



Brindishe
Manor

Newsletter

Friday 24th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after the half term!

We have welcomed the majority of our children back with Design and Technology week. We have had a whole host of design and technology projects running around school, including sewing, sandwich making and puppets.

We hope you enjoyed coming to our open classroom to see the planning and process the children took to complete their final pieces.

Planned Strike Action by the NEU

Please see the information attached to this newsletter regarding the NEU strike action for teachers. The National Education Union (NEU) have announced that their members will be striking on the dates below. In all three schools, a number of our staff are NEU members and will be striking on the following days:

- **Thursday 2nd March 2023**
- **Wednesday 15th March 2023**
- **Thursday 16th March 2023**

**Please note that this list only contains dates that apply to our school*

The classes that will remain **OPEN** on Thursday 2nd March are:

Donaldson class	Nursery
Latimer class	Mr Jones
Turing class	Mrs Sanders

All other classes will be **closed** on Thursday 2nd March 2023



World Book Day

You will have received communication this week about World Book Day, which will take place on Friday 3rd March 2023. Children are invited to dress as a favourite character from a book or to wear pyjamas on the day if they would prefer. We have lots of fun activities planned and our PSFA are running a book breakfast from 8:30am. Please see below for more information.

Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to work in school throughout the week. This could be to hear children read, carry out some gardening (without children), help support children with practical learning etc. If you can offer the school an hour or two a week, or 30 minutes daily, then please get in touch with us for an application pack- you can email info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk we would love to hear from you

Safeguarding at Brindishe Manor

If you are coming to school after the gates have closed at 9am or during the school day for any reason, please make sure that you ring the buzzer and report straight to the office to let them know who you are and why you are in school. We cannot have parents and carers going to classrooms after 9am so we can safeguard all of our children. Thank you.

Parent/ teacher meetings

Parent and teacher meetings for Spring term will be held the week beginning 27th March. We will be in touch closer to the time so that you can book your appointment with your child's class teacher. These meetings are always held after school.

Best wishes for a great weekend

The Brindishe Manor Team



PFSA

WORLD BOOK DAY BREAKFAST



Friday 3rd March 8.30-9am

Please join us for breakfast to celebrate
World Book Day.

The PFSA will be serving pastries, brioche, fruit
and juice in the playground (or hall if it rains).

Parents/carers are then welcome to read a book
with their children in classrooms, leaving by 9am.

The breakfast is free of charge and
is open to all families.



Brindishe
Manor

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Thursday 2nd March 2023, NEU Teachers' Strike
NOTIFICATION OF CLASS CLOSURES**

On Thursday 23rd February, we wrote to you regarding the upcoming strikes that have been arranged by the National Education Union, in protest of teachers' pay and conditions, and school funding. The vast majority of the teachers at Brindishe Manor are members of the NEU, and therefore, **the majority of classes will be closed** on Thursday 2nd March, 2023. Some teachers are part of other unions that, at this time, are not striking.

I am sure that you will understand that our dedicated and hardworking teachers have not taken this decision lightly. The NEU explain: *"This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. Teachers have lost 23% in real-terms since 2010, and support staff 27% over the same period. The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation."*

Some classes will be **OPEN** on Thursday 2nd March and children may come into school:

Nursery	Donaldson class
Year 5	Latimer class
Year 6	Turing class

ALL other classes will be closed.

If any changes occur, we will inform parents/carers as soon as we are able to do so.

Further information regarding the next planned strike days on 15th/16th March will be sent in due course.

Kind regards,

Rachel

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W www.brindisheschools.org



Brindishe
Federation

Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 24th February 2023

Rights Respecting at Brindishe Schools

TÜRKIYE & SYRIA EARTHQUAKES FEB 2023



WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

A massive earthquake struck Türkiye and Syria at around 4 am local time on 6 February. It was 7.8 magnitude, and the epicentre was near Gaziantep in southern Türkiye. Millions of people felt the earthquake, including in Lebanon, Israel, Cyprus, and Egypt. Aftershocks were felt throughout the day, including two further huge earthquakes. Many children have lost their homes and have been separated from their families. Access to clean water is a priority. It is exceptionally cold at this time of year so access to shelter, warm clothing and food are also very important.

WHAT UNICEF DOES IN AN EMERGENCY

In a disaster children may be unable to enjoy all their rights – for instance education, health care. UNICEF works to restore access to these rights as soon as possible.

UNICEF may:

- Help provide access to nutritious food, clean water and health care (Article 24).
- Set up safe spaces to ensure the immediate safety of children, support them to express their feelings, and to protect them from any further harm (Articles 13 and 19).
- Support access to education and children's right to play (Articles 28 and 31)
- Send experts to help reunite children with their families wherever possible. Sometimes that may need to be a relative who isn't the parent or immediate caregiver. UNICEF works to ensure that children can connect with people they know and love (Articles 9 and 10).

WHAT IS UNICEF DOING IN SYRIA & TURKIYE?

In Syria, UNICEF is working to ensure access to clean water, and seeking to secure children's safety and wellbeing. In Türkiye, UNICEF has mobilised vital emergency supplies and ensured access to safe spaces for children and families. UNICEF has a huge humanitarian warehouse in Denmark, where supplies are ready to go in case of any emergency.

Among the sad stories, there have been stories of resilience and hope. A new-born baby was rescued and is being cared for in hospital. Whole families have escaped from the rubble. And one young girl was exceptionally brave and kept her brother safe, protecting him from dust and rubble until they were rescued.

On Friday 10th February, all Brindishe Schools held a bucket collection on the school gates. We were overwhelmed by your generous donations. This term, assemblies will focus on the disaster with all children, in an age appropriate manner and we will hold fund raising events to add to our already healthy collection from Brindishe Schools. [All funds will go to the DEC – click here for further information on how your money will support those in Türkiye and Syria.](#)



Brindishe Weekly Online Safety Bulletin

WhatsApp



You must be at least **16 years old** to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What are the features of WhatsApp?

Group chats: One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. *If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat.*

In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups, for example, you can change it to 'my contacts', which means that only those in your child's contacts can add them to a group. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable. You can leave groups silently (only the admin will be notified).

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report.

Online Bullying: WhatsApp has been used in instances of online bullying, e.g. to send nasty messages or share images of other children without their permission. It is important to have regular chats with your child about their online life and that they understand that they must talk to you or another trusted adult if they are being bullied. This is a helpful article from Family Lives, which talks about what to do if you are being bullied: <https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/bullying/cyberbullying/what-to-do-if-you-re-being-bullied-on-a-social-network>

Disappearing messages: With disappearing messages, you can control how long a message can be seen for before it is deleted – 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days (once set, this will only work for new messages).

View once messages: when sending a photo or video, you can set it so it can only be viewed once by respondents. Screenshots are also blocked when using this function.

Choose who can see your profile pic and when you're online: In settings (privacy), you can choose who can and can't see when you're online and your profile pic. You can choose either Everyone, My Contacts, My Contacts except and nobody.

Further information:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/whatsapp>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>



Brindishe
Federation

Lewisham School Term Dates

Lewisham schools term dates have now been published up to 2027 and can be found on Brindishe Website or on the Lewisham Council Website.

[Lewisham Council - School term and holiday dates](#)



Key Federation Dates

- SHINE at Blackheath starts – **Saturday 25th Feb**
- Secondary offer day – **Wednesday 1 March 2023** (you will get an email in the evening telling you where your child has been offered a place)
- Thursday 2nd March – NEU teachers' strike – see school newsletter for information
- Easter Holidays – Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April
- Monday 17th April – Children return to school for Summer Term
- **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)

Further Strike Days – possible school closures will be communicated closer to the strike days

- Wednesday 15th March 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023

Are you throwing a community event for the Coronation?

Local people can apply for small grants of up to £300 to organise Coronation related activities:

[Apply for a coronation small grant](#). Deadline Sunday 19 March 2023.

The National Lottery are offering funding of up to £10,000 through Awards For All England:

Apply for a [National Lottery grant here](#). Deadline: Ongoing. You must apply at least 12 weeks before your event, for example, if you are planning an event for 6 May, your deadline will be 25 February.

If you want to host a street party, you don't need any special permission or insurance, but you will need to apply for a road closure:

[Apply for a street party road closure](#).



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 2
Summer 1
Summer 2

Brindishe Green
Brindishe Manor
Brindishe Lee

Thursday 23rd March 2023, 6pm
Tuesday 23rd May 2023, 6pm
Thursday 13th July 2023, 6pm