



**Brindishe Lee Newsletter**  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**Headteacher: Ms Maxine Sebire**



Dear parents, carers, governors, staff and friends,

What a lovely week it has been across the school as we have all enjoyed celebrating being back at school. We are heartened to hear the laughter and chatter of the children playing and working with their peers; it is great to see so many smiley faces around school! We definitely have our school back!

Attendance has been excellent so far and we are pleased that you feel confident in the processes and procedures we have in place enabling your child to return to Brindishe Lee. I would also like to express thanks for the effort everybody is making with the drop off and pick up routines. Please can we all continue to follow the government and school guidance to ensure everyone is kept safe.

It is noble to see so many children walking, biking or scooting to school and parents parking away from the school to reduce the traffic outside of school. This ultimately makes it much safer for the whole community.

Although so many of the children have settled well, we know for some children this may take a little longer. If you have any concerns about your child's settling back in to school, then please do let us know. You can use our [recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk) email address. A member of the senior leadership team will be able to get back to you or pass on your concerns to the appropriate adult.

As this period of lockdown continues, please keep yourselves and your families safe and remember that the latest guidance can always be found on the government website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>.

Have a peaceful weekend! Stay safe and well everyone.

Kind regards,

*Ms Sebire and the Brindishe Lee Team.*

#### **Communication**

If you have any questions or queries during this time, please can we ask that you use the following email addresses, so that the right person can get back to you:

- **Queries** about online learning, Free School Meals, login details, concerns, general questions – [info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk)
- **Technical Support** - If you are having technical issues with *Itslearning*, *Weduc* or *Zoom*, please email – [support@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:support@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk) for further support and guidance.
- **Wellbeing Support** – Please email [recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:recovery@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk) for further wellbeing support and guidance.

#### **Nut and Raisin-Free School**

Please can we remind parents/carers that we endeavour to be a nut-free school. We also have children in school with severe allergies to raisins and for this reason, we would also ask that items such as hot cross buns, Soreen malt loaf, fruit loaf etc are not part of your child's packed lunch. Thank you for your support with this matter and for helping us to keep all children safe.

### Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is back on **Friday 19th March** and this year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly challenging lives in Africa and in the UK. As a school, we hope everyone will **dress in red and donate** what they can on the 19<sup>th</sup> March. The theme this year is about raising money with humour. During the day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup>, children will be able to share their very best joke with their peers and *'say something funny for money'*.

### Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing at Brindishe Lee

The children at Brindishe Lee have settled back into school very well. During the week, the focus has been supporting transition as well as the mental health and wellbeing of all children and staff. Staff have conducted 1:1 catch up sessions with all children in their class regarding their lockdown experience and have also shared their thoughts and feelings about being back in school. Every class has studied the text *'Ruby's Worry'* and many have made their own worry monster, thinking carefully about shapes and colours. These discussions have led to the implementation of *worry jars* in every classroom. In addition to this, children have enjoyed a range of mindfulness and fitness activities including the *'The Daily Mile'*. We will continue to focus on mental and physical wellbeing, social connections as well as having high academic expectations for all the children at Brindishe Lee.

**Parent/Carer Room on Itslearning** – Please refer to this page on *Itslearning* for additional resources to support your families mental health and wellbeing.

### Request for Old Technology Devices

If any parents/carers have any old technology devices they no longer want, please can you let the school office know by emailing [info@brindishelee.lewishsham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishelee.lewishsham.sch.uk) or calling **020 8318 4626**.

#### The reason for this request is...

We are currently constructing a technology display with old and new technology. The technology does not need to work but needs to be safe and not broken.

#### Possible items we would be interested in:

- Mobile phone shell
- Game Boy
- Game Gear
- Console device
- Radio
- Telephone



### Wrap Around Care - Reminder

Sportacus, our before and after school provider, are up and running again from Monday 8th March. If you are interested in a place at their wrap around care, either before or after school, please call Harry on **07828 218690** or email [Harry@sportacus.co.uk](mailto:Harry@sportacus.co.uk) for further information.

### Children's Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office as soon as possible and leave a voice message. Please be as precise as you can by **clearly stating the child's full name, their class, and why they are going to be absent**. For example, specific symptoms, if they need to self-isolate because a household member has tested positive or if they are displaying any of the three main Covid symptoms (high temperature, persistent cough or loss of smell/taste). This is so that we can record the absence correctly and so that the right person can call you back, if needed.

**Please also state whether or not you have arranged for your child to have a Covid-19 test.**

*Thank you for your support with this matter.*

### Rapid Flow Tests for Families

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at primary school, **who do not have symptoms**, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates.

If you would like to order Rapid Flow Tests for members of your household, please click on the link below:

[Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests](#)

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a Rapid Flow Test.

### PCR Tests

If you, your child or another member of your household is unwell and displaying any of the main Covid Symptoms (a high temperature, a persistent cough or loss of smell/taste), you must book a PCR Covid test immediately and report your results to the school. You may also be asked to book a test if your child is displaying any other symptom associated with Covid19. These tests can be booked using the below link:

[Get a Coronavirus Test](#)

If you have other issues using the online service, call 119 between 7am and 11pm.

### British Science Week

This week Mrs Rathbone (Science Lead) launched our competition on the theme of 'Innovation' as part of British Science Week. The children have been asked to invent either a new toy, a new game, something that would be helpful around the home, something to help with learning, something to help the environment or anything else that they think of.

They do not need to make a working copy of their invention but they do need to tell us what it is and how it works. The children can send their entries as either a labelled picture, a model (even better if it is made from recycled materials) or as a computer entry – e.g. coding, film, or a slideshow.

All entries should be sent to Mrs Rathbone by Monday 22 March.



### Year 6 – Secondary Schools

Last week our children in Year 6 received news of which secondary school they had been offered a place at for September 2021. We hope that all our children and their parents were pleased with their offer. **If you have not done so already, please can we remind all our Year 6 parents/carers that they must accept their offer by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March at the latest.**

You can do this through the **Eadmissions website** – [please click here for more information](#).

Even if you would like to remain on the waiting list for one of your higher preferences, it is very important that you still accept the school you have been offered, so that your children definitely has a school to start in September.

If you have any questions, please email our school office ([info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk)) and we will do our best to support and guide you.

### Important Dates

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March** – Red Nose Day – *'Say something funny for money' and wear red.*

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April** - Easter/Spring Break

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April** - Summer Term begins

**Week beg. 26<sup>th</sup> April** - Teacher/Parent Meetings (*Weduc online – more information to follow*)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** - Bank Holiday

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - INSET Day/Polling Station – *school closed to all children*

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June** - Half Term Break

