



Friday 30th June 2023

Newsletter 404

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Summer Music Concerts

Last Friday Years 1-6 all performed in the Summer Music Concerts. Year 1 kicked off the morning show and Steph was heard laughing when she heard the new verse in their song called 'The Grand Old Duke called Steph'! Year 2 followed by showing us a sneak peak of their 'Big Sing' songs. What beautiful voices they have in Year 2! Year 3 gave us a real treat with their recorder performances. I was especially impressed with their percussion ensemble in the performance for 'Reel'. Year 4 showed us the great progress they've made on their string instruments, followed by a reprisal of 'Children's Chorus' from their Carmen show (one of my favourites!). Year 5 stole the show with their performance of the mysterious piece 'Walk on Mars' on strings, followed by a beautiful execution of 'Rule the World'. Year 6 finished with 'Ode to Joy' on strings followed by a sneak peak of their end of year show in the form of 'Arabian Nights'. The school choir brought tears to my eyes in their performance of 'Can You Hear Me' and I think many parents were similarly afflicted! A great concert all round which was performed as one concert today for the whole school. Well done to all the children!

Orlando Clarkson, Music Teacher



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.

Cardfields Roundup

What a week it has been at Cardfields this week for the annual Year 6 residential (plus some Y5 children!). They enjoyed on-site activities such as orienteering, pond dipping, den building and movie nights as well as adventurous activities including bmx-biking and canoeing! They celebrated Eid together on Wednesday with a cake and a birthday on Thursday... with another cake! Thursday was rounded off with the social event of the year the obligatory Cardfields disco! Children dressed in their glad rags, many a snack was eaten and songs danced to. The children (and staff!) have returned joyful (and exhausted) and we wish them a very restful weekend!



Year 4 Learning

Year 4 went back in time to experience living as a Roman during Boudicca's rebellion. They created mosaics, oil lamps, wax tablets and more. After, they took part in a celebratory feast with dance, drama, and food! Thank you History Off the Page



Reception Class Learning

Reception have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. They created their own Eric Carle inspired artwork after reading 'The very hungry caterpillar' using cut out paper collage!



Attendance Matters

Class	Attendance WB 26/06/23
Nursery	93.23%
Reception	96.67%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	99.33%
Year 3	95.67%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	88.89%
Year 6	96%
Whole school	94.92%

Attendance Cup
Winner
Week Beginning
26/06/2023

Year 2!



Ongoing reminders - Diary Dates

Date	Event
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





Summer Fair – we need you!

The Summer Fair (next Saturday!) 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.

Thanks a lot to everyone who has volunteered already. There are still a few areas where we're looking for help:

Bouncy castle and food stall

Could you help for 30 minutes during the fair? *Please contact Sarah (07970606543)*

Tombola prizes – 3-6 July

We're still looking for tombola prizes – e.g. food cupboard items (no nuts), as-new gifts for adults, bottles of alcohol/non-alcoholic drinks. *Please bring your donations to the school office between 3 and 6 July.*

Thanks for the toys and books, the stall is going to be brilliant, if you have a good condition bike, there's still time to donate.

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.*

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

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.**

Hayward Adventure Playground - Summer Playscheme

KIDS, Islington

KIDS is a national charity which has been supporting disabled children, young people and their families since 1970.

If your child has difficulty accessing mainstream playgrounds/services, then Hayward is a fantastic option for you!

We support young people aged 6-16 with a range of different needs during school holidays. Our staff are highly skilled and dedicated playworkers, who have an amazing understanding of creating a space that is welcoming and friendly for all different types of young people.

The service is free for Islington residents.

For more information please email Hayward.info@kids.org.uk



Keep up to date with us:

 www.kids.org.uk

 KIDScharity

 0207 359 3635

 KIDScharity



Giving
disabled children
a brighter future