

Friday 16thth October 2020

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

Governor Update

Before the summer holiday Lindsay Dale, a long standing member of the Brindishe Governing Body, stepped down as our Chair. Lindsay was a hugely committed member of the Governing Body and on behalf of the Federation, I'd like to thank her for all the time and energy she invested.

During our first meeting of the Autumn Term, I am pleased to announce that Liz Murphy, an experienced Brindishe Governor and member of our Community was voted in as the new Chair. We very much welcome her into the role and Liz will be writing to you over the next few weeks with a little about herself and the Federation Governing Body.

Kind regards,
Rachel Waite
Executive Headteacher

Mental Health Week at Brindishe Green

This week the children across the school have been enjoying a range of activities, discussions and assemblies to support their mental health. The children have been gardening, doing The Daily Mile, writing poetry and doing yoga and mindfulness. As well as this, the children have been using their Mental Health Toolkit to support them to feel better when they are feeling sad or worried.



Black History Month at Brindishe Green

At Brindishe Green we do not limit Black History to one month of the year. We want our children to feel represented, inspired and learn a diverse history all year round. We have worked hard to make sure our curriculum is exciting and inclusive. However, during October we do like to incorporate some additional opportunities to celebrate and learn about inspiring Black people and their culture.

It is only half way through Black History Month and we have already had so many exciting learning opportunities. There have been wonderful virtual assemblies, some of which have been led by our children, celebrating people like Mae Jemison, Barack Obama, Diane Abbott and Aretha Franklin, to name a few. We have delivered new books to each classroom which celebrate the black community and black history. The children in Maple class have learned a song by Harry Belafonte which sparked an interesting discussion about both historic and present racism. Palm class have written their own speeches inspired by Martin Luther King which are now proudly displayed in the school. In Reception the children have looked at food, inventions and designs originating from Africa and their teachers were blown away by their enthusiasm. We cannot wait to hear about more celebrations as we go into the final week of this half term.

Get a Garment

On **Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October** the clothes that have been collected will be displayed in the playground for families to take. Only one coat/jumper/pair of shoes can be taken per child. There will be a donation bucket if you would like to make a small contribution towards the school.

Please look out for the poster, which is attached to the newsletter email.

Foodbank Collection

Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October

Once again we are collecting much needed items for the **Helping Hands Foodbank!**

This term we are collecting **long life (UHT) fruit juice**. Any size or brand is very gratefully received!

Please bring your donations to school on **Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October**, during drop off. There will be collection boxes in the playground on those days.

The 'Helping Hands Foodbank' is a joint project between the Church of the Good Shepherd with St Peter (in Lee) and Action for Refugees in Lewisham (AFRIL). AFRIL is a small, locally-run charity based in Lewisham. They work to relieve poverty and social isolation amongst refugees and asylum seekers, by providing education, family support services, and access to emergency supplies. Thank you for your donations!

Sumdog Competition

A big thank you to everyone for taking part in the latest Lewisham Sumdog competition. Over 150,000 maths questions were answered correctly by students across Lewisham - fantastic! The overall winners are the classes which scored the highest throughout the contest and **I am delighted to announce that the top three classes are all from Brindishe Green**. Huge congratulations to:

1st place - Mangrove Class

2nd place - Redwood Class

3rd place - Lilac Class

The top students are the ones which answered the most questions correctly throughout the contest and there were many children from Brindishe Green who did really well. However, I am also delighted to announce **the top three individual students are all from Brindishe Green too!** Huge congratulations to:

1st Place - Nevaeh (Oak Class) - 996 points

2nd Place - Thevishan (Olive Class) - 993 points

3rd Place - Arthur W (Cedar Class) - 988 points

There were many other classes who won daily prizes so once again a big thank you for your enthusiasm and your hard work. Just remember, maths is fun! Mr Phipps

Re-entering School at the End of the School Day

Please can we ask you to talk to your child about the importance of remembering to bring their coat and belongings to the playground at the end of the school day. Due to our one way systems and the need to keep different bubbles separated, it is not possible for children to re-enter the building or go back to their classroom. This is the same when it comes to children needing to use the toilet. The outside toilets are cleaned thoroughly before the end of the school day so that they are ready to be used by Rocks and Pebbles. It is not possible for children to use the toilet as this is a different bubble.

Parent Teacher Meetings

After half term we will be holding our Parent Teacher Meetings online using video call. These will take place during week beginning 2nd November. We will send more information to you over the next couple of weeks.

Half Term Break

Our half term holiday break takes place from Monday 26th to Friday 30th October. All children are due back in school on Monday 2nd November. If anything changes, we will let you know via text message and email as soon as we are told by the Department of Education. Until then, our dates remain the same.

Half Term Holiday Camp

Sportacus will run their ever popular holiday camp again this half-term. From **Monday 26th to Friday 30th October**, they will be providing an action packed programme of sports and games at Brindishe Green. Call Harry on **07828 218690** or email Harry@sportacus.co.uk for further information.

School Dinners

If your child is in Years 3 -6 and has a school dinner, these should be paid for at least a week in advance (£11.50 per week). This can either be done through Arbor Parent Portal or by posting cash in an envelope into the black box at the main door. If you have any outstanding dinner money debts, please make sure that these are paid before the half term break.



Online Safety Bulletin

What do I do if my child sees something inappropriate online?

Being online is a great tool, however, sometimes children may suddenly be exposed to inappropriate material. If this occurs, it is important not to overreact if your child tells you about something they have seen. It is positive that they have turned to you as a trusted adult. You may feel a mix of emotions, e.g. shock or anger, however, by dealing with it calmly your child will know they can turn to you again.

If you come across illegal content, such as images of child abuse, you can report this to the Internet Watch Foundation at www.iwf.org.uk in the UK, and find details of other national hotlines at www.inhope.org.

We are a GOLD Rights Respecting School

At Brindishe Green we teach the children about their Rights and how these Rights are for all children, all over the world. Each week we will share an Article for you to discuss with your child at home.

Article 27 - Adequate standard of living

Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy weekend. See you on Monday.

Best wishes,
The Brindishe Green Senior
Leadership Team

Important Dates

Get a Garment – Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October

Harvest Collection – Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October

Secondary School Applications – Saturday 31st October (at the latest)

Half Term Holiday – Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Flu Vaccinations (Rec to Year 6) – Monday 9th November

A Message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in coats, jumpers and shoes this week for our 'Give A Garment' event. We had a fantastic response and we are busy sorting through the donations ready for our 'Get A Garment' event next week (see attached poster).

On Monday and Tuesday during drop-off we will be stationed **in the playground near the car park**, and the donated items will be laid out on display. If your child has outgrown their clothes and needs a new coat, jumper or pair of shoes for school you can collect one garment per child from each table.

We will also have collection buckets available should you wish to make a voluntary donation towards the school. We are raising money for books and playground equipment.

How to Join the BFG

As a parent/carer of a Brindishe Green child you are automatically a member of the Brindishe Friends Group. If you would like to get involved in organising and running events, or have any suggestions as to what we could do to raise money for the school, please email us on bfgsocials@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

You can also keep in touch with us via Facebook (search for Brindishe Friends Group) or on our new Twitter page (@bfgithergreen).

Best wishes,
Dana and Izzy