

Brindishe Green School

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



17 January 2020

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends at Brindishe Green,

This week our athletics team from Y5 and Y6 took part in a tournament with other Lewisham schools and – yes, you’ve guessed it – came 1st! This means that they will be invited to take part in the prestigious London Youth Games in February, representing Lewisham Borough.

Our Y3 and Y4 basketball team also took part in a tournament which, disappointingly for the children, had to be cancelled half way through due to problems with the site. They hope to reschedule the day later on.

Well done to all the children who took part and thank you to Mr Lewis for his excellent coaching and support.

Mid-term Review meetings Y1 – Y6 from 10 – 14 February

Don’t forget that, in a few weeks, we will be holding meetings with parents and carers of children in Ys 1 – 6 to look at each child’s learning and progress so far this year. These meetings will take place during the week beginning 10th February.

We would like your child to come along with you to the meeting so that they can share with you their success in learning and talk about their next steps. There will be an opportunity to look at books and learning at these meetings – we know the children will be very proud to show you all they have achieved.

Booking on Arbor’s Parent Portal is **now open** and will **close at midnight on Sunday 2nd February**. Please make sure you sign up for a slot before the portal closes.

Good Attendance

At Brindishe Schools we know how important good attendance is for each child’s learning and progress. We want to work with our families to achieve this. Good attendance is 96% or higher. You can check on your own child’s attendance by logging into Arbor’s Parent Portal using your unique login details.

You can help your child have good attendance by making sure they are in school every day in term time that they are well and by **not taking holiday during term time or adding on days to the start or end of a holiday period**.

- **Holidays:** there are already 13 weeks of the year given over to holidays and therefore a holiday taken during term time will not be authorised.
- **Exceptional Circumstances:** there may be occasions where, due to exceptional circumstances, you need to request a term time absence. To do this you must complete a request form in advance. Request forms are available from the school office. Our Attendance Policy details the kinds of circumstances for which we will consider authorising an absence during term time. Please ask Sue Murphy, our AWSO, for details.

Headteacher: Gerlinde Achenbach Executive Head: Rachel Waite Chair of Governors: Lindsay Dale

In partnership with Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor Schools

- **Medical Needs:** some children with more serious medical conditions may need to attend appointments during the school day. These absences are always authorised and we keep copies of appointment letters on the child's file. Where possible we ask that you make routine doctor or dentist check-up appointments outside of school hours.

Should your child's attendance fall below 96% we will monitor any absences and will ask to meet with you should we not see any improvement. We also monitor patterns of absence, for example, where children are routinely absent on a Monday straight after a weekend.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance at school, please speak to me, to Sue Murphy (our AWSO) or to one of the Deputy Heads.

Thank you to everyone who supports their child to have the best possible attendance at school.

Term Dates

Term dates for next year, 2020 / 2021, are on our website to help you to plan your holidays outside term time.

Please note for this year that the 2020 early May Bank Holiday has been moved back by four days across the UK to coincide with the 75th anniversary of VE Day. It will be on **Friday 8 May 2020**.

Developing our outdoor spaces at Brindishe Green

Following on from our successful 'Edible Garden' rebuild, I am delighted to let you know that we have secured enough funds to improve our Nursery garden, our rooftop MUGA and our trim trail. Over the half term break the Nursery and rooftop will be laid with new astroturf. After half term, work will then begin on our trim trail, including laying a safe surface and building new equipment.

This is supported by the funds raised by our parents and carers through the BFG (Brindishe Friends Group) so thank you for all your contributions so far including over £1,000 at the Christmas Fair! The BFG will continue to raise funds for our outdoor spaces throughout this year - see below for news of the next BFG planning meeting coming up.

Safeguarding – Asthma pumps and epipens

Asthma and anaphylaxis (serious allergic response) are both potentially life-threatening conditions requiring emergency medication to be available at all times. If your child needs an asthma pump or an epipen, we will need to put together a care plan for them, drawn up by our lead first-aider, Eleni Papastavrou, via the school office. All medication needs to be brought to the school office and not handed to classroom staff please. Please ask at the school office for more information.

Rights Respecting at Brindishe Green

Article 24 (health and health services): Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.



Food Bank for AFRIL (Action for Refugees in Lewisham)

This term we are collecting tinned fruit and vegetables, especially tinned tomatoes. You can drop off your donations to the box in the foyer.



Attendance and Punctuality this week

Best attendance from Walnut, Lilac and Chestnut 2

Best punctuality from Banyan, Redwood, Maple, Lilac and Chestnut 3

Well done to these classes!

Jewellery in school

We do not allow jewellery in school apart from a simple watch (not linked to a smartphone) or religious items such as a crucifix or a Sikh bangle. We do not allow hooped earrings, necklaces or bracelets in school. For safety reasons, only close fitting stud earrings can be worn in school. Please ask if you are unsure.

Diary dates

23 Jan Y5/6 Basketball competition

4 Feb Y3/4 Football competition

4 Feb Nursery Family Outing

6 Feb 5pm Workshop on supporting young children with maths (Nursery/Reception)

12 Feb 6pm Full Governing Body meeting at Brindishe Manor School, Leahurst Road – let us know if you would like to attend as an observer and we will arrange seating for you.

13 Feb Y5/6 athletics team to London Youth Games

10-14 Feb Mid term review meetings

17-21 Feb Half term

With best wishes,

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher

A message from the BFG (Brindishe Friends Group)

A big thank you to everyone for the wonderful success of the Christmas Fair - what a fantastic afternoon. We raised just over £1,000 and we could not have done this without the wonderful support of time, donations and attendance from our wonderful school community.



Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4 February 6-7pm in the school hall. We will be making plans for upcoming events and hope to see you there.

Please email bfgsocials@gmail.com to be included in our mailing list.

Dana Bradley and Izzy Warren, Co-Chairs of the BFG