



Friday 23rd January 2026

Newsletter 499

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Headteacher for the day

Today Ivan and Alexander in Year 6 took Mark's place as Headteacher and did his duties for the day.



Ivan and Alexander:

Our duties included opening the school gates and holding the sunflower, met with Shelley to look over the diary for next week, lead the whole school Friday assembly, worked on the school newsletter, monitored classes in a learning walk and met with our link school in Ghana. We have very much enjoyed our day and have done fun activities along the way including a visit to our local café Fink's sampling their drinks and sweet treats!

As headteachers for the day we would like to announce that next Friday 30th January is Non-Uniform day. This is because we think that it is good for mental health and we have the power to do it! Ivan & Alexander



Attendance

Class	Attendance WB 19/01/26
Reception	96.67%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	98.33%
Year 4	96.67%
Year 5	97.67%
Year 6	98.33%
Total	97.52%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 19/01/2026
Year 2 100%!

Important dates

Friday 30th January	Non-uniform day 9:15am FoG AGM in Lab_13
Friday 6th February	NSPCC Number Day
WKBG 9th February	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 10th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 11th February	Class photos (full school uniform)
WKBG 16th February	Half term

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen, Headteacher

Caterlink pupil survey

"We are carrying out our annual pupil survey to assist us in improving our catering service to our customers and we would value the opportunity to survey the pupils at your school." **Survey closes on 27th March 2026.**

Primary Pupil Survey Link - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3RTFTV>



FoG News

Friends of Gillespie Annual General Meeting 25/26

As a registered charity Friends of Gillespie are required to host an AGM for members of the school community. The aim of the meeting is to highlight the processes, progress and aspirations for the charity (and by extension the school) and to give parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions and maybe even volunteer to support the work of FoG ☺.

We are pleased to invite Gillespie families to attend the **AGM on Friday 30th January at 9.15 in Lab13**. The meeting will run for no more than 45 mins (SEN Cooking is taking place in the classroom at 10am!) and will aim to cover the following areas:

- Accounts for 2024/25
- Summary of FoG supported activities
- Appointment of FoG Events Committee members/trustees
- Forward plan and priorities for 2025/26 (including an update on the Foundation)
- Discussion/questions on emerging issues



Movie Night - Event Lead required

Some of the more eagle-eyed parents and carers may have noticed that we did not run the annual Movie Night for the kids in 2025 as we have done in previous years. This was ultimately down to a lack of capacity within the FoG Events Committee. Despite our desire to re-introduce this fun feature of the school calendar, the situation around capacity hasn't changed. This means we need at least a few parents to take on the organisation and delivery of this extremely popular event.

If you are in a position to help then please get in touch either via the FoG email address fog@gillespie.islington.sch.uk or... yes that's right you guessed it... message Sean on 07986 792 367



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!

