

Brindishe Green School
Beacon Road, SE13 6EH
info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk

6 January 2017

Dear parents and carers, friends and families,

Happy New Year to all and welcome to the new term. I am writing to let you know of some leadership changes in Brindishe Schools this term.

Katie Matthews the deputy head of Brindishe Lee will leave this month to start her maternity leave and we wish her well and look forward to seeing baby Matthews. Luckily we have a resourceful leadership team across the three schools. Emmeline Buchanan (who Brindishe Lee parents and carers may remember as Ms Harrison) is currently assistant head at Brindishe Manor and she will move back to Brindishe Lee to be deputy head for three days a week. Emmeline is part time following her maternity leave and will job share with Lauren Campbell who is currently one of the deputy heads at Brindishe Green. Ms Campbell will spend two days each week at Brindishe Lee.

Jenny Guest who returned to Brindishe Manor part time following her maternity leave will remain as assistant head at Brindishe Manor covering the leadership post of Kate Porter - who is on maternity leave. Jenny works alongside Charlotte Dougan the permanent assistant head.

Just so we are all clear then - from 23 January 2017:

At Brindishe Lee
Headteacher Lisa Morris
Deputy Head Emmeline Buchanan /Lauren

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

Campbell

At Brindishe Manor
Headteacher Gerlinde Achenbach
Assistant Heads Charlotte Dougan and Jenny Guest

At Brindishe Green
Headteacher Sarah Gorbutt
Deputy Heads James Baguley and Debbie Hughes and Lauren Campbell

As you can see we have a lot of 'Brindishe babies' from our staff and I've just had a quick count up. Since April 2015 we have had 18 members of staff go on maternity leave, 1 on adoption leave and 3 on paternity leave. We are 'expecting' another 6 Brindishe babies (and therefore 6 more maternity leaves) between now and July 2017. (I can imagine you all now looking and trying to guess). If possible we must get a photograph of all of these children together - it's almost a full class!

Of course having so many babies is delightful but as you can imagine it can be very difficult staffing wise. I'm very grateful to all of the staff in our three schools for their flexibility and willingness to support their colleagues and their schools whilst the next generation comes along.

Thank you to new parents/carers who visited our schools on the open days/evenings to see if they will apply for a place for their child for September 2017. There are just two more opportunities to view our schools before you need to submit your choices to admissions by the deadline of Sunday 15 January 2017 (www.eadmissions.org.uk)

Brindishe Manor
Tuesday 10th January 2017

Executive Head - Vicki Paterson DBE

from 9.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
from 5.00 p.m. to 6.15 p.m.

Brindishe Green

Thursday 12th January 2017

from 9.30am to 10.30am

from 5.00pm to 6.00pm

(**Brindishe Lee's** open evening was yesterday)

For September we will have on offer 60

Reception or starting school places at

Brindishe Lee, 90 at Brindishe Manor and 90

at Brindishe Green.

Happy weekend everyone and let's hope we have a great spring term.

Best wishes

Dame Vicki Paterson

Executive Head

Brindishe Schools

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends

A Happy New Year to all our families!

I hope that you all enjoyed a very happy break and we all look forward to a successful hard-working term to start 2017! The children settled back to school beautifully on Wednesday, everyone was ready for learning.

New themes have been appearing across school and there are signs of some really exciting learning opportunities in our classes.

At our INSET day, Brindishe Schools' staff met together to consider the importance of every child as an individual and as a learner. Everyone left the day with thoughts to develop in their role with the children. We all benefit so much from sharing the exciting and innovative practice from the teachers, teaching assistants, admin teams and lunchtime play leaders across our schools.

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

Pupil premium

Are you entitled to free school meals or reduced fees for school visits, clubs or school journeys?

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 can receive a school meal each day at no cost to families. This is known as universal free school meals and is a government initiative from September 2014.

Parents of children in KS2 (years 3,4,5 and 6) are asked to pay for their school meals.

Even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and their meals are free it is important that you still register for 'Free school meals' if you are eligible. Schools are able to claim a Pupil Premium of up to £1,320 per child on free school meals to make sure each school's budget matches its own community's needs.

Families eligible for Free school meals or Pupil Premium may also benefit from support in other areas of school such as clubs, educational visits and school journeys.

Pupil premium funding or Free School meals are for all families with a joint family income of less than £16,190 a year.

If you feel you are eligible you apply by completing the application form online, follow this link to the website:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/Pages/Free-school-meals.aspx?t=1>

If you have any questions, please ask us.

Dates for your diary

12th January - Open Day

17th January - Young Voices at the O2

19th January Parent Drumbeat Outreach

Service workshop on supporting children with

Executive Head - Vicki Paterson DBE

eating and sleeping difficulties at 2.15pm. Please ask at the school office if you are interested in attending.

19th January - Dental surveys yrs 1 & 2

9th February - Full Governing Body meeting at Brindishe Manor.

10th February - Half term begins

20th February - Children return to school

Attendance at Brindishe Green

Well done to Redwood (100%) and Rowan for best attendance this week and to Chestnut 4 again!

Birch and Oak (again!) and Chestnut 2 have had the best punctuality this week. Well done to all!

...and finally

New Letterbox

Please note that there is a new letterbox under the main school buzzer where you can leave any messages for the office if you need to make contact at a busy time or before 8.30am.

Children arriving at school at the beginning of the day

The school gates will open each day at 8.45am and the weather is now very cold. Children should not be waiting outside school for long periods at the start of the day, the weather is very severe and it is not safe for them. Thank you.

Best wishes for a warm weekend.

Sarah Gorbutt
Headteacher

Notice from Lewisham Council

When dropping off or collecting your child from school if you are in a vehicle please take a moment to think about the health of your child and their friends as well as the environment and switch of your car when stationary - many thanks for your support in this matter.