



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had restful half term breaks, and almost half way through this half term, are back in to the swing of things.

Congratulations

Firstly I would like you to join me in congratulating Emma Taylor our school SENCO who is expecting her second baby this summer.

World Book Day

The children looked fantastic in their costumes yesterday representing their favourite book character. We had a brilliant response from families, with children bringing in a book they have read to swap with another child. We hope you are all enjoying the new book you have received! We remind you; this has launched our 'MARCH in to Reading' challenge and encourage families to read as much as possible this March. Families will have received a reading diary to complete and can request another if needed from the school office.

Talking to your child about...

Growing up, relationships & social media



We had a small handful of parents at the workshop yesterday and hope more of our KS2 families will be able to join us next Thursday 12th March at 9:15 to find out more. The workshop will focus on:

Mobile phones, Facebook, BBM, internet chat rooms!



Just like many adults, young people enjoy using new technology to socialise with their peers. As your child grows and changes they will want to do this with increasing independence.

This workshop (run by a Healthy Schools representative) will help you to:

- consider the types of things you might want to talk about with your child, including what makes happy and healthy relationships
- feel confident to begin to engage children in conversations on these topics
- know what to say and how to explain things well to support your child with their 'online' social life



Nursery applications

If you have a child who was born between 01/09/2011 and 31/08/2012 then you need to apply for a Nursery place by Friday 27th March 2015. Forms can be picked up from the school office.



RED NOSE DAY Friday 13th March

Gillespie will be getting involved to raise money for Comic Relief by:

- Selling red noses for £1 from Monday 9th March (we have limited stock so will only sell 1 nose per child and once they are gone they are gone)
- Having a non-uniform day where everyone makes their face funny for money and can dress in a comical way for £1

- Biscuit & cake sale at break time & collection time
- Holding a talent show

At collection time there will also be stalls set up and run by children in our Entrepreneur Club. The stalls will include:

- EJs snacks and go – selling popcorn, fruit kebabs and squash
- Choosie Shosie - selling recycled football boots with coloured laces
- Glitter & Sparkle – nail painting and hair spraying (permission slip given out separately for this)

As part of Choosie Shoesie's stall we need donations of old football boots! Any football shoes that are no longer worn, please hand to the school office by Wednesday 11th March for redesigning by the Choosie Shoesie team. See posters around the school!

Party invitations

We remind families that class teachers do not hand out party invitations, this should be done at the end of school in the playground. Please be sensitive to children's feelings when handing them out.

Attendance Matters

Week Beginning 09/02/2015 & 23/02/2015

Attendance:	Year 3	Year 4
Punctuality:	Year 2	Year 2

Upcoming Events Thursday 19th March

Parent Voice

Join us at 9:05am or 6:00pm for Parent Voice. We want to hear your thoughts around themes of supporting your child's individual and additional needs; including their learning and wellbeing. All families are welcome and we hope to see as many of you there as possible. Refreshments will be available! For more information speak to Mark, Katrina or email one of the governors on governors@gillespie.islington.sch.uk

The Gillespie Parents' Quiz

7:30pm in the Lower Hall, £8 per person, including a light meal. Please book your place by contacting Louise on 07811 895023 or Nick at nick.lynch@blueyonder.co.uk

Yours sincerely, Mark Owen, Headteacher

GILLESPIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Gillespie Road, Highbury, London N5 1LH

Telephone: 020 7226 6840

Fax: 020 7354 8537

Email: office@gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Website: www.gillespie.islington.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mark Owen BEd Hon NPQH



RE: School uniform

At Gillespie we believe that school uniform gives our children a feeling of pride in our school as well as a sense of community and belonging.

We have a clear uniform code and expect all children to wear all uniform each day.

From the summer term 2015 we are making the hijab (head scarf) part of our uniform code.

For those children who want to wear the hijab in school we ask that they wear one in; navy, blue, black or yellow to be in line with school uniform colours.

Any hijab work also needs to be small and tight fitting enough, not be a safety concern in school during PE lessons.

We have hijabs in navy blue and yellow that can be purchased from the school office for £2.00 each.

Reba, our Bilingual support worker will be in the playground at the end of the day on a Thursday over the next few weeks with samples of the hijabs for you to look at and to purchase.

Thank you for your support with school uniform.

Yours sincerely

Mark Owen

