

16 March 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Leadership News at Brindishe

Last week the Governing Body of the Brindishe Schools, working with the new Executive Head, Rachel Waite and the local authority confirmed the appointment of the new Headteacher of Brindishe Green School. It is Gerlinde Achenbach the current Headteacher of Brindishe Manor.

Gerlinde will now move there for September 2018 and, as she already knows the school well, is very much looking forward to working closely with the current postholder Sarah Gorbitt over the summer term to make sure there is a smooth handover.

Now at Brindishe Manor we are looking to appoint a new Headteacher and some of you will have seen the adverts appearing online on local and national sites. This week Brindishe Manor had a formal review by a team from Challenge Partners (a national School Improvement organisation) led by an Ofsted inspector and the report, which we will receive before Easter, is predicted to be positively glowing. It's a lucky person therefore who takes over the role so if you know of people who may be interested in applying please do refer them to our websites.

Next week Brindishe Green has its Challenge Partners' review and I am sure that it will show that the school is in very good shape as we move towards the final term for Sarah (and for me).

We are very fortunate in Brindishe to have so many talented and flexible people working with us. This week in the Brindishe Manor review staff were asked how they felt about the changes coming in the federation. I was very pleased to hear that they said they felt that they were used to change and were able to respond quickly and positively when change was needed. They said that they felt the spirit of Brindishe was strong; that they were committed to working in this kind of way and in this kind of school; they said they shared a clear set of values and beliefs which bound them together - and this would enable them to make sure that whatever changes there are they will make sure the schools continue to be successful. With your continuing support we know this will be the same for all three Brindishe Schools.

Dame Vicki Paterson
Executive Head

Spyros Elia
Chair of Governors

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

...and a note from me

I have decided, after 6 years of working at Brindishe Manor, to take this opportunity to move to our partner school Brindishe Green as Headteacher from September 2018. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working alongside Brindishe Manor's highly dedicated, talented and creative team, and we have achieved a great deal together during my time as Headteacher over the past four years.

This week, an external review of Brindishe Manor confirmed that the school continues to meet very high standards of teaching and learning, achievement and outcomes for all children. The review team described the learning environments (classrooms and shared areas) as 'superb' and said that 'high quality teaching and learning is the expectation and the norm'.

Brindishe Manor has a team that is more than capable of sustaining this through the leadership changes to come. I am very proud of what has been achieved and I know that Brindishe Manor will continue to be a centre of excellence for the children in the Brindishe community.

As Headteacher at Brindishe Green I will maintain very strong links across all three schools which will enable us to work in partnership - children, parents and carers, staff and governors – for the benefit of all our children at Brindishe Schools. After all, I've been part of this family since starting as a student teacher at Brindishe Lee in 1988, and it's a family I know and hold very dear.

This week at Brindishe Manor

Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Review at Brindishe Manor

We were visited this week by Ofsted inspector David Cox and three senior leaders at schools from across the country in order to assess the quality of teaching and learning at Brindishe Manor School. They spoke to the children, to the staff, to our teacher leaders and to the senior leaders and observed teaching and learning in every class.

The review team were extremely impressed with what they saw and heard over the three days at our school. Their view was that Brindishe Manor has really high standards but it's 'not an exam factory' and they were delighted to see yoga, singing, beautiful art, dance and 'a highly inclusive learning environment where all children are able to thrive irrespective of their background, additional needs, circumstances or abilities'.

The children described Brindishe Manor as a place where you can 'be creative, be a leader and get involved', where 'everyone has a voice', where 'everyone has a chance', where 'diversity is important' and 'inclusion matters' and where 'everyone can feel equal and you are allowed to be who you are'.

I look forward to sharing the report with you and I will let you know when it is published on our school website.

Sapphire class perform at Lewisham 'Live Dance'

Congratulations to Sapphire class who performed at the Broadway Theatre Catford on Monday evening. Their dance was described as 'real quality' by a member of Trinity Laban Dance staff. Many thanks go to Mr Ahmed who choreographed and led the entire project and to the parents and carers who accompanied the children to their rehearsal and supported the children on the night.

Fantastic attendance!

Moonstone and Onyx 99.3%

Topaz 98.6%

Very well done everybody.

News from the office

From 1 May 2018 the cost of a school meal will increase from £2.10 to £2.20 each day. This means that a week of school lunches will cost £11.00.

Dates for your diary

Wb 19 March Mock SATs week for Year 6

22 March Reception height and weight checks

27 March Maths workshop for parents and carers of children in EYFS and Year 1, 9.15am (with creche) and 5.30pm (no creche).

29 March End of Spring Term

16 April Children return to school

20 April PSFA KS2 Disco

Best wishes to all families,

Gerlinde Achenbach
Headteacher

Don't forget you can translate this newsletter into more than 100 different languages on our website by using the translate button at the bottom of each page

www.brindishemanor.lewisham.sch.uk