



Brindishe
Lee

See you on Monday 11th September between
8.50 – 9am.

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

Thank you everyone for making me feel so welcome in my new role as Head of School at Brindishe Lee. It has been a joy to see your children return to school and settle in to their new classes. They have thoroughly enjoyed using the new equipment in the playground. Luckily, that area is mostly in the shade, so the children have not been too hot whilst exploring it. The teachers have worked very hard preparing the learning and the classrooms for the children and they are looking forward to sharing the year ahead with you at the Meet the Teacher meetings next week and the following week. Welcome to our new Reception children and families. I'm sure the community will make you all feel as welcome as they have made me feel as we start our journey at Brindishe Lee together.

Gate times

Well done to all our families, and staff, who have adjusted to our new opening times. Just to reiterate, that the gate will open at 8.50am and close at 9.00am. Apologies for any confusion caused by communication before the summer break. The ten minute window is enough to ensure a calm, orderly entry to the school site. The gate will open for the end of the day at 3.30pm.

School Lunches

School lunches are free for all children this year, so please do encourage your child to try them out during the next week. They are tasty, nutritious and could save you a lot of time and money! If you have any outstanding payments, please settle them as soon as possible with the school office.

Trips

Over the coming weeks the teachers will be informing you of up and coming educational visits and visitors. Over the past two years we have asked for a one off voluntary contribution at the beginning of the year to pay for these. This year we have reverted back to families paying for individual visits/visitors. This will be done on Weduc. As always, we rely on parent/carer volunteers to accompany and support on visits in order for them to be a success. We hope that you will all be able to go on one or more visits with your child during the year, if possible.

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Brindishe
Lee

Meet the Teacher Meetings

We have been listening to your survey responses and want to make sure that we communicate as much as possible about what your child/ren are learning in class. From next week we will be inviting parents and carers to come in to the classroom at 3.45pm and meet with the year group teaching staff and hear about the year ahead. This will include what the academic year looks like for each subject and what you can do to support your child at home. If you cannot come to your meeting, the presentation will be shared via Weduc and the website. Please note a change to the date for the Year 5 meeting which is later than the date shared in July.

Year Group	Date
Year 1	Monday 11 th September
Year 2	Tuesday 12 th September
Year 3	Wednesday 13 th September
Year 4	Thursday 14 th September
Year 5	Thursday 21 st September
Year 6	Monday 18 th September

Important Dates

Over the summer we have worked very hard to plan the year ahead. We have produced a document which includes some of the main dates that you will need to know. Please note that some of these dates may be subject to change if something out of our control arises, but we will do our very best not to move them. We have one or two more dates to pin down with the FAB team and we aim to share these dates with you early next week.

If you have questions about payments, the school day, term dates, safeguarding, Wrap Around Care, the curriculum, school meals etc, most of this information can be found on our website ([Brindishe Federation - Brindishe Lee \(brindisheschools.org\)](http://Brindishe Federation - Brindishe Lee (brindisheschools.org))). If you need to get a message to our staff or have a specific question, please email info-BL@brindisheschools.org or telephone the office on 0208 318 4626. There are always staff on hand at the beginning and the end of the day to answer any questions.

Best wishes,

Siân Bannister

Head of School

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Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 8th September 2023

Reception Open Days

Please see below our open days for parents/carers applying for Reception places for September 2024.

Brindishe Green	Brindishe Manor	Brindishe Lee
Thursday 28th September - 10am and 4.30pm	Tuesday 26th September - 9.30am and 4.30pm	Thursday 21st September - 9:30am and 4:30pm
Tuesday 17th October - 10am and 4.30pm	Thursday 12th October - 9.30am and 4.30pm	Monday 16th October - 9:30am and 4:30pm
Tuesday 14th November - 10am and 4.30pm	Monday 13th November - 9:30am and 4:30pm	Wednesday 15th November - 9:30am and 4:30pm

For further information on open days and how to book a place on the tour, please contact individual schools. Email details can be found on our school websites.

Nursery tours

Brindishe Green - Tuesday 9th May 4-4.30pm – email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk to reserve a place on the tours.

Brindishe Manor - Thursday 11th May 4-4.30pm – email info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk to reserve a place on the tours.

Free school meals for children in Reception to Year 6 for 2023/2024 – Mayors Universal Free School Meals Expansion.

As you are aware, from September all pupils will be able to receive a school meal at no cost to their parent/carer. This is known as The Mayors Universal Free School Expansion and is a government initiative.

As this is very new, we have allocated a 3-week trial period for all children in Key Stage 2 who may wish to transfer from packed lunch to school meals. During the first 3 weeks of term, your child/children can try the school meals (free of charge) provided by Radish and teachers will take a daily 'lunch register' during this time. At the end of the 3 weeks, we ask that parents/carers and children make a definite decision as to whether they would like to continue with school meals free of charge or return to a packed lunch option. If your child wishes to remain packed lunch from September, then please continue to send them in with a named, healthy packed lunch box.

The Autumn Term School Meals menus can be found on our school website. From September, we will also be offering Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6) the option of a baguette with a choice of fillings.

[Brindishe Federation - School Meals \(brindisheschools.org\)](http://brindisheschools.org)



Starting Secondary School in 2024

If your child is in Year 6 and due to start secondary school in September 2024, then now is the time to start filling in your online application and visiting Lewisham secondary school 'Open Days'

The Lewisham website has all the information you need to know about secondary admissions. The first time you visit the site, you will be invited to sign up to the bulletin. We advise you to complete this quick sign up as you will receive automated emails giving you reminders and deadlines for the entire secondary process.

[Lewisham Council - Applying to start secondary school in September 2024](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of Brindishe School senior leadership team for further help or advice.

- Schools open for visits: September/October 2023 (please check on school websites for up to date open day/evening information)
- Applications open ([apply online](#)): Friday 1 September 2023
- Closing date for applications: Tuesday 31 October 2023 (we recommend that you submit your online application by Tuesday 24 October 2023)

Meet the Teacher

As you are aware, at the end of the summer term, we shared with you the parent/carer survey feedback. We have been listening carefully to your responses and want to make sure that going forward, we communicate with you as much as possible about school life and what your child/ren is learning in class.

Starting next week, we would like to invite parents/carers into school to meet the leadership team and the year group teaching staff for your child/ren. During this meeting, a member of the senior leadership team will provide you with some key information, including information about our online platforms, best channels of communication, attendance, our school website and school meals. You will then hear about the year ahead from the teaching team, including themes, key texts that will be studied, PE dates, trips and visits already planned, any statutory testing and most importantly how you can best support at home. There will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have.

Please see email from individual schools for exact dates and times for each year group.

Governing Body Dates

If you would like to attend a Brindishe Federation Governing Body meeting as an observer, please email our Chair, Liz Murphy - lmurphy@brindisheschools.org

Autumn 1	Brindishe Green	Thursday 12 th October, 6pm
Autumn 2	Brindishe Green	Tuesday 12 th December, 6pm
Spring 1	Brindishe Manor	Tuesday 6 th February, 6pm
Spring 2	Brindishe Manor	Tuesday 19 th March, 6pm
Summer 1	Brindishe Lee	Wednesday 22 nd May, 6pm
Summer 2	Brindishe Lee	Tuesday 16 th July, 6pm



Rights Respecting at Brindishe Schools - Article of the Week

Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

How can education support you to develop your personality, talents and abilities?

- Support health and wellbeing
- Understanding human rights
- Provide a safe space
- Treating you as an individual
- Learning about different careers
- Providing access to music, art and sports
- Giving you a voice
- Encourage friendships
- Trips
- Residentials
- Outdoor learning
- Clubs



Article 29 says that children should be encouraged to respect their own and other cultures. How do you celebrate different cultures at home? At Brindishe Schools we welcome all children and families from all cultures. We nurture all talents and help children develop their personalities. Watch this video [here](#) to hear Hilary Alcock, RRSA Professional Adviser, explain more about Article 29 and the goals of education as we welcome you all back to the new academic year.

Key Federation Dates

- Secondary admission application open (apply online) – **Friday 1st September 2023**
- Secondary schools open for visits throughout September & October. Please check on school websites for open day/evening information or go to <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school>
- Closing date for secondary applications – **Tuesday 31st October 2023** (we recommend that applications are submitted by Tuesday 24th October 2023)
- October Half Term – **Monday 23rd October 2023 - Friday 27th October 2023**
- Brindishe Schools INSET Day –