



Friday 23rd June 2023

Newsletter 403

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@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Summer Music Concerts

We hope families enjoyed the wonderful summer music concerts today, the children performed beautifully! We will share photos from the performances in next week's newsletter.

NEU Industrial Strike Action

The National Education Union (NEU) have announced additional strike action dates this term on **Wednesday 5th July** and **Friday 7th July 2023**.

The following classes will be **closed**: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6.

The following classes will **remain open**: Nursery, Year 4 and Year 5.

Attendance for children in Year 4 and 5 remains compulsory and any unexplained absence or absence without a valid reason will be recorded as unauthorised.

After School Clubs

Elizabeth House will be running. Year 4 & 5 children will be collected from school as usual. Families with children in other year groups wanting to continue with this service will need to drop children directly to EH at 3:30pm. Please confirm attendance with them.

Ready Set Stage will run Wednesday and Friday clubs as usual. Children will need to be dropped at school at 3:30pm and can go through to the bottom hall for their club.

Music Hub have not yet confirmed whether this will be taking place. We will text families this affects with the information as soon as it is available.

Request for Fabric Offcuts

If you have any 100% cotton fabric offcuts lying around at home that you would be willing to donate to Lab_13, they would be greatly appreciated. The pupils would like to make beeswax wraps from them for the summer fair. Thanks, Meg

Lost property

As we near the end of term we ask that families encourage their children to look for any lost property items that may be lying around in the cloak rooms. Any items left over at the end of term will be recycled/disposed of.

Year 4 Learning

As part of their topic of Ancient Romans, Y4 went to the British Museum to find out how Britain changed after the Roman Empire conquered. They examined artefacts to find out more about the lives of people in Roman Britain and sketched some of their favourite pieces.



Reception Class Family Learning

We have been reading the Hungry Caterpillar this week in Reception Class and talking about the transition of the caterpillar into a butterfly as we move towards transitioning in to Year 1. This was also our theme in 'Family Learning' this week:



Attendance Matters

Class	Attendance WB 19/06/23
Nursery	84.55%
Reception	91.85%
Year 1	99.26%
Year 2	95.56%
Year 3	98.89%
Year 4	99.63%
Year 5	95.47%
Year 6	99.26%
Whole school	96.37%

Attendance Cup
Winner
Week Beginning
19/06/2023

Year 4!



Ongoing reminders - Diary Dates

Date	Event
WKBG 26 th June	Year 5/6 Cardfields School Journey Year 3 Bikeability
Wednesday 28 th June	Eid
WKBG 3 rd July	Year 4 Bikeability
Saturday 8 th July	12-3pm Summer Fayre
Wednesday 12 th July	Nursery – Year 2 Fluoride varnish treatment
Thursday 13 th July	2:30 Y5 Class assembly 3:00-4:30pm Y1 Class assembly at AMSI
Monday 17 th July	End of year reports home
Tuesday 18 th July	Sports day at Clissold Park EYFS & KS1 AM, KS2 PM
Wednesday 19 th July	10am Year 6 Leavers show
Thursday 20 th July	Last day of term for pupils – school finishes 2pm

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen Headteacher

Early Years Science Learning- Attention Parents/Carers of Nursery and Reception Pupils

You may be aware that I am involved in an Early Years research project. I have been working under the direction of, and alongside, Professor Toby Cubitt and Dr Amanda Mc Crory developing and delivering science activities in Reception and Nursery classes. Reception pupils have grown cress under different conditions and have explored floating and sinking. Our aim is to engage parents/guardians and teachers in this project. Early-years science activities, with accompanying resources, have been developed and uploaded on to Tapestry. Our hope is that pupils engage with these science activities at home, and that parents/carers will feed back about how useful the resources on the Tapestry platform are.

I would like to hold a Focus Group meeting to talk to parents/carers about the resources on Thursday 6th July 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. in Lab 13. Please do contact me if you have any further questions or if you would like to register your interest in attending. I can be reached via e-mail

mbegley@gillespie.islington.sch.uk - Thank you, Megan Begley (Resident Scientist)



FoG is recruiting!

Would you like to support Gillespie to provide the best possible educational experience for pupils and families? Do you have ideas about fundraising to enrich our children's education or events to get the Gillespie community together? Then FoG would love to hear from you!

Sarah's term as co-chair of FoG will end in July and we're looking for someone to join Sean as co-chair next school year. This involves coordinating a fun and friendly team to organise fundraising events and working with Mark and teachers to decide what money raised is spent on. The idea is to do a year as the new co-chair and then a second as an old hand so that we keep the FoG team fresh and give more people the opportunity to get involved in shaping FoG's work. If you're interested in hearing more, please get in touch with either of the current co-chairs Sean (07986792367) or Sarah (07970606543).

We're also looking for a new Treasurer to take over from Jenny Maresh over the next few months. The role involves managing FoG's funds and keeping simple accounts - you don't need to be an accountant, just handy with a spreadsheet. Is this a role you'd be interested in taking on? If so, please reach out to Jenny for a chat on 07974689701 or jenny@friendsofgillespie.org

Summer Fair – we need you!

The Summer Fair (Saturday 8 July) is FoG's biggest fundraising event and a fantastic opportunity for Gillespie families to get together for a fun afternoon in the sun. Organising and running it is a huge team effort so we're hoping to get as many parents and carers involved as possible.

Class reps will be asking for help with class stalls, but there are some other things we need help with below. If you want to run another activity, feel free to contact Sarah (07970606543) or Sean (07986792367).

Donations of toys, children's books and (adult) tombola prizes – 26-30 June

We are looking for as new/great condition toys and children's books (no adult books, please) for the toy and book sale. Also tombola prizes – e.g. food cupboard items (no nuts), as-new gifts, bottles of alcohol/non-alcoholic drinks. *Please bring your donations to the school office between 26 and 30 June.*

Salads and cakes – on the day

Everything on the bake sale and salad station comes from Gillespie families, so we need your help! Home-made or shop bought are equally welcome. *We'll ask for these to be dropped off on the morning of the fair, with homemade items labelled with ingredients. No nuts.*

Help on the day

Could you help serve on the front desk, bouncy castle or food stall for 30 minutes during the fair? Can you spare an hour or two between 9:30 and 12 on the morning of 8 July to help set the fair up? Or stay for 30 minutes at the end to help tidy? *Please contact Sarah (07970606543)*

Loans of umbrellas/gazebos

Do you have an umbrella or gazebo you could lend us to provide extra shade? *Please contact Sarah (07970606543)*

Remember, you
can support FoG
through a one-off
or regular donation

All the money raised by FoG goes towards extra-curricular activities for Gillespie children. [Read more about this in newsletter no.378.](#) There is no obligation to give and it can be as much or as little as you can afford. To donate, [click here](#) or scan the QR code on the noticeboard next to the playground gates.

