



## Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### ***Group Strep A***

You may be aware from the media that the UK is seeing a high number of Group A strep cases this year. The bacteria usually cause a mild infection which can lead to sore (strep) throats, impetigo or scarlet fever, that can be easily treated with antibiotics. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but can be very infectious. Symptoms to look out for include:

- a sore throat
- headache, and fever
- a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin, the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

As with all infections, good hand and respiratory hygiene are important for stopping the spread of many bugs. We are encouraging the children to do this in school, by reinforcing how to wash hands correctly, with soap for 20 seconds; by using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, and by keeping away from others when feeling unwell. This will help to reduce the risk of picking up or spreading infections.

If you suspect your child has scarlet fever, contact NHS 111 or your GP. Early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications. If your child has scarlet fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

In VERY rare circumstances, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause serious illness – called invasive Group A strep (iGAS). If you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement and contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

If your child experiences any of the following, please call 999 or go to A&E:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

If you require any further information, UKHSA update on scarlet fever and invasive Group A strep.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>

If you are concerned about sending your child into school, please do email [info@](mailto:info@brindishe.org) or contact our FASWO Clare Doran on 07943 041970.



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### *Festive Events in Lewisham this Christmas*

There are lots going on in our local community this winter holiday. Why not enjoy a Christmas Day Swim at Beckenham Place Park Lake followed by a mince pie? St. Margaret's, Lee is holding a wide range of services starting from this Sunday with a Christingle Service, a nativity play on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Eve Midnight Mass.

Deptford Lionesses are running a Xmas Camp for children aged 7-14 including activities such as arts and crafts, pool, tennis and football. Our own Sportacus are also running a festive camp at Brindishe Green from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

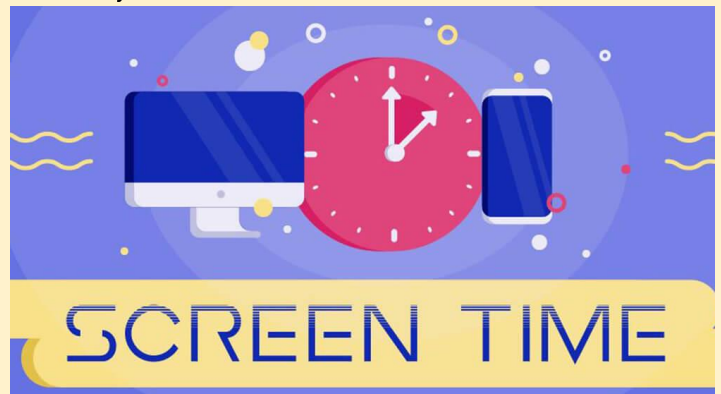
[Click here for further information](#)



### *Brindishe Weekly Online Safety Bulletin*

With the holidays fast approaching, it may be a great time to think about how screen time looks in your home. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have created a fact sheet to support you to find the right balance for your family.

[rcpch screen time parent fact sheet - final.pdf](#)





## ***Rights Respecting at Brindishe Schools - Article of the Week***

### **Article 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion)**

Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.

November and December are important months for many religions.

At Brindishe Schools we celebrate many festivals and events that take place all year round.

How many can you think of at home? You could write a sentence, draw a picture, or write a story about a child celebrating a festival or special day.



### ***Key Federation Dates***

- End of Term – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 – INSET DAY – School closed to children
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 – Children return to school.
- Closing date for primary applications – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022
- Primary offer day – Monday 17 April 2023 (you will get an email in the evening telling you where your child has been offered a place)

### ***Governing Body Dates***

If you would like to attend a Brindishe Federation Governing Body meeting as an observer, please email our Chair, Liz Murphy - lizcmurphy@gmail.com

Spring 1	Brindishe Lee	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023, 6pm
Spring 2	Brindishe Green	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023, 6pm
Summer 1	Brindishe Manor	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2023, 6pm
Summer 2	Brindishe Lee	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2023, 6pm



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