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School

# Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Thursday 23rd November 2023

### **Attendance Matters at Brindishe Schools**

If you are the parent or carer of a child between the ages of five and 16, you are legally responsible for making sure they get suitable, full-time education. This can be through regular attendance at school or alternative provision.

Schools count each school day as two sessions, one morning and one afternoon, making a total of 10 sessions over a full school week. Children must attend all 10 sessions each week to achieve 100% attendance.

If a child does not attend school their attendance is reduced by 10% for each session missed. For example, if a child has a half-day absence in a full school week they will have attended nine sessions out of 10. This means they will achieve 90% attendance. If a child is absent for a whole week, their attendance is 0%. Schools will then calculate each child's attendance over a whole term.

At Brindishe Schools, we know that attendance is key to good education and work closely with all our families. If you need some support with lateness or attendance please do contact the school office or Clare Doran at cldoran@brindisheschools.org.



### FSM Vouchers for Christmas Holidays 2023



The London Borough of Lewisham has confirmed that it is able to support families with FSM (Free School Meal) eligible children by providing vouchers for the October (2023) half term. The available funding means they can assist these families at a rate of £30 per eligible child. Families will receive a supermarket voucher provided by an extension to the Household Support Fund via London Borough of Lewisham and your school.

Last Friday the 17th November, families who are on benefit related free school meals should have received a HAF Holiday Voucher from Holiday Activities. Redeeming this voucher will credit your account with 4 credits that can be used to book free activities over the holiday period for 4 hours per day, 4 days a week. Food will be provided along with fruit and snacks.

Please be aware that activities are booked on a first-come, first-served basis so keep an eye out for an email or text message containing a HAF voucher and be sure to browse the available activities.

If you are unsure of the process of redeeming and using your voucher, please see the following link which will take you to the online Parent Guide: <u>https://help.holidayactivities.com/hc/en-gb/articles/12899380332561-Parent-Guide</u>.

For further support, please email the provider direct on <a href="mailto:support@holidayactivities.com">support@holidayactivities.com</a> or call on 01638 438 311.

## **School Meals**

Helping any child grow up fit and healthy begins with a balanced diet. Children need to eat three balanced meals a day as well as snacks to ensure their bodies are getting all the nutrients they need. Here are some of the key benefits of hot school meals, which most of our children enjoy in Brindishe Schools, served by Radish.

- Aiding Concentration
- Trying New Foods
- Tackling Obesity
- Developing Social Skills
- Learn about food and nutrition
- Hot lunches provided every day, especially beneficial in Winter Months.

Has your child tried our school meals yet? Did you know under the Mayor of London's Scheme, all primary aged school children are entitled to a free hot lunch every day?

Each day the children will have a choice of 3 main dishes, a pudding OR a choice of either cheese/biscuits or yoghurt, freshly baked bread, fresh fruit, 9 salad choices each day from the salad bar and milk and water.

For further information including Autumn Term menus, please visit our website https://green.brindisheschools.org/page/?title=School+Meals&pid=230







### **Online Safety Bulletin - Brindishe Online Workshops**

Does your child spend time exploring online?

The internet's a great place for children to learn, create, chat with friends and family, access information or support and explore fun apps, sites and games. But exploring comes with risks, so it's vital we know how to keep them safe online.

That's why we'd like to invite you to join our FREE workshop: 'Keeping children safe online'.

#### Our workshop will:

- Help you understand how kids experience the online world
- Show you resources and tools that could help keep them safe
- Empower you to guide them on their journey

**For:** parents, carers and family members (this workshop is for adults so please arrange childcare if possible)

#### Date: <u>Tuesday 12th December 2023</u>

**Time:** 6 pm (this workshop will last 1 hour) **Price:** free



#### Delivered by: NSPCC – Local Campaign Manager Gail Sayles

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81447671313?pwd=WFdQQ3VkSkJWZm13WmF5UUIMSUxOdz09 Meeting ID: 814 4767 1313 Passcode: 307249

### Governing Body

If you would like to attend a Brindishe Federation Governing Body meeting, please email our Chair of Governors, Liz Murphy - Imurphy@brindisheschools.org. Our second meeting is on **Tuesday 12th December 2023 6pm at Brindishe Green School.** 

#### Key Federation Dates

- Brindishe Schools INSET Day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Schools closed to all children.
- End of term Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December
- Brindishe Schools INSET DAY Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- Children return to school Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- Deadline for Primary Admissions Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- Half Term Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

### **Current Vacancies at Brindishe Schools**

We currently have some vacancies at Brindishe Schools for Extended Services Play Leaders, Nursery Nurses and Higher Level Teaching Assistants.

Please visit our website for further information - https://www.brindisheschools.org/page/? title=Vacancies&pid=426