

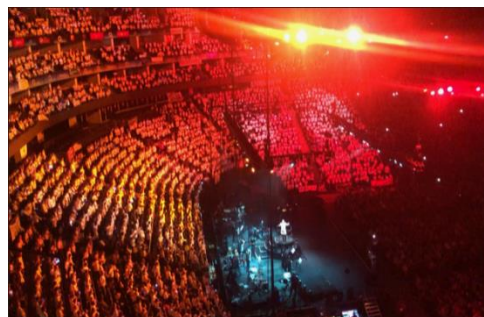
Brindishe Green Newsletter

Friday 27th January 2023



Dear families, governors, neighbours and staff,

This week a group of 19 Year 5 and 6 children represented our school at the Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena. Along with 9,099 other children and a host of special guests (including Heather Small), the children performed a range of beautiful songs and dance routines. The children left school at 12.30pm and were collected from the arena at 9.10pm and it was safe to say that despite it being a very long and tiring day, every single child behaved impeccably - we were extremely proud of them all. A special thank you goes to Mr Henry, Ms Ayse, Ms Melissa and Miss Campbell who accompanied the children on the day, and to Mr Richardson and Mrs Cliftlands who prepared the children so well. It was definitely an experience that no-one will forget.



Also this week, all three Year 4 classes visited The Tower of London as part of their learning on the Tudors. Thank you to the teachers for planning and leading this visit, and all the parents/carers who accompanied them. Without you, visits like this would not be possible.

This week we were delighted to welcome Jo Sharrock to Brindishe Green. Ms Sharrock, who worked at Brindishe Lee for many years, is returning from maternity leave on 9th February and will be the new teacher in Swift Class. This is because Jess Waghorn will be leaving us today to begin her maternity leave. We are all very excited for Ms Waghorn and look forward to finding out when her little baby has arrived. We also look forward to welcoming her back to school when she is ready to return.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy weekend.

Best Wishes,

The Senior Leadership Team

Wednesday 1st February, NEU Teachers' Strike

NOTIFICATION OF CLASS CLOSURES

On Friday 20th January, we wrote to you regarding the upcoming strikes that have been arranged by the National Education Union, in protest of teachers' pay and conditions, and school funding. The vast majority of the teachers at Brindishe Green are members of the NEU, and therefore, **the majority of classes will be closed on Wednesday 1st February**. Some teachers are part of other unions that, at this time, are not striking.

I am sure that you will understand that our dedicated and hardworking teachers have not taken this decision lightly. The NEU explain: *"This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. Teachers have lost 23% in real-terms since 2010, and support staff 27% over the same period. The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation."*

Some classes will be **OPEN** on Wednesday 1st February and children may come into school:

Reception SPARROW Class
Year 1 SWIFT Class
Year 2 KESTRAL Class
Year 6 COMMORANT Class
ALL other classes will be closed.

All other classes will be closed.
Children in these classes must not come to school

If any changes occur, we will inform parents/carers as soon as we are able to do so.

Further information regarding the next planned strike on 2nd March will be sent in due course.

Communication with Staff

As you know, good communication between home and school is very important. We value the strong relationships that we build and maintain with you, and we hope that you feel that the school are here to listen and work closely with you.

Although there are different lines of communication available (phone calls, emails, informal chats in the playground or face to face in school meetings), please note that it may take several days for a teacher to be able to respond. Teachers and Senior Leaders have meetings after school, are preparing for the following day, and of course are working with children from 8.45-3.30, or later. Please note that teachers are unlikely to read and respond to any emails during the school day or in the evening, and that it may take a couple of days for them to be able to respond. If you need to relay a message to the school which requires an immediate response, we recommend that you call or email the school office team, and they can decide if it is urgent and ensure that the right person receives the message. After a couple of days, if you feel your email has been missed, please forward it again.

Please note that all communication with class teachers should be emailed to the school email address. Thank you for your understanding.

School email – info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk

School phone number – 02088527245

Something Wonderful to Celebrate

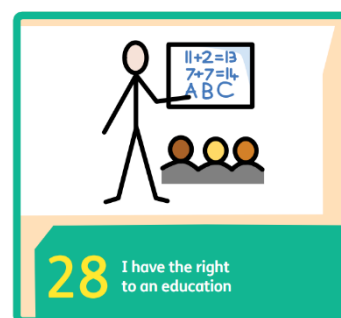
We praise all the children in school for being **curious, committed, confident, collaborative and compassionate.**

This week, the following children have stood out for going above and beyond, and really shining!

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Swift class Arbjon & Rocco Ivan & Sofiia	Imani & Ejla Jahziyon & Iris Shinead & Shady	Magpie Class Bella & Lex Ishaan & Adrian
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jersha and Lincoln Alex and Edie Lulu	Joel & Jade Tommy & Carmelo	Daniel & Yaqing Hazeem & Thanureka Samuel & Ilyas Oscar & Thabani

Start of the School Day

Children should arrive in school between 8.45 – 8.55 every day, and be in their classrooms ready to start their learning 9am, when the register closes. If children are 5 minutes late every day, they lose up to 25 minutes of learning a week, miss the beginning of their lessons and do not start the day in the composed way we would all like them to. Please try to ensure your child arrives in school on time.



Volunteers in School

Do you have a couple of hours free every week, at the same time, and would like to volunteer? We currently have places in school for parent/carer volunteers to come in and read with children from a range of year groups. If you would be interested in this position, please email the school office (info@brindishegreen.lewisham.sch.uk) for an application form and role description. Please note that all volunteers need to provide 2 professional references and have a DBS check, under Safer Recruitment. We look forward to hearing from you.

Head of School: Katie Matthews Executive Head: Rachel Waite Chair of Governors: Liz Murphy
In partnership with Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor

School Dinners and Packed Lunches

Please note, that except on special occasions such as Christmas Dinner, Census Day or the Summer BBQ, children should not change between packed lunches and school dinners in the middle of a half term or as a one off. This is because Raddish need to order the ingredients in advance and because the office need to keep track of payments.

In addition, all School Dinners must be paid for in advance please. You will not receive communication from the office reminding you to pay, so please make sure there are sufficient funds in your child's account. Thank you.



Lewisham Maths Sumdog Contest

The Lewisham Maths Contest begins today! Over the next week, your child(ren) can log into Sumdog and compete against other schools in the borough. **The competition will run until next Thursday, 2nd February.** As a school community, everyone has shown such great enthusiasm and amazing Maths skill, particularly the children.

We would so appreciate your support and encouragement again this time around by getting your child(ren) playing a bit at home or by showing curiosity about their scores when playing in class. Remember, the top 10 pupils will receive coins and a special Sumdog certificate, as will the overall winning class.

Most importantly, we hope you all have fun!

HAVE YOUR SAY.....Wrap Around Care

As part of our ongoing drive to improve the provision in our schools, we are reaching out to ask for your help. We would like to find out your thoughts around the before and after school provision both at Brindishe and within the community.

Please take a moment to complete the survey below, there is also an opportunity to join our working party group!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QNZGT68>

It won't take long to complete, but your comments and ideas are very important to us!

*survey will close on Friday 3rd February

Thank you in advance.

Important Dates

Wednesday 1st February – NEU Teachers Strike

Tuesday 7th February – Full Governing Body Meeting

Friday 10th February – Last day of term

Tuesday 21st February – Year 1, 3 and 5 Open Classroom

Wednesday 22nd February – Nursery Open Day

Tuesday 28th February – Year 2, 4 and 6 Open Classroom

A message from the Brindishe Friends Groups (BFG)

UPDATE - We are meeting with the school next Friday to get dates for some of the events we are planning and also to decide with them what best to spend the money raised from the Winter Fair. We will update you in due course.

VOLUNTEER FOR WEBSITE - We are looking for someone to run our website and post updates about all stuff BFG. It's hosted by PTA events who create websites for volunteer organisations and is very easy to use. We are looking to get it linked to the new school website too so people can find out more about what we are up to. Let us know if you fancy helping out: bfgsocials@gmail.com

KEEP IN TOUCH - In the next week or two we will confirm the date of our next meeting. If you would like to be there please let us know. Email us: bfgsocials@gmail.com so we can add you to our distribution list, and follow us on Socials: Twitter: [@bfghithergreen](https://twitter.com/bfghithergreen) and Facebook (search ' Brindishe Friends Group').