



Friday 29th September 2023

Newsletter 411

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,



Black History Month

Today in our whole school assembly we launched our celebration of Black History Month by finding out about black British children's author Christina Shingler who wrote pioneering picture books which included black children in her stories. The children watched a lovely BBC short film with a commentary by her 10 year old grandson Felix, who learned there were no books that had pictures or stories of children who looked like his Grandma when she was a child in the 1960's living in Yorkshire. Felix was very proud that his Grandma led the way in encouraging many British black authors to write stories and novels which reflects the greater diversity of our country today. Classes across the school will be learning about black people who have had an impact in this country throughout our history.



Year 1 Learning

Year 1's science topic this term is Animals Including Humans, at the moment we are focusing on the human senses. This week we used our sense of smell to work out what was in each of the five covered cups and our maths skills to record our findings. As a group we decided what each smell was, wrote it down, recorded if we liked or disliked the smell and then worked out the total for each item of food. We then made a class tally to find out which was the class's most and least favourite smell.

Thursday 28th October 2023

WALT describe and compare a variety of different smells, identifying which are the most and least liked by the class.

Smell the different pots.

Use this sheet to write down:

- who likes each smell
- who dislikes each smell.

What smells do our group like (☺) and dislike (☹)?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total ☺	Total ☹
1. Laithe	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	6	0
2. Onion	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	3	3
3. Garlic	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	5	1
4. Tomato	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	4	2
5. Pesto	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	3	2

1. Which smell did people like the most? Laithe

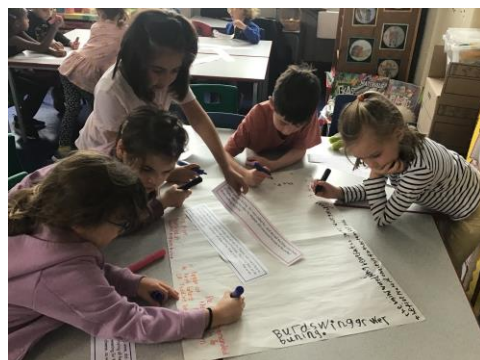
2. Which smell did people like the least? onion

We collected all the results from the class and made a tally chart. Here are our results.

	Total likes	Total dislikes
lavender	23	6
onion	13	16
garlic	16	13
tomato puree	21	8
cloves	18	10

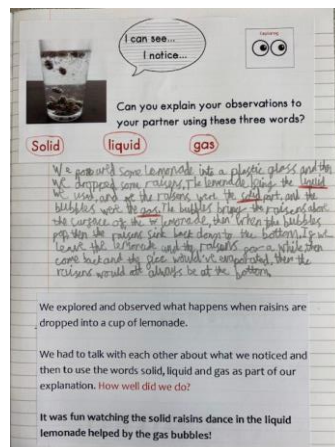
Year 2 Learning

We explored different primary sources to help us to understand where the information we have about the Great Fire of London came from. These included a tax record, maps of London before and after the fire, and quotes from the diary of eye witness, Samuel Pepys.



Year 4 Learning

In science, Y4 were exploring and observing what happens to raisins when they are dropped into a cup of lemonade. They had to use the terms solid, liquid and gas to explain what they thought was happening.



Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 25/09/23
Reception	96%
Year 1	99%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	98.33%
Year 4	97.99%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	98.93%
Whole school	97.94%

Attendance Cup
Winner
Week Beginning
25/09/2023
Years 1 & 5!



SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2023/24

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4 th September	INSET Day
Tuesday 5 th September	INSET Day
Wednesday 6 th September	First day of Autumn Term for pupils
23 rd – 27 th October	Half Term
Thursday 21 st December	Last day of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 9 th January	First day of Spring Term for pupils
12 th – 16 th February	Half Term
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of Spring Term

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15 th April	INSET Day
Tuesday 16 th April	First day of Summer Term for pupils
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term
Tuesday 23 rd July	Last day of Summer Term
Wednesday 24 th July	INSET Day

Ongoing reminders – this information has not changed

Class assemblies

Thursdays at 2:30pm, top hall. Families invited to attend, we hope you can make it!

2 nd November	Year 2
9 th November	Year 1
16 th November	Year 3
23 rd November	Year 6
30 th November	Year 4
7 th December	Year 5

Admissions Information

Secondary School Admissions for children born between: 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013

- Apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk
- Deadline 31st October 2023
- Please email the office with dates of your child's school visits for our records
- See the Islington Admission's [Secondary School brochure here](#)

Primary School Admissions for children born between: 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020

- Apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk
- Deadline 15th January 2024
- To arrange a school tour please email the school office
- See the Islington Admission's [Primary School brochure here](#)
- Children in the Nursery Class do NOT automatically have a place in Reception Class. Families **must** apply online.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
October	Black History Month
Thursday 5 th October	World Poetry Day Autumn School Census – privacy notice on data collected can be found here
Tuesday 10 th October	Mental Health Day – universal human rights
Wednesday 18 th October	Individual and sibling photographs
Thursday 19 th October	FoG Halloween Disco
Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th October	Half term
Wed 1 st & Thu 2 nd November	Flu nasal spray immunisations
Friday 3rd November	9:30am FoG AGM in bottom hall

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen Headteacher



FoG News



FoG Annual General Meeting Date confirmed



On Friday 3rd of November at 9.30am Friends of Gillespie will host its **Annual General Meeting**.

This will be an opportunity for parents, carers and other stakeholders to learn more about the coordination and delivery of FoG activities, including:

- **A summary of accounts for 22/23**
- **Reporting on key priorities and activities during that same period**
- **Formal introduction of new FoG Committee members (please note that nominations for committee members remain open and are available to all - including individuals not directly connected to the school community).**
- **Overview of forward plans and objectives for 23/24**

It will also be an opportunity for attendees to ask further questions about any topics that are of interest or concern, as well as offer input and suggestions on how to build on the successes of 22/23 and ensure that FoG is doing all it can to enrich the experiences of its pupils, staff and families as they move through the school.

ClayTime Mugs - Ready for collection

Did you or your child get to design your own tea mug at the Summer Fair this year? If so then the lovely people at ClayTime have dried, fired and glazed them for us - and they look great! If you think that one of these mugs might be yours, get in touch with Sean (07986792367) before the October Half Term.



FoG is recruiting

Would you like to support Gillespie Primary School 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! If you're interested in hearing more, please get in touch with Sean (07986792367).

Date for the diary:

Halloween Disco: Thursday 19th October 5-7pm



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

All money raised by FoG goes towards support for the school and extra-curricular activities for Gillespie children. 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.**

Flu immunisation for pupils in school years Reception - Year 11

DEAR PARENT/CARER,

The flu vaccine is being offered at your child's school again this autumn/winter.

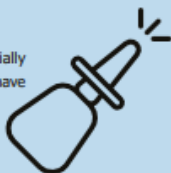
To give consent for your child to have the flu vaccine, please click here:

<https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2023/islington>

Even if you do not wish for your child to have the vaccine, please complete the online form so that we can record your wishes.

THE NASAL FLU VACCINE

- ✓ Protects your child from the flu.
- ✓ Protects your family and friends from the flu (especially those who are elderly, young babies, or those who have serious health conditions).
- ✓ Is painless, quick and effective.
- ✓ Is free



THE IM FLU VACCINE



We also offer the flu vaccine as an injection, which is **gelatine-free**. This may also be the vaccine of choice for vegans. Please go to our website where you can find out more about the manufacturing of the flu injection, and then decide if the injection is more suited to your child.

You only need to complete one consent form for each child. If you later change your mind, please call your local team. If your child has this immunisation elsewhere after you have submitted the consent form, you **MUST** inform Vaccination UK rather than the school.

We understand that you may have questions about the vaccine. For more information, please go to our website, where you can find a list of FAQ's, as well as details of our community catch up clinics. We also have some FAQ's enclosed below.

You can also find informational videos on our YouTube channel, including subtitled versions for other languages.

Yours Faithfully,
Your Local Immunisation Team
Vaccination UK



ISLINGTON
Immunisation Team
Contact Details

islington@v-uk.co.uk

0208 017 7926

WORKING ON BEHALF OF



USEFUL INFO

✓ We endeavour to come to your child's school twice. If they are absent or unable to be vaccinated at school, you will need to attend one of our community clinics for the vaccine. Details of these can be found on our website or you can contact the team above.

✗ PLEASE NOTE the flu vaccine will NOT be available to otherwise healthy children after December 15th at all, and so we urge you to return the consent form as soon as possible in case we are not able to visit your child's schools for a second visit this year.

✓ Your consent will remain in place for the entire flu season. If your child misses a first visit, you do not need to complete a second form.

USEFUL LINKS

www.schoolvaccination.uk/nasal-flu
www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk



PRIVACY POLICY

Our 2023/24 policy can be viewed here:
www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy
For data protection queries, please contact:
dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court

Please note that young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are there any side effects of the vaccine?

Possible side effects are: decreased appetite, headache, a runny or blocked nose, and sometimes a raised temperature. These are common, but they pass quickly and can be treated with paracetamol or ibuprofen if you feel your child needs it.

Are there any children who shouldn't have the nasal vaccine?

You should let us know if your child has any of the following:

- A very severe allergy to eggs, egg proteins, gentamicin or gelatine – it is important for us to know if your child has been admitted to hospital with a condition called anaphylaxis, triggered by these things.
- Are currently wheezy or have been wheezy in the past 72 hours with asthma. There is an alternative flu vaccine that we can talk to you about to ensure that your child is protected as soon as possible.
- Have a condition that severely weakens their immune system.

Also, children who have been vaccinated should avoid close contact with people with very severely weakened immune systems for around two weeks following vaccination (By severely weakened, we generally mean people who are isolating, such as those who have received some types of chemotherapy or people who have had a bone marrow transplant, for example). This is because there's an extremely remote chance that the vaccine virus may be passed to them.

Contact with other healthy children or adults does not need to be limited after having the vaccine.

We do not eat pork products.

Can my child have a different flu vaccine?

Yes. There is a flu vaccine available, in the form of an injection.

The nasal flu vaccine is the best vaccine for children and young people under 18 years of age as it is more effective at stopping the spread of flu and it is painless, but it does have a highly processed form of gelatine (porcine gelatine), which is used in a range of many essential medicines. The gelatine helps to keep the vaccine viruses stable so that the vaccine provides the best protection against flu.

If your faith or beliefs mean you would prefer a vaccine that has no pork (porcine gelatine) in it, please complete the consent for the flu injection only. You do not need to complete a form for both.

If your child is vegan, please note that the flu injection is a cell based vaccine. For more information, please see our FAQs page on our website:

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/nasal-flu>



Information for Parents and Carers

What is the School Wellbeing Service (SWS)?

The SWS is a team of mental health practitioners that support families and schools to help children and young people stay and get back to being emotionally healthy.

When might you benefit from our support?

If you have concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing or if you have noticed any of the following affecting family or school life:



What we offer

We offer a range of work to help, including:



GUIDED SELF-HELP (GSH) INTERVENTIONS

- In primary schools, we support parents and carers using GSH interventions based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) principles
- In secondary schools, we offer 1:1 sessions of GSH with YP



GROUPS, WORKSHOPS, AND ASSEMBLIES FOR PUPILS

On mental health themes such as:

- Understanding and managing emotions
- Building confidence and self-esteem



GROUP WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

- Understanding and managing your child's anxiety
- Positive parenting strategies
- Supporting your child with secondary transition



GROUP WORKSHOPS FOR STAFF



- Understanding and managing pupil's anxiety
- Staff wellbeing
- Emotional school based avoidance

What to expect

As a parent or carer, accessing support from the SWS will involve:

- Around 8 one-to-one sessions
- Help for you and your child to learn and practice new ways of managing difficulties
- Linking with your child's school and other services that could help if necessary

How to get in touch

 islccg.sws@nhs.net  020 3316 1824

If you think we can help and would like to get in touch with our service, please speak to a member of school staff who will be able to help make a referral to us.

STARGAZING ON NAVIGATOR SQUARE

WEDNESDAY
4th October
1pm-8.00pm

School sessions until 3.30pm

TRIPS INTO SPACE, TELESCOPE VIEWING
ON VANTAGE TOWER, SPACE-CRAFTS,
LESSONS WITH THE INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS,
SCI-FI CHOIR, CREATIVE FAIR
& MORE

We'll also have some special news for
Archway creatives!

Bookings required for VR & Telescopes

For more info follow us on Twitter @archwayLondon
To book a trip or stall email
barry.causton@islington.gov.uk

NAVIGATOR
SQUARE



N19
3TD

CREATIVE ENTERPRISE ZONE
MAYOR OF LONDON

Archway
Town Centre Group

ArchwayLibrary
ReadLearnConnect

IOP
Institute of Physics

Essential
Living

Supported by
ISLINGTON