



Friday 3rd October 2025

Newsletter 487

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Jewish celebration Yom Kippur



Today we marked the celebration of Yom Kippur in assembly by sharing learning and singing songs. Pupil Lorenzo spoke to the school about celebrating the festival and Year 2 children shared their learning about the celebration that they have been doing in class these past few weeks.

Sibling and Individual photos

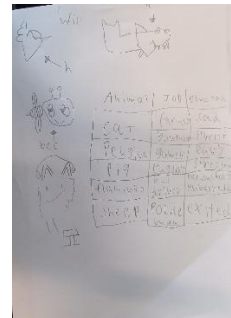
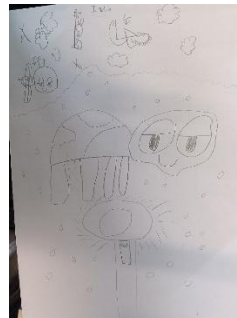
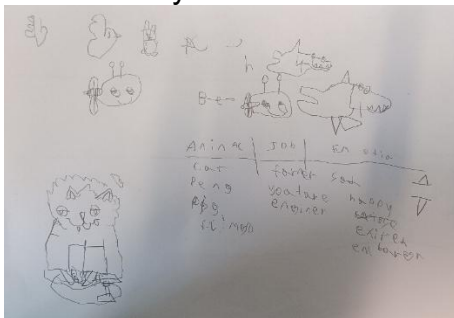


Children will have their individual and sibling photos on Wednesday 15th October. They will then bring home a QR code for you to register with Van Cols. When the photos have been processed and are ready for ordering you will receive a notification. Please order by the deadline to ensure free delivery to school.

Part time nursery children who attend Wednesday afternoons are invited to bring their child to school at 11:30am for their photo. A parent/carer will be expected to stay with their child for the duration of the photo and then bring them back to the nursery for their usual 12:35pm nursery session.

Learning in Year 3

Today Years 3-6 had a Zoom lesson with Ramzee, which was run by the National Literacy trust and Children's Mental Health week. 'Ramzee is an author and illustrator who wrote the Cheat Book series and a bunch of cool comics as well. In the video, Ramzee described to us where he found inspiration, his first comics and also where he go motivation to write a Cheat Book. Then he taught us to draw animals starting from letters, numbers and words. I really enjoyed it, but I thought he could go a bit slower so we can catch up'. By a member of year 3.



Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 06/10/25
Reception	93.67%
Year 1	96.33%
Year 2	99.67%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	99.67%
Year 5	99.67%
Year 6	96.67%
Total	97.53%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 06/10/2025
Years 2/4/5!

Important dates

13 th -24 th October	Year 6 swimming
15 th October	Individual and sibling photos
16 th October	Rec – Y6 Flu immunisations
23 rd October	5-7pm Halloween Disco
27 th – 31 st October	Half term

Reminder:
10am Fri 17th Oct
Y6 Class Assembly

Yours sincerely, Mark Owen, Headteacher



25/26 Curtain Raiser- Welcome Tea Party

So much of what we are able to offer Gillespie families is down to parents going that extra mile to run fun, friendly and inclusive events, and this year's Welcome Tea Party was no different.

A huge thanks to **Deidre, Jacqui, Amelie** and

all of you who gave up your Saturday afternoon to put on such a successful get together. All of the feedback was really positive and we hope to go from strength to strength with the rest of the FoG calendar. Speaking of which...



Are you ready for the best party of the year???

Time to dust off that Scooby Doo outfit and those plastic fangs - it's the notorious Halloween Disco 2025!

We'll be delivering all of the usual hits from previous years, so make sure you've got your dancing shoes on and some killer moves to go with them!

Tickets will be available to purchase in advance, so keep an eye out for sellers at pick up in the coming weeks. Also, we always need volunteers to help make this a monster hit, so if you can help out then please get in touch with **Vicky on 07877 984 367**

Festive Season Card Project - 2025 Edition!

The children have been busy designing festive artwork in class recently and we are soon going to be able to see some of their fantastic designs! If your child completed artwork, it will be sent home in the next couple of days with instructions on how to order cards, wrapping paper, mugs and present tags with their unique designs printed on them.

To order, follow the instructions leaflet attached to all the artwork and remember - all profits are donated directly to FoG. **THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS THE 30TH OCTOBER!!!**

If you have any questions please email Mary at marydecinqe@gmail.com. Please note, you don't need to send the artwork anywhere - it has already been scanned in preparation for any orders placed.

Does your employer offer 'Volunteer Days'? FoG needs you!

If you work for an organisation that offers a 'volunteer day' scheme or equivalent, why not take the day and work with FoG and other parents to give an area of the school the 'glow up' it needs? Goodness knows we will be able to put you to good use!

****If you are interested in offering some time then please get in touch with Sean on 07986 792 367 or speak to your class rep and we will add you to the growing list!****

Ways to Support Friends of Gillespie and the school community

1. **Financial donations:** A monthly direct debit donation of any amount you choose can be set up [here](#) in less than 5 mins, or you can use this QR code to access the site.
2. **Item donations:** Speak to your class rep about delivering the items, or simply drop them in the front office for a FoG member to come and collect them. Easy!
3. **Time donations:** If you would like to help out in this way then please do get in touch with your class rep or a FoG Committee member - we will certainly have something for you to do!



Gillespie School

HALLOWEEN DISCO



5-7pm

OCT
23

£3 entry or £5 family ticket
All children to be accompanied by an adult
Food and fun

Hotblack Desiato

The North London property experts,
in partnership with Gillespie School

hotblack desiato

FLU IMMUNISATION FOR PUPILS IN SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION - YEAR 11

Prevent your child from being seriously ill this winter!
Vaccinating is crucial in protecting them and
vulnerable friends and family from flu.

NASAL VACCINE



No needles - just quick,
painless, effective flu
protection
(contains gelatine)

OR

THE INJECTION



We offer a PORK-FREE,
GELATINE-FREE injection
considered a
faith-friendly alternative.

Complete this form, even if you do not want the vaccine.

<https://ncl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/islington>

Secondary School students only: Young people under the age of 16 can give or
refuse consent themselves if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

CONTACT THE TEAM

 islington@v-uk.co.uk

 0208 017 7925

Need more
information?

Please see our FAQs
sheet attached with
this letter.

Or visit our
website:



We endeavour to come to your child's school twice.
If your child is absent or unable to be vaccinated at
school, they can still receive this important vaccine by
attending one of our community clinics for the vaccine.

Details of these can be found on our website or you
can contact the team above.

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.

LEARN MORE 

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu>
www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk

PRIVACY POLICY

Our 2024/25 policy can be viewed here: www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy
For data protection queries, please contact: dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk

Families for Life

feeling good and living well



Do you want to help families live healthier lives while building your skills and making new friends?

Become a **Champion!**

Families for Life is looking for enthusiastic parent or carer volunteers to help promote healthy lifestyles in schools and communities. Whether it's chatting at the school gate, running fun workshops, or sharing events on WhatsApp - you can make a real difference!

What you can do:

- ☒ Help out with exciting health programmes like Family Kitchen and Taste Education
- ☒ Support school gate activities (flu jabs, oral health, parent surveys)
- ☒ Run parent workshops on healthy snacks, lunches, and breakfasts
- ☒ Share info through your networks and help families thrive

What you'll get:

-  **Free** training & certificates
-  Travel reimbursements
-  Boost your CV & explore **paid** opportunities
-  Build friendships & community connections
-  Learn more about local services and healthy living

Flexible commitment: Just **one** activity per half term, with full support and training provided.

Ready to get involved?

[Click here](https://forms.office.com/r/8paXEmFvBS) to fill out the short application form (<https://forms.office.com/r/8paXEmFvBS>) or by scanning the QRCode below **BY THE 31ST OCTOBER!**

Don't hesitate to email margherita.locatelli@islington.gov.uk for more information

Families for Life Community
Champion Application Form - 2025

