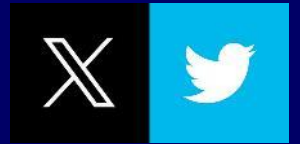




Friday 2nd February 2024

Newsletter 425

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

NSPCC Number Day

Today we celebrated the annual NSPCC 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. The children had some very creative digit inspired outfits and classes were buzzing with math challenges. Katrina our deputy lead our special assembly today and reminded all children who the safeguarding leads in the school are if they have any worries they need to share and the children watched a special film by the NSPCC explaining how to use the Childline number 0800 1111. We were very impressed to see that many children knew the number off by heart.

We've raised over £300 so far, thank you! Donations can still be made online here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/gillespienumberday2024>



Number Day 2024



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 6th February



Safer internet day will be launched with an assembly on Tuesday morning where we will be discussing this year's theme 'Inspiring change. Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. Classes will share their learning in assembly next Friday and updates in the newsletter that day, watch this space!

Useful information for parents can be found here:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers>



BE SMART ONLINE



- S SAFE** Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.
- M MEET** Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- A ACCEPTING** Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.
- R RELIABLE** You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.
- T TELL** Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline - 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk
- BE SMART WITH A HEART** Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

Reception Learning

Reception class enjoyed their trip to SeaLife London Aquarium this week as part of their 'under the sea' learning. The children were fascinated by the sharks, turtles and beautiful tropical fish and penguins too!



Year 4 Learning

Y4 have been learning about volcanoes this week. After finding out about what volcanoes are and why they erupt, we created our own safe eruptions in class. We started by using a model volcano which created a small eruption. We then made a second volcano using a plastic bottle and some card. We found out that bicarbonate of soda mixed with white vinegar creates a chemical reaction releasing carbon dioxide in the bottle. This in turn creates pressure causing the small eruption and lava flow. We found out that our own model worked better producing a bigger eruption as the bottle had a larger capacity and we could double the amount of ingredients used to produce the eruption. Great fun!



What is happening?

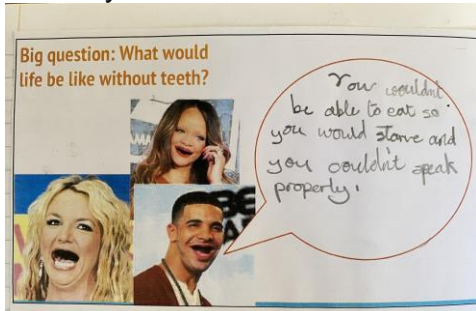
When the vinegar (an acid) is added to the volcano, a

chemical reaction takes place with the bicarbonate of soda forming something called carbonic acid.

Carbonic acid is unstable and breaks apart into water and carbon-dioxide (a gas) which creates all the fizzing as it escapes the solution. pressure builds up inside the volcano causing the liquid to travel upwards toward the opening and to flow out of the volcano.

flow ✓ chemical reaction ✓ pressure ✓ carbonic acid ✓
water ✓ carbon-dioxide

Year 4 have been learning all about teeth. We have named the different type of teeth we have and talked about the different functions they have when we eat. We even munched on carrots and looked carefully at our teeth in a mirror.

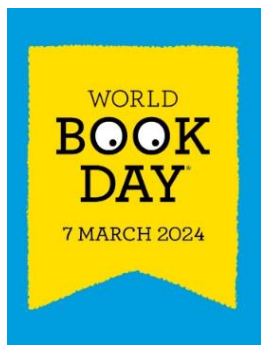


Year 5 Learning

Year 5 went to the Science Museum to learn all about space. It was an out of this world experience where their brains are now full of new and interesting information all about space! They got to watch a rocket demonstration where they learnt what was needed to fire a rocket into space! The children thought about Newton's Laws and then watched a 3D film at the IMAX all about what it was like to be an astronaut and what you can see from up in space.



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March



For World Book Day this year we are going to be doing the same as last year with the £1 book tokens. We will not be sending the £1 book token home, instead, we ask that you and your child take some time to choose one of the books from the link below. Your child can then tell their teacher, or you can email them [on or before Wednesday 7th February](#) the book they would like to swap their £1 voucher for. At a date closer to World Book Day year 1 and year 6 will take a trip to Waterstones in Angel where they will exchange the vouchers for the books all the children have chosen. These classes will deliver the books to each class and your child can then take their book home to keep forever.

Please use this link to select a book. <https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/>
If you click on each book you can read a blurb about that book, watch a short video from the author and even get some ideas for World Book Day costumes for some of the books.

Spring Term Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer internet day Pancake day lunch
Thursday 8 th February	Chinese New Year celebratory lunch
Friday 9 th February	Year 3 bake sale and used uniform stall
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 29/01/24
Reception	98.28%
Year 1	95.83%
Year 2	99.33%
Year 3	95.86%
Year 4	98.67%
Year 5	91.33%
Year 6	96.43%
Total	96.53%

Attendance Cup
Winner
Week Beginning
29/01/24

Year 2!



Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen Headteacher



FoG News



Spring Term FoG General Meeting



Friends of Gillespie will be hosting our termly **General Meeting** on **Wednesday 7th February @9am in the bottom hall**. The main aim of the meeting will be to share and discuss plans around key priorities for the Spring Term, address any areas of interest that attendees wish to raise and consider any new ideas and suggestions for how to support the school as we move through the school year. Topics will include:



- Summary of financial status and expected spending for the Spring Term
- Confirmation of agreed calendar events (and requests for volunteers)
- Forward plans for initiatives to support the school (new playground refurbishment, comms strategy)

Movie Night - Volunteers Needed!!!

Following the success of the last few years, FoG are keen to once again run a **Movie Night** for Gillespie School students during the Spring Term. As usual, in order to put on a worthwhile and enjoyable event we are putting the call-out some volunteers. This will involve:



- Pre-event planning - date and timings, event promotion, ticket sales, refreshments and of course... movie choice!
- Set up and clear up support
- Supervision during the movie

If you are able to offer any support then please get in touch with **Sean on 07986792367**

Christmas Clutter Clearout!

Got more toys and books than you have space for? Want to recycle some of the things that no one uses anymore? Is that box of party bag 'stuff' starting to overflow? Have no fear - FoG are here to help!



We are looking to replenish our toy and book supply so that we can continue to offer stalls and prizes for the children (big and small) to get their hands on at future events. **If you have any items that you would like to pass on then please drop them in to the front office (in bags or boxes please!) for collection.** Not only

will you help boost our stock, but you'll also be supporting the school's ongoing efforts as an Eco-School!

↓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.

Holiday playschemes are running at the following providers during February half-term 2024:
<https://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/advice.page?id=Lh9F-43XRk>

N4Library
ReadLearnConnect



FAMILY ART CLUB

Arty fun for all the family! Materials are provided, or you can bring your own.
Suitable for children of all ages.
Meets monthly.

Saturday 17 February, 2-3pm

N4 Library
26 Blackstock Road, N4 2DW
020 7527 7800

 **ISLINGTON**
For a more equal future

Free Pottery Course for Islington residents

Come along and learn how to make pinch pots, coiled pots, tiles and so much more...

Every Wednesday
for 8 weeks from
7 February to 3 April

10am – 12pm

Where: Stephens Ink Community Centre,
Tannington Terrace, Gillespie Road,
London N5 1LG

Spaces are limited, so register your place today.
partnerships@islington.gov.uk



ARTS ON ESTATES
TEACHING THE BOSSIES

 **ISLINGTON**
For a more equal future