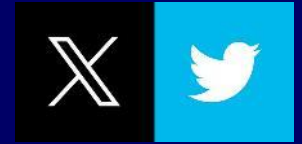




Friday 25th October 2024

Newsletter 452

www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

Halloween Disco

A huge thank you to Vicky and all of our FoG parents and volunteers who made this our most fantastic Halloween disco yet. The weather was also kind to us. Children, parents, carers and staff all had great fun and what a bonus Fog have raised a record amount. Please see more below.



Harvest and Diwali assembly

In our Friday assembly in the first week back we will be celebrating harvest and Diwali. We will be collecting dried and tinned foods as part of our festival to donate to the Islington Food Bank Aid. Children can bring in donations from Monday 4th – Friday 8th November to the bottom hall.

Individual and sibling photo ordering

Photos are now available to view and purchase online at www.getphotos.co.uk. You will need your individual reference number which can be found on the proof card. If you need a reminder of the code please email the school office. The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to school is Wednesday 6th November 2024.

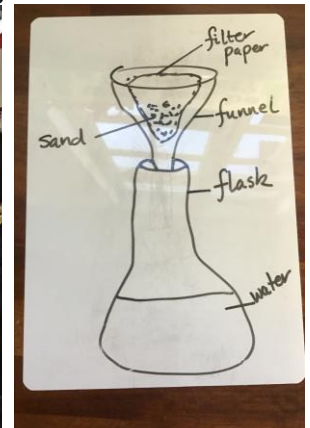
Year 4 Learning

Year 4 travelled back in time to Athens in 490BC: the time of The Battle of Marathon. During the course of the morning, they got news of events down at the Bay of Marathon while making items in the Agora, such as clay pots, mosaics, wax tablets and silver necklaces. In the afternoon, they headed down the hill to the theatre of Dionysus for a festival of plays and a feast of bread and cheese. They had a great day experiencing life in Ancient Greece.



Year 5 Learning

Year 5 went into Lab_13 and learnt about the importance of separating materials. They created their own 'polluted' water and then used different filtering methods to try and get the clearest water.



Reception Learning

Last week was Space Week so we made our very own alien spaceships in Reception class!



In Maths, Reception class have been learning about different ways to sort objects. We can sort them by colour, shape, size and number!



Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 14/10/24
Reception	97.67%
Year 1	94.67%
Year 2	94.14%
Year 3	97.93%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	97.14%
Total	96.36%



Attendance Cup
Winner
WB 14/10/2024

Year 3!

Upcoming Diary Dates

Date	Event
WB Monday 28 th October	Half term
Monday 4 th November	Children return to school Diwali
WB Monday 4 th November	Food bank aid collection (donations to bottom hall) X2 weeks Year 5 intensive swim lessons
WB 11 th November	Anti-bullying week
Wednesday 13 th November	9:30am Understanding your child's emotions workshop
Thursday 21 st November	Flu immunisation catch up clinic
Wednesday 4 th December	2:00-7:30pm Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas dinner
Wednesday 18 th December	10am & 2pm Christmas shows 3:45pm Christmas Fair
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term School finishes at 2pm

Wishing families a happy Halloween and wonderful Diwali to our families who celebrate. Children return to school on Monday 4th November.

Yours sincerely, Mark Owen Headteacher







Dear Parents/Carers,

Please support the Eco-Committee to deliver **Cut Your Carbon in November** by completing the 6 simple actions on the checklist with your family (see below). It can be printed out by you or completed electronically. These activities demonstrate how small changes in our daily lives can help reduce our environmental impact. Following the end of November, the Eco-Committee will be collecting these to determine our school community's carbon footprint. Electronic copies can be sent to Meg: mbegley@gillespie.islington.sch.uk





Human activities are driving climate change. Burning fossil fuels, farming livestock, and exploiting natural resources are all activities that release carbon and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These gases trap heat and cause temperatures to rise. Our planet is now 1.2° C warmer than it was 150 years ago, with 2023 measuring as the warmest year on record. This temperature increase has already caused sea-levels to rise and triggered extreme weather events. As our planet gets hotter, the effects of climate change will worsen, impacting plants, animals, and people. Whilst change needs to come from governments and businesses, individual action is also important. Individual action creates immediate impacts, puts pressure on decision-makers, and inspires others to act. Engaging young people is particularly crucial, as it will shape their decisions and actions when they become the climate leaders of tomorrow.

We look forward to your support with this campaign.


Megan Begley, Lab_13 and the Eco-Committee

 1. Make 5 miles of travel 'active' <input type="checkbox"/>	 2. Go plant-based for a day <input type="checkbox"/>
 3. Turn down the heating by 1° for a week <input type="checkbox"/>	 4. Buy nothing new for 1 month <input type="checkbox"/>
 5. Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes <input type="checkbox"/>	 6. Switch off all non-essential electrical devices for an hour <input type="checkbox"/>

COMPLETED BY

November is Cut Your Carbon month!







Eco-Schools is challenging young people across the UK to take action on their carbon footprint. Completing these 6 simple actions with family and friends will raise awareness, change behaviours, and Cut Your Carbon - a greenhouse gas responsible for driving climate change.

So grab a magnet, stick this checklist to your fridge, and take action!

Throughout November...

- 1** Make 5 miles of travel 'active'. Did you know, a petrol car creates around 1kg of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (or 'CO₂e') every 5 miles? 'Active Travel' - such as walking, scooting, wheeling, or cycling - doesn't emit anything! So, we're challenging you to make 5 miles of travel active. Whether it's a single 5-mile trip, or five 1-mile trips... ditch the drive!
- 2** Go plant-based for a day. Meat production is responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Choose a day to go plant-based and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be! By switching from a meat-based diet to a plant-based diet, for just one day, you can reduce your emissions by nearly 3kg CO₂e.
- 3** Turn down the heating by 1° for a week. Heating is the biggest source of carbon emissions in many homes. So pop on a jacket and drop the thermostat by 1°. Completing this challenge could prevent an additional 6kg CO₂e!
- 4** Buy nothing new for 1 month. The production of every item that you buy has a carbon footprint. Write a list of every non-essential item that you bought (or was bought for you) last month. Put them into categories - e.g. clothing, toys, or cosmetics - and don't buy anything from one of these categories for 1 month. If you purchase 1kg less stuff during the month, you can save an average of 6kg CO₂e.
- 5** Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes. Cleaning and pumping water to our homes creates carbon emissions. So does generating energy to heat it. This means that shorter showers are good for our planet! Limiting 4 showers to 4 minutes will save around 1.5kg of CO₂e. We recommend using a 4-minute song as a timer that you can sing-along to!
- 6** Switch off all of your non-essential electrical devices for an hour. Electricity can account for 25% of your home's carbon footprint. Think about when your family uses the most unnecessary electricity, maybe you're gaming, or perhaps watching TV? At that time, turn off all non-essentials for 1 hour and do something device-free!

www.eco-schools.org.uk/cut-your-carbon/



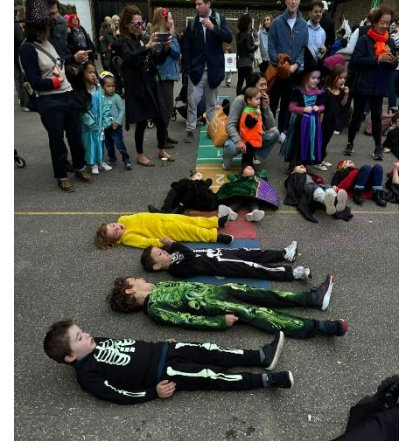
FoG News



Halloween Disco – Best one ever?



What an amazing night! First and foremost FoG and the school would like to offer a MASSIVE thank you and shout out to **Vicky Hatchett** for pulling together such an incredible event. The decorations, the Witch's Grotto, the stalls, THE DJ!!! (he said you were a great crowd, btw) and even the weather – we couldn't have asked for anything more.



Thanks to everyone's incredible efforts in the build up, during the disco and of course the clean up team, we are delighted to share that the total amount raised for the FoG fundraising pot was over **£2,500!!!** To put that into perspective, that amount of funding would **cover the cost of over 50% of ALL the school trips that FoG currently pays for**, and it is over **£1000 more** than we raised at the Halloween Disco last year! What a 'fright-fully' good result 😊

Festive Cards – Last Chance to Get Free Delivery!!!



Every year FoG organises the Festive Card Project, and children have been busy making festive artwork in class. If your child has completed artwork it will have been sent home with instructions on how to order cards, wrapping paper, mugs and present tags. If you would like to order any of these, just follow the instructions stapled to the back of your artwork. **All profits fund FoG projects for the school. DEADLINE SHOP ORDER DATE IS THE 27TH OCTOBER.** Any questions, email marydecinque@gmail.com. Please note you don't need to send artwork anywhere, it's already been scanned.

Dates! Upcoming events this term:

Day	Date	Time	Event
Fri	22nd Nov	15:00-16:00	Y5 Bonfire Night Bake Sale & Uniform Stall - Payment and donations can be made using either card or cash
Fri	13th Dec	15:00-16:00	Y4 Christmas Bake Sale & Uniform Stall - Payment and donations can be made using either card or cash
Wed	18th Dec	15:30-17:30	Winter Fair

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. 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:** 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:** 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!



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

GILLESPIEISLINGTON

www.kidsie.com



School Wellbeing Service

Workshop: Understanding Your Child's Emotions

A workshop for parents and carers at Gillespie Primary

- understand why emotions are important for your child's development
- understand how emotions can impact behaviour
- explore practical ways to support your child with managing how they feel

When?

Wednesday, 13th November 2024

Where?

Gillespie Primary School

What time?

9am-10.30am

Who with?

Rosie Davies and Lisa Bliedtner (SWS)

Please let school (Lyn Jones) know if you would like to join!



GILLESPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL IS COLLECTING FOR FOOD BANK AID



THIS AUTUMN, FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY WILL STRUGGLE TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR CHILDREN

Food Bank Aid helps feed over 20,000 people (inc 5,000 children) a week by supporting food banks in North London.

WHAT THE FOOD BANKS NEED



**Tinned food -
meat, fish, fruit & veg**



**Breakfast cereals &
porridge**



**Rice, grains &
noodles**



**Instant coffee, tea,
sugar & UHT Milk**



**Honey, jam &
marmalade**



Cooking oil (1L)



**Biscuits, crackers, cereal
bars & dried fruit**



**Shampoo, toothbrushes,
toothpaste & deodorant**



**Baby formula & nappies
(large sizes)**



Empty egg boxes

HOW TO DONATE

Please bring your **donations** to school from
MONDAY 4TH - FRIDAY 8th NOVEMBER
and drop them in the **bottom hall**

Thank you!