



Friday 19th January 2024

Newsletter 423

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

£2,225 raised by FoG last Christmas

A huge thank you to our magnificent FoG team and parent volunteers who raised a fantastic sum of money from the Winter Fair and carol singing bucket shake for the school. More information below.



Birthday reminder – no cakes allowed

We know children enjoy sharing their birthday with their class and so remind parents that celebrations can be enjoyed in class with a healthy fruit/vegetable snack to share. The school has healthy school status and in order to keep this we are unable to share cakes for each birthday celebration. Thank you.



Library open mornings on Fridays 8-8:55am

Just a reminder that all families are welcome to start Friday with a lovely family read in our calm library. A big thank you once again to our parents Amelie and Deirdre for keeping our library so organised and attractive to use.

Letter from His Majesty's Chief Inspector and new Ofsted Chief Sir Martyn Oliver

We were delighted, and surprised to receive a letter in the post today from the new Chief Inspector congratulating Gillespie school on retaining our outstanding judgment in our recent Ofsted inspection. Sir Martyn wrote "the inspection framework sets a high bar for being judged outstanding, which makes it a challenging and exacting standard to achieve. I would therefore like to commend you and your team on your exceptional work. I hope that you and your whole school community feel very proud."

Reception Learning

Reception class had their first gymnastics session this week! The children were 'have a go hedgehogs' and tried lots of new gymnastic poses and positions. Well done Reception!



Spring Term Diary Dates

Date	Event
Friday 2 nd February	NSPCC Number Day
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer internet day
Saturday 10 th February	Chinese New Year
12 th – 16 th February	Half term
Wednesday 21 st February	Class photos and Y6 individual photos
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of Spring term. School closes at 2pm

Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 08/01/24
Reception	99.67%
Year 1	96.90%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	98.28%
Year 4	98.67%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	96.79%
Total	98.04%

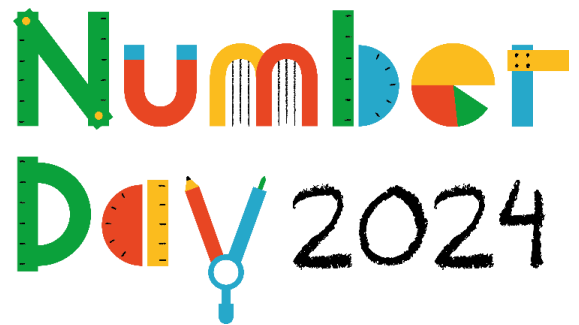
Attendance Cup
Winner
Week Beginning
15/01/24

Year 2!



Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen Headteacher

Number Day Friday 2nd February 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

On Friday 2nd February 2024 we will be celebrating another Number day.

This is a day where schools raise money for the NSPCC and make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable children across the UK. Gillespie has taken part in this important event for many years now and we are always happy to be involved.

To help raise some money for the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) we are inviting children once again to come to school wearing an item of clothing with digits on (e.g. football shirt) or a onesie or even dressed up as a dice, ruler or calculator!

We will have an assembly to highlight the work of the NSPCC to the children and in class they will take part in a number challenge and engage in lots of fun maths activities throughout the day.

Early Years will go on a number hunt and be challenged to find numbers between 1-10 (in Nursery) & 1-20 (in reception), Year 1 children will be challenged to know simple number bonds to 10/20 and children in years 2-6 will be challenged on their times tables/division facts. Teachers will set the challenges for their classes (as they know the children best).

Children or parents do not need to bring cash to school but it would be great if you would donate what you are able to online to the NSPCC via the JustGiving link below. We hope as many people as possible can help.

The link to donate to the NSPCC:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/gillespienumberday2024>

Thank you for all your cooperation and support in advance.

Kind Regards

Katrina Moses
(Deputy Head)



Wonderful Winter Fair - Thanks Everyone!



On Wednesday 20th December we were able to host another fantastic Gillespie Primary School event as staff, students and families came together to enjoy the **Winter Fair** stalls, activities and snacks laid on by our amazing volunteers. **Special shout out to the class reps** for all of their hard work and organisation, **parents and carers for their support** (and incredible contributions to the bake sale stall!) and for all who attended to welcome in the winter break in style.

Due to all the superb efforts from everyone involved, we are delighted to share with you that we were able to raise close to **£1,200** which will support ongoing efforts to enrich the experiences of all those connected to Gillespie Primary School. **Well done to all!!!**



Carol Singing Bucket Shake - Christmas Cracker!



On Sunday 17th December an amazing group of volunteers came together to belt out some Christmas carol classics in an effort to raise funds for the school - and boy did they achieve it! Thanks to the amazing coordination from FoG's own **Jenny Maresh**, musical direction from **Fiona Ayers** (Yr 6 class rep) and the amazing voices and banner design talents from all the families who made the time to come along and support, we are so proud to share that the total amount raised was a whopping **£1,025!!!**



↓ Donate to FoG here! FOG WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HAS BEEN ABLE DONATE (TIME, MONEY, IDEAS, MORAL SUPPORT) OVER THE LAST YEAR.



We know and appreciate that not everyone is able to directly support charitable initiatives. However, if you feel like you can and would like to contribute, here are some example ways in which you can help:

- A monthly regular direct debit donation of as little as £5 **DONATE TO FOG HERE!**
- A donation of an item which we can put to one of our auctions (last year we raised almost £3k by auctioning Glastonbury tickets, golf tickets and a signed England shirt).
- Running a stall at an event, helping on the door or just acting as an extra pair of hands (for example at our **Winter Fair on the 20th December**).
- One off donations of any amount are always welcomed.