



# Reaching Out

December 2024

In December we focused on  
Global Goals:



December's Right of the  
Month



## Key Dates

Please check the **school calendar** on the website for upcoming events.



Welcome to the final newsletter of 2024!

What a fantastic Autumn Term, full of so much exciting learning throughout the school! Well done to all our children who have been working so hard. We are very proud of all of you.

December has been another month of events, starting with **Computer Science Week**. Thank you to all the parents who came in to speak with the children about their work in this field. The children learnt so much from all the workshops and speakers. Special thanks to **Toni**, Year 5 Class Teacher and Computing Lead, for organising such engaging events and supporting the children with their learning on how to use technology safely and effectively.

We have also been incredibly impressed by all the children's performance skills during the Christmas Shows. A very big thank you to all our dedicated staff in preparing the shows and a special mention to **Danielle, Jamie and Vahan**.

As we look ahead to 2025, I would like to draw your attention to the term dates for 2025 - 2026, which are up on the school website. Thank you for your feedback on the two week half term break that we trialled this year. 70% of respondents felt that the longer break was positive for their child.

I would also like to thank the F&SA for all their work supporting the school, for example, organising community events and raising funds for the school's Windows of Opportunity fundraising campaign.

The staff and I would like to thank all parents and carers for working closely with us all. Your support is invaluable to your child's education.

We wish you all a very restful and safe winter break.

With best wishes

Sophie Gavalda

Head Teacher

**REACH** for your future **Respect Enterprise Ambition Confidence Happiness**

As a GOLD Rights Respecting School we value learning ABOUT, THROUGH and FOR the rights enshrined in the UNCRC. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our pupils.

# Festive Parent and Child Read Together

On Friday 13th December we gathered together in the Ground Floor Hall to settle into a good book. Thank you to everyone who joined in with the event and making it such a special occasion.



If you would like to access lots of new books over the Winter and support our local libraries, then check out the Winter Reading Challenge below

The wonderful Winter Reading Challenge is back! This is a fantastic opportunity for children to continue to explore books over the holidays whilst supporting the local libraries. Children need to read 4 books from their library before the 28th February 2025. There are certificates for all those who complete the challenge as well as a chance to win a special prize! All children who complete the challenge will be celebrated in our Golden Certificate Assembly.



For more information on the Winter Reading Challenge, and more activities taking place in Islington Libraries, please visit: [www.islington.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.islington.gov.uk/libraries).

# Reception Visit to Little Angel Theatre



On Tuesday, both Maple and Willow Reception classes went on their first school trip! We walked all the way down the road to the Little Angel Theatre.



The children followed the story of Rosie who delivers the Christmas post each year. Except this year, a snowstorm caused some problems! The show was very enjoyable and it was lovely to see the children's engagement!

# Year 3 Visit to Trafalgar Theatre

On Wednesday 18th December, our Year 3 children had an unforgettable experience at the Trafalgar Theatre, watching the musical adaptation of *Charlie Cook's Favourite Book* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. This delightful production brought the beloved children's book to life with puppetry, enchanting songs, and plenty of festive cheer. The children were captivated by Charlie's adventures as he explored a world of stories within stories, from pirates to knights to Goldilocks herself! It was a heartwarming reminder of the magic of reading and the endless worlds waiting to be discovered within books.

A big thank you to everyone who made this special trip possible – it's safe to say the children left feeling inspired and full of excitement for their next reading adventure!



Limited West End Season

LA  
T  
Little  
Angel  
Theatre  
West End

A musical adaptation of the best-selling book by

JULIA DONALDSON & AXEL SCHEFFLER

Charlie Cook's  
Favourite  
Book

Charlie Cook's Favourite Book © Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler 2005 - Macmillan Children's Books

Would you like to help William Tyndale School secure an extra £4000 on average in additional funding?

Great, as David Astburys Estate Agents would love to help support this incredible cause. For a limited time only, we are offering:



### Sales

To pay 20% of our fee for any property we sell, which comes via a William Tyndale recommendation. This would result in an average £4000 being paid back to the school, for every completed transaction we are a part of.

### Lettings

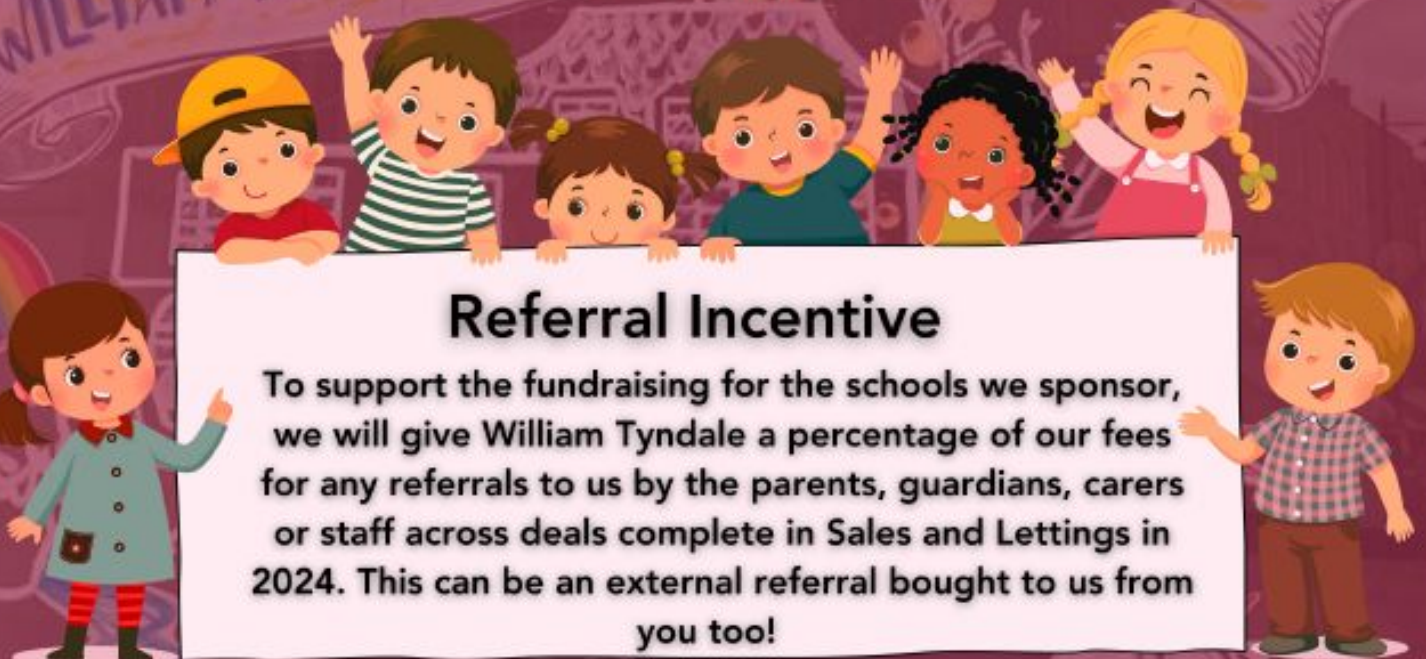
10% for the first 5 properties let, subject to referral to us by the parents, guardians, carers or staff. Thereafter, 15% on any successful lets carried out, subject to referral from the 6th January let, running throughout until tenancies commencement. (Up until 31st December 2024)

## Property Management for just £49/month

For a limited time we are offering a heavily reduced fixed rate for NEW and existing clients.  
\*Terms and conditions apply.

### Referral Incentive

To support the fundraising for the schools we sponsor, we will give William Tyndale a percentage of our fees for any referrals to us by the parents, guardians, carers or staff across deals complete in Sales and Lettings in 2024. This can be an external referral bought to us from you too!



# Year 6 Human Rights - Court debate

As part of their PSHE learning on Human Rights, Year 6 were lucky to have Hannah (a Human Rights Lawyer) come in and teach them about the rights and even ran a mock debate! We were all very impressed with their ideas and arguments!

“It is important because children need to know how people react outside of school and what their rights are.” - Lynn

"It helps children who are shy with their speaking skills." - Alfi

"The future generation can have a chance to fix problems". - River Marie





'I like Forest School because every time we go I learn something new every week' - child in Bonsai Class



# Forest School Year 3

Year 3 have had a brilliant first term at Forest School.

We spent lots of time exploring the wildlife garden, investigating minibeasts in the pond, creating art using natural materials, and even cooking over a bonfire!

We loved learning in our local green spaces and linking it to our learning in school. We found that we used our essential skills of Teamwork and Problem Solving a lot to succeed in our activities.

Year 4 can look forward to experiencing Forest School next term!



'I really like Forest School because it's being outside and learning in a creative way' - child in Kapok Class

# Panathlon Challenge

On **Friday, 6th December**, a group of our pupils proudly represented William Tyndale at the Boccia Festival, held at the Islington Tennis Centre. This inclusive and non-competitive event, hosted by the Islington PESSPA team as part of the School Games, provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop their skills and confidence while having fun.

Boccia, a Paralympic sport similar to bowls, encouraged teamwork and precision as our pupils participated in a variety of exciting skill stations and friendly matches. It was fantastic to see them engage enthusiastically, demonstrating great determination and sportsmanship throughout the festival.

A big thank you to the organisers for creating such a welcoming and supportive event and to our staff for ensuring the day ran smoothly. We are so proud of our pupils for their incredible effort and teamwork – they truly shone!





# Spring Term 2025 Workshops and Events for Parents and Carers

## Supporting Spelling Difficulties Years 2-6

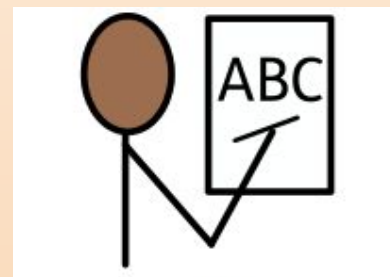
Friday 17th January at 9 am in the Art Room

Learn about how spelling is taught at the school. You will find out about:

- How we teach spelling at school.
- The development of spelling and some common challenges
- How to support your child's spelling skills at home.

This will be aimed at supporting children from years 2 - 6.

Please sign up using the following link [Spelling workshop](#)



## Coffee and Conversation

Friday 24th January at 9am in Kids Club

Drop into our coffee morning for a hot drink and a chat with other parents and members of the school community. It is a relaxed gathering and an opportunity to meet other parents, carers and school staff.



## Supporting Comprehension in Key Stage 2

Friday 7th February at 9 am in the Art Room

Learn about how comprehension is taught at the school. You will find out:

- How we teach discrete comprehension skills using Destination Reader
- How good readers predict, ask questions, clarify, infer, summarise, evaluate and make connections
- The importance of nurturing a 'love of reading' to support progress

This will be aimed at supporting children from years 3 - 6

Please sign up using the following link [Comprehension workshop](#)



## RSE Year 6

Thursday 27th February at 3.40 pm in Aspen classroom

Year 6 parents are invited to attend this session. You will find out:

- The Relationships and Sex Education programme for this term.
- How we teach children in this area of the curriculum
- How you may further support these discussions

Please check your emails for more information closer to the event.

Please sign up using the following link [Year 6 RSE](#)



## Coffee and Conversation

Friday 28th February at 9 am in the Meeting Room

Drop into our coffee morning for a hot drink and a chat with other parents and members of the school community. It is a relaxed gathering and an opportunity to meet other parents, carers and school staff.



## ***Come and Learn about Science in Year 4***

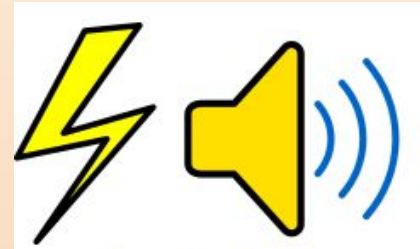
**Friday March 7th at 9am Middle Floor Hall**

Drop into a showcase science lesson in Year 4. You will find out:

- How teachers lead the children through a typical lesson
- The importance of balancing different types of scientific knowledge
- How children apply their understanding through practical activities

There will be an opportunity for you to join in with these activities and engage with the learning with your child.

**Please sign up using the following link [Year 4 Science](#)**



## **Parent Conferences**

**Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th March**

Talk to your child's class teacher about their progress and development to date.. Meetings will last for 10 minutes and take place in your child's classroom. You will have an opportunity to view your child's work before or after your appointment.



## **Global Equalities Collective (GEC)**

**Friday 28th March at 9am in the Art Room**

The GEC is committed to transforming the education system by promoting inclusivity and diversity. You will find out:

- What GEC is and why we are using it
- Actions we have taken so far
- Our plans for the future

**Please sign up using the following link [Global Equalities Collective](#)**



# Parent Workshops



# Keeping your Child Safe Online

One of our top priorities for our whole school community, is our children's mental health and wellbeing. There is more and more evidence showing the impact of screens on children. Please look at these resources to see how to support your child/ren online.:

If you haven't already done so, please make sure that you have Parental Controls on all your devices.

Get a step by step guide here: [Parental controls & privacy settings guides | Internet Matters](#)

## [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

The infographic is titled 'ISLINGTON Digital Charter' and features the London Coat of Arms. It includes logos for 'Safer Internet Day' and 'Children's Commissioner Digital 5 A Day'. The 'Digital 5 A Day' logo is a circular pie chart with five segments: 'Be Mindful' (red), 'Connect' (purple), 'Be Active' (green), 'Get Creative' (yellow), and 'Give to others' (blue). The main text states: 'Islington wants to promote the safe, happy and creative use of technology. In consultation with our children, parents and staff we have developed our very own 'Digital Charter''. Below this are ten guidelines, each with an icon and a colored background box:

- Mobile-free mealtimes** (Icon: two spoons)
- Real books at bedtime** (Icon: an open book)
- Be kind online** (Icon: a hand holding a heart)
- Create, don't consume** (Icon: a lit lightbulb)
- Balance online and physical activity** (Icon: a hand holding a tennis racket)
- Think before you share** (Icon: a person with a thought bubble)
- If something upsets you, tell an adult** (Icon: two people talking)
- Age appropriate content only** (Icon: two children)

# PUNCTUALITY and ATTENDANCE

## Punctuality

Children are happier when they arrive punctually at school and their learning gets off to a fine start. We have many incentives to encourage children to arrive punctually, including certificates and medals.

Please remember:

- **The school gates open at 8.45am** and children are able to go straight to their classes.
- **School starts at 8.55am** but we give you a 5-minute grace period to account for exceptional circumstances; therefore, any child arriving at **or after 9am will be marked late.**

Timings for the end of the day will be as follows:

**Nursery** door will open at 2.50pm. (Children not collected by 3 will incur a charge.) **Reception** and **Year 1** doors will open at 3.25pm.

- **Year 2** line up outside the Reception play area at 3.30pm, flanking the fence in front of the hand washing trough, by the office as you come down the lane from Upper Street.
- **Years 3 – 6** will be brought down to the playground at 3.30pm. Please could parents wait near to where their child's class lines up, avoiding bottlenecking by the extension of the Morris Building. Children will not be dismissed as they come out and down the stairs – only from their line.
- **Any children not collected on time will be taken to Kids' Club where a charge will apply from 3.40pm.**

It is really important to a child's feeling of security that they are brought in regularly and that parents arrive and depart promptly once they are settled. Children who arrive late can become distressed and find it hard to settle to their activities. Again, at home time, please collect your child promptly as they can become very anxious if you are late.

Please find further information in the [Parent and Carer Handbook](#) on the school website.



## Attendance

The school and Educational Welfare officers monitor attendance on a regular basis. We expect children to have **at least 95% attendance. If your child's attendance falls below 95% then the Educational Welfare Officer will contact you. A child is considered a persistent absentee once their attendance falls to 90%.**

Please let us know of any changes in your child's home life, routines or health that may affect their attendance or punctuality at school, so we can support you accordingly. If you would like any more details about punctuality and attendance, please see Penny in the school office.



### What do I do if my child is sick?

1. If your child is sick please inform the school office on the first day of absence.
2. On your child's return to school please bring a note to the school office explaining why your child was absent. If your child is absent directly before or after a holiday you will need to bring in medical proof to support the absence.

We award children medals and badges for 100% attendance and punctuality over a term and for over the whole year. Well done and thank you to everyone who continue to help reduce our absences, cooperating with procedures required by the Department for Education (DfE).

### What about medical appointments?

Please try to avoid making dental or medical appointments for your child during the school day; if an appointment is absolutely necessary please show your appointment card (preferably in advance) to the school office as evidence for this absence.

### What if I need to apply for leave during term time?

Any leave of absence has to be applied for, four weeks in advance, using the appropriate forms from the school office; each case is reviewed individually but please be aware that absence will be authorised in only the most exceptional of circumstances. **Holidays during term time will never be authorised.**

**Any unauthorised absence may result in an immediate penalty notice of £80 per parent per child from Islington's Educational Welfare Department.**

## Support Services

Corinne, Pastoral Lead, has collated some useful services available to parents. This is not an exhaustive list and do continue to contact the school if you require support.

### **Islington Bright Futures, Early Help 5-19 (school-age to 19 years)**

<https://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/service.page?id=txWgdPi-Gz0>

### **Islington**

#### **Bright Start Family Support Service**

Parents-to-be and parents and carers of children under 5 years

[Find Your Islington | Bright Start Family Support Service](#)



### **Islington**

#### **Benefits and Financial Support**

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support>

### **Islington Parenting Programmes**

[Parenting Programmes in Islington](#)

### **Support Numbers**

#### **Emergency Services**

999

#### **Islington Children's Social Care**

020 7527 7400

#### **Domestic Violence National Helpline**

0808 200 247

**NSPCC** 0800 800 500

**Childli**

**ne** 0800 1111



**“ERIC is the national charity dedicated to improving children’s bowel and bladder health.**

**Our mission is to reduce the impact of continence problems on children and their families.”**

The website has lots of information about toileting issues such as toilet anxiety, potty training, bowel and bladder problems. It offers lots of practical advice around how to support your child, webinars and a HELPLINE.

[www.eric.org.uk](http://www.eric.org.uk)



**Free helpline: 0808 801 0343 Mon to Thur, 10am - 2pm**