

Friday 15th October 2021

Message from the Head

This week's newsletter is packed full of exciting news; there is so much going on at Brindishe Green. In particular I am genuinely delighted that we are starting to see trips, clubs and visits returning to school life. That was something that the children really missed out on during the pandemic. Several trips are already booked, as are some exciting workshops. We also have new clubs due to start soon with more to come. Keep your eyes peeled in the coming weeks for news from your teachers. This half term is already almost done and has gone by in the blink of an eye. It has been a joy to see all the children enjoying normal school life once again.

We wish you all a lovely weekend,
The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

Wonderful Work!

Well done to all the children for trying their best this week with their learning. Your teachers have chosen the following children to praise this week for their efforts in going the extra mile.



Year 1 Jare & Amari, Rowan & Navaeh, Mia & Amelia
Year 2 Cherrilyn & Cassidy, Ben & Martin, Alessandro & Maya
Year 3 Ausar & Rita, Lyenoma & Lincoln, Rudy & Usua
Year 4 Anita & Senthana, Ola & Jade, Tanaya & Jasmine
Year 5 Maliah & Kaelan, Jahan & Keira, Ghena & Benjamin, Temi & Anton
Year 6 Roxanne & Jacob, Lournna & Ross, Ahmed & Tyler



Farewell to Ruth Foster

Today we say goodbye to our School Office Manager, Ruth Foster, who has worked at Brindishe Green since 2017. Many of you will have been helped by Ruth over the phone or in person at the school reception, and it is safe to say, the staff at Brindishe Green are indebted to her for the constant support and wealth of knowledge she provides on a daily basis. We wish Ruth all the best in her new job and want her to know she will be greatly missed.

Show Racism the Red Card

'**Together we are more**', is the Brindishe Federation motto that drives our school ethos. With Rights Respecting at the heart of our teaching, we strive to ensure that everyone feels valued, everyone feels secure and everyone is treated with fairness and respect. We are all different yet we are all equal. We are proud to be who we are, and we stand together as one community. As educators, we give our children the tools to challenge injustice and identify possibilities, so they are better equipped to make a difference to their world - for themselves and for others.



On Friday 22nd October we will be joining the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign by wearing red to raise money to fund anti-racism education across the UK. If you can, please donate £1, or whatever you can afford.

Through our assemblies and teaching we want to teach our children how important it is that we all stand together as a community and what we need to do if we hear or see something that we know is not right. If we are able to change hearts, we can change minds, and therefore change lives.

You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once but ... history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."

Michelle Obama

Keeping Our Children Safe

Following on from the message you will have received this week regarding a popular new Netflix programme, please can we encourage all our families to carefully monitor the films, programmes and computer games our children are accessing. It is very easy for even our youngest children to log in and view material that is not suitable. This might be on the television, an iPad, a mobile phone or the computer.

Age restrictions are there to prevent children from viewing content that could harm them. We would like to encourage you to talk to your child, no matter how old they are, about what they should do if they see something that they know is wrong, they should not have seen or that makes them feel uncomfortable. This will help to keep them, and others, safe and will give you an opportunity to explain to them why some content is not suitable for children. [Please click here to view helpful advice from OFCOM on how to protect our children.](#)

End of Day Collection

Please remember to call the school office **before 2.30pm** if there is a change to your child's normal pick-up arrangements so that the office can notify the relevant staff members in time for the end of the day.

Secondary School Application Deadline

Reminder to Yr 6 parents that the deadline for secondary school applications is 31st October, however Brindishe Green and Lewisham Admissions are encouraging all applications be **submitted by 22nd October** where possible. Please make sure you log into Lewisham Admissions and complete your secondary school application by this date.

Flu Immunisation Programme 12th November 2021

Reminder to use the link included in the attached letter to give your consent for the Flu Immunisation programme that will take place in school on 12th November for all children in Reception to YR 6.

£20 Annual Trip Donation

You may have seen in last week's letter that we are changing the way we ask for contributions towards school trips. From this year we are asking parents to contribute a single amount of £20 per child per year. We will then use this amount to book trips and visitors throughout the year and ask for no further contributions. We are so excited to resume trips after 2 years where they have been extremely limited. So far this year we have already booked Diwali workshops, visits to Chislehurst Caves and a trip to the London Transport Museum and we want to make sure that every child gets high quality educational visits this year. You can make your contribution by logging in to the Arbor parent portal and we thank you in advance for your support.

Dinner Money Reminder

If your child is having school dinners it is a requirement that these are paid for in advance so that arrears do not build up on your account. Non-payment has an impact on the school finances as a whole and therefore can impact on the children's learning. School dinners cost £2.45 per day or £12.45 per week and can be paid by logging into Arbor. If you need a log in for Arbor please contact the school office.

Lego

We have recently had a huge donation of Lego to the school for which we are enormously grateful. Lego is an extraordinary learning resource which we use in school to support creativity, design, problem solving and we can even use it therapeutically. We are, however, very short of **baseplates**. If you have any old Lego that you no longer require, and in particular any **baseplates** you can spare, we would be very pleased to give them a new home at school. Thank you!



We are a Gold Rights Respecting School

At Brindishe Green we teach our children about their **Rights** and about how these Rights are for all children, all over the world. Each week, we will share an article for you to discuss with your children at home.

This week we are considering **Article 16: The Right to Privacy**. We all have the right to keep some things private. Children are no different. Article 16 states that the law should protect children and young people's private, family and home life, including protecting them from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation.

Our Weekly Online Safety Message from Ms Chin

One thing we love about computing and online safety is it is for everyone. Ada Lovelace is considered the first computer programmer, and she is celebrated on 12th of October. Ada Lovelace day is used to promote the love of STEM by everyone and value the many contributions women have made to all areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Why not take a moment to find out what your child likes to do online? Do they love to code using Scratch? Maybe they're really into gaming? Perhaps they love nothing more than to listen to a good story online. Whatever it is, share in the magic of their digital lives!



Acts of Welcome

Be part of something BIG! Acts of Welcome
One (very large) little girl is inspiring the world.
<https://www.walkwithamal.org/acts-of-welcome/>

Good Chance Theatre calls on everyone worldwide to join a social media movement to welcome Little Amal, a 3.5 metre puppet of a 9-year-old girl who will walk from the Syrian border to the UK in search of her mother.

If you were in her shoes, what would make you feel at home when you arrive in a strange new village or town? The sound of a song ringing out your name? A mural depicting your journey? A poem celebrating your quest for a new home?



Opening your arms to welcome a stranger with kindness can be a radical act. Collectively these **Acts of Welcome** can change the way the world thinks about those who seem to be different. We need your help to achieve this. Each Act of Welcome will help Amal to take the next step into her future. She has 10 million steps to travel – so we need everyone. Can we come together for Little Amal? Will you join us?

There are 8 ways you can create your Act of Welcome

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Song or Dance | Create an artwork | Write a welcome message | Join in with | Make with Amal |
| | Create a gift or food | Record a video message | Spoken Word | |

How can you get involved?

1. Create your act of welcome, big or small, simple or complex. The only criteria is that it's your creative attempt to make Amal feel welcome.
2. Share your Act of Welcome with the school (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) where we can celebrate everyone's contributions with our school community. We will share all your Acts of Welcome every week and celebrate the creations on an on-line gallery.
3. Your adults should share it on social media or via The Walk's website. Be sure to tag **@walkwithamal** and include the hashtags **#ActsOfWelcome #LittleAmal**.

Important Dates

Please look on the Weduc Calendar for key dates and information regarding your child's class.

Wear Red Day – Give Racism the Red Card – 22nd Oct 2021

Half Term 25th - 29th Oct 2021

INSET Day – 1st Nov 2021 – No children in school

Start of term – 2nd Nov 2021

Flu Vaccination - 12th Nov 2021

INSET Day – 26th Nov 2021 – No children in school

Winter Break 20th December – 3rd Jan 2022

INSET Day – 4th Jan 2022

Start of Spring term – 5th Jan 2022

Remember children must be in school by 9am every day and be collected at 3.15pm

A message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

Tonight is pizza night! - Thank you to everyone who ordered a make-at-home pizza/cookie kit. You will get your pack at afternoon pick up. Brindishe Friends Group has received £2 for each pizza set sold, and £1 from every cookie pack. In total we have raised **£306** to go towards our Food Parcel Fund. Thank you for your amazing generosity!

Update on The Birdman - Many of you have been asking what happened to the planned visit to the school by The Birdman, which was due to happen at the end of last term (BFG raised funds to pay for this). The school have told us that they are trying really hard to reschedule the visit and should be able to give us more news soon.

Dates for your diary:

- 3rd November - **BFG AGM in the school hall**. Email us to attend: bfgsocials@gmail.com. All welcome!
- w/c 8th November - we will be **collecting items for our next Give/Grab a garment clothes swap event**. More details to follow next week.
- w/c 15th November - we will be **giving out the garments** collected. Open to anyone and there is no charge.
- 10th December - **The BFG Raffle draw** - bigger and even better this year!
- w/e 11th-12th December - **Festive window trail** around Hither Green
- 13th December - **distribution of food parcels** to families on free school meals

Any questions or comments? - We'd love to hear from you. Email: bfgsocials@gmail.com. Follow us on Twitter: @bfghithergreen and connect via Facebook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group') for more of news.
year will now take place on **Wednesday 3rd November at 6pm** in person, at school. Please let us know if you would like to attend. Email: bfgsocials@gmail.com. Follow us on Twitter: @bfghithergreen and connect via Facebook (search 'Brindishe Friends Group') for all our latest news.

COVID UPDATES

Please see below a copy of the decision chart to support you in knowing what to do if your child or another member of you household is exposed to Covid-19 in the coming weeks.

What do I do if.....	What ACTION is needed?	When can I RETURN to school?
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19: Sore throat, runny nose, headache, tummy ache, chicken pox, tonsillitis, sickness, diarrhoea	Follow the usual School Absence Policy	When the child is feeling better or 48 hours if the illness is sickness/diarrhoea
My child has one or more of the 3 main Covid-symptoms:	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us	On receipt of a negative test result and when your child is well enough to attend

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH TEMPERATURE – this means feeling hot to the touch on the chest or back • A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing for more than an hour, or having 3 or more episodes in 24 hours • A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE – this means being unable to taste or smell as usual 	<p>Obtain a PCR test</p> <p>Self-isolate until results are known</p> <p>Siblings who have no symptoms should continue to attend school</p>	
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact the school to inform us, stating the earliest possible date of return</p> <p>Engage fully with NHS Test and Trace</p> <p>Engage with remote learning if your child is well enough to do so</p>	<p>After the applicable isolation period and when your child is well enough to attend</p> <p>Children can return after 10 days even if the cough and loss of taste/smell remains. This can last for weeks</p>
<p>My child tests negative for Covid-19</p>	<p>Contact school to inform us</p>	<p>...same day/next day and when they are well enough to return</p>
<p>Someone in my house is ill with Covid-19 symptoms</p>	<p>Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same</p> <p>If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.</p>	
<p>Someone in my house tests positive for Covid-19</p>	<p>Obtain PCR tests for everyone in your household and advise all close contacts of the person with symptoms to do the same</p> <p>If your child(ren) have no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child(ren) have symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.</p>	
<p>NHS Test & Trace has identified my child as being in close contact of someone with symptoms confirmed as Covid-19</p>	<p>Obtain a PCR test for your child</p> <p>If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p> <p>A person is only required to isolate if they are over the age of 18 years and 6 months and are not double vaccinated. Any person who is double vaccinated or is under the age of 18 years and 6 months are not required to isolate unless they test positive or have 1 or more of the 3 main symptoms of Covid 19.</p>	
<p>Someone other than NHS Test and Trace has informed me that I am a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19</p>	<p>Obtain a PCR test for your child</p> <p>If your child has no symptoms of Covid-19 they should continue to attend school while awaiting the test result. If your child has symptoms, they must self-isolate for the required period or until a negative PCR test result is received.</p>	

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<p>We/my child has travelled and needs to self-isolate as a period of quarantine</p>	<p>Do not take unauthorised leave in term-time</p> <p>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</p> <p>Return from a destination when quarantine is needed</p> <p>Agree an earliest possible date for return</p>	<p>...the quarantine period has been completed</p>