



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

# Newsletter 378

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



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Anti-Bullying Week – Reach Out Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November

During anti-bullying week children explored how to 'reach out' to support each other to prevent bullying. We started the week with odd socks day on Monday and in our Friday assembly Year 4 children solved a real problem. They discussed 'roasting' which is unkind things said as a 'joke'. They decided that they should do the following instead:

- Use compliments and kindness instead of negative unkindness
- Stop and think about what you are about to say
- If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say it
- If you see this happening, ask the person if they're OK and tell a teacher
- Use empathy towards the person
- If someone say something unkind, say something kind back to them to make them realise there is a different way.



All classes fed back the activities that they had been exploring this week around the theme of reaching out which included dealing with different kinds of bullying and not being a bystander, building resilience and kindness. At Gillespie we know that anti-bullying week gives us strategies to help us at all times.



### SPOTacular for Children in Need

What a marvellous way to finish Anti-Bullying Week with our spotty, stripy, pyjama non uniform day!

Thank you to families who have donated already to Children in Need. There is still time to make a donation online here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gillespiespot>



## Year 5 Class Assembly

Year 5 took us on a historical adventure back to the Anglo Saxons and Viking struggle to conquer the British Isles. The children performed beautifully and demonstrated real historical insight in exploring the key events and differences between the Anglo Saxons and Vikings and their impact on Britain today.



### Request for Containers to re-use in Lab\_13

I am keen to model reusing containers in Lab\_13 when working with pupils. I am currently delivering lessons which involve pupils from Islington schools taking home a product they have invented so I have been reusing empty bathroom containers and glass kitchen jars from home I am running out so was wondering if anyone has any that they could wash out and donate for me to use in the lab.

Thank you kindly, Meg, Lab\_13



## Flu immunisation at school Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022

We had over 50% of children have their flu vaccination on Wednesday and are aware many more parents would like to ensure their child receives the vaccine. We will be running another clinic on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November in school. Please complete the online application to indicate whether you do or do NOT want your child to receive the flu vaccine.

**Complete the application form here:**

<https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2022/islington>

### World Nursery Rhyme Week

This week Nursery and Reception class have been dressing up as their favourite nursery rhyme characters and singing lots of wonderful nursery rhymes to celebrate.



## Ongoing reminders:

### Primary admissions

Applications are open for families applying for Reception Class places in September 2023.

For children born between	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2019
Deadline to apply	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Islington Council primary admissions booklet	<a href="https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/www.islington.gov.uk/~media/sharepoint-lists/public-records/educationandskills/information/adviceandguidance/20222023/primary-booklet-20232024-(2).pdf">https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/www.islington.gov.uk/~media/sharepoint-lists/public-records/educationandskills/information/adviceandguidance/20222023/primary-booklet-20232024-(2).pdf</a>
Online application to be made here	<a href="http://www.eadmissions.org.uk">www.eadmissions.org.uk</a>
Offer day	17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023

### **Class assemblies**

Class assemblies take place on Thursday afternoons at 2:30pm. Please put these dates in your diaries:

Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 3

### **Diary dates**

Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu immunisations at school
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	2:00-7:30pm Parent consultation meetings
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas music performances FoG Christmas Fair
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas carol concert Last day of school term, school finishes 2pm

Wishing families a lovely weekend.  
Mark Owen, Headteacher



octorober gallery

# FAMILY ART DAY

FREE ART AND PLAY AT OCTOBER GALLERY

**10AM - 12PM**  
USUALLY  
LAST SATURDAY  
OF THE MONTH

**FREE DROP-IN FOR ALL AGES**

**SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER**  
**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER**  
**SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER**

OCTOBER GALLERY, 24 OLD GLOUCESTER ST.,  
LONDON WC1N 3AL

JESS@OCTOBERGALLERY.CO.UK  
WWW.OCTOBERGALLERYEDUCATION.COM



A belated welcome back from the FoG team!



Plans for the **Winter Fair** are now in full flow, which is after school on **Wednesday 14th December between 3.30-5.30pm**. There will be the usual festive fun, warm food and drinks plus an exciting science café this year, so mark it in your diaries...

We're aiming for each class to run a stall like at the summer fair, so watch out for a call for helpers with that from class reps later this month.

We're also looking for people to help with set-up, tidy-up and some other exciting jobs in the run-up to the fair. **If you're up for getting involved, contact Sarah (07970606543)**

### **SPECIAL REQUEST: Winter Fair Parent Pledge Time!**

We need your skills or treasures for our annual Parent Pledge. Some examples of previous pledges have included offering to bake a cake, holding a masterclass in your chosen skill (French plaits, music, law, make up), cooking your signature dish for a dinner, painting a portrait or a couple of hours doing some DIY or gardening. Or maybe you have a special thing that you could donate e.g. a Banksy or a bottle of Bacardi.

**To add your offer to the pledge list, no matter how random, just message Jacqui (07900188328)**

In a few weeks we'll issue the pledges and you can start bidding either via private message to Jacqui with your secret bid, or at her stall at the Winter Fair.

Whilst much of FoG's activities are focused on fundraising events, and seeking help from parents in terms of their time and support for those events, FoG also raises money for the school by donations (regular and one-off) and through sponsorships.

Budgets for small schools have always been tight, but post the pandemic, and with the current cost of living crisis, this is more acute. Even with the budget at existing levels, the school has less money for essentials, let alone the "nice to have" activities that FoG has traditionally funded and that help to make Gillespie the brilliant and special school that it is.

Against this backdrop, the two questions we are most often currently asked are 'How do I donate?' and 'What will it go towards?', often from parents having difficulty finding time to volunteer but who wish to help in some way. To be crystal clear, there is absolutely no expectation or pressure to donate at all. Each of our individual circumstances are our own and there is no obligation. But to answer these questions...

If you do feel able to, then to donate regularly or as a one-off, [click here](#), or use the QR code on the **FoG noticeboard as you enter the playground**. A number of parents have already signed up this way since the start of term. And if, as you donate, you tick the box, to say you are happy to be contacted, FoG can keep you regularly updated on how your donation is being used.

Here are some examples of what your donation could fund:

- £5 a month for a year would pay for desperately needed replacement gym mats;
- £15 a month for a year would pay for a set of school football strips, again, desperately needed;
- A one off donation of £30 pays for one child's attendance at Forest School for a term; or
- £40 would pay for a replacement string instrument.

We will continue to update you through the year on ways to get involved and with specific examples of where funds raised through FoG are being put to best use - so please keep an eye on the newsletters.

Many thanks. Any and every donation, be it monetary or in time, is hugely valued and never taken for granted.

