

Brindishe Green School  
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13 June 2014

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

### **Appointment of Associate Head**

As you may already know Alex Bell is leaving Lee Manor at the end of this term and recently we advertised nationally for a new Associate Headteacher for Brindishe Manor for September 2014. This week the Appointment Panel took applicants through a very rigorous selection process and I am very pleased to let you know that we have appointed Gerlinde Achenbach to the post.

The Panel was very impressed with the wealth of both education and leadership experience that Gerlinde has to offer, and a quorum of the Governing Body agreed to the Panel's unanimous recommendation to appoint her. We believe that Gerlinde will be an enormous asset to Lee Manor as we move forward in the new Federation.

Many of you will already know Gerlinde as the current interim Deputy Headteacher at Lee Manor and I am sure will welcome this news and join us in congratulating her on this appointment.

Spyros Elia  
Chair of Governors

### **Staff changes at Brindishe Green - an update:**

It's that time again when the children begin to think about moving to their new classes in September. For that reason, we hope to be able to share with you very soon which class your child will be in next year and who their teacher will be.

Associate Headteacher Sarah Gorbutt

In the meantime, we can confirm the following staff changes:

You will, I'm sure, have noticed that this week Claire Sheppard has returned from maternity leave and joined Joan as class teacher in Acorn 1. Also some new staff have joined us ready for September. Amy Aris, joins our strong team in Early Years. Already, she is teaching in Chestnut 3 while Mrs Barlow is off sick. Emily Legg, Lauren Davies and Ashley Hards have also joined us as teaching assistants.

We are also sadly saying goodbye and wishing well to teachers who have been here for many years. Russell Thorne is moving to Norfolk to take up a management and inclusion role and Eunice Robb is joining a school closer to her home in Edenbridge Kent. Andrew McWhirter is leaving to explore some new opportunities beyond Brindishe Schools and Fabiola Ramirez, who has been working at Lee Manor since January, is going to become an artist in residence in East London. Lucy Balcombe will move to Brindishe Manor from September and we wish them the best of luck in their new roles. I know you will want to wish them luck when you see them.

Of our support staff, a number are taking up teacher training positions for September. These are: Alarie Drummonds, Cherece Peters and Max O'Donoghue. Laura Huisjes is returning to Amsterdam with her partner and Seraphina Bah is off to University to study to become a teacher. Of our three School Direct trainee teachers, Rycharde Everley is off to the Far East with the cast of Shrek to play the lead role for 6 months and Peter Hill is off to Surrey where he hopes to start a new life with his partner. We of course wish these staff members the very best of luck for the future.

### **This week at Brindishe Green**

On Monday year 5 children took part in a Tag Rugby competition at Colfes. They did not win

Executive Headteacher Vicki Paterson DBE

but with limited preparation and the pressure of taking part in a new sport, they still did very well! Taylor in Walnut and Kai in Mangrove won boy and girl of the match! Well done to you both.

On Wednesday our year 1's and 2's took part in a special Kurling competition at Brindishe Lee. Our Year 2's came first and the year 1's third by just one point. Well done to all those that took part.

On Thursday Mangrove class visited the Unicorn Theatre and today Heidi Alexander MP visited our three schools to see for herself what everyone is talking about in the local community and why we are so popular.

#### **Collaborative Choir**

Yesterday our choristers from across Brindishe Green sang together with 5 other schools as part of our annual collaborative choir performance. Children sang in 3 and 4 part harmony, with a huge amount of enthusiasm despite the heat and the long day of rehearsals. Huge thanks to Ms Kelly for preparing them so well for this important event and well done children- you sang beautifully.

#### **Next week at Brindishe Green**

From Monday our year 1 will take part in statutory phonics testing. They are very ready and I know will do very well.

On Monday Yr 6 are off to the Barbican to listen to the London Symphony Orchestra

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> four year 5 children will take part in the Maths 24 competition at St Stephens School.

#### **Attendance and punctuality**

Birch and Olive have the top attendance this week with 100% They are closely followed by Banyan. Chestnut 1 have the best attendance in reception and Maple class have the best punctuality. They will have their own special session with Talmud, our Capoeira and dance teacher next week.

#### **Dates for your diary ....**

16 June - phonics testing in year 1

19 June - School choir perform at Eltham College

24 June - New Reception parent's meeting

26 June - Open Day

Saturday 5 July - BG Summer Fair

**W/C 14 July - Healthy Living Week\*\*\*please note the change**

8 July - Sports Day Yrs 1 & 2

9 July - Sports Day Yrs 3 & 4

10 July - Sports Day yrs 5 & 6

11 July - Reports to parents/carers

12 July - People's Day

16 July - Yr 6 performance at 2.00 & 6.30pm

21 July - Yr 6 leavers dinner and dance 6.00pm

22 July - End of term

*3 September - Start of Autumn Term*

#### **Clothes for the warm weather**

Please make sure that in this warm weather your child is wearing sensible shoes (not strappy sandals/flip flops) and a top that covers their shoulders/middle. Please help us in enabling children to be free to enjoy the warm weather as safely as possible.

#### **Loombands**

We are delighted that the children are enjoying making friendship bands as these seem to be the new fashion. However, for health and safety reasons and in line with our school policy, these bands (or any kind of jewellery) must not be worn in school.

...and finally

If you have any school library books at home, please return them to the box in the library as soon as possible so that we can carry out a stock check and get ready for next year, many thanks.

Enjoy the weekend and let's hope the warm weather continues.

Best wishes

Sarah Gorbutt Headteacher