



Friday 7th November 2025

Newsletter 490

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Safeguarding at Gillespie

Staff and governors have carried out our annual review of safeguarding policies taking in to account latest government legislation in 'keeping children safe in education 2025'. Parents can access this along with policies on the school website. The policies inform a school culture that helps us keep all of our community safe and supports our well-being. If any parents wanted to discuss any policies further please catch Mark in the playground or email the school office.

The following policies have been updated and can be accessed here or on the school website:

- [Anti-bullying](#)
- [Behaviour](#)
- [Child protection](#)
- [Health & Safety](#)
- [Online Safety](#)
- [SEND policy](#)

Other related documents

- [Anti-bullying digest for parents](#)
- [NSPCC Talk Pants and Stay Safe Booklet](#)



Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need

Monday 10th – Friday 14th November



Next week, our school will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week, and we've got lots of exciting activities planned! The week will begin with a whole-school assembly all about what bullying means and, most importantly, how we can all work together to make our school a kind and supportive place for everyone.

Throughout the week, children will have the chance to share their voices by completing a special pupil survey about playtimes, friendship and kindness. Each class will also be busy designing bright and creative anti-bullying posters.

Then on **Friday 14th November**, we'll end the week with a colourful celebration! Everyone is invited to wear **odd socks** to show that it's great to be different, along with **spotty or non-uniform clothes** to raise money for **BBC's Children in Need**. It's going to be a week full of kindness, creativity, and community spirit — we can't wait to see everyone getting involved!



Families can make donations to Children in Need online here:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/gillespiechildreninneed2025?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Black Scientist/STEM Person Poster Competition

The STEM Committee and I were delighted to receive so many colourful and informative posters on Thursday. As there are so many, we are still undergoing the process of judging them. The winners will be announced to pupils, and then parents, once we have had time to complete the process.

Thank you for your patience.

Megan Begley, Resident Scientist, Lab_13

School Council elections

After a hustings assembly where candidates made their case to the children about why they should be their representative, we had an election for this year's school councillors.

Welcome to our new team of councillors - Anna, Nathan, Emma, Isaac, Ivan, Jamie, Bertie, Ruby and Eva, congratulations! The school council has had its first meeting and they have voted Isaac to be chair of the council, Anna and Ruby as secretaries, Bertie as Treasurer and Jamie as Vice Chair.

The school council are hitting the ground running and their first campaign is to seek to canvas pupils' opinions about school meals and the current menu with a view to making changes that will be popular to children whilst keeping them healthy. Watch this space!



Staffroom makeover



A huge thank you to our magic, fairy parents Mandy and ex-parents Bini and Erin and some of their lovely children who came in to school during the half term break and transformed our dowdy staffroom. They funded brand-new equipment and furniture including kettles, microwaves, comfortable seating and soft furnishings to make it an inviting place for staff to have a little sanctuary at lunchtime and after school before getting back on with their work. Staff were really moved that these families wanted to do something specifically to thank them for all the hard work they do for their children over many years, we really appreciate this! Staff are also hugely appreciative of Charlie's generosity for regularly donating tea and coffee to keep them all refreshed!

Attendance Matters

Class	Attendance WB 03/11/25
Reception	96%
Year 1	97.33%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	94.67%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	92.33%
Total	96.05%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 03/11/2025
Years 5!

Important dates

10th – 14th November	Anti-Bullying Week
11th November	Remembrance Assembly
14th November	Odd Socks Day & Children in Need
21st November	Year 5 Bake sale and uniform stall
26th November	2-7:30pm Parent Consultation Meetings
16th December	10am & 2pm Christmas Shows 3:45pm FoG Christmas Fayre
17th December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas dinner
19th December	Last day of term. School closes 1pm

Reminder:
10am Fri 21st Nov
Y4 Class Assembly

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen,
Headteacher