



Brindishe Lee Newsletter

Friday 21st January 2022

Headteacher: Ms Maxine Sebire

Brindishe
Lee

Dear families, governors, staff and friends,

As ever, thank you for your continued ongoing support and understanding during the COVID-19 pandemic. As the latest variant of COVID (Omicron) has much higher rates of infection, we have to be extra vigilant in following the protective measures. Omicron spreads very quickly and we must try all we can to make this less likely in our school. If you have tests available, please can all children (over the age of 5) take a lateral flow test regularly so we can reduce infection rates in school. We will continue to alert you if a year group meets the government threshold with further information about additional measures we will need to implement as a school. Sometimes these changes will need to be implemented without delay so your understanding and kindness would be appreciated during these times.

Please remember to read every day with your child, this is the single, most important thing for children and will also help them catch up learning gaps from the pandemic. We build reading into all curriculum areas at school but the more you can do at home, the better!

Our new Bug Club reading scheme has been well received by the Brindishe community. For more information, please refer to our school website as well as the reading tips listed below.

Please refer to the information listed below with regards to covid, online safety, mental health and information about our new Pupil Parliament.

Stay safe and well everyone. Enjoy your weekend!

Kind regards,

Ms Sebire & the Brindishe Lee Team.

Government Message - Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19

From **Monday 17 January**, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#) and to the school office.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

Rights Respecting Focus of the Week: Article 1: Definition of a Child

Article 1 is central to the UN convention and defines a child as 'every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier'



Pupil Parliament

The start of 2022 also sees the start of our brand new Brindishe Lee Pupil Parliament.

Two representatives (MPs) from each class in years 1-6 have been elected by their peers and we had our first meeting last week. The role of the class MPs will be to represent the views of their class, help to promote the Rights Respecting agenda across the school, and help senior leaders with a whole-school project each term. We will also be learning about democracy and democratic processes.

Watch this space for more updates, and look out for your class MP wearing their green badge!

Online Safety - Does your child use your phone at times?

Apple Guided Access / Android Screen Pinning

Both Apple and Android give you the ability to restrict what can be accessed when your children are using it. You can restrict your device to the one app that your child would like to use (so all other features are disabled).

Use the following links to find out how to set it up:

Apple: <https://support.apple.com/engb/HT202612>

Android: <https://support.google.com/android/answer/9455138?hl=en-GB>

Mental Health & Wellbeing

The Anna Freud Centre have a range of resources families can use to support mental health and wellbeing -

<https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/self-care/>

Important Dates

Saturday 5th February (Please note change of date) – Blackheath 'Shine' Programme starts

Tuesday 1st February – Years 1, 2, 3 & 5 – Science Dome

Monday 7th February – Friday 11th February – Year 5 swimming sessions

Monday 7th February – Friday 11th February – Parents/Carer Meetings

Monday 14th February - Half term break

Reading

Enjoyment of books is the most important factor when learning to read. Sharing books with adults helps children with learning to read.

For some children, learning to read will seem to happen easily and quickly. For others, more time and support will be needed. Whatever the case, your help will be a powerful influence over your child's development as a reader. For all children praise, encouragement, reassurance and pleasure are the vital factors towards becoming a confident reader.

Listed below are some ideas for helping your child to read and enjoy books

Top Tips:

- *Make reading a time of pleasure for you both*
- *Find somewhere quiet, without the television*
- *Start sharing books even before your child knows which way up to hold a book*
- *Learn to accept your child's efforts with praise*
- *Focus on the things which are right, not on mistakes*
- *Keep reading to children even after they have learned to read independently*
- *Stop when they have had enough – it's not a punishment!*

Useful websites and suggested book lists:

- <https://lee.brindisheschools.org/page/?title=Reading+and+Phonics+at+Brindishe+Schools&pid=92>
- <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-1-pupils-ks1-age-5-6/>
- <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/100-best-books/>
- <https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/>

Reading Challenge – Reading in unusual places

Children - Your challenge, with the support of your parents, is to select an unusual place to read. Ask a family member to take a photograph of you reading in an unusual place and email it into info@brindishelee.lewisham.sch.uk by **Friday 11th February**.

The staff and children will vote on the top 3 photos of unusual places to read. The winners will receive a book voucher. Good luck!



