

Brindishe Green School

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17 May 2019

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

SATs at Brindishe Green

Y6 are enjoying a well-deserved trip to Chessington World of Adventures today after a week of national tests (or SATs). All the children have responded so maturely to the week, doing their very best and making all of us, at home and at school, feel so proud. Very well done children!

Our Y2 children will have completed their tests (SATs) in maths and reading by half term. In Year 2 the tests are carried out as part normal classroom practice. Year 1 children will complete their phonics screening in June with the support of their class teacher.

Thank you to all our teachers and support staff who have worked so hard with the children to help prepare them for these national tests.

Rights Respecting 'Gold' Award

Before the Easter break, we were visited by 2 advisors from Unicef who came to assess our Rights Respecting work across the school. They spoke to children, the Rights Respecting Ambassadors, staff, a governor and parents. They looked at displays, learning environments and a range of learning opportunities from across the school. We are delighted to let you all know that we have achieved the **Gold Rights Respecting Award!** There are only 473 Gold schools in the UK and we are the first school in Lewisham to be given this highly prestigious award. The assessors were blown away by the children's knowledge of the articles and how they were able to talk about them in real life situations. The report says, "*Children we spoke to throughout the visit had a particularly strong knowledge of Rights. Children gave a wide range of examples to show how the school facilitated them to enjoy their Rights. Inclusion and non-discrimination are strong features of Brindishe Green. Throughout the visit there was evidence of very strong relationships between children and between children and staff. Children had a very strong sense of social justice.*" Many thanks to Lauren Campbell, staff, parents and carers, governors and the children's rights respecting team for their hard work and support to help us achieve this prestigious award.

**Polling Day – Thursday 23 May**

As you know Brindishe Green is being used as a polling station for the European elections next Thursday 23 May.

The polling station will be set up in the nursery classroom, with access via the staff car park on Ardmere Cottages, **not** via the main entrance to the school on Beacon Road.



Nursery will be closed to children for the day but the main school will be open for children in year R to 6. Children in these classes should come to school as usual on Polling Day.

We will ensure that the general public (voters) are **ONLY** able to access the nursery classroom. There will be no access for the general public (voters) to any part of the school, dining hall, playgrounds, classrooms, toilets or entrances whilst the school is open and

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

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children are on site. The nursery area (polling station) and the entrance to and from it will be fenced off and secure and there will be **no access** into any other area of the school either externally or internally.

Our staff will be supervising the area throughout the school day and officers from the Electoral Commission will organise supervision and security at the polling station itself.

We apologise again to parents and carers of nursery children for this unforeseen closure.

Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Report

You may remember that, in March, we were visited by a team of senior leaders including an Ofsted inspector, to look at the quality of teaching and learning at Brindishe Green. The team found the quality of teaching and learning to be 'outstanding' and agreed that inclusion is an 'area of excellence' at our school. You can read the full report on our website.



Fantastic attendance this week!

Best attendance from Y6 Ash, Willow and Oak at 100% all week!

Best punctuality from so many classes this week – Ash, Willow, Oak, Chestnut 1, Elm, Acer, Magnolia and Olive.

Very well done to you all!

Next week at Brindishe Green

School photos are on Tuesday 21 May.

The Y5 and 6 tri-school sports day is being held at Ladywell Arena on Thursday 23 May.

Y5 and 6 choir perform at the Hither Green Schools' Festival at Sandhurst Primary on the evening of Thursday 23 May.

Brindishe Green Nursery

Please tell your friends and neighbours with nursery-aged children about our fantastic Brindishe Green nursery. You can email them a copy of our poster (attached).



We have 2 part time nursery classes offering 15 hours per week of high quality early years education. Children aged 3 before 31 August 2019 are eligible for a September 2019 place. Please speak to a member of our office team as soon as you can.

Helping Hands Foodbank collection – message from Mrs Callow

This term we are collecting donations of nappies and sanitary towels for the Helping Hands foodbank. Any size, any brand will be very gratefully received. Thank you to everyone who has already generously donated.



Walk to School Week

Next week is Walk to School Week. As you know walking every day is a great way to ensure our children stay fit and healthy. It also takes traffic off the roads and reduces the amount of pollution we are all exposed to. Please do what you can to ensure your child gets to walk to and from school every day next week and, if you live a little further away, try to walk for part of the journey.



Lewisham Primary Schools Book Awards – message from Ms Dunn

At Brindishe Green, we are very excited to be a part of this year's Lewisham Primary Schools' Book Awards. The children will have many opportunities over the next couple of weeks to share the newly-released shortlisted books in school, before deciding on their

favourite book with their class. If you want to get involved at home, please speak to your class teacher for a copy of the shortlist.

Diary dates

21 May School photos day

23 May School open for YR – 6. Nursery closed all day – polling station.

23 May Tri-school sports day for Y5 and 6 children at Ladywell Arena

23 May Hither Green Festival Schools' Concert 6pm Sandhurst Primary School

23 May Full Governing Body meeting, 6pm, at Brindishe Green. Please let us know if you would like to attend as an observer and we will arrange seating for you.

27 - 31 May School closed for half term

3 June INSET day – school closed to children

4 June School opens again to children

6 June Open Day for prospective parents and carers 9.30 – 10.30am and 5 – 6pm.

And finally...

Our local community festival, the Hither Green Festival, begins tonight. Please go to <https://ourhithergreen.com/hg-festival-2019/> for more details of what's on, including the Schools' Concert at Sandhurst on Thursday at which our children are singing.

With best wishes,

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher

A message from our neighbour Margaret Mizen, about a special fundraising walk for the Jimmy Mizen charity, 'For Jimmy'.

I am writing to invite your pupils, parents and community to join us on our charity walk across the beautiful bridges of London. At 'For Jimmy', we work tirelessly to keep our children safe and unharmed when they walk to and from school. That is why **Walking For Jimmy** has such a special place in my heart. To me, every step I take, and every bridge I cross, represents the journey our young people are taking towards productive, fulfilling lives, and it is both in honour of those who have been taken from us, and for those working so hard for positive change, because of the difference we at 'For Jimmy' are making.



This year's Walking For Jimmy is on **Saturday 25th May 2019**. We hope to make it the biggest and best event yet. We started the walk seven years ago to celebrate what would have been Jimmy's 21st birthday by crossing 21 bridges - one for every year of his life. Since then the walk has grown wonderfully and last year we had a staggering 300 people in yellow For Jimmy t-shirts walking across London spreading our message of forgiveness, peace and hope. The money we raised from the last year's walk has been used in our work with schools and businesses to build safer communities.

Please let everyone know that when they **sign up**, we will support them every step of the way, helping with training and fundraising so they won't be alone.

Let's walk together so every child - mine and yours - can walk home safely.

Margaret Mizen