

Brindishe Green School

Beacon Road, London SE13 6EH Tel: 020 8852 7245 Fax: 020 8852 2456
info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk www.brindisheschools.org

13th July 2018



Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends.

"Ms Gorbutt you are a legend - I knew you'd make it happen"

These are the words of a Brindishe Green parent and he sent them to Sarah Gorbutt recently when she made sure that his daughter had the opportunity to take part in something she really wanted to do but might not otherwise have had the chance.

It was a fitting tribute, born of appreciation - and it illustrates exactly what Ms Gorbutt has done over the past 11 years at Brindishe Green - made things that were previously thought impossible happen for children just as they should. For her, there must be no barriers to children being able to take part, to succeed and to achieve.

This is Ms Gorbutt's last week in Brindishe Green and I know that many of you will want to say your farewells and to thank her for her work at and on behalf of the school which under her leadership has been transformed.

In 2007 the school, then known as Hither Green, was half empty, had gone through 5 headteachers in as many years and was the lowest achieving school in Lewisham. It was a very sad and troubled place with a dreary curriculum and not a trophy or cup to its name. It now holds its head high and is one of the largest, most successful and creative schools in London and its trophy cabinet, as you may know, is full of prizes and accolades for sport, art, inclusion, science and more.

It is now recognised as one of the Mayor of London's 'Schools for Success' and will be honoured again in October under the strapline of "Being disadvantaged is not a disadvantage at Brindishe Green," as our performance data shows that children here succeed equally well regardless of their circumstances.

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

Ms Gorbutt must be rightly proud of her achievements; she has been and always will be an outstanding teacher and headteacher. Her colleagues, her families, her community and children will miss her enormously as she sets off to enjoy a different kind (and pace!) of life nearer the coast.

Her influence in shaping the future of Brindishe Green and building the partnership of Brindishe Schools has been significant and I am certain that without her we would not have our very successful federation of three great schools. We all wish her well and thank her from the bottom of our hearts. I know that she will keep in touch and that everyone at Brindishe Green will make sure that her legacy of tolerance, warmth, good humour and a genuine desire to make the impossible possible will live on in Brindishe.



As we near the end of the academic year we also take this opportunity to say good bye and thank you to several of our Brindishe Governors who are now stepping down as they come to the end of their terms of office.

Most significantly we say goodbye to Spyros Elia our Chair of Governors who leaves Brindishe after being part of our schools for over 30 years and 25 of them as a governor. Spyros first became a governor in 1992 and in his time has served as a parent, co-opted and local authority governor. For the majority of his time as a governor he has been unanimously elected to be

Executive Head - Vicki Paterson DBE

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Chair, a role to which he has given care, clarity, intelligence and wisdom.

Spyros was part of the group who first supported and brokered the partnership between Brindishe and Hither Green Schools, and then Brindishe and Lee Manor Schools to help us become one of the first, strongest and most successful and lasting genuine partnerships in primary education.

His contribution to Brindishe, to education, to our community and to Lewisham is rightly locally and nationally recognised and is immeasurable. We wish him well.

We also say goodbye to Nasrin Tarafder Rashid who was elected as a parent governor at Brindishe and then co-opted to be a governor at Hither Green as we began our partnership. Nasrin has given over ten years of her time, care and attention to making sure we get it right for our communities and that we think about the needs of all children and all families in our work together.

We thank also our elected parent governors Sarah Clayton and Fahmida Din, and Katie Matthews our elected staff governor for their hard work and commitment over four years of office with us; time and energy given freely and willingly and all towards making sure our schools are successful.

I am pleased to let you know that some of our experienced governors are remaining on the governing body: Lindsay Dale is the newly elected Chair from 31 August 2018; Jackie Stirling will remain as vice chair (and for her 26th year as a governor); Liz Murphy, Haydn Phillips and John Myers will also remain and elections for new governors will follow in September.

For now we say goodbye to Spyros, Nasrin, Sarah, Fahmida and Katie - and a thousand thanks on behalf of everyone in our community. To all of our governors we say thank you for their voluntary but invaluable work this year, and

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

for most of the governors, year after year after year, for Brindishe.

Dame Vicki Paterson.
Executive Head

This week at Brindishe Green

On Tuesday Year 2 visited London Zoo and had a great day. Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the children.

On Thursday our Nursery children took part in their annual Family Picnic at Manor House Gardens (The Big Toddle).

Today the Debate Club took part in a tri-school debating competition at Brindishe Lee. Thank you to Ms Collins for preparing the children so well.

Also today, Reception children took part in a sponsored walk and family picnic at Manor House Gardens. Thank you to all the adults who came to support them.

Summer Barbecue - Thursday 19th July

Our annual summer barbecue will take place on Thursday. This will be provided by our school meals provider Chartwells and will be available to all the children who currently take/pay for a school dinner.

If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like to have a school dinner on Thursday, please make sure you bring £2.20 to the school office **by Tuesday 17th July at the latest** so that we know how many children to cook for.

Next week at Brindishe Green

16th/17th/18th - Learning Outside the Classroom

17th July - Year 6 production at 6.00pm

18th July - Year 6 production at 2.00pm

19th July - Summer Barbecue

19th July - Year 6 Prom

20th July - End of term

5th September - Children return to school

Fantastic attendance last week!

Well done to Palm, Ash (again) and Chestnut 1 for top attendance this week and to Beech, Bamboo (5th week) and Chestnut 2 (2nd week) for top punctuality.

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Lost Property

Please remember to keep checking lost property and collecting up any mislaid sweatshirts, jackets and hats. Our collection is growing and will need to be claimed. **Any unclaimed clothes will be recycled over the holidays**

Books please!

If you have any books at home that belong to Brindishe Green, please make sure you return these before the end of term so that we can check them in ready for their new classes. They will have a label inside the cover which says 'this book belongs to Brindishe Green'. Thank you.

Love my Books!

Jenny Guest from Brindishe Manor has told us about a wonderful website to support sharing stories at home. She writes...sharing stories together with your child is not only an enjoyable experience but can help them learn and understand about the world around them as well as develop their vocabulary.

www.lovelybooks.co.uk provides suggestions for reading, talking and writing as well as lots of other creative activities to extend their enjoyment of books. It is definitely worth a look!

The Summer Reading Challenge 2018

This year the theme for the Lewisham Library Summer Reading Challenge is **Mischief Makers**, inspired by the much-loved iconic children's title Beano, which celebrates its 80th anniversary. Children can sign up to the challenge at their local library and will receive a Beanotown map and stickers each time they finish a book. It's completely free and the aim is to get every child to read any six books of their choice from their library during the summer holidays. Happy Summer Reading everyone!



...and finally

Headteacher - Sarah Gorbutt

End of year reports

You will have received your child's end of year report today.

If your child walks home alone or if you are not able to collect your child, please contact the school office to let them know when you might be able to pop in to collect your child's report - we will hold onto it for you until you collect it. Please also remember to let us have your feedback on your child's report as your views are important to us.

Best wishes

Sarah Gorbutt
Headteacher

Dr Bike is here to get you riding this summer

If you're thinking of using your bike this summer but are not sure if it is roadworthy. Come along to one of the free bike safety check sessions.

JULY

Monday 23rd July

11 - 12 Ladywell Fields outside café

Tuesday 24th

8 -10 Eddystone Bridge

10.30 -12.30 Hilly Fields outside café

13.30 - 15.30 Manor House Park outside café

Wednesday 25th

8 -10 Folkstone Gdns/Surrey Canal Rd

11 - 13.00 Waterlink Way, Bell Green Retail Park entrance

AUGUST

Monday 20th

14.00 - 16.00 Ladywell Fields

16.30 - 18.30 Eddystone Bridge

Tuesday 21st

16:00 - 18:00 Folkstone Gdns/Surrey Canal Rd

19.00 - 20.30 Ladywell Arena

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