

Brindishe Green School

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21 July 2017

To all staff, families and friends at Brindishe,
I don't want to let this academic year end without offering my thanks and appreciation to you all for your support for our three Brindishe Schools.

We now have over 1500 children attending a Brindishe School and I'm so proud of the teams of people who work at a Brindishe school day in, day out, giving their best efforts to make sure that all of our children have a really great education, regardless of who they are, where they live or which school they attend.

In front of and behind the scenes, our teaching, support, business and premises staff all give above and beyond their contracted hours and go beyond their job descriptions to make our schools the best they can be.

In my role as an Executive Head, and as a member of various national networks, I hear and know a lot about other schools up and down the country. I hear and I know how far ahead and forward thinking our three Brindishe Schools are.

This year many teachers and school leaders have visited us. They come to see how we work together both in each school and across the federation of three schools. Our visitors always praise the Brindishe children's remarkable independence and how readily they engage with their learning.

This half term we hosted eight teacher leader colleagues from Kentucky in the USA. They told us how impressed they were by our open and very inclusive schools. They wanted to know how, with such a diverse community, we had built the evident trust and partnership that we have with parents and carers.

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

Last half term we hosted the leadership team from a group of Primary Academy schools in Greenwich. After their visit it they wrote:

"What struck us all was the strength of relationships between leaders, staff and children and how it felt very much like one school on three sites. The hard work that has gone into promoting all forms of diversity was a key strength and a very visible part of each school in the environment and also through how the children interact with one another. We loved all the learning spaces and the cross age collaboration where the children learnt from one another. You should all be very proud of the school community you have nurtured and grown as it is a lovely, happy place in which to learn."

I was most touched, however, when reading through all the feedback from Brindishe parents and carers responding to their children's end of year reports. I'd like to share one with you - from a parent of a Year 2 child:

"Thank you very much for the past year. It's been a tremendous learning curve with plenty of interesting subjects. I recently went through my child's work for the past year and noticed - and was reminded - about how her writing has changed. It is very encouraging that she is now working at greater depth and I'm pleased to know the extra support has helped this progress. And last, but not least, diversity. We've had many discussions at home about how to treat others and can expect to be treated by others, about what matters inside and outside, about what we do and say and so on. I am so touched to learn that my child feels so strongly about this and is now able to express it."

The reason why I liked this report response so much is because it captures what is, I think, the essence of Brindishe; yes academic progress is important and is recognised; yes, our staff knew where extra help was needed and they gave it and it worked. But of equal importance this child learnt about equality and diversity. She learnt to

Executive Head - Vicki Paterson DBE

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express how she wants to be treated and how she will treat others. It sounds to me like a Brindishe child - and so it is with this thought that I wish our year 6 children good luck in their important next steps, farewell to all families who now leave our community and to everyone, a peaceful and happy summer.

Dame Vicki Paterson DBE
Executive Head
Brindishe Schools

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, our community, for all you have done over the year; for bringing your children to school every day, for helping them with their reading and their home learning, for supporting them on educational visits and for being there to cheer them on at events and performances. We genuinely could not do it without you!

Thank you also to the many staff who enable our wonderful teachers, teaching assistants and nursery nurses to be able to do the incredible work they do every day; the office and administration staff, Sharon Franks our attendance, welfare and safeguarding officer, the premises team, Aleks Piatkowski who supports our IT, Place2Be, our specialist music teachers, particularly Charlotte Brennan, and the many coaches and specialists who have worked with us in sport this year. Thank you also to Claudette, our Lollipop lady, who keeps our children safe crossing the road every day.

This week at Brindishe Green

This week our children have been learning outside the classroom. Huge congratulations to our year 6 children who performed a specially adapted version of Shrek this week to the children and their parents and carers. Their performances were slick, professional, well-rehearsed and very, very impressive. Thank you again to the year 6 team of staff who supported the children to make this happen and to Mr Thompson for writing, directing and producing such an impressive performance.

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

On Thursday our Year 6 children had a special prom evening together. We are so proud of their achievements and the wonderful role models they have been all year and we wish them all the very best in their secondary schools. Also this week, Cedar class held a special Victorian tea party and Theo's dad, who is a magician, thrilled and delighted his year 2 audience as a Victorian magician.

Fundraising for the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation

I am pleased to tell you that our sponsored walk in Reception and general fundraising efforts have now raised at least £2000! What a fantastic achievement from our caring community supporting a cause very close to our hearts.

Attendance at Brindishe Green

Well done to Ash (again!), Lilac and Chestnut 1 (again!) for having the highest attendance. Beech, Maple, Palm, Birch, Cherry, Lilac and Chestnut 2 all had the best punctuality. Well done to all those classes!

And finally...

Book Amnesty - have you returned all our books to us?

Please continue to hunt around for any books that are stamped with the Brindishe Green stamp over the holidays. We will need these books ready for next year to put in class book corners for other children to read. Bring them please to the school office if you find any. Thank you.

Opening times over the holidays

The school office will be open for uniform sales **from 29 August - 1st September from 10am - 3.00pm**. Please also remember that the children return to school on **Wednesday 6th September at 8.55am** - a list of term dates is on our website www.brindisheschools.org

Wishing you all a restful, enjoyable and safe holiday and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Best wishes,
Sarah Gorbutt
Headteacher

Executive Head - Vicki Paterson DBE

We are very proud of the following children who have achieved 100% attendance this academic year

Rowan Class

*Jojoe
Erin*

Oak Class

*Charlotte
Lizzy
Ciaran
George
Britney*

Walnut Class

*David
Edward
Jennifer
Anasahe*

Rowan Class

Harrison

Chestnut 4

*Ariella
Beatrix
Esther
Benjamin*

Willow Class

*Tamirah
Ruth
Anthony*

Maple Class

*Joseph
Mia
Tokumbo*

Chestnut 2

Said

Mangrove Class

*Sephora
Tekena
Adam
Thomas
Bavisha
Moses*

Birch Class

*Ebube
Calliope
Rhoda
Samira*

Elm Class

*Hannah
Samuel*

Beech Class

*Antony
Tija
Summer
Enshan*

Lilac Class

*Molin
Mia
Oscar
Tabitha*

Ash Class

*Samara
Jenaih*

Cedar Class

*Christabel
Stanley*

Banyan Class

*Marvin
Rio
Melisa
Emmerson*

Magnolia Class

*Michelle
Marley
Marvellous
Yanis*

Chestnut 3

Aarya

Cherry Class

*Chuma
Annie*

Chestnut 1

*James
Dara*

Palm Class

*William
Zoey
Ali*

Redwood Class

*India
Zayan
Jenny*

Olive Class

*Amy
Alex*