



Gilbert Colvin
Primary School



NEWS

Headteacher: Ms Liz Cohen

9 October 2026

Headteacher's Note



As we approach the end of this half term, we are already looking ahead to another busy and exciting period leading up to the Christmas holidays. There are lots of events and opportunities for families to enjoy together, so please make a note of the following dates in your diary.

Nursery and Reception Christmas Concert

Monday 7th December, 9.30am

Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity

- Year 1 parents: Tuesday 8th December, 2.15pm
- Year 2 parents: Wednesday 9th December, 9.30am

Rocksteady Concerts

10th and 14th December (times to be confirmed)

We look forward to welcoming you into school and sharing these special events with our families over the coming weeks.

Key Dates



Wednesday 14th October | Year 3 Redbridge Museum trip

Thursday 15th October | Year 5 Sycamore library visit

Friday 16th October | Year 6 Oak class assembly, 9.15-9.45am; Bake Sale, 3.30pm

Tuesday 20th October | Year 5 Chestnut library visit

Thursday 22nd October | Year 5 Tower Bridge trip

Friday 23rd October | Year 6 Elder class assembly, 9.15-9.45am

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd October | Parents' evenings

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October | Half term

Friday 6th November | Year 3 Open Classroom, 9.15

Friday 13th November | Year 4 Open Classroom, 9.15

Friday 20th November | Year 5 Open Classroom, 9.15

Friday 27th November | Year 6 Open Classroom, 9.15

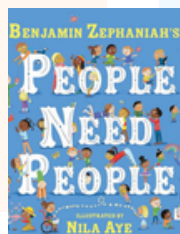
Reading Recommendation



Our pupils have been celebrating National Poetry Week by learning and performing poems to their classmates and, in some cases, to children in other year groups. These performances have helped to build confidence, creativity and a love of language.

One of my favourite poems is People Need People by Benjamin Zephaniah. The poem carries a powerful message about friendship, kindness and the importance of caring for one another. Throughout the poem, we are reminded that everyone needs support, encouragement and to feel that sense of belonging.

It is a wonderful reflection of our school values and a reminder that we are stronger when we work together and look out for each other.



Attendance



Attendance w/b Monday 5th October 2026:

Reception - 92.3%

Year 1 - 93%

Year 2 - 97.8%

Year 3 - 96.3%

Year 4 - 95.7%

Year 5 - 96.6%

Year 6 - 95.1%

Well done to Year 2, 3 and 5 for meeting the school's attendance target of 96%.

The class with the best attendance was Year 2 Beech with 99%!

Whole school attendance was **95.5%**.



Voluntary Donations



With increasing pressure on state school funding, we, like many schools across the country, have felt the pinch. At the same time, we recognise that many families are facing their own challenges. We are grateful that so many of you continue to ask how you can support the school, and we're proud to be part of such a generous and committed community. This year, we are inviting parents and carers to make a voluntary contribution of £15 per term (£7.50 per half term). These donations will help us fund additional learning resources and update curriculum and classroom equipment to enrich the children's experience. As we do not currently have an established PTA to organise fundraising events, voluntary contributions offer an alternative way to support the school. Further details of how to contribute can be found [here](#). Please be assured that there is absolutely no expectation for families to contribute - this is entirely optional, and no child will ever be treated differently based on whether a donation is made. We simply want to offer a way for those who wish to support the school in this way to do so. Thank you, as ever, for your support.

Fundraising



We are always looking for simple, effective ways to raise extra funds to support our school and enhance the learning experiences of our pupils. One easy way you can help - at no cost to you - is by signing up to easyfundraising.org.

It's quick and free to use. When you shop online with thousands of popular retailers (including Amazon, M&S, Argos, and more), a small donation is made to the school every time you make a purchase - at no extra cost to you!

All you need to do is:

- Sign up using our unique school link [here](#).
- Start your shopping via the easyfundraising website or app.
- The school receives a donation automatically from the retailer!

Every little helps, and it's a great way to support the school while doing your usual online shopping. An easyfundraising poster is on our [website](#) with more information and a QR code to make signing up even easier. Thank you!

Bake Sale Fundraiser



We are looking for donations of cakes, biscuits and savoury treats for our upcoming Bake Sale on Friday 16th October at 3.30pm. All funds raised will go towards supporting our Indoor Games Club, helping us provide exciting games and activities for our children to enjoy.

If you are able to contribute, please drop your donations off at the gate or the school office on the morning of the Bake Sale.

We would also love to hear from any parents or family members who are able to volunteer and help on the day. Whether you can spare a little time setting up, serving customers or tidying away, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for helping us make this event a success!



Reception 2027 Tours



We warmly invite prospective Reception parents to visit Gilbert Colvin Primary School and discover what makes our school so special. Come and explore our welcoming environment and see first-hand how we support and nurture every child's growth and development. We would be delighted to show you around and share more about how we can support your child's education. Join our Headteacher for a welcome tour for prospective Reception parents.

Friday 16th October, 9.30am

Friday 23rd October, 9.30am

Friday 6th November, 9.30am

Friday 13th November, 9.30am

Friday 20th November, 9.30am

Friday 27th November, 9.30am

Friday 4th December, 9.30am

To arrange a tour of the school, please email Admin.GilbertColvin@redbridge.gov.uk. We look forward to welcoming you!

www.gilbertcolvin.co.uk