



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

# Newsletter 339

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



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Safeguarding our children

As parents know, Gillespie staff and Governors regularly review our safeguarding procedures, including formal reviews of policies annually, taking regard of the latest statutory advice and guidance from the Department for Education (DfE). At our most recent Governors meeting in October our Child Protection, Behaviour and Anti-bullying policies were reviewed, updated and approved. Parents can see these on the safeguarding section of our website here: <https://tinyurl.com/yme8y2uf>

In particular, we ask parents to take a look at our Anti-bullying policy and Anti-bullying Parent Digest as the school prepares for the national Anti-bullying Week next week.

Anti-bullying Parent Digest:

<https://tinyurl.com/vcz98zfe>

Please see our anti-bullying code and take an opportunity to talk to your children about this over the next week. In class your child's teacher will be discussing what bullying is and reminding them about the anti-bullying code. They will also be exploring related issues which will support children in being able to protect themselves from being bullied in school and outside school.

### THE ANTI BULLYING CODE

#### *If you see someone being bullied;*

- DO let an adult know
- DO try and be a friend to the person being bullied
- DON'T rush over and take the bully on
- DON'T join in

#### *If you are being bullied;*

- DO tell an adult in the school
- DO tell your family
- DO keep telling people until you feel safe
- DO take a friend with you to report bullying if you want to.
- DON'T blame yourself for what is happening

## Anti-Bullying Week – One Kind Word Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November

We join with schools across the country to focus on Anti-bullying week activities next week. This year's theme is 'One Kind Word' which is about promoting kindness. To launch the week we are holding **Odd Socks Day on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November** and Steph our PSHE Leader will be launching our anti-bullying activities in assembly. Classes will be feeding back on some of their work in next Friday's assembly. This is a chance for Gillespie to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a positive way by asking children and staff to wear odd socks to school. There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks, it could not be simpler!



**BBC Children in Need**  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

The School Council are asking families to raise money for BBC Children in Need on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> by coming in to school in **fancy dress**! Children can wear spotty clothes, pyjamas, add some sparkle or even wear spotty ears for a £2 donation. We will be running a **cake stall** after school in the playground and we are inviting children and parents to bake some cakes and goodies to sell. Please bring cakes to the school office on the morning on Friday 19<sup>th</sup>. Please remember **NO NUTS!**



**Highbury Jumble Trail**

On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October a group of Gillespie children and parents took part in the Highbury Jumble Trail, setting up stalls to sell jumble (and cake!) and raise money for the school. The children raised £84 and happy homes were found for lots of pre-loved toys and books. Well done to everyone involved especially Lyra, Erin, Margaux, Alice and Elise.

**Fluoride dental varnish**

On 17<sup>th</sup> November Nursery to Year 2 will be having their fluoride varnish treatment at school. You will be given after care instructions on the day.

**Attendance Matters**

Nursery	91.5%	Year 3	96.67%
Reception	92.64%	Year 4	86.33%
Year 1	96.98%	Year 5	95.81%
Year 2	93.64%	Year 6	98.52%
<b>Total</b>			<b>94.12%</b>

## Reminder of current DfE guidance

We continue to follow the current Department for Education and Local Health Authority guidance. This includes:

**Please be alert for the symptoms of coronavirus which are:**

- **A high temperature**
- **A new continuous cough**
- **A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell**

See [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms)

If your child develops ANY of the three main symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate (this means stay at home) and get **PCR tested** as soon as possible. Please be reassured that for most people, especially children, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Individuals who get a positive PCR result must isolate at home for 10 days. Individuals with a negative result do not need to isolate and can return to work/school etc.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they 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 would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

### **How to stop COVID-19 spreading**

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19.

#### **Do**

- Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your family from COVID-19
- Meet people outside if possible and open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- Continuing to wear a face covering (unless you are exempt) while on public transport and in busy indoor places
- Taking regular LFD (no symptom) tests
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, get a PCR test straight away and self-isolate until you get the result.
- If you are a close contact of someone who tested positive, make sure you get a PCR test and self-isolate if you are directed to do so.
- Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds and use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze and put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

For more information visit:

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare)

[www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/) or by phone 111.

You can also read the school's current risk assessment here: <https://tinyurl.com/cjksajx>

## Ongoing reminders

### Class Assemblies

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

25/11/2021	Year 3
02/12/2021	Year 4

### Diary Dates

Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Nursery – Y2 Fluoride Varnish Treatment
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying week
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Reception – Year 6 flu immunisation 2:00-7:30pm Parent Consultation Evening
6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Hour of code week
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas music performances
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas carol assembly Last day of term

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

Mark Owen Headteacher

## Year 2 Learning History off the page

Year 2 were great in their 17th century roles as they went back in time to when the Great Fire of London took place. Their day was filled with bread and candle making, treating the sick, rat catching, writing with quills, digging up remains to work out who lived in the area, tracking the spread of the fire across a big map... the list goes on!



## Year 1 Class Assembly

Year 1 did their very first class assembly this week. They all worked really hard to learn their lines and deliver a brilliant performance about everything they have been doing at forest school. Well done year 1 we are all very proud of you!

