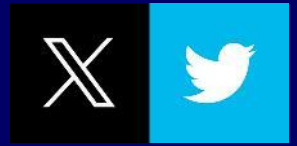




Friday 27th September 2024

Newsletter 448

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Arsenal Foundation

Huge thanks to FoG for supporting our fundraising with the Arsenal foundation last year. Please see this exciting report by Hassan on the impact the funding has had on Gillespie PE. The below article was in Arsenal programme available at Wednesday's game. (click the picture for a direct link to the article).

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

FOUNDATION VOICE

The Arsenal Foundation has helped nearby Gillespie Primary School buy new sports equipment and football kit. PE teacher Hassan tells us how it has helped children improve their skills and grow as individuals

ARSENAL ACTS

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I'm a Year 6 teacher, the PE and Science Lead at Gillespie School. I've been working in education for the past eight years in Glasgow, Scotland, which is where I'm from, and London.

"At Gillespie, we offer children a wide array of sporting opportunities including football coaching at lunchtimes and specialist gymnastic coaching, as well as introducing the children to a variety of sports with the opportunity to enter competitions. We've worked with Arsenal in the Community this year to deliver blocks of lessons at Gillespie and, going the other way, take children to The Arsenal Hub. It's fair to say our old sports equipment wasn't in line with our ambition for the children. We played in old, mismatched football kits in the local Islington Football League and tournaments, and within the school our gym mats were extremely well used. The money from The Arsenal Foundation allowed us to buy a brand new football kit for the boys' and girls' football teams, complete with the Gillespie logo, and new gym mats. The gym equipment is in heavy rotation - it's used daily during PE lessons as well as by before/after school clubs, and the new mats have been an excellent addition to our gymnastics and dance lessons. The children have been able to attempt more sophisticated and higher-level skills, which will help when we attend a gymnastics competition next year!"

In terms of football, Year 6 children take part in an after-school league that spans the school year, as well as the Islington schools' competition. They were very excited about playing in the new kit, especially because they could choose their own number for the season and because the kit had the Gillespie badge. In particular, the girls' team has been really popular, and they chose numbers based on their favourite players. I've seen an increase in the amount of interest shown by girls in football - watching, playing and competing - during my career so far. Physical activity is absolutely paramount to children's general overall wellbeing and in developing key skills individually and with others. With my 2023/24 class, playing in a team together really helped to deepen friendships and develop leadership skills. When facing teams who were taller or stronger, we spoke a lot about playing as a team and being resilient, and I heard children being very supportive and talking to each other. I think it's essential that children see Arsenal being active in the community, especially as the school is so close to the stadium. Having the name Arsenal attached to competitions or events inspires and encourages children to take part, and they love it!"

For more information visit www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

CARABAO CUP



FOUNDATION VOICE

PE teacher Hassan shows off the Gillespie School football kit that money from The Arsenal Foundation paid for



Reminders:

Health and safety

Could parents please remember that when you are bringing children to school in the morning and collecting after school, that you are responsible for your child's safety when using playground equipment including trim trails. The school is not responsible before 8:55am and after 3:30pm.

School PE uniform

Just a reminder that this week we are now moving to our full new PE uniform (see letter shared at the start of term [here](#).) we are very happy to see most children wearing correct uniform this week but there were still a few children that are wearing colours outside of the kit. Please ensure from next week that children are wearing the correct kit.



Gillespie Smartphone Survey

Thank you very much to those who took part in the Gillespie School Smartphone Survey at the end of the last academic year. You can see a summary of the results [here](#).

Results showed that while 85 per cent of Gillespie students do not have smartphones, 70 per cent of parents/carers said they would be interested in more information on the topic - particularly regarding child development and smartphones, cyber security and using social media in a positive way.

I recently met with Year 2 parents Mary and Victoria to discuss the survey results and agree on next steps. As the survey results confirm this is an issue that the Gillespie community would like to discuss further, we are in the early stages of developing a plan for a future event focused on the above topics. We will share more details with you on this soon. Please contact Mary and Victoria (via your class rep) if you have any further ideas on this topic you would like to discuss.

Year 6 Learning

Year 6 were Imaginative Insects this week, writing diary entries in the role of an imprisoned Oliver Twist.



Year 3 Learning

Take a sneak peek at some of our artwork for take one picture. Our work is based on how different paintings tell stories. What stories do you see in these?



Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 23/09/24
Reception	97.04%
Year 1	92.22%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	93.33%
Year 4	99.63%
Year 5	99.63%
Year 6	87.70%
Total	97.08%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 23/09/24

Year 2!

Upcoming Diary Dates

Date	Event
October	Black History Month
Thursday 3 rd October	National poetry day
Friday 11 th October	FoG event – Y6 bake sale & uniform stall
Wednesday 16 th October	Individual and sibling photographs
Thursday 17 th October	Reception-Year 6 flu vaccination clinic
Friday 18 th October	FoG AGM
WB Monday 21 st October	Scholastic book fair
Thursday 24 th October	FoG event - Halloween disco
<i>WB Monday 28th October</i>	<i>Half term</i>
Monday 4 th November	Children return to school

Yours sincerely, Mark Owen Headteacher

Spring Summer 2024		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE W/C 15 April 6 May 3 June 24 June 15 July 9 September 30 September 21 October	Option One	Planet Friendly Day Golden Tortilla Stack with Rice (V)	Hearty Penne Bolognese (VE)	Chickpea Hotpot, New Potatoes & Gravy (VE)	Creamy Macaroni Cheese (V)	Bean and Leek Sausages with Rice (V)
	Option Two	NEW All-Day Breakfast (V)	Hearty Beef Bolognese	Roast Chicken with New Potatoes & Gravy	Mexican Chicken Fajitas with Rice	Fishfingers/Salmon Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option Three	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Jacket Potato with Cheese (V)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Jacket Potato with Cheese (V)
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn (VE) Roast Tomatoes (VE)	Courgettes (VE) Carrots (VE)	Broccoli (VE) Cauliflower (VE)	Roasted Tomatoes (VE) Sweetcorn (VE)	Peas (VE) Baked Beans (VE) Green Bean Power Salad (VE)
Dessert	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	Apple Crumble with Ice Cream (V)	NEW Berry Mousse (V)	Carrot and Courgette Cake (V)	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	
WEEK TWO W/C 22 April 13 May 10 June 1 July 22 July 16 September 7 October	Option One	Pasta Kitchen Tomato & Lentil Pasta (VE) or Carbonara Pasta (V) with Toppings	Lentil and Sweet Potato Curry and Rice (VE)	BBQ Quorn with JJ's Pasta Salad (VE)	Cheese Whirl with Tzatziki & Salad (V)	NEW Classic Sausage Roll with Chips & Tomato Sauce (VE)
	Option Two	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Classic Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Spicy Chicken with JJ's Pasta Salad	Greek Chicken Pita with Tzatziki & Salad	Tuna and Chickpea Pasta
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn (VE) Broccoli (VE)	Cauliflower (VE) Green Beans (VE)	Roasted Veg Power Salad (VE) Sweetcorn Salsa (VE) Watermelon Salad (VE)	Mediterranean Mixed Vegetables (VE) Sweet Potato Power Salad (VE)	Peas (VE) Baked Beans (VE)
	Dessert	Chocolate & Beetroot Brownie (V)	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	Jelly with Mandarins (V)	Apple Flapjack (VE)
WEEK THREE W/C 29 April 20 May 17 June 8 July 2 September 23 September 14 October	Option One	Summer Butterbean Risotto (VE)	Spanish Plant Balls with Patatas Bravas (VE) or Chicken Paella	Lentil Wellington, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy (VE)	Beetroot & Lentil Burger with Potato Wedges (VE)	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Slices with Pasta Salad (V)
	Option Two	Smokey Bean Chili with Rice (VE)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Burger with Potato Wedges & Tomato Sauce	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Cheese (V)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)
	Dessert	Green Beans (VE) Roasted Peppers (VE)	Mediterranean Mixed Vegetables (VE)	Leeks (VE) Carrots (VE)	Broccoli (VE) Sweetcorn (VE) Tabbouleh (VE)	Peas (VE) Baked Beans (VE) Roasted Veg Power Salad (VE)
Option Three	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Cheese (V)	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VE)
Vegetables	Green Beans (VE) Roasted Peppers (VE)	Mediterranean Mixed Vegetables (VE)	Leeks (VE) Carrots (VE)	Broccoli (VE) Sweetcorn (VE) Tabbouleh (VE)	Peas (VE) Baked Beans (VE) Roasted Veg Power Salad (VE)	Peas (VE) Baked Beans (VE) Roasted Veg Power Salad (VE)
Dessert	Apple Sponge Cake with Ice Cream (V)	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	Yoghurt (V) & Fresh Fruit Station (VE)	Pear Crumble with Custard (V)	Summer Lemon Cake (V)	Summer Lemon Cake (V)

MENU KEY

Added Plant Power
 Wholemeal
 Planet Friendly Option
 (V) Vegetarian (VE) Vegan

Available Daily: - Freshly cooked jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings (V/VE) - Bread freshly baked on site daily (VE) - Daily salad selection (V/VE) - Drinking Milk (V)

ALLERGY INFORMATION:

If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.

<https://caterlinktd.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Islington-Primary-Menu-Spring-Summer-2024-Menu.pdf>

Dear parent/carer,

Re: School-aged Flu Immunisation - Islington 2024

The school nursing team of Islington will be visiting your child's school on 17th October to carry out nasal flu immunisations (there is an option to choose porcine-free Injection). **Please complete an e-consent form for your child to be immunised against the Influenza virus.** This can be done by clicking the link: <https://ncl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/Islington>

Even if you do not wish for your child to have the vaccine, please complete the online form as a decline so that we can record your wishes and update your child's records.

For further information, please see the e-consent letter attached, and for further queries, please email: islington@v-uk.co.uk.

- Video link in different languages - <https://www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk>
- Vaccination UK website - www.schoolvaccination.uk
- NHS – Children's flu vaccine - <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>



FoG News

Ways to Support Friends of Gillespie & the school community

As we settle into the new term and FoG kick starts its efforts to support the school community, committee members have reflected on the conversations that they have had with parents, carers and staff about how individuals can support what FoG does and the need for us to share more information. With that in mind, here is a simple breakdown of the options available to those that wish to do so:

1. **Financial donations:** This seems like an obvious one, but the value of consistent direct donations to FoG (and by extension the school) cannot be overstated. With a steady and consistent flow of funding coming in, rather than the surge that we see following a fundraising event, we are able to engage in more long-term planning and delivery. This means smarter investments in key areas and ensures a healthy financial position for FoG for the foreseeable future.

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. As an example, if just half of the families at Gillespie contributed the cost of a cup of coffee on a weekly basis, FoG would raise an extra £20,000 a year!



2. **Item donations:** This has been a very successful part of FoG's work, as well as contributing to the school's wider extra-curricular offer of the Eco-Committee and achieving its Green Flag with Distinction status. Whether it is unwanted toys, books, sports equipment or uniform, any donation that you can make to FoG for reuse or resale is a huge boost to our efforts. 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:** The FoG 'to-do' list is a never-ending one, and often it is simply about having the time and people-power to get things done. 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! This includes the example listed below...

The FoG Committee is on the recruit!

We are once again looking to build on the strengths of the FoG Committee by encouraging new members to get involved. The FoG Committee is the driving force behind the strategic efforts which shape our work and support for the school. If you are interested in finding out a bit more about what is involved in taking up a role in the committee then please feel free to approach an existing member (**check the FoG Noticeboard in the playground opposite the new play space for names and faces**) or get in touch with the current co-chairs **Sean (07986792367)** or **Max (07812633827)**

KiDSiE Discount Offer



KiDSiE
Your Premium Outlet for Kids' Stuff

Some of the discounts and deals you can find on KiDSiE

- Huffy Bikes**
30% off RRP
- Scoot & Ride**
30% off RRP
- Skate Hut**
50% off RRP

Get BIG discounts on:
Bikes, Scooters, Skateboards, Roller Skates, Heelies, and more!

Use this referral code to get £5 off and we will donate £5 to your school PTA

GILLESPIESLINGTON
www.kidsie.com

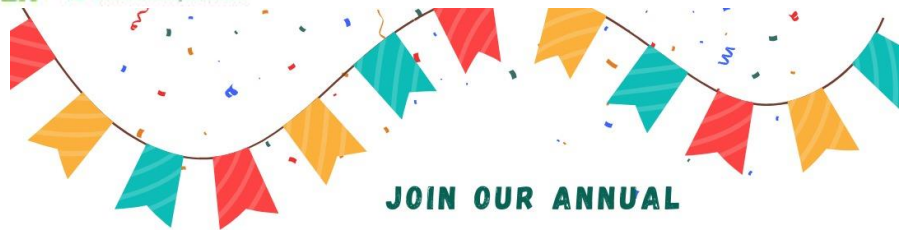
FREE SWIMMING LESSONS IN ISLINGTON

Throughout the school holidays and in partnership with Islington Council, we are proud to be able to offer a variety of free swimming lessons for children and families. Lessons will run during Easter, May Half Term, Summer and October Half Term. Sessions include:

- Adult and child swimming lessons: 6-week course for under 3's *Summer holiday only
- Swimming lessons for 4-13-year-olds, intensive lessons, Monday - Friday for 1 or 2 weeks
- Teen swimming lessons 13-16-year-olds, intensive lessons, Monday - Friday for 1 or 2 weeks
- Family swimming lessons, 6-week course for up to 2 adults and 2 children to learn to swim together and enjoy the pool together *Summer holiday only

To apply please scan QR code or visit website at better.org.uk/free-swimming-lessons

You can email for more information at summer.lessons@gil.org



JOIN OUR ANNUAL

COMMUNITY PARTY

FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2024, 6.30-9PM

TO SHARE FOOD, FUN AND MUSIC



REGISTER TO BRING A DISH:
INFO@ELIZABETH-HOUSE.ORG.UK

020 7690 1300

ELIZABETH HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE
2 HURLOCK STREET, N5 1ED

