

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

## This Week at Brindishe Green

This week at Brindishe Green, the children were reminded about the importance of being kind and patient when having to wait for something exciting...such as a birthday, a celebration, the birth of a baby or a special event. Reverend Juliet from St.Swithun's Church recorded a special message to teach the children about how Christians around the world are currently waiting for Christmas at the moment and that they call this time of year 'Advent'.

Also this week, children across the school from Years 1 to 6 have been showing their teachers what they have learnt this term and the children in Year 2 have been demonstrating how they can use their phonics to read real and alien words (Phonics Screening Check). All of the children have been practising their special songs which they will perform for you in our virtual concerts. I am sure you are very excited and can't wait to see them during the last week of term.

## Next Week at Brindishe Green

Look out for the BFG (Brindishe Friends Group) selling Festive Trail Activity packs, raffle tickets and Guess the Bauble next week. They will be in the playground at drop off and near the back gate at collection/hometime. See the attached poster for more information.

## Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Early Closure

On Wednesday you will have received a letter informing you that we will be closing early on the last day of term. Please make sure that you know what time your child must be collected from school on this day. All children must be collected from school by 2pm at the latest. We thank everyone for their support.

Surnames A-G	Surnames H-P	Surnames Q-Z
1.30 – 1.40	1.40 – 1.50	1.50 – 2.00

## Sumdog Competition

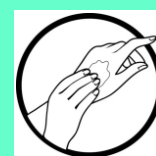
Sumdog's First National Holiday Contest is here! It starts today (Friday 4th December at 8am) and finishes at 8pm on Thursday 10th December. Mr Phipps has entered every class from Year 1 to Year 6. We did phenomenally well in the Autumn Lewisham Competition, so let's see how we do on the *national stage*! Remember, your scores are based on correct answers, not how many you answer. This means to get a higher score, you need to slow down and make sure you get the right answer. And everyone has an equal chance as your questions are specially made just for you! Good Luck everyone!



## Winter Weather – Coats and Hands

As we know many of you have noticed, the weather has really changed this week and it has certainly got much colder. Please can we remind you to make sure that your child brings a warm coat to school, and perhaps a hat, scarf and gloves for the end of the day and lunchtime. Please make sure these are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Also, we are still making sure that the children sanitise and wash their hands several times a day in school as part of keeping everyone safe and well. As the weather has turned colder, please can we suggest that you moisturise your child's hands before they come to school and when they get home as well. This will help to prevent them becoming dry and sore.



### Nursery and Reception September 2021 – Online Meeting

This week we held our first virtual meeting for families who are applying for a Reception place for Sept 2021. **There will be another opportunity to attend an online meeting on Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 4pm, where you will hear from members of the SLT and our Early Years teaching staff.** If you, or someone you know is interested in attending, please contact the school office for more information. The application process for September 2021 Reception places **has already opened**. Applications can be made until **15th January 2021**.

### Sportacus Fantastically Festive Activity Camp

Sportacus are running a festive programme of activities on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> December at Brindishe Green School and Darrick Wood Jr School. Please see the attached leaflet for more information, including a list of activities, how to book a place, and costings.



### Online Safety Bulletin - *Being Kind*

We talk to our children about being kind all the time. We encourage them to share their toys and use good manners, but how often do we discuss being kind online too? Their digital lives are as important to our children as their offline relationships, so it is important that we teach them how to be kind online too.

- Remind your child that whenever they post, comment or speak online, they should always think about how it might make other people feel.
- Talk about what a good friend would do if someone were being mean to their friend. For example: not join in and check that their friend is OK. They should tell a trusted adult if they are worried about their friend.
- We should have consent before sharing pictures or videos of others. Let your child know that being kind to others online means respecting them and thinking about the consequences of sharing something that involves someone else.

### We are a GOLD Rights Respecting School.

This week's article for you to talk about with your family is...

#### Article 32 – Protection from Harmful Work:

*Governments must protect children from economic exploitation and work that is dangerous or might harm their health, development or education. Governments must set a minimum age for children to work and ensure that work conditions are safe and appropriate.*

We teach our children the importance of a good education and that it is their Right to come to school. We also teach our children that no child should do a job that is dangerous or gets in the way of their education and wellbeing.



### Cards for children and tokens of appreciation for staff

This year, we kindly ask that children **do not** bring cards or gifts into school for children in their class/bubble. This is because we want to reduce the amount of paper coming into school and going home again. If children bring cards into school they will gently be asked to take them home again and to exchange them outside of school.

We have been asked this week by a few parents and carers about whether they can bring in a token of appreciation to a staff member towards the end of this Autumn term. Whilst we certainly do not expect any gifts from our families, should you wish to send a staff member in school a card or small token of appreciation then this would need to be given by **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**, so that the necessary precautions can be taken before staff take them home on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks.

### Brindishe Green Online Winter Book Club/Fair

Thank you to all the parents/carers and staff who purchased books through out Scholastic Book Club/Fair. Once the books arrive in school, Ms Dodd will give them to your child to bring home.

Thanks to your generosity, we received over £200 in rewards to spend on books for our school.

### Good Hope

Good Hope (on Hither Green Lane), have very kindly offered all our families and staff 10% off their Christmas Trees if you mention that your child goes to Brindishe Green. They are also supporting our Festive Trail this year and supplying Gingerbread Men for our Free School Meal Hampers over the Christmas break. We would like to thank them for their kindness and generosity.

## Weduc – our new communication system

We will now be using Weduc as our way of communicating all key messages, dates, newsletters and information on the exciting events that are going on in school. Over the next term we will be introducing different features of the app but for now we will be focusing on the **newsfeed and calendar**.

- The newsfeed will contain all our newsletters, important messages and any information we want to share with you.
- The calendar will give you immediate access to all key dates and events going on in school.

All the key information you need will now be in one place, hopefully making it easier for all our parents and carers.

## Important Message:

- Weduc is our new communications platform for parents/carers.
- Itslearning continues to be our remote learning platform for homelearning and learning during a bubble, local or national lockdown.

To get all the latest school updates, messages and information, don't forget to login to the Weduc app and read at any time.

**We hope you have a lovely weekend!**

Best wishes,

The BG Senior Leadership Team

### Important Dates

**Reception Application Online Meeting** – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December

**Afril Foodbank Collection (Cereals)** – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Lunch and Festive Jumper Day** – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December (more information to follow)

**Christmas Performances available online** – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

**End of term** – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – early finish

**INSET Day (no children in school)** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

**Start of Spring Term** – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

**And finally....**

### A message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

A big reminder that from **Monday morning (December 7<sup>th</sup>)** the BFG countdown to Christmas begins, starting with the sale of our **Festive Trail** fun packs. As well as lots of cool stuff, the packs will also include a map of Hither Green which you need to follow during **the weekend 12-13<sup>th</sup> December**, to find the letters on houses that spell out a special festive word. All the correct answers will be entered into a draw for prizes. These need to be returned to us by **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**.

Also, from Monday we will be selling **raffle tickets**. Prizes include: a food hamper from Good Hope, £10 Next voucher, pilates package and much, much more. Plus we will be holding a Guess the Baubles competition as well.

**This will all be happening in the playground/carpark before and after school all next week.** The **Festive Trail fun packs** are **£2.50 each**, the **raffle tickets** **£1 a strip** and it's **50p a guess for the baubles**, or **£1 for 3 guesses**.

All proceeds go towards helping buy equipment for Brindishe Green.

As we head towards the holidays, we're also helping the school put together hampers for families who are entitled to Free School Meals. If you would like to donate some treats please let us know. We need to receive your donations by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. We can arrange to collect.

Email us [bfgsocials@gmail.com](mailto:bfgsocials@gmail.com), or message us on Facebook – search for 'Brindishe Friends Group' - or on twitter [@bfghithergreen](https://twitter.com/bfghithergreen).