



Friday 27th February 2026

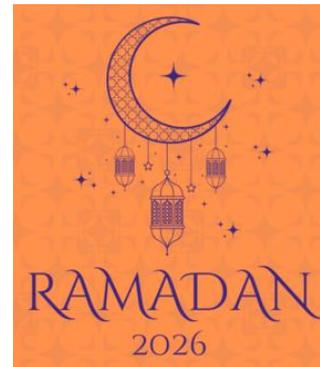
Newsletter 503

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ramadan

Thank you to Hassan who led a Ramadan assembly, where he explained to everyone how special this month is for Muslims. The children learnt about the virtues of Ramadan and how we can take lessons of patience and kindness. We also spoke about how we linked this to our 'Stop, Understand and Consider' behaviour strategy. Wishing our families who celebrate, a good Ramadan!



Chinese New Year

In today's assembly, we learned about Chinese New Year and what it means to people around the world. The children discovered that this year is the Year of the Horse, which symbolises independence, adventure, and hard work in the Chinese zodiac. Thank you to Chui Yian and Yu Wing for sharing how their family celebrates and showing us their beautiful New Year clothing.

We also explored how families celebrate, including decorating with red lanterns, sharing special meals, giving red envelopes for good luck, and enjoying dragon and lion dances.

The children enjoyed decorating lanterns in our SEND craft session.



Attendance

Class	Attendance WB 23/02/26
Reception	95.33%
Year 1	97.67%
Year 2	98.67%
Year 3	98.67%
Year 4	96.55%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	99.33%
Total	97.89%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 23/02/2026

Year 6!

Important dates

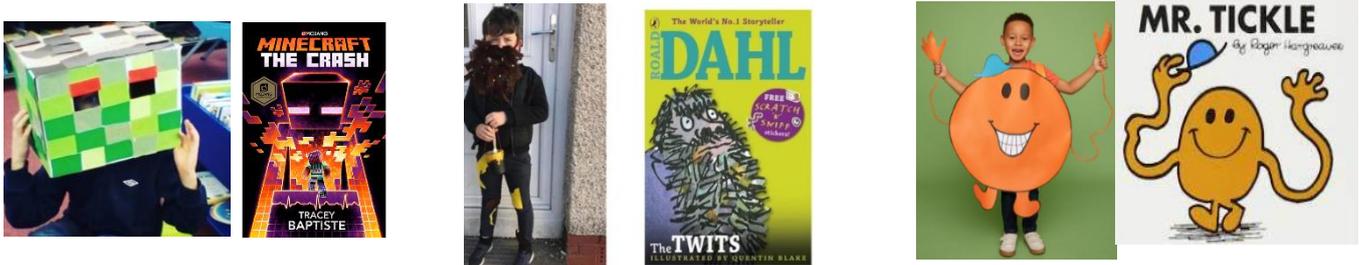
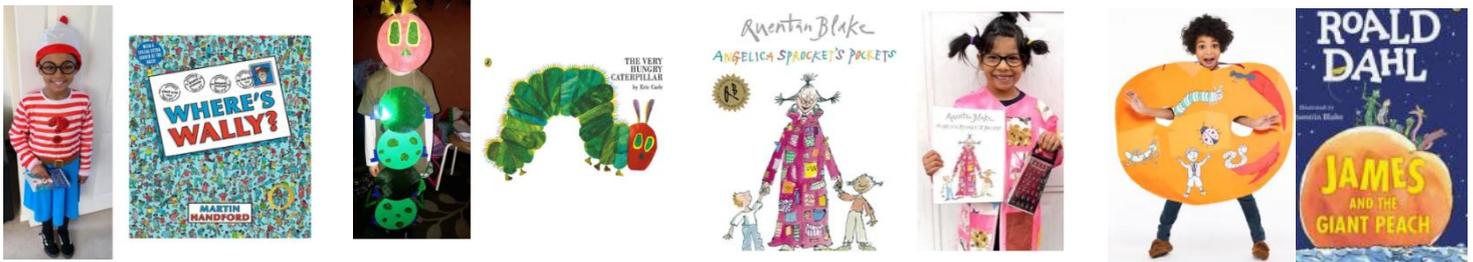
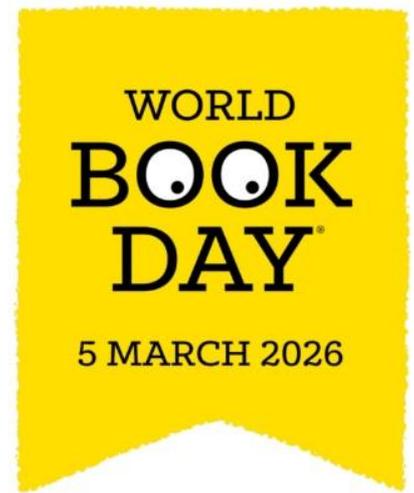
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Friday 27th March	End of term (school closes 1pm)
Monday 13th April	INSET Day (school closed)
Tuesday 14th April	First day of term for pupils

Wishing families a great weekend.

Yours sincerely,
Mark Owen,
Headteacher

World Book Day

It's time for this year's World Book Day. Next Thursday (5th March), we would like all children and staff to come to school dressed as either their favourite book character or author. Please don't feel you need to buy any brand new costumes. There are often many things lying around the house that you can use to make a costume and charity shops can have bits that you could use to make part or all of the costume. Here's some ideas of homemade costumes.



This year, many classes will be visiting Waterstones in Angel during the week beginning 9th March to pick up the pre-ordered World Book Day books in exchange for the £1 book token. If your child's class doesn't visit Waterstones, they will still receive their chosen book. Your child will bring home this book the day they visit Waterstones. This is theirs to keep forever; they do not need to bring them back into school.

