



Brindishe Lee Newsletter
Friday 18th June 2021
Headteacher: Ms Maxine Sebire



Dear parents, carers, governors, staff and friends,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week, enjoying the changes in weather and a welcome break to something a little cooler. Attached to this week's newsletter you will find a letter written on behalf of Lewisham, officially launching the **Race Equality Pledge**, which all Brindishe Schools have signed up to. The main launch will be on Tuesday 22nd June, **Windrush Day** and will be the start of some fantastic work and opportunities that we will embrace as a Federation.

Wednesday 23rd June is '**National Thank a Teacher Day**' (<https://thankateacher.co.uk/national-thankateacherday/>). Over the course of the year, our staff have gone above and beyond and we will be recognising them by saying a huge thank you on that day. Please encourage your children to say a big thank you on Wednesday to the staff across school for being '*the best*'.

And finally, we heard this week that current restrictions will remain in place for another four weeks, meaning that certain events in school may need to alter slightly. We are, as always, guided by the advice given to us. If we feel the need to adjust or cancel anything due to increasing risks, we will ensure the experiences can take place in the school grounds.

We will keep you updated and informed via our weekly newsletters, emails and Weduc.
Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,
Ms Sebire and the Brindishe Lee Team.

Preparing for Secondary School

The transition from primary to secondary school is exciting for children and marks a new phase in their lives. Children recognise it as part of growing up and are aware that their lives are about to change in an important way. Like any change, it can also bring uncertainty. Most children will manage the transition to secondary school successfully. However, some children may take a little longer to adjust.

As a parent or carer there is much you can do to help your child through the transition period with careful and sensitive preparation. **The Anna Freud Centre** have this useful guide for parents/carers which we wanted to share with you to support you as a family during this important time. Please refer to the link list below.

In addition to this, as a school, we are here to help - whether it is to answer any questions you may have, offer support or signpost you to the relevant resource or external agencies.

<https://www.annafreud.org/media/13817/supporting-children-through-secondary-transition-final.pdf>

Water Bottle, Sun Cream and Hats

Although the temperatures have dropped slightly and the rain has set in, please remember to send your child in with a water bottle (no glass) and ensure sun cream has been applied before coming to school. Children should also remember to wear sensible shoes; open toe sandals are not appropriate for school.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Thank you to everyone who completed the online Relationships and Sex Education survey. The survey has now closed and we will be in contact with our next steps in due course.

Online Safety Bulletin - Use of WhatsApp Groups

We appreciate that the use of online social media has increased over the last year due to the pandemic, however, we would like to remind parents and children that the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 or over in the UK. This is set so that it protects children from the emotional and social challenges that group messaging can present to them. We urge all parents to keep a close eye on their child's mobile phone or online activities involving social media.

In school, the children are reminded that they must tell a parent/adult if they receive anything inappropriate from any application, however, the impact of social media use out of school is often having an impact in school. If your child does have their own WhatsApp account, parents/carers are responsible for their account. It is the responsibility of parents to monitor any online activity, group chats or messaging services.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this sensitive and important issue.



Clean Air Day

Yesterday was **National Clean Air Day**, which shines a light on what we can do to improve Lewisham's air quality and fight the climate emergency.

Pollution from idling engines is easy to ignore because it is often invisible. But leaving your engine running for 30 seconds produces almost twice as much pollution as switching it off and on again. So why not pledge to always switch off while you wait? You can [find lots of ways to check air quality in Lewisham by visiting their website.](#)

Lewisham Foodbank Centre

Attached is a flyer showing an updated list of foodbank centres in Lewisham as well as information about additional services that are also offered.

Covid Reminders

Please take time to read the following information to ensure we keep ourselves, our school and our community as safe as we can....

HANDS, FACE, SPACE

This message is still a key part of our life.

HANDS: We will, once again, be reminding the children of following good hand hygiene, by washing their hands regularly. Please encourage your children to do the same at home.

FACE: Our expectations remain in place. We still encourage face coverings as you enter the school grounds.

SPACE: Maintaining a distance of at least 1m between us where possible will help reduce risk for all.

Current rulings in place

- You can now meet up outside in larger groups, up to a limit of 30 people
- You can now meet indoors as a group of up to six people or two households
- Indoor hospitality can reopen
- Hotels and all holiday overnight accommodation can reopen
- You may also go on holiday or travel abroad, following government guidelines

Travelling

If you or any member of your household are travelling outside of the UK to either a **RED**, **AMBER** or **GREEN** country, you must inform the school (info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk) so we can ensure that you and your family are clear about the procedures and restrictions that may need to be followed. We will ask you to let us know the following information:

- Where you or your household member are going
- The return date to the UK
- Who is in your household

Covid Symptoms

If you, your child or a member of your household becomes ill with Covid-19 symptoms or receives a positive test result for COVID-19, please email info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk immediately providing the person/child's name, class, date, and the type and date of test. Your whole household must self-isolate for 10 days. **Please let the school know straight away of your child's test results.**

Continuing to keep Brindishe Lee Safe and Our Children at School

We ask that all families support us in keeping the children, staff and community safe:

- Please wear a face covering/mask when near school premises, if possible
- **Please try to cross to the far side of the road once you have collected your child, rather than walk in front of the gate where parents are standing and waiting to enter the school.**
- Contact the school office via email (info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk) or telephone **020 8318 4626**.
- Please read our texts, emails and letters to keep up to date with new information

Online Safety Parent/Carer Tech Workshops

Please find attached to this newsletter information from Lewisham regarding some free online safety workshops for parents/carers

The purpose of the workshops is to increase awareness and provide some useful skills to support parents. By the end of the workshops, parents/carers will be able to:

- Recognise how modern technology can be used to jeopardise young people's safety
- Distinguish between different types of technological abuse that could affect children and young people
- Assess the risk factors involved in cases where technology is being used to abuse children and young people
- List different ways in which you can empower your children to use technology safely and positively

There are four workshops available via Zoom in July. Please refer to the attached letter for further information, you can also contact Miss Matthews on katiemattews@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk to discuss the workshops.

Important Dates

Friday 23rd July - End of Term

Wednesday 1st September - INSET Day

Thursday 2nd September - Start of Term 1

FRIENDS@BRINDISHE LEE F@B BOOKS



F@B will be back soon with some exciting events for everyone! But for now if you'd like to support the school, we'd be delighted if you would buy a book to for your child's class library.

RECEPTION https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/XVUWEAS2YK5O?ref=wl_share

YEAR 1 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3ORI42VSPCIPP?ref=wl_share

YEAR 2 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1CB5UF262FORR?ref=wl_share

YEAR 3 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3BMGSJCDO6D42?ref=wl_share

YEAR 4 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1NFVUES9WP16M?ref=wl_share

YEAR 5 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/13EY0VVZVVVAR?ref=wl_share

YEAR 6 https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1R17JC1Q2DFU2?ref=wl_share

If you prefer to buy elsewhere please visit <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk>. And remember, we always welcome books from home that you no longer use!

