all the children who carved and produced such wonderful pumpkins. The pumpkins lined the ramp entrance in to the playground adding to the spooky atmosphere. All pumpkin entries received a creativity award in assembly today.

Congratulations to our four winners of the pumpkin competition. All of the children won a lovely science experiment kit. Winners are:

- Coco in Reception – a spooky spider pumpkin
- Johanna in Year 1 – a beautiful rainbow pumpkin
- Daisy in Year 3 – gorgeous owl pumpkin
- Giacomo in Year 6 – a scary alien pumpkin



Children and adults looked fantastic in an amazing array of Halloween costumes. Everybody enjoyed themselves and our wonderful PTA raised a whopping **£858.23** for the school! Pictures taken during the event can be found at the end of the newsletter or the school Twitter @GillespieSchool.

FoG News

FoG would like to welcome Ebru Onal and Jenny Maresh as our new Treasurers. FoG would also like to welcome Karen Cattini as the new Secretary.

We are still recruiting for role of co-Chair so if you are interested then please get in touch. Also could former class representatives who have not been in touch confirm whether they are happy to continue in their role. You can contact the office or Candice at candice_bingham@hotmail.com.

Individual and sibling photos

Children had their photos taken this week. The new streamlined process meant children had their photos taken and matched with barcodes. You should have received the card with barcode and information on how to register with Vancols. When the pictures are available to view and order you will be sent a notification.

Attendance Matters

Nursery	75.30%	Year 3	97.67%
Reception	95.76%	Year 4	93.43%
Year 1	98.28%	Year 5	94.84%
Year 2	99.33%	Year 6	95.15%
Total			94.79%

After School Clubs

We are so pleased to be able to offer clubs starting after the half term holiday in collaboration with Ready Set Stage London and Elizabeth House. You can find full details about the clubs on offer and how to register here: <https://tinyurl.com/cbx6ptw>

Number Confidence Week

1st - 5th November 2021

In school, maths is a key part of the curriculum and we want all pupils to enjoy and be competent in this subject and to recognise the importance of maths in everyday life. We know that by improving number confidence, opportunities and life chances are improved for all. There are many adults as well as children who would like to improve their number confidence. That's why, between the 1st and 5th of November, the nation is being encouraged to take part in Number Confidence Week.

Follow the link to find out more e.g. How to be more number confident at work, Manage your money and Support children with homework and more! <https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/number-confidence-week>

A big thank you from me to all Gillespie staff and to our parents for bringing our community back together so wonderfully this half term. It has been great to have children learning and playing in a normal vibrant school environment and to be able to have parents attend a number of school events. All have a very restful half term break.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen
Headteacher

Playground Buddies Back at Gillespie!

We are relaunching our playground buddies after half term!
Today interested children from years 3, 4, 5 & 6 took home application forms which need to be returned by 01/11/2021.



If you would like an electronic version of the form to complete & send back to Lyn please email me directly on ljones@gillespie.islington.sch.uk Happy Holidays, Lyn ☺

Islington Public Health Notice

As an extra measure to protect our local school communities we are advising all primary school pupils to do two LFD tests, 3-5 days apart, with the second one the night before returning to school after the break. This measure has been shown to be highly effective at reducing the spread of the virus in secondary schools and by taking this important one-off action now at half-term we can help to keep the number of cases low in our primary schools. All primary school staff should continue to do twice-weekly testing as usual, including over the half term break.

All tests are free and can be accessed in the following ways:

Pick up free rapid test kits from a local pharmacy. Find your nearest one at [How to book a test | Islington Council](#)

- Order free rapid test kits to be delivered to your home within 24 hours at [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Black History Month

Year 5 have been doing presentations of influential black people who have inspired us for Black History Month.

EDWARD MARION AUGUSTUS CHANDLER

BY: NICOLAS



Why did I choose him?
I chose him because he is a great chemical scientist and he is not very known because he is black but I wanted to celebrate his achievements and awards.

Early life and education
Chandler was born in 1887 in Ocala, Florida and died in 1973 in Chicago, Illinois. He was the second American to receive a Ph.D. in chemistry (a Doctor of Philosophy is the most common level awarded following a course of study) Chandler was studying in United States University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was found by a faculty member at Roosevelt University.

Career
After Chandler finished his Ph.D. he worked in the dye firm of Dicks, David and Hiesler Company until 1921. Then he worked at the pharmaceutical manufacturer Abbott Laboratories. In 1924 Chandler left Abbott to become a consulting chemist in Lake County, Illinois. In 1945 Chandler was among the founding faculty of the new racially integrated Roosevelt College (now Roosevelt University). Chandler taught there for twenty years.

* Pharmaceutical manufacturing is the process of industrial-scale synthesis of pharmaceutical drugs as part of the pharmaceutical industry. The process of drug manufacturing can be broken down into a series of unit operations, such as milling, granulation, coating, tablet pressing, and others...

Known for?
Triphenylmethane Dyes: any member of a group of extremely brilliant and intensely coloured synthetic organic dyes having molecular structures based upon that of the hydrocarbon triphenylmethane. They have poor resistance to light and to chemical bleaches and are used chiefly in copying papers, in hectograph and printing inks, and in textile applications for which lightfastness is not an important requirement.

Beyoncé

Songs celebrate black identity, black expression and black pride

"Queen Bey"

She made HISTORY
1st Black woman to headline:
Glastonbury + UK
Coachella + USA

A brilliant BUSINESS WOMAN
WORTH \$400 million!

MUSIC'S MOST POWERFUL WOMAN!

UNDISPUTED QUEEN OF POP

She is a FEMINIST
Woman ≠ man



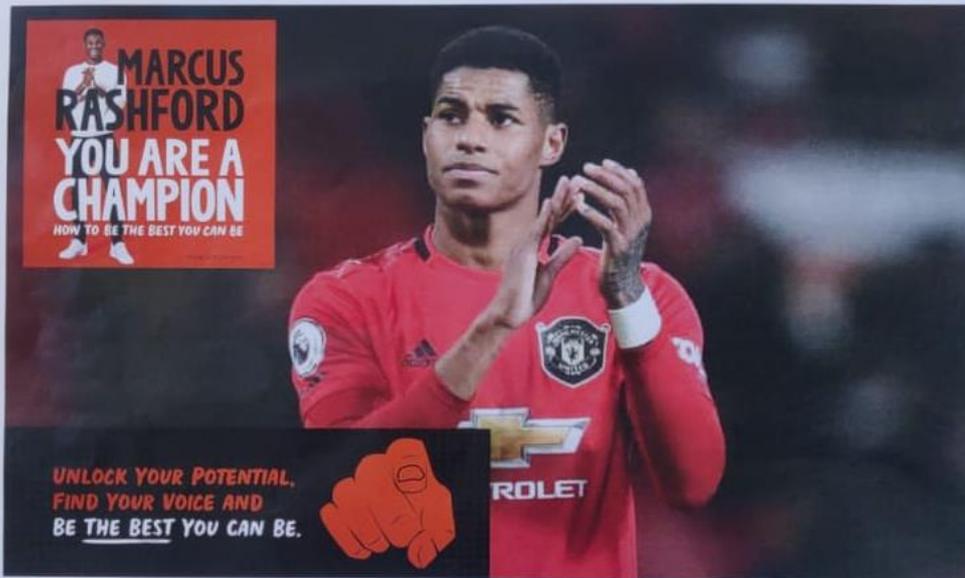





Marcus Rashford

Marcus Rashford was born on Halloween (31st of October 1997). He is therefore almost 24 years old. He is an English professional footballer and activist who plays for Manchester United.

Marcus Rashford has played for Manchester United since he was 7 years old and he got a contract on the 30th of May 2016. Marcus Rashford has a record for being the youngest player to play a final of an international tournament. He Made it to the the England 2016 Euros.



Marcus grew up in a dangerous Neighbourhood with drugs and shootings, Marcus Rashford's cousin was put in jail for stabbing someone. Marcus Rashford raised money for children's free lunches and has written a book. He created petitions to change the law about free school lunches. The action to change the law did not pass in parliament despite receiving over 1 million signatures. He asked the community and local businesses to help out instead. He also used Instagram and Twitter to create a channel with menus to help people at home cook.



Year 6 Learning

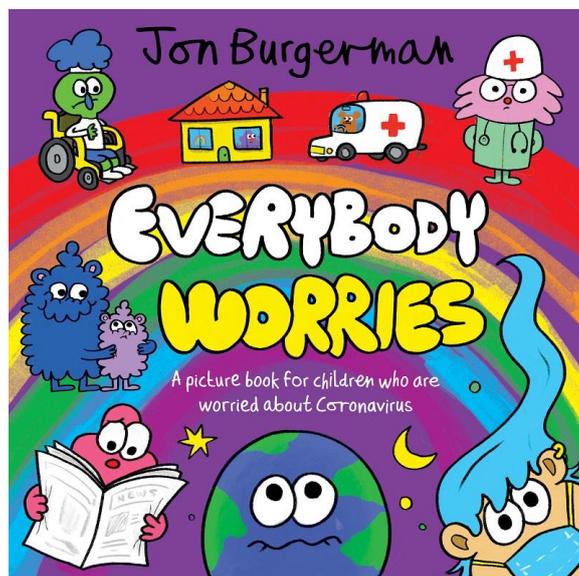


Year 6 Assembly

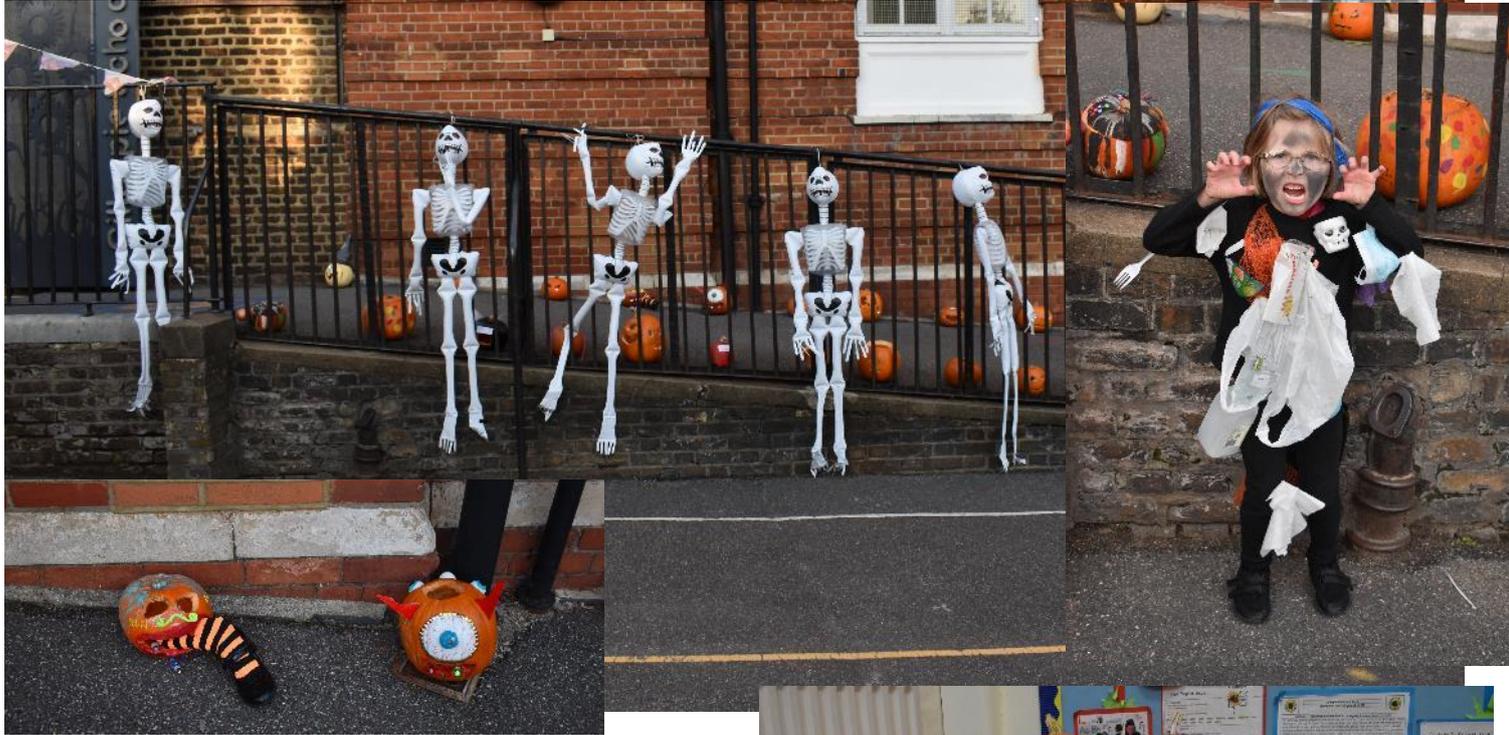
As part of Black History Month, Year 6 have been learning about the incredible impact the Windrush Generation had on Britain. In class, we discovered how vital they were to Britain rebuilding after WWII and were so inspired by the roles they worked in for the NHS, public transport and armed forces. The children were shocked to learn about the racism and exclusion that Caribbean's faced when they arrived in Britain, and about the awful way they were treated during the Windrush scandal. Our assembly tried to encapsulate the incredible contribution of the Windrush generation to modern British culture through music, dancing and food. We loved sharing our learning and celebrating Black History Month with our school community.

Year 1 Learning

One of the activities all the children have been doing for Well-being week is to think of a word, picture or phrase that would make themselves or another person feel positive and write it on a plaque. The plaques will be hung on our new positivity tree in the playground. During the week we have all read *Everybody Worries* by Jon Burgerman and talked about how we can help ourselves and others if we feel worried. We introduced our worry box in which we can write what is worrying us and we can talk about it with the adults in our class or discuss it with all of our class. We have also been practising our Happy breathing from the myHappyMind work we have been doing this term. Finally, we had a circle time session in which we were asked a question such as 'People who care about me make me feel...?' and discussed this as a class.



Halloween Disco



Ongoing reminders:

Being prepared for the day ahead

Please ensure your child arrives to school with all the items they need for their day ahead including their water bottle, coat, PE kit (if required), music instrument etc. Thank you!

Admissions

Parents and carers can now apply for a primary or secondary school place for September 2022 through the e-Admissions platform. The application deadlines are:

- Secondary Transfer application deadline: **31 October 2021**
- Primary Reception application deadline: **15 January 2022**

We remind Nursery families that children do NOT automatically get a place in Reception Class and an application must be made. For more information or a to join a tour of the school please email the school office.

The brochures are available on the main council website. They have also published two short presentations to help parents and carers with the application process:

- [Apply for a primary school place](#)
- [Apply for a secondary school place](#)

Class Assemblies

Assemblies will be on Thursdays at 2:30pm. Please put these dates in your diaries.

04/11/2021	Year 5
11/11/2021	Year 1
18/11/2021	Year 2
25/11/2021	Year 3
02/12/2021	Year 4

Diary Dates

<i>Monday 25th – Friday 29th October</i>	<i>Half term</i>
1-5 th November	Number confidence week
Thursday 4 th November	Reception – Year 6 flu immunisation (nasal spray and porcine free injection)
Friday 12 th November	Remembrance Assembly
15 th – 19 th November	Anti-bullying week
Thursday 2 nd December	2:00-7:30pm Parent Consultation Evening
6 th – 10 th December	Hour of code week
Wednesday 15 th December	Class Christmas music performances
Thursday 16 th December	Christmas dinner
Friday 17 th December	Christmas carol assembly Last day of term



Apply now for Islington secondary schools

if your child was born between
1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011

Everything you want from a school, right on your doorstep:

- ✓ inspiring teaching
- ✓ strong results
- ✓ excellent facilities
- ✓ opportunities for all
- ✓ outstanding extracurricular offer

Sign up
for email tips and
deadline reminders at
[www.islington.gov.uk/
stayupdated](http://www.islington.gov.uk/stayupdated)

Apply by 31 October 2021 for the best chance of a place at your preferred school. Visit www.islington.gov.uk/admissions

 ISLINGTON

Highbury Jumble Trail

Wanting to declutter? Raise money for local causes such as your school?
Join us for Highbury Jumble Trail

Saturday 23rd October 2021

3-6pm

Want to reduce your carbon footprint by buying second hand, shopping locally, and support local charities at the same time? Join Highbury's new Jumble Trail, as part of "Islington Together: Let's talk about a greener future". Make money, have fun, and help the planet.

The event is aimed at Highbury residents, with its epicentre on Highbury Hill, but anyone in nearby streets is welcome to join. Register at www.highburyjumble.org and get friends and neighbours to join you. Buyers are much more likely to visit a group of stalls clumped together, so if you want to sell more and have more fun, get your local community involved!

There will also be a stall for exchange of ideas with the recycling team at LBI, and light refreshments.

If you are interested in helping out, or have any questions, please contact us
rachel@highburyjumble.org