

Brindishe Green Newsletter

Friday 20th January 2023



Dear families, governors, neighbours and staff,

As we come to the end of our second full week into the Spring Term, I would like to express my gratitude to our children, parents/carers and staff at Brindishe Green. The December break is never easy to return from. We have spent time with family and friends and the cold, dark, winter days can take their toll. Yet, our school community has returned in better shape than ever.

Our children have literally skipped into school with huge smiles for all staff. They were so very pleased to see their teachers and the feeling was mutual. Children and staff alike enjoyed their new creative entry points into their new topics and already established routines were quickly resumed. Clubs have started and are stronger than before and children are looking forward to a wide variety of school visits such as The Tower of London, Young Voices at The O2 and The Tate, as well as visitors into school such as the History Man and poetry workshops.

In such a short space of time, staff have already found a range of professional development meetings valuable since our INSET day and have already begun implementing new initiatives and ideas. Our school development focus for the Spring Term is on writing. We want more children to feel confident to plan, edit and redraft their own writing and feel proud of their final pieces. Our staff from Nursery to Year 6 have now been part of three CPD sessions on the writing process and planning, led by our subject leaders. We look forward to sharing the children's writing books with you at our Open Classrooms this term and parents' evening next term.

Finally, although I am not a new face to you on the school gate, it has been a pleasure to chat to more of you personally. Many of you have stopped to introduce yourselves to me in the morning or after school and I would like to extend my thanks to you all. Over the next term, I would like to gather your feedback on important issues such as wrap around care, curriculum and communications.

Brindishe Green is an exceptionally strong community and I feel very privileged to be your new Head of School. Please do stop and introduce yourself to me on the school gate over the next few weeks.

Have a restful weekend when it comes and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Best Wishes

Miss Katie Matthews

Something Wonderful to Celebrate

We praise all the children in school for being **curious, committed, confident, collaborative and compassionate**.

This week, the following children have stood out for going above and beyond, and really shining!

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Shenari & Anastasia Ka'Mye & Abigail Tilly & Michael	Mia & Ava Janat & Harvey Jacob & Grace	Brayden & Ambi Taku and Lucas Poppy and Maya
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Hornbill Kyran & Cyrus Puffin	Malcolm & Hayley Lewis & Zara Sara & Allan	Ariella and Poppy Alfie and Keira Cayden & Wesley Angel & Sidi

Happy New Year!

This weekend is a very important one for many of our families from the Asian Community. The Lunar New Year starts on Sunday, and marks the beginning of the **Year of the Rabbit**. Lunar New Year is considered to be the most important holiday in China, across Asia and for many people around the world. We hope that anyone celebrating has a wonderful time with friends and family.



Teacher Strikes

The National Education Union (NEU) have announced that their members will be striking in the coming months. At Brindishe Green we have a number of our staff who are NEU members and will be striking on the following days:

- Wednesday 1st February 2023
- 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*

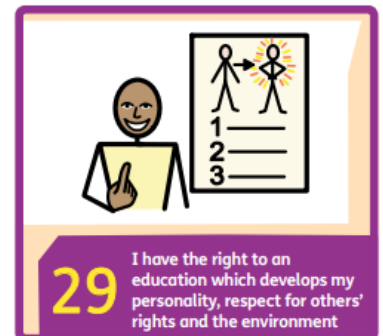
We are currently reviewing plans for these days and will update parents and carers once we have a clearer understanding about how the school will be affected. At present, we cannot answer any further questions but parents/carers need to be aware that children **MAY NOT** be able to attend school on the above days.

Class Newsletters

On your child's newsfeed today you will find their class newsletter. Here you will find information on the learning that will be taking place this half term, days they will have PE, ways you can support your child at home and visits/visitors that have been arranged for this half term.

Educational Visits - £20 Payment

We are still waiting for a number of families to make the annual **£20 educational visits/visitors payment** (£10 for FSM families). This is the payment we ask parents/carers to pay at the start of the year to support all the trips and experiences that the staff are planning to enhance your child's learning. Please ensure this is paid as soon as possible, if you haven't done so already. So far this year our children have been on a number of visits or welcomed visitors into school and the teachers are planning more for the spring and summer terms. These can only go ahead if payments are made. Thank you.



Volunteers in School

Do you have a couple of hours free every week, at the same time, and would like to volunteer? We currently have places in school for parent/carer volunteers to come in and read with children from a range of year groups. If you would be interested in this position, please email the school office (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) for an application form and role description. Please note that all volunteers need to provide 2 professional references and have a DBS check, under Safer Recruitment. We look forward to hearing from you.

Spring Open Classrooms Year 1- 6

We would like to invite you back into school to visit your child's classroom to see what learning they have been doing in class since your last visit.

The session will run from **3.30-4.00**. You will have the opportunity to ask the teacher some quick questions, but if you would like a lengthier discussion, you should email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk.

Please do not worry if you are unable to come as there will be other opportunities during the year. If you have 2 Open Classrooms on the same day, there will be enough time to spend 15mins in each.

We will share more information nearer the time.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Tuesday 21 st February	Tuesday 28 th February	Tuesday 21 st February
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Tuesday 28 th February	Tuesday 21 st February	Tuesday 28 th February

Important Dates

Sunday 15th January - Closing date for primary applications
Monday 16th January – Reception and Year 6 Height/Weight Check
Thursday 19th January – Census Day
Tuesday 7th February – Full Governing Body Meeting
Friday 10th February – Last day of term

A message from the Brindishe Friends Groups (BFG)

COMING UP - Before we break for Easter we are hoping to hold one of our regular 'make at home' pizza night to raise money for food parcels. Keep your eyes peeled for information on that. We're also keen to build-on the success of the Winter Fair and are in discussions with the school about holding a summer version.

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS - We'd love to hear from you as well if you have any amazing fund raising ideas that we can use across the rest of the school year. As we (hopefully!) start to creep towards warmer weather we can think about events that will take place outside too. Email us: bfgsocials@gmail.com

KEEP IN TOUCH - In the next week or two we will confirm the date of our next meeting. If you would like to be there please let us know. Email us: bfgsocials@gmail.com so we can add you to our distribution list, and follow us on Socials: Twitter: @bfgthithergreen and Facebook (search ' Brindishe Friends Group').