



*Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022*

Welcome back to you our families across the Brindishe Federation. The first week of a new year can often come with mixed emotions. Setting the alarm clock for an earlier start, leaving parents, carers and siblings at the school gate, the excitement of a new class, a new teacher, a new routine and of course seeing old and new friends. Nervous tummies to huge big smiles, the week has come to an end and we have been so impressed with the way everyone has come back. Our key values: curious, compassionate, confident, collaborative and committed have begun to shine through and we are very proud. Well done on a fantastic week and here's to a great year ahead!

Rachel Waite  
**Executive Headteacher**

### **Welcome to our new families**

Welcome to our new reception, Nursery and families from other year groups who joined us this week. The children have had a great first week with us and it has been a real pleasure to meet you all at the gates and in the classrooms. Next week our Nursery and Reception children continue their transition sessions, moving to their full allocated hours, but please remember that the teachers and staff will talk to you personally if they feel that a slower pace is needed for your child. We are looking forward to seeing you on Monday from 8:50am

Kate Porter  
**Headteacher**

### **Drop-off and communicating with teachers**

It is great that we can now welcome parents and carers back in to our playground in the morning for drop-off. Can we please remind anyone who is dropping children off in the morning that you should not come in to the classrooms, but say goodbye to the children at the classroom door. If you have messages for teachers please email [info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk) rather than try and pass on messages at these times as they are with children. Teachers can call parents and carers back or respond to emails once the school day has finished.



### **The Queen**

Today, we have spoken to the children in classes and in assemblies about the Queen to reflect the period of national mourning and commemorate the life of Her Majesty.

The passing of the Queen could affect children, especially those that have previously experienced loss or if this is their first experience of death. For advice on speaking to your child about the Queen's death or death in general, Winston's wish, a childhood bereavement charity shares tips here:

<https://www.winstonswish.org/>

## Secondary School Admissions for 2023

Parents/carers of Year 6 children will need to apply for Secondary schools by October 31<sup>st</sup>. If you need any help with your application, please email our assistant head for Year 6, Julie Hockham, and she would be happy to answer any questions. [jhockham@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:jhockham@brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk)

### Email reminders

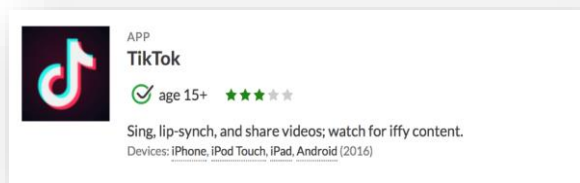
Don't forget you can also [sign up for Lewisham's Admissions weekly emails](#) – these will go out once a week from 1 September with tips, advice and reminders and have been very useful for parents/carers in the past.

## Brindishe Weekly Online Safety Bulletin How to check an App is appropriate for your child

As we enter the Autumn Term, many children may spend more time at home on devices. We know that the internet offers children great ways to play, learn and collaborate. But how can you check if an app is suitable?

Common Sense Media are an independent review website, publishing independent ratings and reviews for nearly everything kids want to watch, read, play, and learn.

They offer family discussion points, rate the educational value and classify the subject or skills targeted. These short guides give you all the essential information that you need to know to make a decision quickly -- or manage a decision that's already been made.



<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews>

## 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.

The start of a new year is often a time for looking at our lives and making promises to ourselves. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is a list of promises from world leaders to all the children and young people of the world.

This week in Brindishe Schools, children will be entering a new school year and revisiting Class Charters with their new teachers. They will be looking forward to the year ahead. What are they hoping for in 2022/2023?

[Click here to listen to Steven Kidd, Professional Adviser at UNICEF UK, introduce Article 29.](#)



**Parent Governors are Brindishe**  
**WHAT IS A PARENT GOVERNOR?**

Parent Governors are Brindishe parents or carers who have been elected by the parent communities of the three schools. Our constitution allows us to have two Parent Governors. Their job is not to raise issues or grievances on behalf of the parent community, but instead to be typical or representative parents, seeing things through the eyes of a parent or carer, and providing the parental voice on the Governing Body, which itself is there to discuss and debate issues important to the safety and running of the schools, oversee and approve the budgets and finances, and support the senior leaders of all three schools in providing the very best education for all our children.

It's an important role and it does require a willingness to get involved, and give time and effort. As well as the Governing Body meetings which are held twice a term, we also have working parties to discuss particular issues in more detail, and we ask each governor to lead on a specific priority area from the school development plan.

We will be shortly running Parent Governor elections, please think about whether this could be a role for you.

From,

Liz Murphy

Chair of Governors.

**Reception Open Days**

Please see below our open days for parents/carers applying for Reception places for September 2023.

Brindishe Green	Brindishe Manor	Brindishe Lee
<b>Thursday 29 September</b> 10am and 4.30pm	<b>Tuesday 27th September</b> 9:30am and 4:30pm	<b>Thursday 22nd September</b> 9:30am and 4:30pm
<b>Tuesday 18 October</b> 10am and 4.30pm	<b>Thursday 13th October</b> 9:30am and 4:30pm	<b>Monday 17th October</b> 9:30am and 4:30pm
<b>Thursday 17th November</b> 10am and 4.30pm	<b>Monday 14th November</b> 9:30am and 4:30pm	<b>Wednesday 16th November</b> 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.

## **Key Dates**

- Secondary admission application open (apply online) – **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022**
- 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>
- Year 5 to the Observatory – **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September**
- Year 4 Thunberg to Lullingstone Roman Villa – **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**
- Hispanic Day – **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September**
- Open Classroom – parents and carers will have the chance to look at their child's learning in their classroom – **3 – 3.45 Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**
- Year 4 Attenborough to Lullingstone Roman Villa – **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October**
- Year 6 to school journey in Swanage - **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**
- Bikeability week – **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October**
- Closing date for secondary applications – **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022** (we recommend that applications are submitted by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022)
- October Half Term – **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**