



Brindishe
Manor

Newsletter

Friday 19th September 2025

What has been happening this week?

This week we introduced the older children to our school Climate Action Plan and talked through some of the areas that we want to focus on as a school over the next year. Over the next few weeks we will be creating an Eco Team with the children's help. Our main aims of the year as a group will be:

- to get food waste bins and better recycling systems in our classrooms
- provide teachers and staff with better food waste and recycling in their offices and shared spaces
- to promote and educate our younger children about how to save energy around the building
- to investigate the use of solar panels on our school roof, to provide us with reusable energy

The Engagement Programme Initiative...what is it?

This programme has been created to meet the emotional wellbeing needs as well as to improve the mental health outcomes for black and mixed heritage children.

The aim is for the schools, parents/carers to work with the NHS Southeast London and voluntary sector organisations such as Black Thrive and the Social Inclusion Recovery Group (S.I.R.G), to agree with what new emotional wellbeing offers should be made available to support Black and mixed heritage children.

Shivon will be here at **Brindishe Manor on Monday 22nd September** at 3:15pm at the front of the school to talk to parents and carers about the programme. She will be able to give you more information about the initiative. She will be running engagement sessions at all three Brindishe schools this term.



In order to see your child's attendance, their personal information and to pay for school trips, you need to use Arbor.

If you have not used Arbor yet, or you need a password reset, please email us so that we can get you set up!

Please remember...

- label all of your child's clothes with their name
- make sure that your child has a water bottle each day that is labelled
- please remember that snacks for breaktime (KS2) are healthy! No sweets or chocolate please
- children should have appropriate footwear that supports their feet. No Crocs please!
- Set up a password with the office for when somebody new needs to collect your child

Please see our federation newsletter with more details about space menu for census day.

radish
IT'S ALL GOOD



Attendance and Penalty Notices

Please see the information below from the attendance service regarding the process for penalty notice fines for parents and carers. Please complete the request for absence forms on our website for any absence other than illness.



Attendance Service Information for parents and carers Penalty Notices Fines for Unauthorised Absence

The Department for Education new National framework

National framework threshold

A Penalty Notice must be considered by all schools in England when unauthorised absence has been taken during a 10-school week period. This can be due to a leave of absence during term time that has not been agreed by the school or a combination of 10 unauthorised sessions within a 10-week period whereby the school has issued a Notice to Improve letter, but further unauthorised absences have occurred during the monitoring period.

- 5 consecutive days (10 sessions) – one after the other.
- 10 non-consecutive sessions – not one after the other.
- The 10-school week period can go across different school terms or school years.

Per parent, per child

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent without authorisation.

Example: 4 siblings absent during term time, will result in each parent receiving 4 separate fines.

First offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 calendar days.
- Discounted to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 calendar days.

Second offence

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

- £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 calendar days.
- No discount for paying within 21 calendar days.

Third and any further offences

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued.

- The case will instead be presented straight to the Magistrate's Court.
- Prosecution can result in a criminal record and fine of up to £2,500.
- Cases where the defendant is found guilty in Magistrate's Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Please call or email us for more information

Email: aws@lewisham.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8314 6272

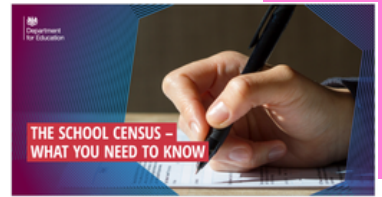
**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 19th September 2025



Brindishe
Federation



School Census - Thursday 2nd October

One of the DfE's (Department for Education) key roles is monitoring the school system to understand how well it is working and how things are changing. A key tool in doing this is the **School Census**, which is where they gather information about how many young people are in the school system, their backgrounds, their needs and more. This census happens every term in schools up and down the country.



What is the School Census?

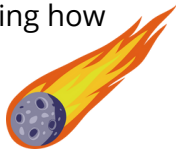
The School Census collects information from primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, maintained nurseries and academies and pupil referral units three times a year. It's done electronically and private schools are not included.

What data do they collect?

The census collects information like pupil's background details, special educational needs, free school meals eligibility, as well as educational history. It also collects data on absence, exclusions and their reasons, indicators of armed forces or children in care. The data, creates a "lifetime school record" of characteristics, testing and tracking to form a single longitudinal record over time.

Why do you collect information about children?

Collecting this data is important as it helps the DfE develop a picture of the education sector, including how well it is performing.



Why is the school census so important for schools?

It also helps **determine core school funding**, which pupils attract pupil premium, support for disadvantaged students, universal infant free school meals funding and free early years entitlement allocations.

What can parents/carers do to help support Brindishe Schools?

With ever dwindling budgets, now more than ever we must work hard to secure the core school funding we are entitled to, to support our children in school. The school census is collected x 3 times a year and the data is used from that day **ONLY**. On census day this term (**Thursday 2nd October**) Brindishe Schools will be offering a special lunchtime menu. Every child who has a school meal on Thursday 2nd

October secures funding for Brindishe Schools. If your child is normally a packed lunch but would like to enjoy the Space Themed Menu they simply have to let their teacher know at registration. Radish are offering *Asteroid Chicken Subs*, *Cosmic Cheese and Tomato Whirls* and *INSTELLA Ice Lollies*. This space themed menu coincides with 'World Space Week' which runs from 4th Oct. In Brindishe Schools we will be marking Space Week with assemblies and themed classroom activities.

So, please 'join us for dinner' on Thursday 2nd October and help Brindishe Schools secure school funding!



Online Safety Bulletin

Salt & Ice Challenge – Risks to Children and Young People

Background

The “Salt and Ice Challenge” is an online trend where young people place salt on their skin and press ice on top for as long as possible. This creates a chemical reaction, rapidly lowering the temperature and causing cryogenic (cold) burns, similar to frostbite. Children and young people may underestimate the harm as the cold numbs the skin, masking pain until significant damage has occurred.

Risks

Second- or third-degree burns, potential need for skin grafts, lasting scarring, nerve damage, and impact on wellbeing. Peer and online pressure amplify the likelihood of wider uptake.

Immediate First Aid Advice

Cool the affected area under lukewarm running water for at least 10 minutes.
Do not apply ice, creams, or fluffy dressings.
Cover with clean cling film or smooth plastic.
Seek medical attention for deep, blistered, or extensive burns.



Rights Respecting Article of the Week

The International Day of Peace (“Peace Day”) is observed around the world each year on **21st September**. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution at the General Assembly, it has been declared as a day devoted to “commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples.”

Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a culture of peace.

Article 38 (war and armed conflicts)

Governments must not allow children under the age of 15 to take part in war or join the armed forces. Governments must do everything they can to protect and care for children affected by war and armed conflict.

Article 39 (recovery from trauma and reintegration)

Children who have experienced neglect, abuse, exploitation, torture or who are victims of war must receive special support to help them recover their health, dignity, self-respect and social life.

What does peace mean to you and your family?



Feeling calm, quiet, still
Feeling safe wherever you are (in school, at home, in your community)
Knowing you can trust the people around you
Living in harmony with others
Being the person you want to be without fear
Supporting others who need help
Living in a world without conflict or violence
Living in a world where people respect and value each other
•No discrimination



Explore the [International Day of Peace website](https://www.un.org/peace) to find out what the International Day of Peace is all about.



International Day of Peace
21 September

[un.org/peaceday](https://www.un.org/peace)

Advice and support for Lewisham parents whose children are starting secondary school in September 2026

Lewisham is holding its annual transfer to secondary school event and they are asking schools to encourage parents to attend. It is an informal event for parents to ask questions about the admissions process and to meet staff, parents and students from our secondary schools.

Parents can book a place at one of the school talks, to understand the application process. This will help you to be aware of the timetable and closing date for submitting your application. Each session will start with a short presentation about the process, and a Q&A with our Admissions team.

The school talks will commence on Tuesday 22nd September at:

- 1) 5pm - 5.45pm**
- 2) 6pm - 6.45pm**
- 3) 7pm - 7.45pm**

Below is the link to the Eventbrite page to book tickets for the event:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/starting-secondary-school-in-2026-tickets-1412472105089?aff=oddtcreator>

After each school talk, parents will have the opportunity to meet a representative from each Lewisham secondary school and also members of the SEN and Free School Meals Teams to find out more about them and ask questions. The school uniform shops will also be in attendance.

About this event

*****PLEASE NOT BOOK ALL THREE SESSIONS - THESE ARE REPEAT SESSIONS & PARENTS ONLY NEED TO BOOK ONTO ONE TIME SLOT*****

This is an informal event for parents who are just about to start the application process for their Year 6 child to start secondary school. Parents are asked to leave their children at home for this event if they are able to do so, as spaces are limited and we want to let as many parents as possible have the opportunity to attend.



Key Federation Dates

- **October Half Term - Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025**
- **Friday 28th November - INSET DAY - Schools closed to all children.**
- **Secondary Application Deadline - Friday 31 October 2025** (*we recommend that you submit your online application by Friday 24 October 2025*)
- **End of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December 2025**

Brindishe Schools Governing Body

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - rawaite@brindisheschools.org. An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carers can join the meeting.

Our first meeting for 2025/2026 will be held on Thursday 16th October 2025 at Brindishe Green School - 6pm.