

Please wear a face mask/covering on school premises when dropping off or collecting you child. Thank You

Friday 21st May 2021

Dear families, governors, staff and friends,

This week we have been celebrating Neurodiversity at Brindishe Green. The children have been exploring the fact that our brains are all different, and how this makes each and every one of us who we are and contributes to a varied and interesting world. Some children recorded their thoughts for us about this week's activities and assemblies:

"I really liked the words 'Great minds think differently' because I agree that there is not just one way for a mind to be great."

"I feel like my friends understand me more and that makes me happy."

"Everyone is different and now I feel confident in myself!"

"I enjoyed working on lots of mindfulness activities."

"I see that Autism doesn't have to mean disability, it's a different ability."



If you would like to watch a video made by The National Autistic Society, which was shared as part of Key Stage 2 assembly this week, you can follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbwRrVw-CRo>

As a school we would like to remind everyone that Monday 31st May is the start of the half-term break and as a result of this school will be closed for all until Monday 7th June.

Finally, continued thanks to everyone for making a conscious effort to ensure that you keep your distance around our school grounds and for leaving the area promptly after drop-off and pick-up. By working together, we can continue to offer our children, staff and Brindishe community a secure and safe school environment.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Wonderful Work!

This week, the following children have received an extra special mention as they have shown a fantastic attitude to their learning and produced some amazing learning outcomes. Look out for their 'praise card' which will come home with them today. **Well done everyone**



Year 1: Tracy & Zyan; Lina & Maya; Ben & Noah

Year 2: Lars & Basmat; Mihai & Ase; Sol & Uswa

Year 3: Shyanne & Ramzi; Aiden & Willow; Chiraz & Tamaya

Year 4: Temi & Valerie; Roxana & Tymon; Haleem & Jayla; Juan & Aisha

Year 5: Arjian & Naomi, Ismail & Mareks, David & Louna

Year 6: Taevion & Tymoteusz, Arwel & Adi, Amy & Dorothy

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

As some of you may already be aware, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, is now a statutory part of the National Curriculum. This change was due to begin as of September 2020 but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schools have been given longer to bring this into their curriculums.

Schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), which will inform schools' decisions on when and how certain content is covered. We would really appreciate it if parents could read through the policy and share your thoughts with us through an online survey.

Executive Head: Rachel Waite Chair of Governors: Liz Murphy

In partnership with Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor

This survey is our first step in our schools' engagement on Relationships Education with you. Your comments will help us understand your views so that we can take these into consideration as we update our curriculum to meet the new requirements. The deadline for completing this survey is **18th June 2021**.

Policy Link: <https://green.brindisheschools.org/news/?pid=5&nid=3&storyid=395>

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6K9QPRP>

Thank you in advance for your help and support.



**'You don't need to be a politician; To make it your mission to conserve, to protect;
To preserve that one and only home;
That is ours; To use your unique power;
To give next generations the planet they deserve.'
Excerpt from Amanda Gorman's poem - Earthrise.**

The Young Climate Warriors weekly challenges help children to make small changes to the way they live to be part of wider efforts to tackle global environmental issues. Systemic and societal changes are needed to address climate change, but 'we don't need to be a politician' – if we all work together, as communities, and 'make a start today', we can all be part of the change. Taking action against plastic pollution is a very tangible way for children to be involved.

This week children are asked, with your permission of course, to banish the clingfilm and the plastic bags – forever! We suggest the first step is for them to hide them in a different cupboard so you have to think twice before using them! Older children might enjoy listening to [Amanda Gorman reciting the entire poem 'Earthrise'](#).



Thank you, Ms Chin: Online Safety Workshop for both children and adults

This week saw the children in Years 3 to 6 take part in the Online Safety Workshop led by The Breck Foundation. They were taught how to keep safe online, especially when playing certain games or using social media. The presentation to parents and carers on Tuesday evening highlighted the risks of online grooming and discussed ways to empower young people to make safe choices when interacting with others online.

This event was watched by over 70 families – the biggest audience for the Breck Foundation yet. Thank you so much to Ms Chin for organising an event with such an important message.



Thank you from Mrs Cairns

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers from Beech Class who helped with the walking to and from swimming these last two weeks. We literally could not do it without you! It has been a really worthwhile experience and the children have absolutely loved it. Thank you in advance to the parents and carers of Elm Class who are starting on Monday - if you are able to help on any day, please let the school office or Mr Henry know.

A message from Mr Williamson (Physical Wellbeing and Healthy Living Lead)

We're very excited to be welcoming top athlete Frederick Afrifa to Brindishe Green on Tuesday 15th June. Frederick Afrifa will be leading a **sponsored fitness circuit with all pupils**, and will follow-up with a talk and question and answer session. The aim of the event is to inspire the pupils to take up sport generally, but just as

importantly to encourage them to discover and then pursue their passion in life. Please see the letter that has been sent home for more details.

Donations of Wellies and Waterproofs



The Forest School and Gardening Clubs are up and running and proving to be very popular. Do you have any used but now unwanted waterproof jackets, trousers or wellies you could donate to our Forest School? Any size would be gratefully received but we particularly need sizes to fit 9-11 year olds. Similarly, if you have any gardening equipment (trowels, small forks etc) they would also be gratefully received and put to good use! Many thanks.



A message from..... Danny Gray, ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

Don't forget to sign up to the **Easyfundraising** app. **Easyfundraising** is an easy way to raise funds! It's free to use. All you need to do is download the app onto your phone / tablet / computer, then use the app when you do any online shopping. It has most shops on the app, whether you're buying some clothes, or booking a haircut for your dog! It doesn't cost you any extra – if you do your online shopping through the app, you will automatically raise some money for Brindishe Green. Please find the link below. Many thanks in advance for your support.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brindishegreen/>

School Dinners

Please remember that school dinners for children in Years 3-6 should be paid in advance through Arbor. If your circumstances have changed and you think your child is now entitled to Free School Meals, you should make an application online and inform the school office straight away. Applications can be made using the following link: [Applying for Free School Meals Online](#)

COVID UPDATES

Restrictions are lifting, but specific guidance remains in place. Please take time to read the following information to ensure we keep ourselves, our school and our community as safe as we can....

HANDS, FACE, SPACE

This message is still a key part of our life.

HANDS: We will, once again, be reminding the children of following good hand hygiene, by washing their hands regularly. Please encourage your children to do the same at home

FACE: Our expectations remain in place. We still encourage face coverings as you enter the school grounds

SPACE: Maintaining a distance of at least 1m between us where possible will help reduce risk for all

Current rulings in place

- You can now meet up outside in larger groups, up to a limit of 30 people
- You can now meet indoors as a group of up to six people or two households
- Indoor hospitality can reopen
- Hotels and all holiday overnight accommodation can reopen
- You may also go on holiday or travel abroad, following government guidelines

Travelling

If you or any member of your household are travelling outside of the UK to either a RED, AMBER or GREEN country, you must inform the school (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) so we can ensure that you and your family are clear about the procedures and restrictions that may need to be followed. We will ask you to let us know the following information:

- Where you or your household member are going
- The return date to the UK
- Who is in your household

Covid Symptoms – If you, your child or a member of your household becomes ill with Covid-19 symptoms or receives a positive test result for COVID-19, please email info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk immediately providing the person/child's name, class, date, and the type and date of test. Your whole household must self-isolate for 10 days. **Please let the school know straight away of your child's test results.**

Continuing to keep Brindishe Green Safe and Our Children at School

We ask that all families support us in keeping the children, staff and community safe:

- Please wear a face covering/mask when on school premises, if possible
- **Please try to cross to the far side of Beacon Road once you have collected your child, rather than walk in front of the gate where parents are standing and waiting to enter the school.**
- Contact the school office via email (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) or telephone 02088527245.
- Please read our texts, emails and letters to keep up to date with new information

Important Dates

Monday 24th - Friday 11th May	Elm Class Swimming
Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June	Half Term
Monday 7th June – Friday 18th June	Redwood Swimming
Monday 7th June – Friday 11th June	Years 5 and 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 15th June	Sponsorship event with Frederick Afrifa, 100m Sprinter
Monday 21st June – 2nd July	Spruce Class Swimming
Thursday 17th June/Friday 18th June	Class photos and Individual Year 6 photos
Friday 23rd July	End of Term

We wish you all a lovely weekend,
The Brindishe Green Senior Leadership Team

A message from the Brindishe Friends Group (BFG)

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We're a group of teachers, carers and parents who are working with the community to raise funds for the school and put a smile on the faces of everyone at Brindishe Green.

This coming week we hope to start putting dates on some of our upcoming events (see below). Please sign up to be on our mailing list so you can be the first to know: bfgsocials@gmail.com. You can follow us on social media. On twitter: @bfgthiergreen and on Facebook search 'Brindishe Friends Group'.

We'll need **more volunteers** to make all this happen, so if you fancy getting involved, please email us - any assistance, however big or small, is very, very welcome.

Our big list of events (Covid restrictions permitting!):

- A summer 'Give a garment/Grab a garment'
- The return of the cake sale
- Fun quiz to be held at *Drinks at Bob's*
- A stall on the Hither Green Jumble Trail (w/kend 19/20 June)
- Raffle prize draw
- Street Tree planting programme around the school

And just a reminder that we're hoping to be able to enhance food parcels given out to Brindishe Green families over the summer break (as we did over Christmas). This time we want to concentrate on long life cupboard foods and suggestions for exciting recipes. If you have links with any kind of food business that you think might be willing to donate something please get in touch: bfgsocials@gmail.com