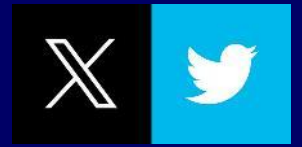




Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

# Newsletter 463

[www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk](http://www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk)



@GillespieSchool

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Parent Governor Election

Parents will want to join me in congratulating Michael Padfield who gained the greatest number of votes in our online parent governor election. We look forward to Michael joining our governing board soon! A huge thank you to Shruti, Sara and Alex for putting themselves forward. Three other parent governor terms will be coming to an end shortly so we anticipate that there will be more parent governor elections this term.

## NSPCC Number Day

Today we celebrated the annual NSPCC Number Day. This is a day where schools raise money for the NSPCC and make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable children across the UK. The children had some very creative digit inspired outfits and classes were buzzing with math challenges.

Katrina our deputy led our special assembly today and reminded all children who the safeguarding leads in the school are if they have any worries they need to share and the children watched a special film by the NSPCC explaining how to use the Childline number 0800 1111. There is still time to donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/gillespienumberday2025>



## Children's Mental Health Week

During Children's Mental Health Week all year groups had a go at different activities around the topic. This year's theme was 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'. It is so important we understand what makes us tick, our likes and dislikes, strengths, fears, hopes and dreams. Our emotions play a key role in telling us just that, and being aware of how to listen to and express ourselves is a major part of building self-awareness. It is through knowing ourselves and speaking with others, that we can build resilience, grow and develop. 1 in 5 children and young people now have a probable mental health condition.



By taking part in Children's Mental Health Week 2025 it can help us to ensure that children feel listened to, and know that they're not alone. From Bear hugs in Reception to Dealing with your Inner Bully in Year 4 and 5 we all learnt the importance of our well-being and being mentally healthy.

## Year 5 Learning

Year 5 and 6 got to take part in a BMX day with Mike Mullen (a World Champion in his field) this week. This was all thanks to our new titled TfL Explorers who have been lots of events about active travel. They got to see his skills in action as well as having a go themselves. Mike spoke about the importance of a Growth Mindset when learning new skills and how we should always 'flearn' (learning through failure). This linked really nicely to all the work the school has been doing around Mental Health this week!



## Bling your bike to school on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb!

Our Travel for Life Explorers have come up with a new competition for the school. One where you can bling your bike or sparkle your scooter! You have until the 28<sup>th</sup> February to participate by jazzing up your vehicle and bringing an entry fee of £1 (for this activity cash only). Money raised will go towards prizes and future Travel Ambassador ventures. Good Luck and come speak to any TfL explorers or Florie if you have any questions.

# BLING YOUR BIKE

What is Bling Your Bike? (OR SCOOTER)  
Bling Your Bike is about making your bike super colourful, bright and easy to see at night.

£1 entry

Awards to be won!

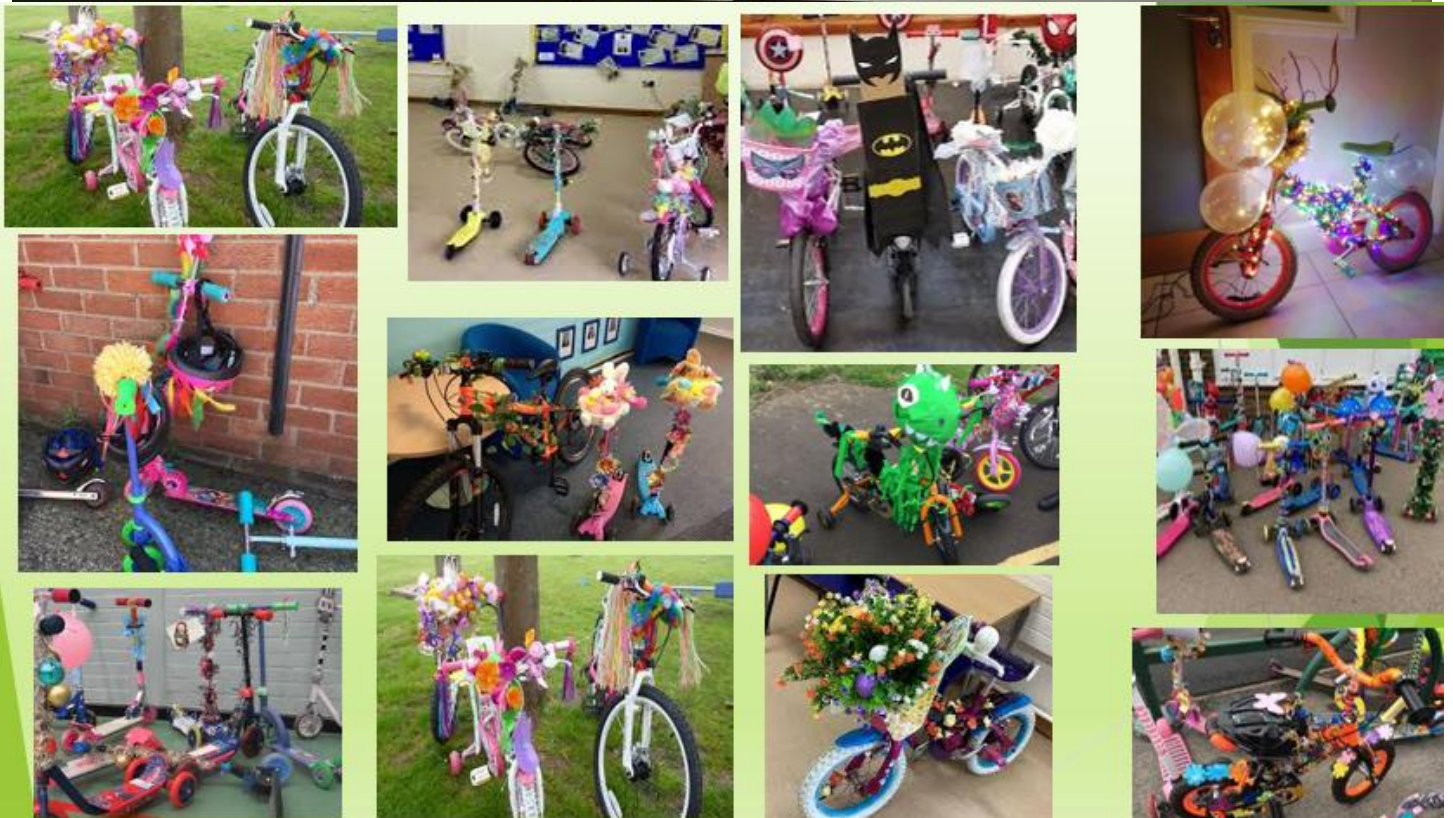
How to Bling Your Bike

- Stick some reflective stickers on the frame
- Add bright lights to the front and back
- Put a glashing wheel light or reflective bands around the wheels
- Wear bright, colourful clothes
- Wear a helmet with sun stickers

When?

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
Reception-Yr2 12:30-13:00  
Yr3-Yr6 13:00-13:30

Why should you Bling Your Bike?  
Biking with bright lights and decorations makes it easier for others on the road to see you, keeping you safe and stylish!



## Attendance Matters!

Class	Attendance WB 10/02/25
Reception	98.06%
Year 1	98.67%
Year 2	94.14%
Year 3	96.07%
Year 4	98.62%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	99.26%
<b>Total</b>	97.55%



Attendance Cup  
Winner  
WB 10/02/2025  
  
**Year 2!**

## Upcoming Diary Dates

Date	Event
WKBG 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Safer Internet Week
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Class photos Full school uniform required (Rec-Y6)
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Half term

Yours sincerely,  
Mark Owen  
Headteacher





## LAST CHANCE TO ORDER - Year 2 Bake Sale - Special Offer!!!

### ♥ Valentine's Day Cupcake Sale ♥

Year 2 are offering special pre-order cupcake boxes for families who want an extra special treat! At the time of writing there are only 8 slots left!!! Get your orders in **NOW** to avoid disappointment on Valentine's Day!

📅 Order Deadline: February 7, 2025... 📦 1 Box (6 Cupcakes) £15 Only 15 slots available – Limit of 1 box per family!



How to Order:

- Sign up on our Google Sheet:

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftinyurl.com%2F82rjm38&data=05%7C02%7C%7C87cc4ab4c08d48a8724708dd41e1486e%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638739158023903232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoitWFPbClslldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bXM3C5vJL%2BhYz93o%2Bvm9CqJSfwZ6iird5OWZYDM6D7A%3D&reserved=0>

- Choose up to 2 cupcake flavors: Chocolate | Vanilla | Lemon

- Select a filling: Raspberry | Lemon Curd

- Pick your buttercream: Vanilla | Raspberry

Each box comes beautifully packaged, making it a perfect Valentine's treat! ♥

## FoG is recruiting!

The governor elections this week have shown just how committed to school improvement and support so many of our parents are, and FoG is offering the perfect opportunity for any parents or carers who are interested in becoming more involved in the hugely rewarding and important work that FoG does to support our wonderful school.



FoG is committed to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to get involved in any way that they can, so if you think you can help and are interested in learning more (and getting a free coffee in the process!) then **please get in touch with Sean on 07986792367**

## Dates for your diary

With the Spring Term now well underway, here are some key dates for families to be aware of in the coming weeks and months:

Fri	7th Feb	All day	NSPCC NUMBER DAY	NON-FOG Fundraiser
Fri	7th Feb	15:30 - 16:00	Year 3 New Year Bake Sale & Uniform Stall	Y3 Class Rep
Fri	14th Feb	15:30 - 16:00	Year 2 Valentines Day Bake Sale & Uniform Stall	Y2 Class Rep
Fri	21st Mar	All day	COMIC RELIEF	NON-FOG Fundraiser
Thur	13th Mar	TBC	Movie Night	FoG Committee

## Ways to Support Friends of Gillespie and the school community

- 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!
- 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!
- 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!

