



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

# Newsletter 340

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



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Anti-Bullying Week – One Kind Word

Children have been focussing across the week on talking about bullying and how to prevent bullying and have been reminded about our anti-bullying code. We have also been embracing the national theme for this year which is about 'One Kind Word' and children have been engaged in activities promoting how kindness can support happiness, well-being and safety.

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

We raised a whopping £389.28 for BBC children in Need. Thank you to all families for your generous donations and to children for wearing their spots, stripes and pyjamas!



## Parent Consultation Meetings and Parent Voice Event

We are pleased to be holding parent consultation meetings face to face this term and encourage ALL families to book their slot with their child's class teacher to discuss how children have settled in this term and their progress so far. Detailed information about timings and how to book will be shared in a separate letter early next week.

Gillespie governors and Mark will be hosting our first parent voice event of the year in Lab\_13 which will be well ventilated. We want to consult very closely with you on engagement between parents and school on their children's learning. We are particularly interested in your thoughts and reflections after experiencing much closer involvement with your children's learning during the lockdowns last year. We think this could be opportunity to for us to be creative and think about how we can better develop our home school partnership to support our Gillespie children. I look forward to seeing all of you!

## Class Assemblies

Thursday 25/11/2021	Year 3 at 2:30m
Thursday 02/12/2021	Year 4 at 10:20am Please note the time change due to the parent consultation meetings taking place that evening
Thursday 09/12/2021	Year 2 at 2:30pm

## Christmas Play scheme at Elizabeth House

Elizabeth House will be open during Christmas holidays on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 9:30am – 3pm. They will only be offering this service to families with children aged 5-16 (including 4-year-olds in Reception) eligible for benefits-related free school meals, children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and children with a social worker or family support workers.

If you would like your child to attend please contact Elizabeth House on 02076901300.

## Attendance Matters

Nursery	88.42%	Year 3	95.25%
Reception	91.03%	Year 4	95.68%
Year 1	99.33%	Year 5	97.74%
Year 2	86.58%	Year 6	96.23%
<b>Total</b>		<b>94.02%</b>	

## Diary Dates

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

Yours sincerely,  
Mark Owen Headteacher

### Year 1 Learning

Year 1 were working in groups to write about a time someone did something kind for them and how it made them feel.



## 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](https://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.

### **Household contacts of a positive case – new advice**

The Local Health Authority are advising that household contacts of a positive case take a daily lateral flow device test for 7 days. A negative LFD result means you can continue to attend work/school as usual. A positive LFD would require confirmation by a PCR test.

### **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](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare)

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

Recipes **3** Meals **7** Fun lots

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Join us on our  
"virtual course" – a short adventure  
into the world of **Bags of Taste**. In our  
world, food is exciting, inspiring and really  
delicious, but also easy and **really cheap!**  
We have recipes from all around the world.  
Our course teaches three "taster" recipes,  
which have been specially chosen to  
give you the basic techniques so  
you can then try many other  
**delicious Bags of**  
Taste £1  
recipes.



**LEARN  
AT HOME AT  
YOUR OWN PACE**

**To register for this free course,  
email [islington@bagssoftaste.org](mailto:islington@bagssoftaste.org)  
or call Justin on 07986 04 24 58**

## OUR **BUDGET COOKING** MENU:



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curry beloved by Indians the  
world over – proper, authentic  
homestyle Indian cooking,  
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**ITALIAN PASTA SAUCE** – home  
made is so much better than  
jars!! Twist it your way, with or  
without meat or tuna, it's a  
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should know



**MIDDLE EASTERN PILAF**  
whether you make this with  
chickpeas or chicken, this is a  
fabulous tasty one-pot dish,  
perfect for weekday suppers